



# the state of community conservation in Namibia



20 year anniversary edition - 2018

## annual report





# Acknowledgements



The annual State of Community Conservation Report is a joint publication from the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) and the Namibian Association of CBNRM Support Organisations (NACSO). It is very much a collaborative effort. Conservancies and other community conservation organizations gather data throughout the year. This is then returned to them in poster form and used in adaptive conservancy management. The data is also supplied to the MET and the NACSO working groups to enable evaluation and reporting on programme achievements and challenges at a national level.

Only key data is presented in this printed report. The full data is shared with partner organisations working in conservation and is presented on our web site: [communityconservationnamibia.com](http://communityconservationnamibia.com)

Contributors to the web site and this report are far too numerous to mention individually, however, all staff of the MET and community conservation organisations are gratefully acknowledged for their contributions. We would also like to thank all enterprises, private sector partners, NGOs and individuals who provide data and information.

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A portrait of Ndaluca Mupoti, a woman with dark skin and her hair in many small braids. She is wearing a green collared shirt with a white patch on the left shoulder that reads 'WUPARO CONSERVANCY' with a logo of a rhinoceros. She is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a serious expression. The background is a textured, light-colored wall.

# The state of community conservation in Namibia

a review of  
communal conservancies,  
community forests and  
other CBNRM activities in 2018

*Ndaluka Mupoti, Community Ranger,  
Wuparo Conservancy*

*Namibia's 86 conservancies employ 616  
community game guards, rangers and  
resource monitors who work together with  
the MET to prevent wildlife crime and provide  
environmental awareness to communities.*

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# Foreword

## From the Minister of Environment and Tourism, Honourable Pohamba Shifeta

The year 2018 is the twentieth anniversary of the founding of Namibia's first four communal conservancies. It was a vision and road map that led to our community conservation programme that now embraces 86 communal conservancies covering just over 20% of Namibia and encompassing almost 223,000 people.

The MET is responsible not only for Namibia's national parks and tourism concessions, covering over 16% of the country, but for environmental and tourism policy that aims not only to conserve our environment and wildlife, but also to nurture and encourage sustainable economic growth by developing a wildlife based economy in communal conservancies.

The sustainability of the conservancy movement hinges on its success and on five critical issues: benefits to communities, good governance and financial management, conservation hunting, wildlife crime, and drought related to climate change.

We believe that all communal conservancies should aim to become sustainable financially and institutionally. In order to achieve this, a more business-oriented approach is necessary in terms of how conservancies are run. Conservancies need to develop and diversify their income sources while also cutting running costs where necessary.

Good governance is essential for the long-term institutional stability of conservancies. We have all heard of the 'Big Five': iconic wildlife conserved and protected by the MET and conservancies. I would like to spell out a Big Five for governance: The holding of annual general meetings; correctly held elections; accurate annual financial statements; effective Benefit Distribution Plans; and Game Management and Utilisation Plans in place.

While we recognize that not all conservancies can derive sufficient income from their activities to cover their costs; that cannot be an excuse for poor governance. As a ministry we are committed to overseeing the implementation of governance guidelines set out in our Standard Operating Procedures for conservancies.

Hunting is, and will remain, guided by a conservation approach. Conservation hunting as defined by the Ministry as the legal and sustainable utilisation of wildlife is essential to the economic survival of many communal conservancies. For this reason all of us must be aware of the damage that can be caused by reckless hunting practices. I call on hunting operators and conservancy managers to uphold the highest moral, legal and professional standards.

Wildlife crime is a growing concern. Although the numbers of elephant and rhino illegally killed for ivory and horn have been low compared to other African countries, crime syndicates are

targeting Namibian parks and conservancies. Our response has been swift and effective due to the strong partnership between the MET, other government law enforcement agencies, and communities. Conservancy game guards are the eyes and ears of the community.

We are also grateful for generous funding from a consortium of development partners that are supporting government to tackle wildlife crime with increased training, better equipment and enhanced community awareness.

While Namibia is used to periods of drought, we have to recognise that global warming is going to have a profound effect on our country. Although we cannot predict with accuracy when droughts will occur, we can say with scientific confidence that the severity of droughts will increase. In addition to loss of crops and livestock due to lack of rain, there will be increased human-wildlife conflict as predators attack livestock due to a reduction in the prey base.

The increased risks of farming make income from conservation activities all the more important. Tourism is the fastest growing sector in our economy, which fosters the diversification of income. The MET has supported this by granting tourism concessions inside national parks to adjacent conservancies. This brings direct income to conservancies that can, and must, be channelled to members through community development projects. It also brings income to community members who work in lodges as waiters, tour guides and, increasingly, in management positions.

This is the 'Wildlife Economy' in action. In the Ministry of Environment and Tourism we will continue to work hand in hand with NACSO and our conservation partners to bring sustainable rural and economic development through conservation.



Pohamba Shifeta, MP  
Minister





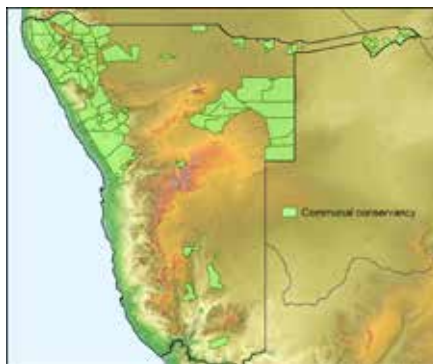
# Who we are



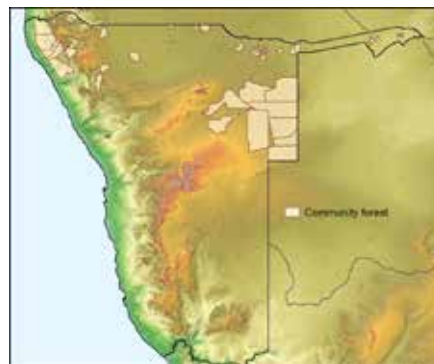
## COMMUNITIES

Namibia's communal conservancies and community forests are self-governing entities legally recognised by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism and the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry. Conservancies receive training and support from NACSO, which also partners with the Directorate of Forestry that supports community forests.

Each conservancy and forest has a constitution and elects a management committee. Conservancies and community forests work to conserve and protect the environment, and to earn revenue from the sustainable use of natural resources. There is also a community association within a national park, which is managed like a conservancy.



**FIGURE 1. Conservancies in 2018**



**Community forests in 2018**

## MET

The mission of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism is to promote biodiversity conservation in the Namibian environment through the sustainable utilisation of natural resources and tourism development for the maximum social and economic benefit of our citizens.

## NACSO AND ITS MEMBERS

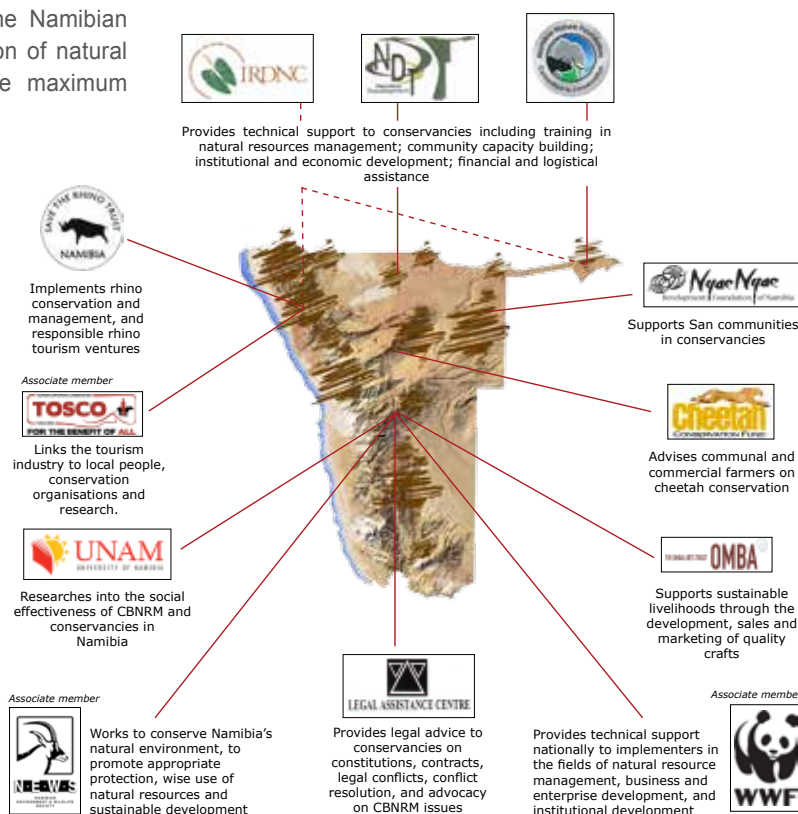
NACSO is a networking organisation that coordinates the work of its members in partnership with the MET and other government ministries.

Full and associate members give direct support to conservancies in the form of training, advice, technical and logistical support, and advocate for sustainable development and links to the tourism industry.

Six regional conservancy associations in Erongo, Kavango, Kunene, the north-central area and Zambezi act as representative umbrella organisation for conservancies in their areas.

For full details see last page.

Group (NRWG), the Institutional Development Working Group (IDWG), and the Business, Enterprises and Livelihoods Working Group (BELWG). These are flexible constellations of NACSO members and partners that pool experience and resources to provide effective support to conservancies, which are gazetted and fall under the legal responsibility of the MET.



## WORKING GROUPS

Three working groups provide technical expertise: the Natural Resources Working

# A Common Vision

## On partnership

The partnership between NACSO and the MET has grown from strength to strength over the years. We work in synergy and are now steering towards an annual integrated calendar that will include all our important events such as the game counts, conservancy audits and meetings. We have a common mission through CBNRM and regularly meet to discuss strategic issues and how to tackle challenges.

## On challenges

The programme has suffered quite a lot due to insufficient funding, and because of that we have not been able to implement some of our activities on the ground. Poaching, wildlife crime and human-wildlife conflict continue to be big issues in conservancies. We are now also experiencing what we call human-human conflict because of land invasion and illegal settlement by people moving into wildlife areas in search of grazing.

## On learning and sharing

Namibia has a commendable community conservation programme, which continues to attract international recognition. In 2018 NACSO and the MET hosted three exchange visits as part of our learning and sharing programme. Two were from Mozambique: the CBNRM Network and Gorongosa National Park. The third included officials from Uganda's Ministry of Environment and Antiques, parliamentarians, and staff from parastatals. It makes me proud whenever I see other countries implement policies that put local communities at the centre of decision making of natural resource management in a way that also benefits them.

In March 2018 I was part of the Namibian party delegation to Brussels that represented the "Namibian Community Voice" at the CITES standing committee meeting, to push for Namibian community participation at CITES. Namibian communal conservation communities were invited to go and share their experiences at the 14th meeting of the Conference of Parties. Three people from Kunene conservancy regional associations attended and shared information about CBNRM in Namibia, including wildlife management, benefit distribution mechanisms, and how they address human-wildlife conflict.

## On growth and development

The area under communal conservation in Namibia has grown, with three more conservancies gazetted. However, there is a lack of resources and capacity to give adequate



**NACSO Director Maxi Louis shares her thoughts about community conservation over the past year**

support to all conservancies. As the programme grows and the number of conservancies continues to expand, it has become a challenge not only to conservancies, but also to the support organisations that give technical assistance to conservancies.

A long-term funding mechanism for Community Based Natural Resource Management called the Community Conservation Fund of Namibia has been developed and is now fully operational. The fund aims to promote and support strategic community conservation initiatives and make possible the provision of critical support services that will maintain CBNRM as a viable rural development programme nationally. Proceeds generated from the Fund will be used to consolidate gains and help to steer Namibian conservation into the next phase.

## The future

Much has changed since we started this programme 23 years ago. After two decades of CBNRM in Namibia, we have realised the need for the programme to diversify from traditional livelihoods, more so now in the face of climate change. We are now at a place where we need to relook at the whole programme and review where we are, what we have achieved, what still needs to be done and see how we can reposition ourselves and leverage new opportunities.

# The State of Community Conservation in Namibia Website



[communityconservationnamibia.com](http://communityconservationnamibia.com)

## Our new web site



*Conservation areas*



*The impact of community conservation*



*Support to conservation*



*Facts and Figures*



*Programme history*

Twenty years after the creation of the first four conservancies and fifteen years after the first report on the state of community conservation in Namibia, we are moving into the digital era with our new web site, hosted jointly by the MET and NACSO.

The new site will enable us to publish data and information faster than before, and as it grows it will become an archive for the Namibian community conservation programme.

On it you will find all of the aggregated data from game counts and governance audits, as well as figures relating to conservancy enterprises, rural livelihoods and conservation's contribution to the national economy and rural development.

There are also human interest and specialist articles, giving the stories behind the facts and figures.

By using the site, conservation scientists, researchers and activists worldwide will be able to access our information from their desks, in meetings and conferences, on laptops and mobile devices – instantly. Rural Namibians are using mobile technology more than ever before, so our data will be available in the bush, as well as the city.

We will continue to publish this annual report in book form, but for the most complete and authoritative information about conservancies, improving rural livelihoods and natural resource management go to [communityconservationnamibia.com](http://communityconservationnamibia.com)

## The Big Issues



*Governance*



*Benefits*



*Combatting wildlife crime*



*Human-Wildlife conflict*

The Namibian conservancy programme has grown from the first four conservancies in 1998 to 86 conservancies in 2018. What was once a small project has become a national development initiative, in which one in five rural Namibians are involved.

As the programme has grown, it has come face to face with major challenges, which conservancies and

their members, as well as the MET and NACSO, have to face. The equitable distribution of benefits and transparent conservancy governance are topical issues. Wildlife crime and human-wildlife conflict are issues that could threaten conservation in Namibia.

These are the big issues of the day, which are laid out in detail on the home page of the web site.

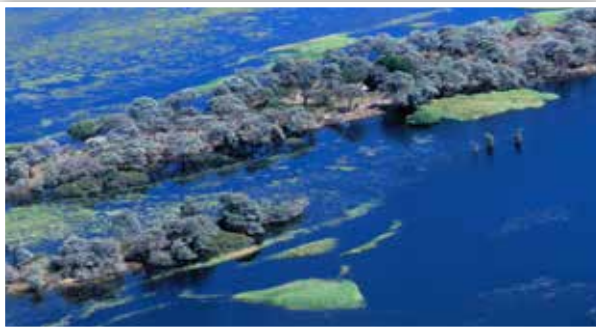


# Managing our Environment

## CBNRM: the right balance

Many rural communities in Namibia live together with wildlife. In order to offset losses from crop raiders and predation from such species as elephants and lions respectively, communities need to receive benefits in return. These largely come from tourism and associated income (including crafts) and from conservation hunting. Through CBNRM – Community Based Natural Resource Management – natural resources are conserved for future generations while providing significant returns today.

## The effect of climate change



In future, agriculture will carry a higher risk due to increasing drought and episodic flooding. Economic diversification to include the sustainable use of indigenous resources such as wildlife, which is more drought-resilient, and naturally occurring indigenous plants, can mitigate the impact.

Climate change is associated with global warming and drought, but it will also bring erratic and increased rainfall, resulting in flooding

## Wildlife as a driver of economic growth



Photo: Will Burrard-Lucas

Wildlife is central to generating returns for conservancies. Game has a range of high-value uses and many species are able to breed quickly, allowing for rapid wildlife recoveries in areas with suitable habitat. By turning wildlife use into a viable livelihood activity, and complementing it with other natural resource uses, community conservation can make a meaningful difference to the lives of rural people. As private sector engagement in community conservation broadens, more opportunities will continue to open up.

## A complementary land use



Glag'o Kxao in Nyae Nyae Conservancy

The loss of habitat to other land uses is one of the prevalent threats for wildlife in Africa. Large-scale agriculture and widespread prospecting and mining are threatening wildlife habitats in parts of Namibia. This may benefit some sectors of the economy, but can disadvantage the rural poor. Such developments may be countered if sustainable natural resource use is recognised as a viable complementary land use by all sectors of the national economy, so that the true value of sustainable natural resource use can be realised.

## Emphasising equitable resource use



Reuben Mwambo works at Nambwa Lodge

Conservancies have enabled equitable natural resource use, which did not exist prior to their formation. Joint-venture lodges and conservation hunting concessions are based on formal agreements, which oblige operators to share profits and to employ and train local staff. In return, conservancies provide eco-services such as the management of wildlife habitat and anti-poaching activities, which benefit the private sector.

**FIGURE 2. The distribution of conservancies and community forests across Namibia**

At the end of 2018, there were 86 registered communal conservancies and 43 registered community forests in Namibia, altogether covering 169,756 km<sup>2</sup>, and one community association in a national park. [The lists below follow the chronological sequence of registration]

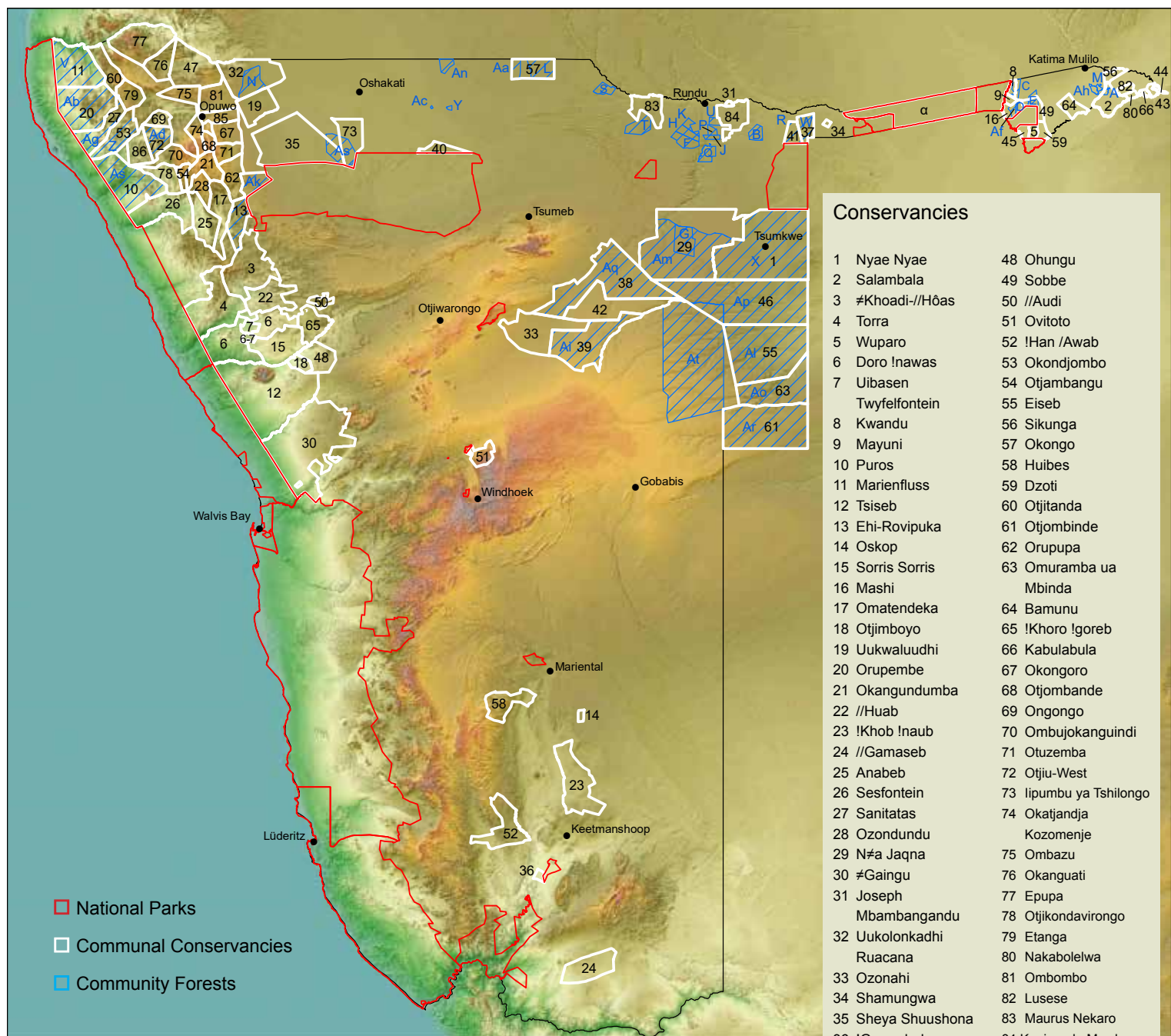






Photo: Patrick Bentley



# Facts and Figures

## Community conservation at a glance

### At the end of 2018 there were...

- 86 registered communal conservancies
- 1 community conservation association in a national park (Kyaramacan Association – managed like a conservancy)
- 43 registered community forests
- 19 tourism concessions in national parks or on other state land held by 23 conservancies (some conservancies share concessions)
- 2 community fish reserves
- 86 conservancies using the Event Book monitoring tool
- 51 conservancies conducting annual game counts
- 71 conservancies holding quota setting feedback meetings
- 71 conservancies with own-use harvesting quotas
- 56 conservancies with conservation hunting concessions
- 70 conservancies with a game management and utilisation plan
- 50 conservancies with a zonation plan
- 616 game guards and resource monitors
- 55 management plans in place
- 23 sustainable business and financial plans in place
- 53 annual financial reports that had been presented
- 63 annual general meetings that had been held
- 17% female chairpersons
- 41% female treasurers/financial managers
- 33% female management committee members
- 25% female staff members
- 38 conservancies directly involved with tourism activities
- 61 joint-venture tourism agreements with enterprises employing 1,175 full time and 50 part time staff
- 48 conservation hunting concessions with 159 full time and 119 part time staff
- 22 small/medium enterprises with 82 full time and 22 part time staff
- 943 conservancy employees
- 890 conservancy representatives receiving allowances
- 1,083 indigenous plant product harvesters
- 414 craft producers

..... in communal conservancies in Namibia  
(part time employment includes seasonal labour)



The event book is a key monitoring tool used by conservancy game guards to record incidents involving wildlife. Information from yellow event books is collated into blue books every month, and red books annually.

Wildlife and governance data (see left) is audited at conservancy offices by the MET and NACSO member organisations. All conservancy data is collated for national reporting and for adaptive management in conservancies.



Xoa//an /Ai!ae is the Chairlady of Nyae Nyae Conservancy. The empowerment of women is a key outcome of community conservation.



Picture: Patrick Bentley

Close to 20,000 elephants move between Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe, providing opportunities for employment in the tourism industry through joint ventures between conservancies and the private sector.



Rector Tetuka is a guide on the river at Namushasha Lodge. He agrees with the MET that income earned by conservancies from tourism should be spent on community development projects such as the provision of rural electricity.

## THE TERMINOLOGY OF INCOME, BENEFITS AND RETURNS

For clarity, the following terms are consistently used in this report:

**INCOME** – indicates cash income received as payment for goods or services, either by organisations or individuals

**BENEFITS** – indicates benefits distributed by a conservancy as dividends or social benefits, or by the private sector as fringe benefits and donations; these go to communities or individual households and can be divided into three types:

- cash benefits are dividends paid to conservancy members from conservancy income
- in-kind benefits include meat distribution and fringe benefits from tourism employment such as staff housing, etc.
- social benefits are investments in community initiatives including education facilities, health services, etc.

**RETURNS** – combine income and benefits and indicate overall returns, either to individuals, communities or conservancies (see Figure 13).

## What's being achieved

### Community conservation

- covers 169,756 km<sup>2</sup>, which is about 55.4% of all communal land, with an estimated 222,871 residents (6,257 residents supported by the Kyaramacan Association live in Bwabwata National Park)
- of this area, conservancies manage 166,179 km<sup>2</sup>, which comprises 20.2% of Namibia
- 43 registered community forests cover 72,537 km<sup>2</sup>, 95% of which overlaps with conservancies
- Namibia's elephant population grew from around 7,500 to around 22,800 between 1995 and 2016 according to census data\*
- Namibia has the largest free-roaming population of black rhinos in the world
- from the beginning of 1990 to the end of 2018, community conservation contributed an estimated N\$ 8.375 billion to Namibia's net national income
- community conservation facilitated 4,926 jobs in 2018
- 56 conservancies hosted a total of 177 enterprises based on natural resources
- Conservancies generated N\$ 147,457,734 in returns during 2018, of which:
  - tourism generated N\$ 100,145,432
  - conservation hunting N\$ 39,636,295 including meat distributed to conservancy residents valued at 9,545,328
  - indigenous natural products N\$ 4,855,440
  - miscellaneous income (including items such as interest) N\$ 2,820,567
- Conservancy residents earned a total cash income of N\$ 77,554,611 from wages, of which:
  - N\$ 48,697,405 was from joint-venture tourism
  - N\$ 20,832,398 from conservancies, N\$ 4,350,604 from conservation hunting
  - N\$ 3,674,204 from SMEs
- Conservancy residents earned cash income of:
  - N\$ 3,176,124 from indigenous plants
  - N\$ 1,748,405 from crafts
- N\$ 15,341,103 was distributed to residents and used to support community projects by conservancies

\*The African Elephant Status Report for 2016, published by the IUCN

# THE CBNRM PROGRAMME

## Natural Resources

### Resources are used sustainably

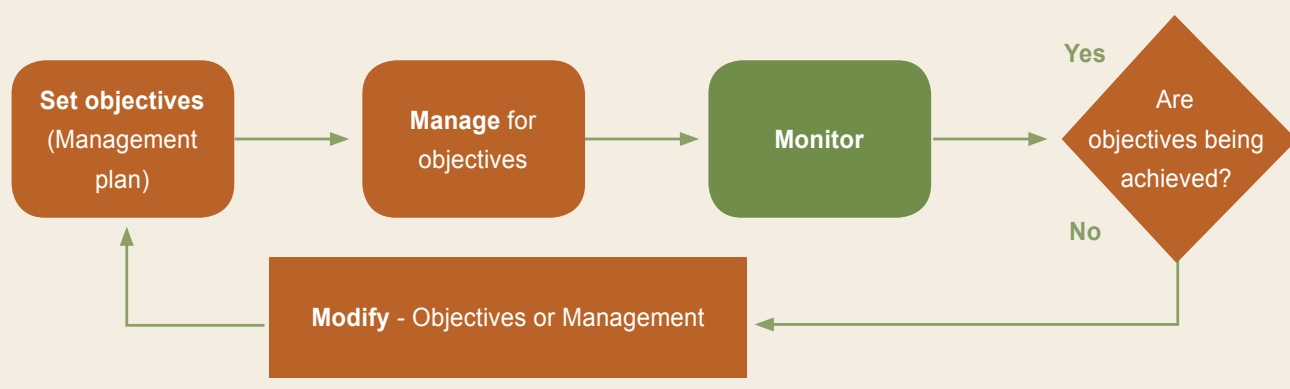


In rural areas people depend upon subsistence farming and natural resources. Conservancy management has facilitated wildlife recoveries and enables the protection of valuable species and intact wildlife habitats.

### Natural Resources Working Group (NRWG)

The Natural Resources Working Group of NACSO works with conservancies and government to gather, analyse and publish data on wildlife and other natural resources. It is assisted by generous funding from Norwegian aid.

**FIGURE 3. The adaptive management cycle**



### Managing wildlife and the environment

Adaptive and improved management is critical to the success of communal conservancies, and their contribution to Namibian conservation. The Natural Resources Working Group has introduced an adaptive management system (see Figure 3) that monitors the achievement of management objectives using feedback from conservancies. This feedback is especially valuable when a crisis such as drought arrives, making effective management all the more important. Key aspects of adaptive management include the setting of quotas for sustainable wildlife utilisation, zonation of conservancies into priority areas for farming and wildlife, and the management of fires and fisheries.

### Adapting to drought

In 2018 the severe and on-going drought continued to have a devastating impact on wildlife populations in north-west Namibia, with mortalities and almost no successful breeding taking place. The depressed wildlife population numbers in the north-west have resulted in wildlife offtake quotas remaining low or at zero, which has in turn reduced meat and financial benefits to conservancies. In addition, the depressed

wildlife numbers have caused predators to seek alternative prey, therefore driving up livestock losses. The reduced benefits and increased human-wildlife conflict (HWC) has eroded community (and some political) support for a wildlife-based economy, which is a major concern. It is essential that more support effort be put into mitigating HWC.



*Almost no forage for wildlife due to drought*



# Wildlife Populations and Monitoring

## Defining and Tracking Wildlife Status

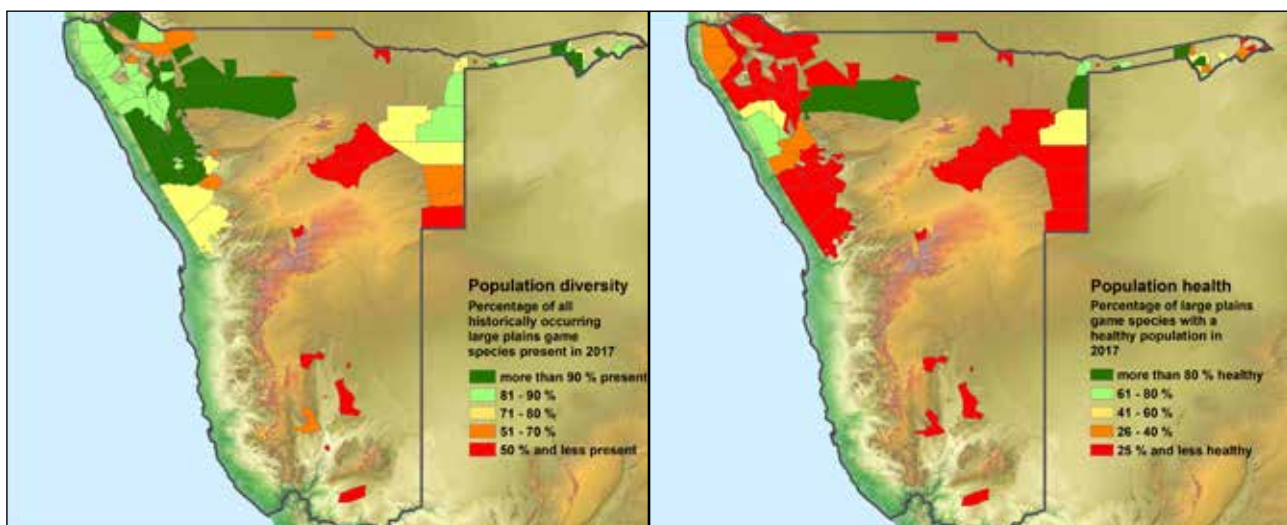
As wildlife densities can vary significantly from year to year, conservation management efforts focus on maintaining populations between lower and upper thresholds. Maintaining numbers above the lower threshold ensures that the species is able to recover from external impacts such as drought, disease, predation, utilisation and poaching. Keeping numbers below the upper threshold enables viable offtakes and ensures the population stays in balance with its habitat and other land uses.

Tracking population trends with the expectation that wildlife numbers should always increase is not viable in the longer term. More sophisticated monitoring tools now define the 'species richness' and 'population health' of game in conservancies.

It is evident from the species richness map below that the majority of conservancies have 80% or more of their historical species intact, ten have between 70 and 80% of their original species present, and about 25 conservancies have less than 70% of their indigenous game species left. The best means of correcting these deficiencies (and enabling these conservancies to enter the wildlife economy) is through strategic game reintroductions, which is only

possible if there is funding available for the purchase and or capture and relocation of game from areas where these species are abundant. This should be a priority area for urgent fund-raising, particularly at this juncture where much of the country is under drought-induced stress and many conservancies need to reduce their wildlife numbers.

On the other hand, it is evident from the wildlife population health map that, whereas many conservancies have good species richness, very few have healthy populations of these species. This situation has declined sharply in recent years as a result of the drought, which has heavily impacted wildlife populations and it will take years of careful management and protection, including on-going reduced offtake quotas, to rebuild these populations. This will, in turn, adversely impact financial benefits that accrue to conservancies, and more seriously, the meat benefits that individual households have valued over the years. The pressure for prematurely increasing quotas will therefore be high, and this tension between rebuilding wildlife populations and addressing community needs and aspirations will be extremely challenging over the coming number of years.



**FIGURE 4. Species richness and population health:**

The wildlife species richness map (left) indicates the large wildlife species currently present in conservancies, as a percentage of those which were present in the past. A high score means that a large percentage of the species are still in the area.

Wildlife population health (right) indicates the percentage of all large wildlife species that historically occurred, which currently have a healthy population in a particular conservancy. A healthy population is one large enough to sustain itself. National parks included on the maps for comparison are Etosha, Nkasa Rupara, Mudumu and the core areas of Bwabwata.

## A review of 2018

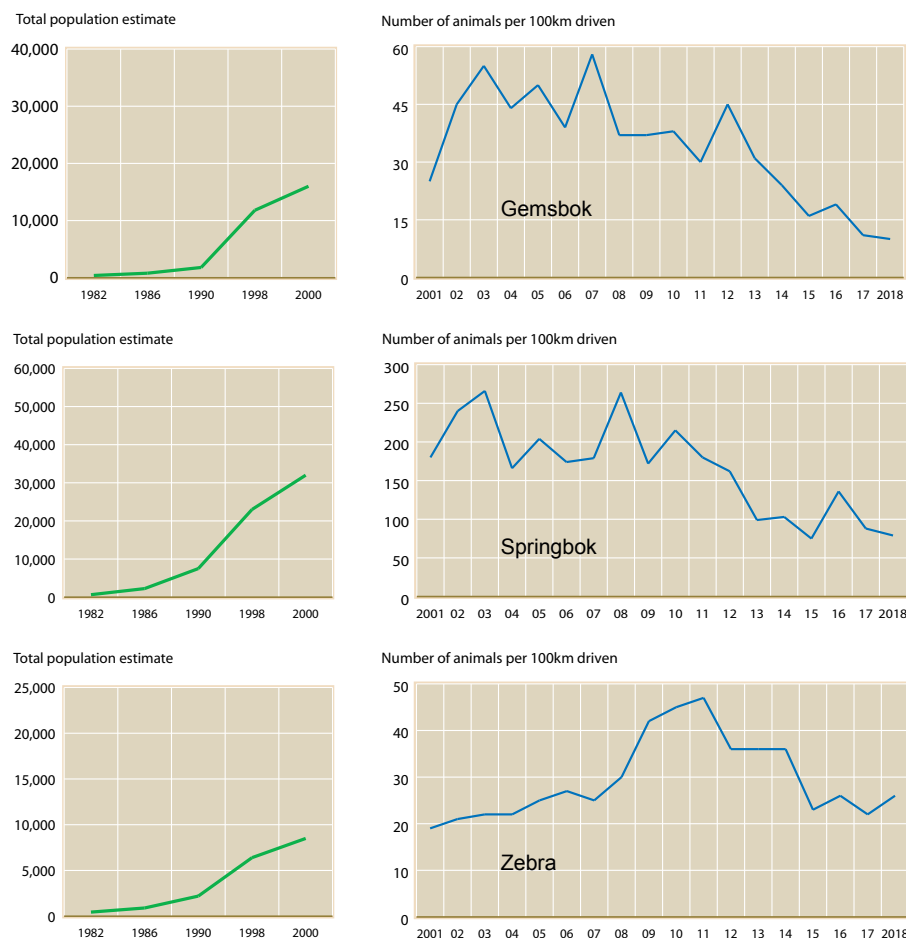
### Game counts

Namibia's wildlife populations are monitored through game counts, aerial census data, moonlight waterhole counts and data from the event book monitoring system.

It is clearly evident that in the north-west conservancies (Figure 5), the numbers of plains game have declined significantly in recent years. This is certainly as a result of the extended drought cycle leading to increased mortalities and heavily reduced breeding rates. But this is not the only reason: heavy destocking through harvesting was necessary in the early years of the drought cycle to reduce mass mortalities. The return of patchy rainfall to the Erongo and Kunene regions in 2016 led to a small short-term increase of species of plains game, particularly springbok, which have the ability to respond quickly to good

rainfall. Reduced offtakes account for the slight levelling off of the zebra and springbok populations in recent years, but gemsbok populations continue to decline, which is a concern. It also needs to be borne in mind that the game counts do not cover the entire landscape, i.e. the counts do not cover the mountainous areas or the escarpment areas to the east – and in this landscape wildlife can and does move great distances. This makes it extremely difficult to know precisely the impact of the extended drought on these meta-populations. Suffice to say that these have been severely reduced, down to levels similar to those in the late 1990's. Game species will need several years of good rains, coupled with low take-off rates, to fully recover to pre-drought levels.

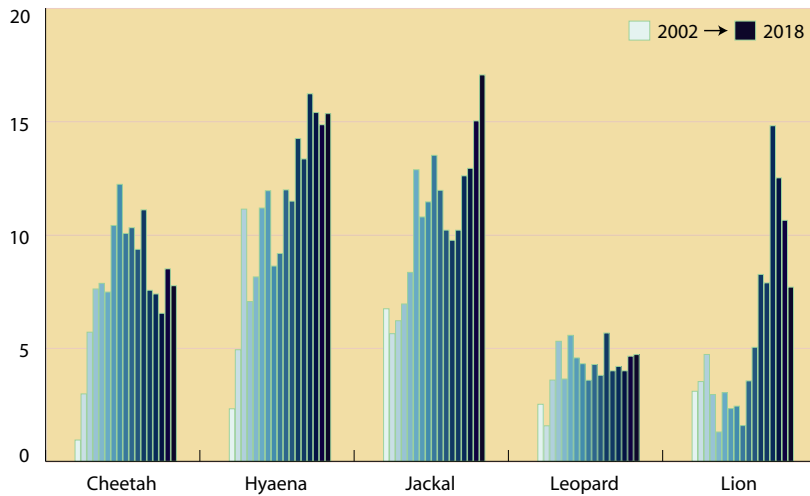
**FIGURE 5. North-West population estimates**



The graphs on the left show total estimated populations of 3 indicator species: gemsbok, springbok and zebra, from aerial censuses prior to the year 2000.

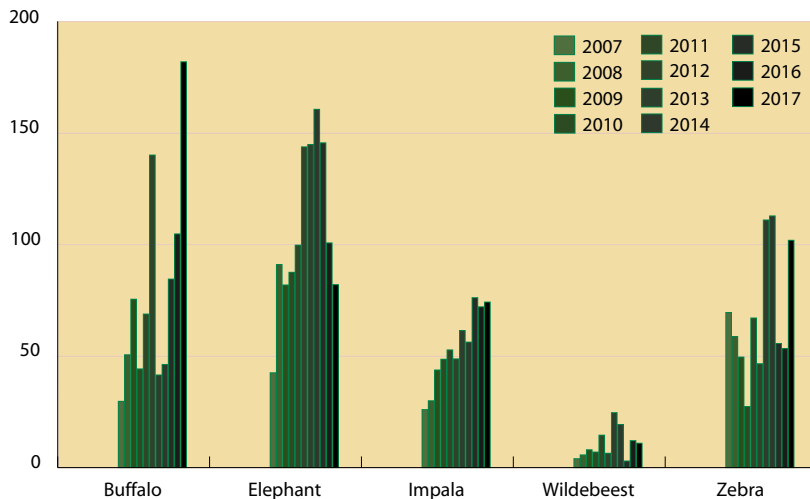
The annual North-West Game Count, shown on the right for the same species, counts the number of animals seen per 100 kilometres driven. This graph shows population trends over time and does not show total population estimates.

Sightings index

**FIGURE 6. Predator sighting index for Erongo-Kunene Regions**

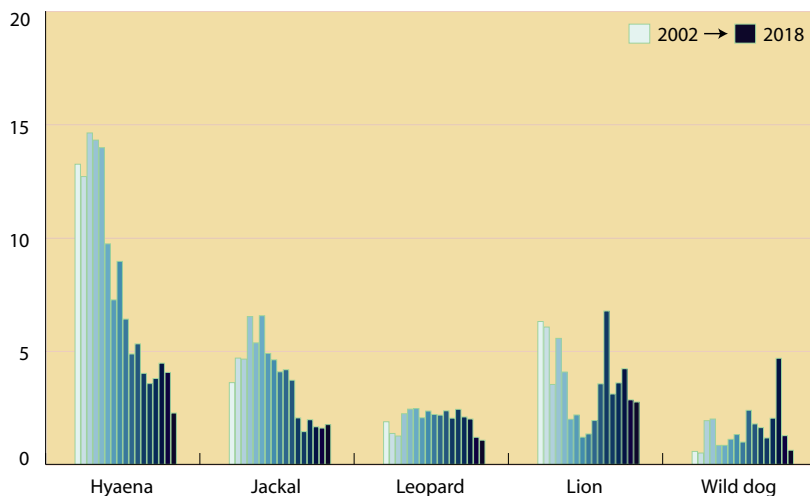
While game counts provide reliable estimates of plains game, predator numbers are harder to estimate, including lion populations. Event Book monitoring data shows that cheetah and jackal have increased, whereas hyaena and leopard have stabilized (hyaena at all-time highs). Lion sightings have reduced in the past three years from their all-time high in 2015, probably in response to a significant reduced prey-base and retaliation due to human-wildlife conflict. Overall, predator populations in the north-west conservancies appear relatively healthy, which is to be expected during times of drought, where prey animals are weakened. However, it is to be expected that predator numbers will probably start to decline in response to the diminished prey-base in future, and it would seem that lions are leading the way in this regard.

Number of animals seen per 100 km

**FIGURE 7. North-East game count**

In north-east Namibia conservancies are small and integrally connected to the unfenced adjacent national parks. As a result, the north-east ground-based game counts reflect wildlife populations across both conservancies and the national parks. In 2018 it was not possible to count in the national parks (all the conservancies were counted) and so we are unable to reflect on the most recent population numbers. For consistency, the trend data up until 2017 is presented and should funding allow, next count in 2019 will again include the parks.

Sightings index

**FIGURE 8. Zambezi game sightings on fixed-route foot patrols**

In contrast to north-west Namibia, hyaena and jackal sightings in conservancies have declined significantly over the past decade in the north-east. Following a recovery and stabilization of lion in the years 2012 to 2015, sightings have declined slightly in the last two years. Wild dog sightings in 2018 were lower than in most previous years, and much lower when compared with the record number of sightings in 2016. It is too early to say that there is a problem with the wild dog population, as this species is highly mobile. The decline in hyaena is the most concerning. This is because the downward trend is now consistent and unlike jackal, which also shows a downward trend, hyaena are an extremely slow breeding and rare species, making population recovery challenging.



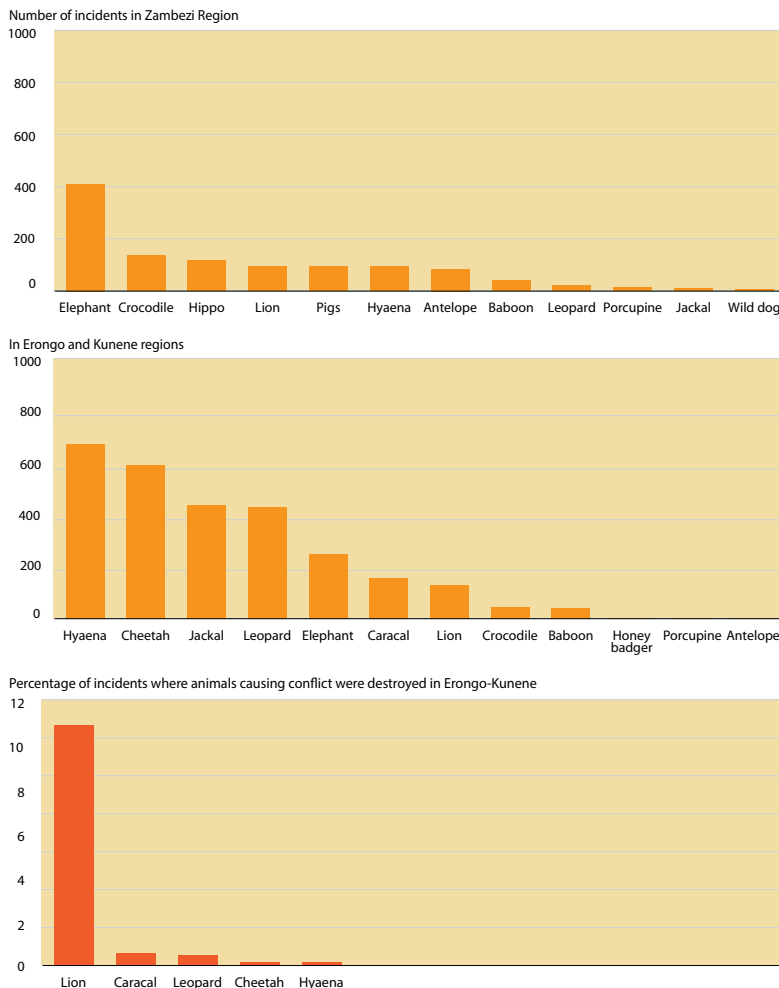
# Human-Wildlife Conflict

African wildlife is one of the remaining assets of the natural world with considerable potential to benefit rural communities. However, one of the greatest threats to this wildlife, particularly the more iconic species such as elephant and lion, arises from human-wildlife conflict (HWC), i.e. retaliation due to loss of livestock to predators, crop damage from elephants and loss of human life or injury.

In order to provide national guidelines for HWC mitigation, the MET launched a Human Wildlife Conflict Policy in 2009, which was revised in 2018. Although it is *not* Government policy to provide compensation for losses due to wild animals, it is recognised that there is a need to find means to support conservancies to offset the losses caused to the local residents. With this in mind, the policy includes the Human Wildlife Self Reliance Scheme that guides the offset payments from government contributions under strict conditions. For example, loss of livestock must be reported within 24 hours and verified by the MET or by a conservancy game guard and payments will not be made if reasonable precautions were not taken.



While it will not be feasible to eradicate all conflict, both the MET and NACSO believe that conflict can and must be minimised through proactive and collective intervention if wildlife stands a chance to survive and contribute to rural development and the national economy.



**FIGURE 9: Species causing the bulk of HWC (and how people retaliate)**

The orange graphs indicate the number of conflict incidents per species in the Zambezi Region and Erongo-Kunene.

In the arid north-west of Namibia where there is little crop-farming, large predators are the source of most of the conflict although elephants also cause problems as they break water infrastructure and pose a danger to both humans and livestock.

In the more humid north-east of Namibia, crop farming in addition to livestock pastoralism are important livelihood activities. In this landscape elephants are normally responsible for most of the HWC incidents (i.e. crop raiding), but during 2018 large predators caused most of the incidents. This was probably because many crops failed or were not established as a result of the drought.

The red graph indicates the number of animals destroyed as a percentage of the number of conflict incidents recorded for that species in Erongo-Kunene. As in previous years, lions were disproportionately targeted because of the danger or perceived threat they pose to farmers: people and livestock.

# Combating Wildlife Crime

Combating wildlife crime is a major pillar of Namibian government policy, carried out by the MET through its National Wildlife Crime Strategy, government law enforcement agencies and conservation NGOs.

## The syndicates

Wildlife crime is driven by highly organised international syndicates that target high value species such as rhino, elephant, pangolin and, increasingly, large carnivores.

These international crime syndicates use local people as trackers and hunters, they may attempt to bribe law enforcement and government officials, they launder money, have little regard for human life, and are often also involved in drug and human trafficking. They sell the products of these species, mostly in the far-east, through sophisticated cross-boundary transit routes using land, sea and air transport.

Conservancies are directly impacted by this type of crime through:

- loss of revenues and employment opportunities, because with the loss of iconic species their land becomes less viable for tourism and conservation hunting enterprises;
- reputational damage, by being unfairly implicated in this type of poaching; and
- being exposed to various social risks as syndicates corrupt individuals in the community and expose youth to drugs and sexual exploitation.

## The response

The growing threat from wildlife crime has produced a strong response by the Namibian Government, the NGO sector, donors, communities, and the Namibian public at large. The MET National Wildlife Crime Strategy recognises the importance of a multi-agency / multi-partner approach to countering wildlife crime. Under MET leadership, the Namibian Police, Namibian Defence Force, and MET staff have established a national structure to collectively address organised poaching and wildlife crime.

The programme has two key strategies. First, community stewardship and pride over wildlife has been enhanced in conservancies. Second, improved law enforcement has led to more criminals being caught and successfully prosecuted.

## The success

Investigations have dramatically improved. The establishment of Operation Blue Rhino by MET and NAMPOL has empowered a highly dedicated task team to achieve stunning successes including 419 recent arrests and having prevented, through pre-emptive arrests, over 20 rhino poaching incidents.

It is telling that there was no poaching of rhino in communal conservancies in the 2018 despite rhino poaching initially beginning there in 2013. Conservancies are directly impacted by this type of crime through loss of revenues and employment opportunities, because with the loss of iconic species their land becomes less viable for tourism and conservation hunting enterprises. The successes in combatting wildlife crime are largely attributed to the increased anti-poaching effort and the full cooperation of conservancies and their residents who have repeatedly intervened even before poaching was attempted.



*A consortium of NGOs and government agencies meets regularly to coordinate support to combat wildlife crime*



*Elephant poaching in Zambezi Region*



*Community game guards at the scene of a crime*

# Governance

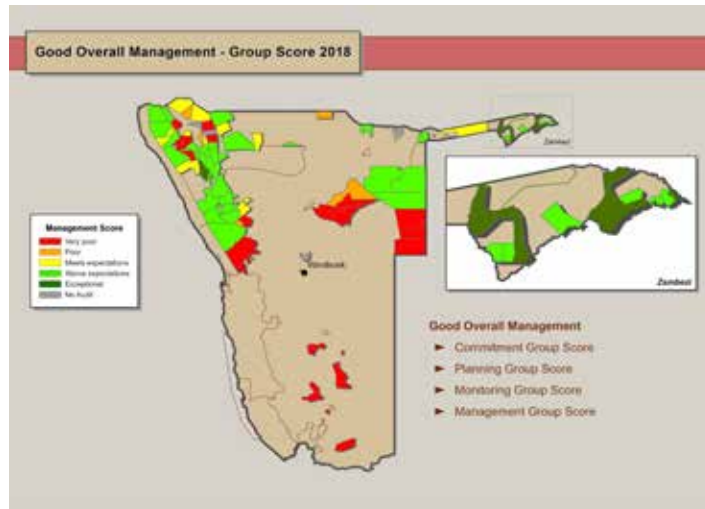
## A review of 2018

### The Institutional Development Working Group (IDWG)

The IDWG comprises experts in conservancy governance from NACSO members and the MET. Its purpose is to develop and guide institutional support to conservancies, in order to strengthen their governance structures, with particular reference to resource management, democracy, transparency and gender balance.

### The capacity of government ministries and NACSO

Human and financial resources remain a challenge for supporting governance work in conservancies. However, the IDWG has been revitalised with clear terms of reference, a coordinator, work plan and an operational budget. The working group has secured funding from four different sources to strengthen conservancy governance and institutional management capacity. This increase in financial resources has enhanced support to conservancy governance, including AGMs, financial management, reviews of constitutions,



**FIGURE 10. Conservation management performance ratings**  
Institutional development data is collected annually during integrated performance audits. Conservancies are rated for their commitment, planning, monitoring and management. Conservancies use the information (Table 1 below) to evaluate and improve their governance, while support organisations are able to provide targeted assistance.

**TABLE 1. Governance indicators in conservancies in 2018**

Order	Category	Status	Number of conservancies reporting	Percentage of category
1	Registered conservancies (incl. Kyaramacan assoc.)	87	87	100
2	Conservancies generating returns	66	87	76
3	Distributing cash or in-kind benefits to members, or investing in community development projects	48	56	86
4	Conservancy management committee members	890	76	100
5	Female management committee members	291	76	33
6	Female chairpersons	13	76	17
7	Female treasurers/financial managers	31	76	41
8	Conservancy staff members	962	76	100
9	Female staff members	238	76	25
10	Conservancies management plans	55	76	72
11	Sustainable business and financial plans	23	76	30
12	Conservancy AGMs held	63	76	83
13	Financial reports presented at AGM	53	76	70
14	Financial reports approved at AGM	50	76	66
15	Budgets approved at AGM	50	76	66

A comparison with previous years shows that conservancy management capacities fluctuate, influenced by staff and committee changes, as well as the degree of external support. Female participation in many conservancies is strong, but in the last year has not grown. Most conservancies are covering operational costs from their own income, with many distributing benefits to members or investing in community projects. Figures include the Kyaramacan Association, which operates as a de facto conservancy within Bwabwata National Park.



## TWO WOMEN LEADERS

In the past it was seen as a taboo for a woman to speak out in public or be in a leadership position, but times have changed; women are taking the lead in various sectors. In communal conservancies, females are elected as chairpersons and employed as managers, treasurers and game guards – see Table 1.

In the Kunene region in //Huab Conservancy, Judy Melekie has been the Chairperson for the past two years and there have been significant changes made in her term of office. As a chairperson she ensures that projects are implemented within the conservancy, monitors funds, ensures that distribution plans and policies are in place, and listens to the concerns and contributions of the community.

“As women we sometimes underestimate our strength. Once we acknowledge our strengths we will be able to transfer the skills we have,” she says. In her term as Chairperson she has overseen the revival of conservancy funds from a low of N\$ 600 to over N\$ 200 000. The conservancy has trained the first female rhino ranger, and it received two prizes at the annual Hospitality Association of Namibia awards for best conservancy joint-venture and best community campsite. She says: “It’s a tough job, but when the community shows appreciation you get motivated to do even more to conserve

our natural resources, which is our heritage.”

In the north central area, Hilde Nathinghe has been the manager at Sheya Shuushona Conservancy since 2004. Her role is to monitor staff performance, deal with internal and external communications, compile reports, and assist the management committee with a host of issues. The conservancy has little to no income due to a lack of a tourism joint venture partner, and wildlife is scarce due to the drought situation, so there is little benefit from conservation hunting.

However, from 2002 until now, the conservancy has been in full compliance with the Ministry of Environment and Tourism’s Standard Operating Procedures and has not received any warning or letters of misconduct from the Ministry., “We have everything in order” says Hilde with a proud smile on her face

These are only two of the women who have been motivated by challenges, and who have big dreams for their conservancies which they hope to achieve through their competence, confidence, and drive. These women have used what they know to the best of their ability to continuously improve the conditions of their conservancy for the benefit of the community. They are striving to leave a good legacy behind and a good example for others to follow: men as well as women.



*Judy Melekie: //Huab Chairperson*



*Hilde Nathinghe: Sheya Shuushona Manager*

improving membership engagement and promoting benefit distribution. The MET is exercising a stronger leadership role in enforcing conservancy compliance to its Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

### Financial management

Conservancy financial mismanagement and poor fiscal governance has been a growing concern, particularly in north-western conservancies. However, it is important to note that mismanagement is different from theft or fraud. Most financial mismanagement is the result of poor record keeping, reporting and a lack of supported receipts, although there were cases of misappropriation of cash, some of which are being investigated by the police.

### Gender balance: an important indicator

For many years it has been a trend for conservancies to choose women as treasurers or financial officers. This trend is helpful in empowering women in rural areas. In 2018 the figure was down from 44% to 41%, which is not a significant variation from previous years. However, only 25% of conservancy staff members were women. This gap between men and women employed is wide, indicating a need to engage more women in conservancy governance. This gender gap was also identified at a meeting held late 2018 by CBNRM practitioners, which recommended that a CBNRM gender mainstreaming strategy be developed to guide CBOs on how to effectively integrate gender dynamics in their operations.

# Livelihoods

## A review of 2018

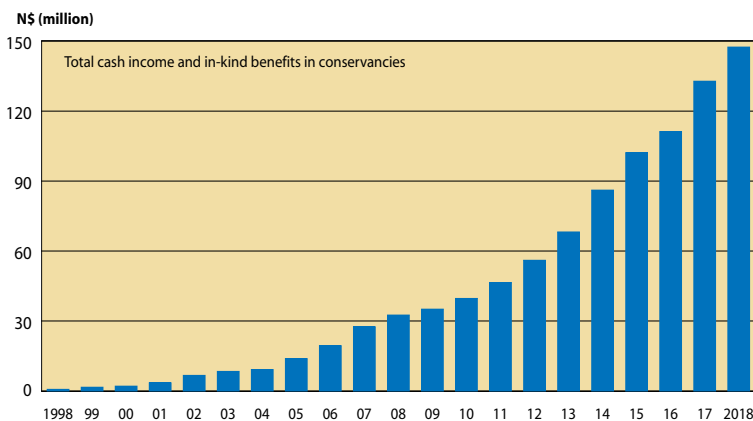
### The Business, Economics and Livelihoods Working Group (BELWG)

The working group supports community enterprises (SMEs) and conservancy joint ventures with tourism and conservation hunting operators to build financial sustainability on sound conservation practices linked to strong natural resource management and good governance.

Returns from wildlife and other natural resources generated through community conservation are substantial, including direct income to conservancies from tourism and

conservation hunting, jobs created, and other meaningful benefits such as the distribution of game meat. Diversification of income is a significant contribution to peoples' livelihoods and contributes to community resilience against episodic events such as drought and floods. The ability to cope with such events is increasingly necessary for rural communities confronted with the harsh reality of climate change.

## The economics of conservancies



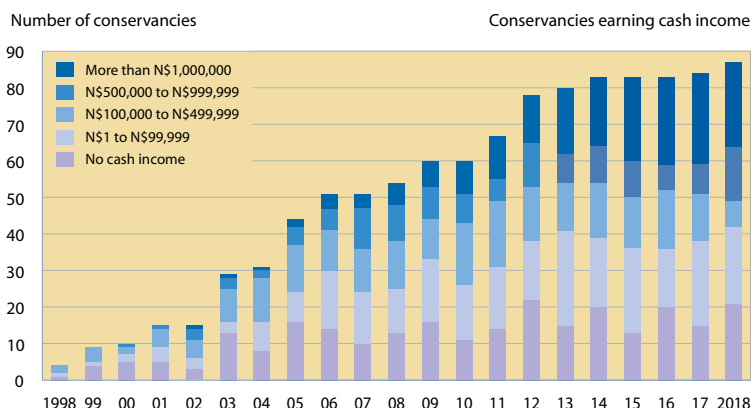
**FIGURE 11. Total returns to conservancies and members**

The total cash income and in-kind benefits generated in conservancies (including the Kyaramacan Association) grew from less than N\$ 1 million in 1998 to more than N\$ 147 million in 2018. This includes all directly measurable income and in-kind benefits being generated, and can be divided into cash income to conservancies (mostly through partnerships with private sector operators), cash income to residents from enterprises (mostly through employment and the sale of products), and as in-kind benefits to residents (mostly the distribution of harvested game meat).

Returns have been rising since 1998, when the first conservancies were formed. In the last few years Namibia experienced a surge in tourism. While this has provided the greatest cash income to households, consumptive wildlife use, especially conservation hunting, has returned cash

directly to conservancies and provided more in-kind benefits, due to the increased value of game meat.

Table 2 breaks down cash payments to conservancies, cash payments to their residents, and the monetised value of in-kind benefits.



**FIGURE 12. Conservancies earning cash income**

The graph shows the number of conservancies earning cash, divided into incremental categories (including the Kyaramacan Association). There are great differences in the potential of conservancies to generate cash income. Some are much larger than others. Tourism and hunting potential is affected by the wildlife populations in the area. Private sector involvement varies significantly from one area to the next. All of these factors result in great differences in the potential to generate cash income and in-kind benefits.



**Figure 13. Living with wildlife pays dividends – but comes with costs**

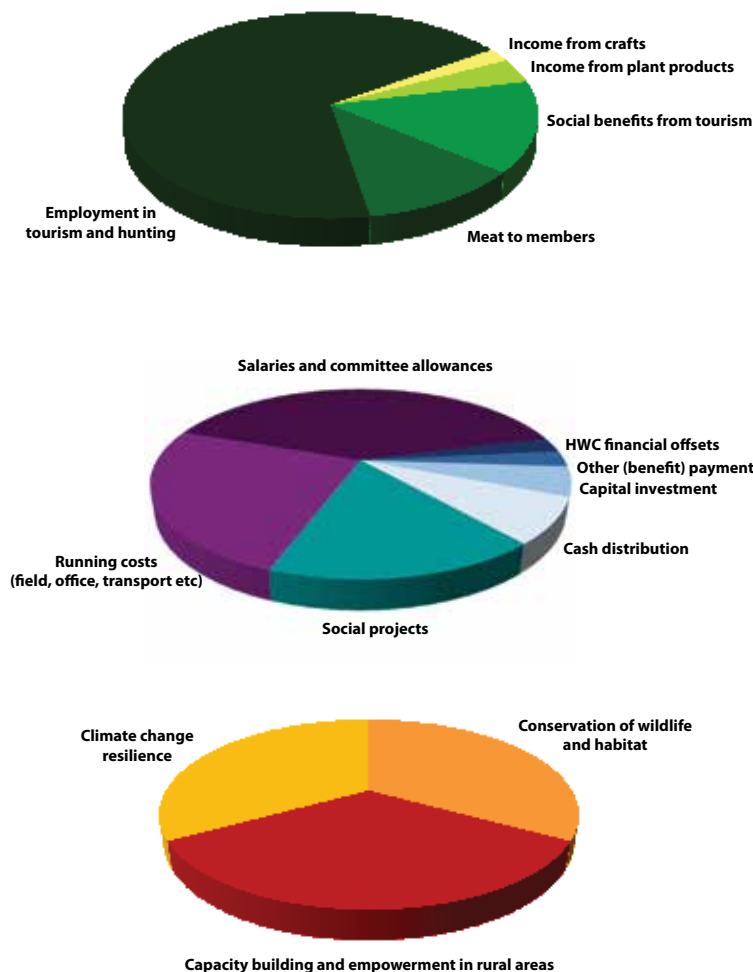
Conservancies earn income from tourism and hunting operations. In addition, there are in-kind benefits such as meat. Added together, these are returns.

Like private sector businesses, conservancies earn income, but also have high costs. These costs are salaries and overheads (such as office and vehicle expenses) and human-wildlife conflict.

Conservancies also provide benefits to members in cash and community development projects – rather like dividends to shareholders.

Conservancies generate income, which goes directly to residents, especially from employment in tourism and hunting, and from harvesting plant products and selling crafts.

The total gain after costs may be small, but the intangible returns, benefits such as capacity building and empowerment in rural areas, conservation of wildlife and habitat, and resilience to climate change through diversification of land use; these benefits are difficult to measure, but are substantial in development terms.



Joint-venture tourism and conservation hunting make the greatest financial contributions to conservation, e.g. game guard salaries, and to livelihoods, (figures include Kyaramacan Association returns).

**TABLE 2. Sources of returns to conservancies and their members in 2018**

Source of cash income and in-kind benefits to conservancies and members	Value in N\$	Percentage of total cash income and in-kind benefits
Joint-venture tourism (includes all cash income to conservancies and members)	93,771,228	63.6
Conservation hunting (includes all cash income and meat to conservancies and members)	34,463,053	23.4
Game harvesting for meat	5,173,242	3.5
Indigenous plant products	4,855,440	3.3
Community-based tourism	4,625,799	3.1
Miscellaneous (e.g. interest)	2,820,567	1.9
Crafts	1,748,405	1.2
	<b>147,457,734</b>	<b>100</b>

# Transforming lives

## Rural electricity supplied by conservancies



Life is changing in Mashivi village. Although Zambezi Region is famous for its fish – Tilapia and Bream are firm favourites on the menu – Mashivi is 40 kilometres from the nearest river, and people want fresh fish.

Pendy Hapelezo is a young entrepreneur who has taken advantage of the new village electricity transformer to power a refrigerator. He buys fish wholesale and sells it in the village.

The electricity comes courtesy of Sobbe Conservancy, where Mashivi village is situated. Several Zambezi conservancies have decided to provide transformers as a social benefit, instead of paying cash benefits to residents.



It's an idea the MET supports. The Minister of Environment and Tourism has stipulated that at least half of conservancy revenue should be paid out to residents, as community benefits and infrastructure instead of cash.

Sobbe's electricity is being provided in three phases. In the first phase, three villages have been connected on a single line. Two other villages will come on line over the next two years, as money becomes available.

There is not enough money to run cables to all of the houses, so residents have to pay for their own connection. That's usually about N\$ 3,000. The first to sign up are usually businesses such as shops and shebeens.



*Ernest and Alice Huhongo sell cool drinks*





*Chips for pension day*

Hapelezu wants to open a small restaurant and sell soft drinks. There is a toaster and a chip fryer inside his simple mud-walled shop, and his sister Lumba is selling chips on neat, cling-film wrapped paper plates to villagers who have gathered on pension day.

Sangwali village in Wuparo Conservancy is also powering up, which is good news for barber Ocacious Sanmombo, who has been cutting hair since 2002. He started with a pair of scissors and taught himself. He moved up to an electric razor powered by a solar panel. Like his business it was slow, but now that the village has electricity, he has increased his customers from 5 cuts a day to over 10, and he can charge more because he can do a better job with reliable power.

Like Hapelezu, Sanmombo is focussed on the future. He wants to start another business, and is considering ice making.

A freezer with fish and meat is also planned in Luoma village, a thirty minute drive from the regional capital Katima Mulilo, where bar owners Ernest Lishokomosi & Alice Muhongo can shop for goods to keep cold for village residents. They started the bar in 2016, when electricity became available from their conservancy, Sikunga.

The outlook is good for the bar owners Ernest and Alice, who have installed an electric cooker in the house. "I like to cook inside," says Alice. "Outside is too hot."

Bamunu was one of the first conservancies to invest in electricity, and it is transforming lives. In Dotani village, as dark falls, Helena Kandere can sit by the electric light now installed on the wall and do her homework.



*Electricity makes all the difference*



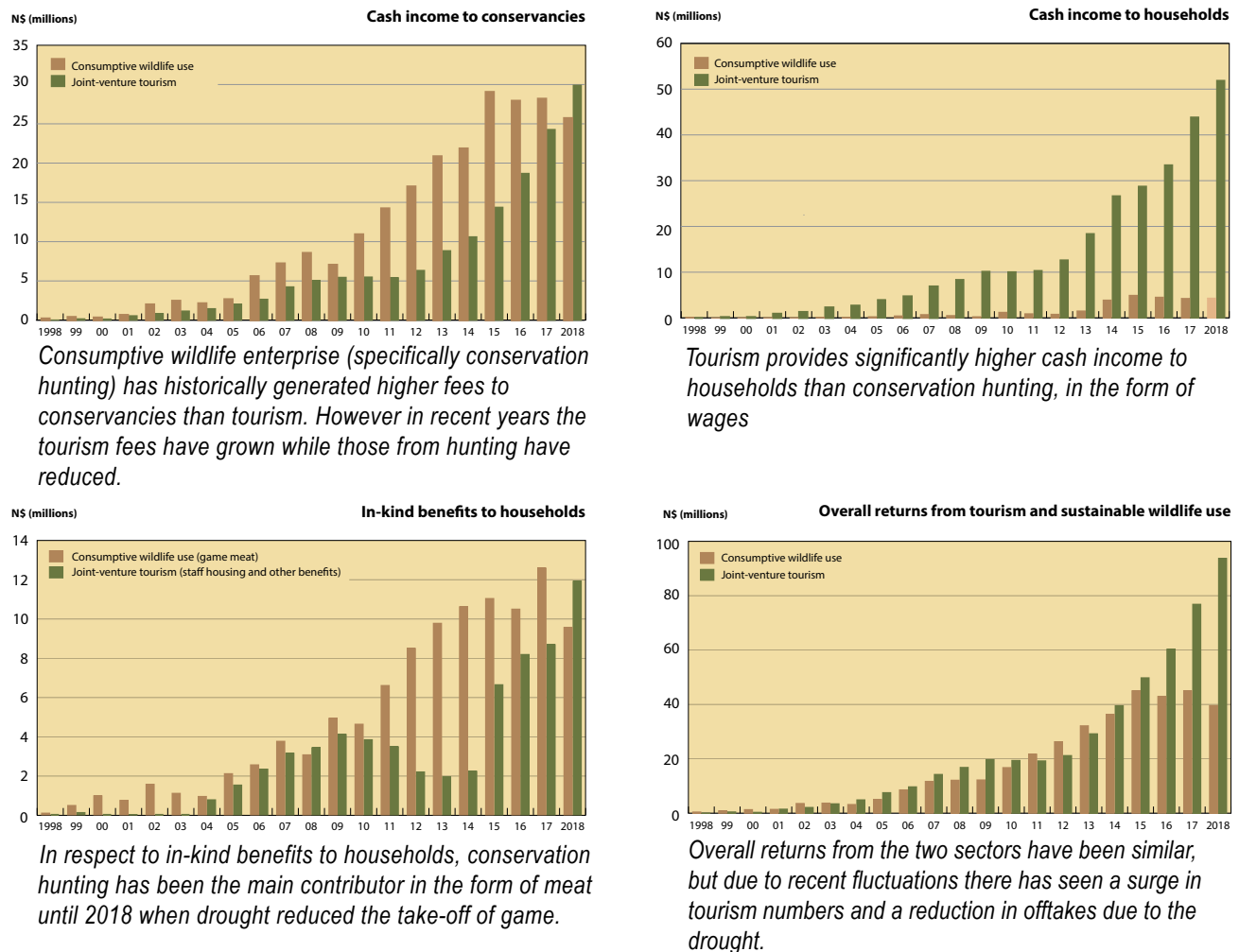
# Complementary roles of tourism and hunting

While overall returns from the two sectors have been similar, in the past 3 years the returns from tourism has surged, including the fee payments to the Conservancy. Such fees are necessary to cover conservancy operational costs and development projects.

In respect to in-kind benefits to households, conservation hunting remains the main contributor in the form of game meat. The situation in every conservancy is different. In

some conservancies tourism outperforms wildlife harvesting whereas in others the situation is reversed. On the ground communities are not interested in choosing between tourism and wildlife harvesting; they are concerned with maximizing benefits from wildlife as a land-use. Failure to utilise both tourism and wildlife harvesting undervalues wildlife as a land-use in comparison to other livelihood options such as livestock and crop farming.

**FIGURE 14.** The complementary roles of sustainable consumptive wildlife use and joint-venture tourism operations



## Returns from tourism and consumptive wildlife use

The Namibian model illustrates the value of generating returns from both tourism and the consumptive use of wildlife. Rising returns are facilitated through strategic partnerships with the private sector, which offers specialised skills and market linkages. Capacity building and skills

transfer create further benefits. Conservancies have the opportunity to further 'grow into' both sectors and over time provide an environment for successful community-based enterprises. For more information on specific conservancy revenues see Figure 18 on page 38.

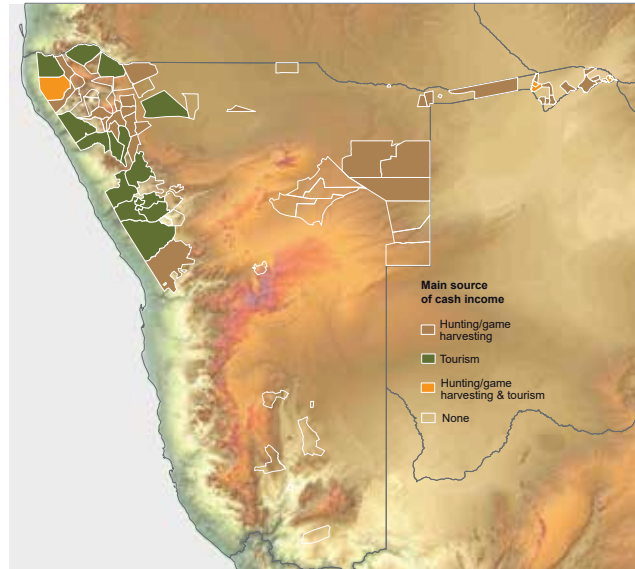
For more information go to [communityconservationnamibia.com](http://communityconservationnamibia.com) > Sources of returns



## The value of conservation hunting

The map portrays which conservancies depend mostly on tourism income to cover their running costs, and which rely mostly on conservation hunting and game harvesting. Hunting remains an important source of income in a

high proportion of conservancies, without which many conservancies would not have been able to form, or to attain financial viability.

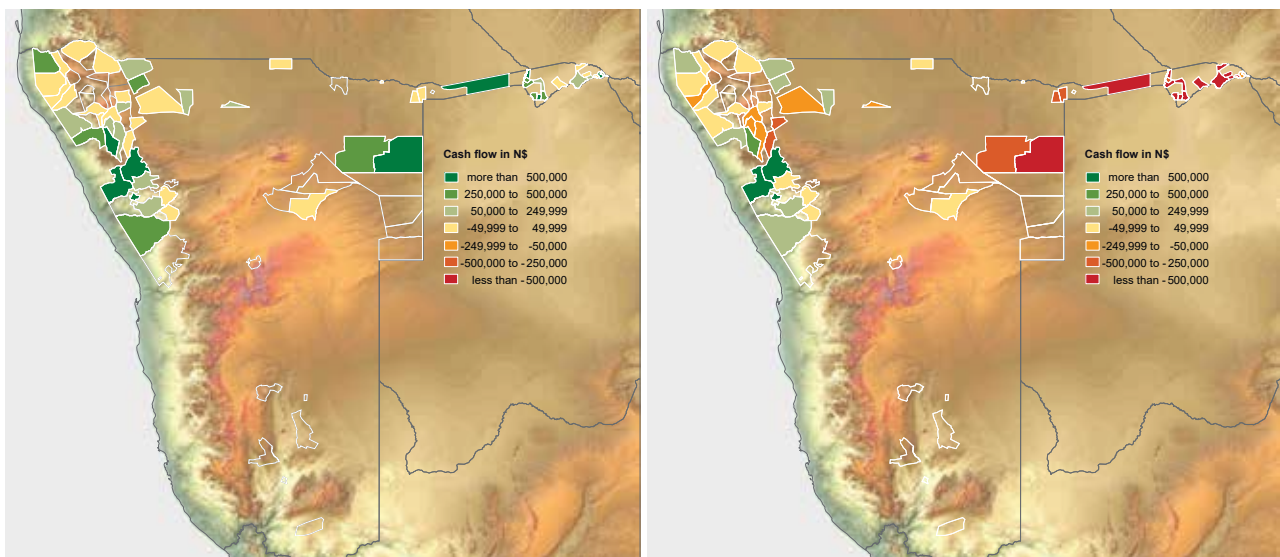


**FIGURE 15.** Reliance on conservation hunting and photographic tourism

The maps below illustrate the importance of income generated through sustainable consumptive wildlife use for selected conservancies\* (left). The loss of this income would result in a negative cash flow for most of these conservancies, which would no longer be able to cover their running costs, including the wages of game guards and support to farmers with human-wildlife conflict incidents (right).

Those conservancies relying mostly on tourism (Figure 15) would be able to adjust their activities to fit a reduced income, but would become less effective in managing their resources without complementary income from hunting. Those conservancies relying mostly on hunting would become unsustainable.

*\* Figures include the Kyaramacan Association in Bwabwata National Park*



**FIGURE 16.** The importance of consumptive wildlife use income

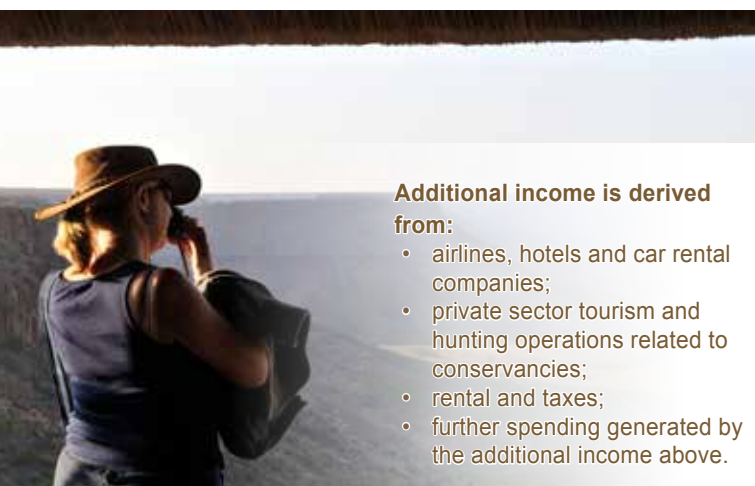
For more information go to [communityconservationnamibia.com](http://communityconservationnamibia.com) > Sustainable wildlife utilisation

# NATIONAL ECONOMY

## Economic Returns

Community conservation is contributing to the national economy, principally through tourism, hunting and other enterprises.

Apart from the direct returns to rural communities, conservation enterprises have a broad and significant impact on the economy of the country, and contributes to sustainable national economic growth. This national impact can be assessed by taking into account all income streams flowing to communities, government and the private sector through related value chains as a consequence of community conservation.



Additional income is derived from:

- airlines, hotels and car rental companies;
- private sector tourism and hunting operations related to conservancies;
- rental and taxes;
- further spending generated by the additional income above.

The economic merits of programme spending can be seen by comparing the investment in community conservation against NNI returns. This provides an indication of the degree to which the investment made in the CBNRM programme has contributed overall to the national economy and whether this investment has been economically efficient.

**TABLE 3. The economic efficiency of CBNRM**

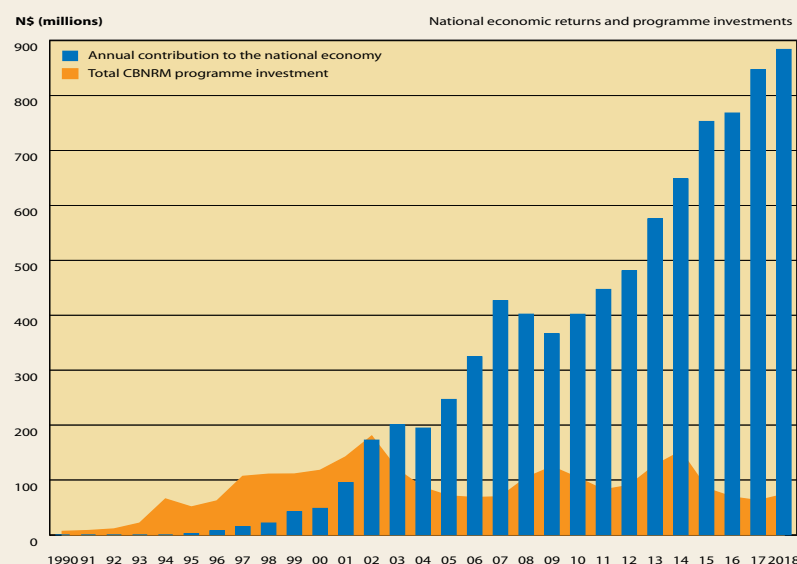
Since 1990, the programme has had an economic internal rate of return of 18% and has earned an economic net present value of some N\$ 1.292 billion. This is a very positive economic return for a programme investment.

Positive economic returns for the programme (economic rate of return above the estimated real discount rate) have become evident during the latter years. The depicted economic return is very encouraging for a programme investment.

Years of investment	Economic Rate of Return	Net Present Value
18	9%	102,650,263
20	12%	265,977,180
22	14%	469,762,316
24	16%	696,458,043
26	17%	988,550,884
28	18%	1,291,811,215

**FIGURE 17. Estimates of the national economic returns from CBNRM compared to economic investment costs**

In 2018, the net national income (NNI) contribution made by conservancies was about N\$ 884 million. Between 1990 and 2018, the cumulative value of the NNI contributions amounted to an estimated N\$ 8.375 billion\*.



The graph also shows the investment in the CBNRM programme each year, which cumulatively adds up to about N\$ 2.5 billion between 1990 and 2018. Donors supplied most of the funds, while the MET and NGOs also provided inputs, mainly as 'in-kind' contributions such as staff, vehicles and other kinds of support.

The graph shows that in the first 12 years of the programme, investment exceeded economic returns, but since then rapidly growing returns have far exceeded investment.

\*Figures have been adjusted for inflation to be equivalent to the value of Namibia dollars in 2018. This means they are not directly comparable with those used in the 2017 Community Conservation Report, which used figures equivalent to the value of Namibian dollars in 2017.

# National development

**NDP5:** Namibia's fifth National Development Plan consists of four pillars. Community conservation makes a significant contribution.



## ECONOMIC PROGRESSION

### COMMUNITY CONSERVATION:

- generates cash and in-kind benefits to conservancies and members
- promotes economic development and poverty reduction through livelihood diversification and private sector partnerships
- facilitates new jobs and income opportunities in rural areas, especially within the tourism, hunting, natural plant products and craft sectors



## SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

### COMMUNITY CONSERVATION:

- promotes gender equality and the empowerment of women through equal access to employment and governance, resources and economic opportunities
- increases household food security and reduces malnutrition through livelihood diversification and the provision of game meat
- promotes cultural pride and the conservation of cultural heritage through responsible tourism and the development of living museums and other cultural tourism activities



## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

### COMMUNITY CONSERVATION:

- makes significant contributions to environmental conservation, funded through tourism and conservation hunting income
- promotes equal access to natural resources through formal management structures and participatory processes
- encourages a sense of ownership over natural resources and responsibility for development
- facilitates the reduction and reversal of land degradation and deforestation through mandated, structured and sustainable natural resource management
- facilitates integrated land-use planning through formal management structures and collaboration with other community, government and private sector stakeholders-
- facilitates the reduction and reversal of land degradation and deforestation through mandated, structured and sustainable natural resource management
- promotes sustainable practices and increases agricultural productivity through land-use diversification, structured and sustainable management, and activities such as conservation agriculture and community rangeland management,
- facilitates integrated land-use planning through formal management structures and collaboration with other community, government and private sector stakeholders



## GOOD GOVERNANCE

### COMMUNITY CONSERVATION:

- promotes democracy in rural areas through community participation and democratic election of office bearers
- emphasises accountability, transparency and good governance through performance monitoring and evaluation
- emphasises the equitable distribution of returns
- enables significant capacity enhancement through on-going training in governance, natural resource management and business, as well as in-service training in the private sector



# THE FIRST FOUR CONSERVANCIES

A final history of conservation in Namibia has yet to be recorded because it continues to be written by its actors: the conservancies, NGOs, the MET and many individual conservationists. Contributors to the article below are Brian Jones, a journalist who joined the post-independence Ministry of Wildlife, Conservation and Tourism, anthropologist Dr Margaret Jacobsohn and conservationist Garth Owen-Smith.

## The legacy of apartheid

After the implementation of the South African Odendaal Plan in 1970, major commercial and subsistence poaching occurred in all Namibia's communal areas, initially by government officials and security forces, but later by local communities. At the time wildlife and tourism were not seen as having any role to play in the economic development of the apartheid "homelands".

North-west Namibia, known as Kaokoland, previously the stronghold of black rhino and desert-dwelling elephant, had virtually lost both species by 1982. At this time, the newly established Namibia Wildlife Trust, supported by the Endangered Wildlife Trust in South Africa, started their Damaraland/Kaokoland Project to assist Chris Eyre, the only nature conservator based in the region. Garth Owen-Smith was appointed as its field officer.

Originally from South Africa, Owen-Smith, supported by the Namibia Wildlife Trust, worked with local communities to establish a community game guard system, which proved highly successful in restoring to local communities

a sense of responsibility over wildlife and in reducing poaching. He later teamed up with social scientist and former journalist and anthropologist Margaret Jacobsohn

## A NOTE FROM BRIAN JONES

Jones assisted the survey and notes: "What struck me in all our early work was that Namibian communities we visited wanted to keep wildlife – very different to the standard perception that all they wanted to do was eat it! We heard time and again that it was important for younger generations to see wildlife.

"A San headman told a USAID director on a field trip about the problems caused by predators and elephants and was asked: "So why should we conserve wildlife if you get all these problems?" The headman replied: "So my children's children will know and see the wild animals on this land". Although people wanted the same financial benefits as white farmers, they also placed intrinsic cultural and spiritual value on the wildlife. This was an important, but sometimes overlooked foundation for all that has followed."

The socio-ecological surveys and the idea of involving local communities in conservation were supported by the first SWAPO Minister of Wildlife, Conservation and Tourism, Nico Bessinger, who began working on a new conservation policy for communal areas, based on communities forming conservancies.



*Early game guards in Kunene*



*Minister Nico Bessinger (courtesy The Namibian newspaper)*

to form a new NGO, Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation (IRDNC). They continued to work with the community game guards and the system was later extended to Caprivi in 1989.

## Surveying new opportunities

An opportunity for the post-independence government to explore approaches to working with local communities came in early 1990 with the withdrawal of the occupying South African Defence Force (SADF) from the Caprivi Game Reserve (now Bwabwata National Park) prior to Namibia's independence. The task of leading this investigation was given to ecologist, Dr Chris Brown, who realised that the investigation had to be expanded to include socio-economic issues. The SADF had left behind about 4,000 people, mostly of San origin, who had been soldiers or worked for the military.

Brown put together a multi-disciplinary team, which made a series of recommendations, including the zoning of the park into core conservation areas and a multiple use area covering inhabited by people, the sustainable use of wildlife for the benefit of residents, the establishment of a community game guard system and a joint steering committee for the park. IRDNC played a major implementation role, with funds provided by WWF.

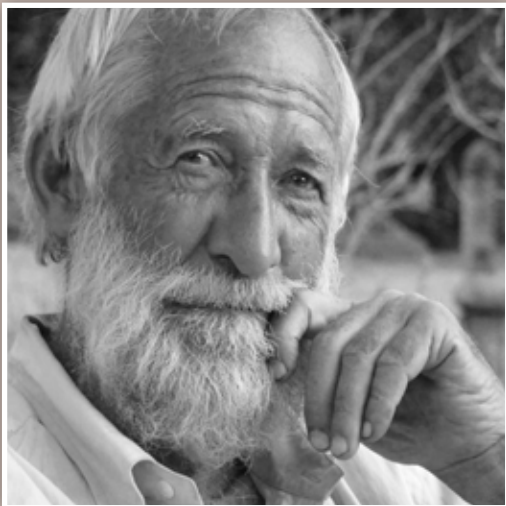
Similar socio-ecological surveys were carried out between 1991 and 1993 in other communal areas. They

confirmed that Namibian communities in northern Namibia did not want to see wildlife disappear, although they did want something done about predators that killed livestock and elephants that ate crops and destroyed water installations. Communal farmers wanted the same rights over wildlife as had been given to white freehold farmers by the pre-independence South African administration. Enabling the farmers to gain an income from wildlife on their land from hunting had reversed the decline of wildlife on freehold farms.

## Conservancies: a new idea

Approval of the policy by Cabinet led to the development of the 1996 legislation that made provision for the establishment of communal area conservancies, and the registration of the first four conservancies in 1998.

July 1993 had seen the start of a US \$14 million support programme for CBNRM in Namibia, known as the Living in a Finite Environment (LIFE) Programme, funded by the USAID, WWF-US and the GRN. The LIFE programme also supported the emergence of an informal 'collaborative group' made up of the key implementation partners, which led to the formation of NACSO and the establishment of a national Community Based Natural Resource Management programme.



Garth Owen-Smith

## A REFLECTION – AND A WARNING

Asked to reflect on the past 35 years, Garth Owen-Smith says that the early CBNRM initiatives in Kunene and later in Zambezi succeeded not just because of potential jobs and income, but because key principles of community-based action were followed: a local vision of wildlife being valuable was nurtured; real relationships and partnerships were fostered; communities were directly involved in implementation, thereby assuming responsibility and being accountable for their wildlife and other valuable natural resources.

"If government or NGOs erode any of these principles by being too proactive and taking initiative away from communities, Namibia's CBNRM successes could be endangered," warns Owen-Smith.

# Nyae Nyae

Meaning 'place without mountains, but rocky'

## THE FACE ON THE COVER: KXAO MOSES ≠ OMA

Axel Thoma and Magdaena Brörmann, who worked for the Nyae Nyae Farmer's Cooperative, remember Kxao Moses:

"True to the Ju/'hoansi tradition and culture of debating, Kxao Moses tirelessly tried to reach consensus, particularly when it came to the new concept of a conservancy. For development workers Kxao built 'the balance' between San culture and tradition, and contemporary challenges. He was equally respected and trusted by Ju/'hoansi elders, the youth, government officials and NGOs. His continuous efforts to convince 35 communities of the possibility to combine the Ju/'hoansi traditional way of life with new ideas played a vital role in setting up the Nyae Nyae Conservancy."

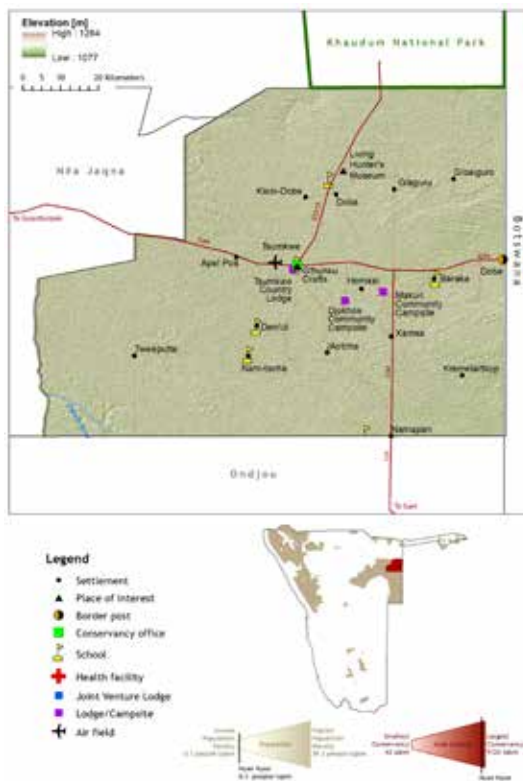


Kxao Moses Republikein,  
Picture: the Republikein

Nyae Nyae lies south of Khauzum National Park and west of Botswana. For as long as anybody can think back, the Ju/'hoansi people have lived in this area where massive baobab trees grow and the rich Nyae Nyae pan provided seasonal water to a diversity of birds and wildlife. They are one of several San, or Bushman, groups in Namibia.

The first white settlers to South-West Africa, as the country was known, exterminated Bushmen as a nuisance. Later, with their lands taken, many Bushmen were forced to work for white farmers for food. When the war for Namibia's liberation came, many were pressed into South African military service as trackers.

An independent Namibia has brought new possibilities to the Ju/'hoansi in Nyae Nyae. With the advent of the conservancy they were empowered to make an income from hunting and the harvesting of Devil's Claw.



## QUICK FACTS

**REGISTERED:** February 1998

**REGION:** Otjozondjupa

**AREA:** 8,992 km<sup>2</sup>

**APPROXIMATE POPULATION:** 3,156

**GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES:** Mix of broad-leaved and acacia woodlands around a series of large pans that fill after good rains. The Aha Hills in the east are prominent in the flat landscape.

**PARTICULAR FEATURES:** The culture of the San people, the Nyae Nyae Pans and other pans, Dorsland Trek Baobabs.

**MAJOR WILDLIFE RESOURCES:** Lion, reedbuck, buffalo, elephant, leopard, roan, cheetah, wild dog, hartebeest, kudu, duiker, warthog, steenbok, gemsbok, springbok, blue wildebeest, eland, giraffe.

**ENTERPRISES:** Nyae Nyae Campsites (community campsites); craft centre and various crafts; conservation hunting; devil's claw harvesting.

**CONSERVANCY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** males 5, females 1

**STAFF:** 29 including 3 females and 13 game guards



## A hunter gatherer tradition

An increasing number of people from western consumer society visit Nyae Nyae to learn from the Ju/'hoansi, who are keeping their traditions alive and deriving cash income from them.

Hunting was traditionally done sustainably by San people, and under the MET's quota system, sustainable conservation hunting is carried out today through a contract with a professional hunter. The income from conservation hunting (see page 38) provides cash to conservancy residents for food, clothing and other essentials, and covers the conservation costs that come from managing a conservancy and its wildlife. Meat from hunting is shared equitably between residents, and is considered to be a significant benefit of the conservancy.

Veldkos: "field food" has been gathered from the bush, together with medicinal plants, since people first learnt how to live with and from nature. In Nyae Nyae edible tubers and fruits are gathered as a dietary supplement.

Devil's Claw is highly prized by the European homeopathic industry for the relief of arthritis. The conservancy trains men and women to harvest the tubers sustainably and acts a middleman, selling the cut and dried organically certified tubers to exporters. The income from harvesting can double the amount Nyae Nyae residents receive from the conservancy. As !uu /ui says: "I can send my children to school".

*!uu /ui digs Devil's Claw tubers from the ground with a traditional digging stick, making sure to leave sufficient roots for it to grow again. Later, the tubers will be sliced and dried ready for sale.*



*The Living Village shows tourists to Nyae Nyae how traditional hunting was carried out*



## CHIEF TSAMKXAO #OMA OF THE JU/'HOANSI SAN ON CONSERVATION

Chief Bobo, as Tsumkxao is affectionately known, is a popular man in Nyae Nyae. He doesn't run the conservancy – that is the job of the management committee – but he is the chief of the area around Tsumkwe, stretching to the Botswana border. Ju/'hoansi means 'real people', and Bobo's people have lived in the area for as long back as they can recall. Traditionally, the San did not have chiefs, but in every area there was a leader who, as Bobo explains, would know the area well.

This was important, as resources in the bush are scarce. "You have to maintain an area, a !nore," says the chief, using the Ju/'hoan name. "If you want to hunt in an area you have to ask the leader of that !nore first," and Chief Bobo remembers his first hunt as a boy.

"It was a duiker, and the cow had given birth. I followed the spoor and then caught the calf. Because of the noise it made the mother had to come back for it and I shot it with a bow." How old was Bobo? "About so high." He holds his hand out. "Maybe ten."

Later, he remembers the South Africans coming. "Before then there were no vehicle tracks here." Later still, the South African army moved in, and Tsumkwe became a recruiting base for the war against SWAPO. It was a bad time, remembers the chief. Money did not bring development. People drank and didn't plan.

In 1997 Bobo was elected Chief. He began to think of fairer future for the Ju/'hoansi, in which they would benefit from wildlife as they had in the past. In 1998 Nyae Nyae became the first registered communal conservancy in Namibia.

For Chief Bobo, the idea resonates with his understanding of a !nore: "You must not finish what you have now. Everything in nature should be used sustainably. Future generations must not just hear the names of elephants and the plants, but they must see them, and benefit from them."



# Salambala

Named after the lovers Sala and Bala whose illicit relationship resulted in them being banished to the forest

## THE FACE ON THE COVER: PRINCE GEORGE

Prince George was a man of vision who shared the dream with his father, Chief Moraliswani, to bring wildlife back to the Basubia area. He and his father understood the cultural significance of wildlife and the economic gain it could generate for the Basubia people.

As the first Chairman of Salambala, Prince George brought the conservancy to the forefront of the national conservancy movement, serving as an inspiration to aspiring conservancy leaders across Caprivi (now Zambezi) Region and Namibia as a whole. His conservation legacy lives on today as seen in the annual migration of close to 6,000 zebra from Botswana to the Salambala floodplains in what is the longest recorded terrestrial mammal migration in Africa.



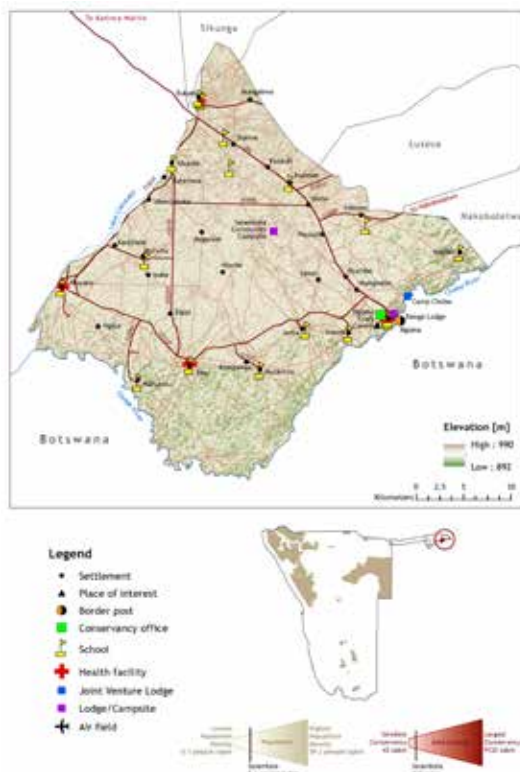
Prince George

The Chobe River is a backwater of the great Zambezi, which has its headwaters in Zambia, and crashes over the Victoria Falls between Zambia and Zimbabwe. When the Zambezi rises, the Chobe flood plain fills with water. When it falls, the grass grows along the Chobe and the zebras move from Botswana to share the abundance with the local cattle.

But at night lions prowl down across the river from the Chobe National Park in Botswana, attacking cattle. The daytime is also not safe. Elephants power through fences to gorge on the maize fields tended by farmers.

The people in this area have always lived with the dangers of wildlife, but now they are also reaping rewards

from it. Chobe River Lodge is a joint venture with the conservancy that brings income and benefits. Conservation hunting from the abundance of wildlife also brings income.



## QUICK FACTS

**REGISTERED:** June 1998

**REGION:**

**AREA:** 930 km<sup>2</sup>

**APPROXIMATE POPULATION:** 8,923

**GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES:** Average annual rainfall of 600 mm. Mopane woodland dominates the northern area, while floodplain grasslands cover the southern section.

**PARTICULAR FEATURES:** High diversity of bird species, including many that are rare elsewhere in Namibia; strategic location opposite Botswana's Chobe National Park.

**MAJOR WILDLIFE RESOURCES:** Lion, elephant, leopard, buffalo, waterbuck, tsessebe, kudu, duiker, reedbuck, common impala, blue wildebeest, lechwe, hippo, crocodile, plains zebra, warthog, steenbok, interesting bird life, various fish species.

**ENTERPRISES:** Joint venture with Chobe River Lodge; Community Camp Site by lodge; Ngoma Craft Centre; conservation hunting.

**CONSERVANCY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** males 19, females 17.

**STAFF:** 35 staff members including 7 females and 22 game guards.

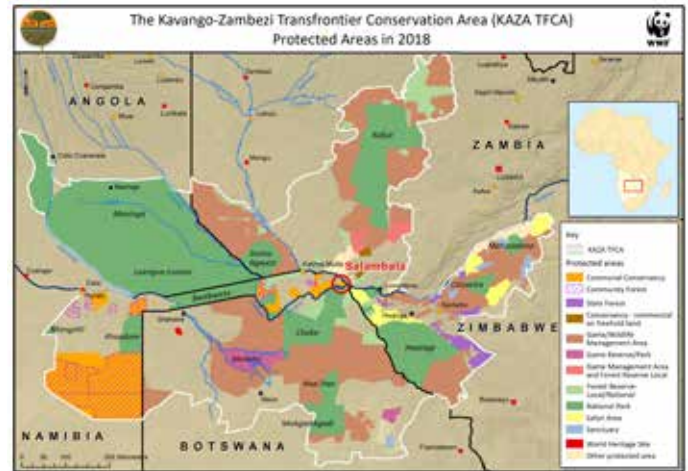


## At the heart of KAZA

The Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area was created in 2011 with the vision to “*establish a world-class transfrontier conservation and tourism destination area in the Okavango and Zambezi River Basin regions of Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe within the context of sustainable development.*”

Salambala (see map inset) sits right at the geographical hub of that vision, where people, landscapes and wildlife meet to create conservation and sustainable rural development on the rivers and land of five countries.

KAZA is a mosaic of national parks, game management areas and conservancies. Salambala contributes significantly to transboundary conservation by working with Botswana in transboundary forums (see page 41), particularly to combat wildlife crime (see page 17).



## SHARING THE CHOBE WITH THE WORLD

The year 2018 brought good rains to Zambezi region. Some areas were flooded, including the road to Chobe River Lodge. Guests had to be transported by boat to the tented lodge which is situated on the banks of the river bordering Salambala Conservancy.

As tour guide Beavan Sinvula lifts the bags out of the boat, Beauty Mbala, the Guest Relations Officer, welcomes the visitors and gives them a brief introduction to the lodge and surrounding area. As the face of Chobe River Lodge, she does this with an inviting smile on her face and with the same vibrant energy every time guests arrive. She makes sure that the people feel at home and serves them with respect and humility. The lodge is strategically located opposite Botswana's Chobe National Park where they will have front row seats to view the wildlife.

Next morning, as the sun rises and glistens over the waters, with the sky painted in a gradient of orange and yellow, Beauty is up bright and early, sweeping the open plan reception and lounge area. With birds singing in the background, she sweetly hums the hymn of Sweet By and By, “we shall meet on that beautiful shore”, a song resonating with the tranquillity of the landscape.

“I love my job,” she says. “I enjoy learning from the guests who share information about their different countries and I share my culture with them. In that way we get to share ideas. I have seen that the conservancy is good because it is protecting our animals, so our future generations can see them.”





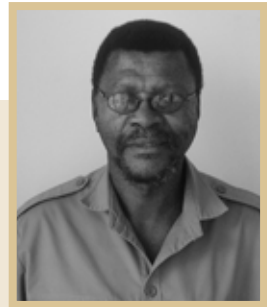
# ≠Khoadi-//Höas

Means “Elephant's Corner” in Khoekhoegowab

## THE FACE ON THE COVER: CHIEF DAVID /GOAGOSEB

Oom (Uncle) David, as he was known, brought livestock farming and community conservation under one umbrella in the Grootberg area. He was one of the founding members of the conservancy and introduced the Forum For Integrated Resource Management, an early and local predecessor of CBNRM.

He jointly chaired the ≠Khoadi-//Höas Conservancy and the Grootberg Farmers Association that advocated for farmers' grazing rights in Grootberg. As the conservancy developed he was vocal in the negotiations for the first trophy hunting agreement for the conservancy. Wheels to Conserve project was his brainchild to secure the first vehicle for ≠Khoadi-//Höas.

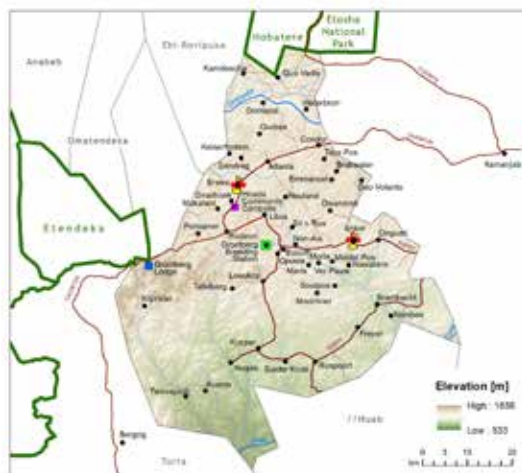


Chief David /Goagoseb

Climb to the top of the Grootberg Pass from the south and you will find the conservancy signpost. Below it, the valley stretches beneath and away towards Torra and the coast. Climb higher and you will find Grootberg lodge, with its stunning view down the Klip River valley, where elephants and rhinos keep the company of giraffes, antelopes and countless bird species.

Across the mountain top, beyond the Etendeka Plateau, lies farm land grazed by cattle and small stock, and still beyond that the Hobatere Tourism Concession and Lodge, where prey and predator, zebra and lion, co-exist to delight of tourists.

≠Khoadi-//Höas Conservancy has made a success of tourism, owning both lodges and using the income to benefit its residents.



### Legend

- Settlement
- ▲ Place of Interest
- Border post
- Conservancy office
- ✎ School
- ✚ Health facility
- Joint Venture Lodge
- Lodge/Campsite
- ✈ Air field



## QUICK FACTS

**REGISTERED:** July 1998

**REGION:** Kunene

**AREA:** 3,364 km<sup>2</sup>

**APPROXIMATE POPULATION:** 5,083

**GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES:** Grootberg Mountain with hills and plains, receives 100-250 mm average annual rainfall.

**PARTICULAR FEATURES:** Grootberg Mountain range, Forum for Integrated Resource Management (FIRM).

**MAJOR WILDLIFE RESOURCES:** Elephant, black rhino, leopard, mountain zebra, kudu, gemsbok, ostrich, springbok, steenbok, giraffe, duiker, klipspringer, warthog, spotted hyaena, black-backed jackal, cheetah.

**ENTERPRISES:** Grootberg Lodge and Hobatere Lodge (both community-owned and managed by a private sector partner); conservation hunting; Hoada community campsite.

**CONSERVANCY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** males 10, females 5

**STAFF:** 20 staff members including 7 females and 11 environmental shepherds

## Making a success of tourism



*Grootberg Lodge*



*Hobatere Lodge*



*Rhino tracking*



*Sunset from the plateau*

Hobatere Lodge was built by the conservancy following the success of Grootberg. The lodges occupy different landscapes, and offer a range of

activities including elephant and rhino tracking. The sundowner trips are a special treat for visitors.

## WINNING SMILES AT GROOTBERG LODGE

*From an article that first appeared in 2015*

As the sun sets and casts dramatic shadows across the Klip River, a tourist couple is greeted by Memory Ganuses, the assistant manager who runs day to day operations at Grootberg Lodge. They are led onto the terrace by a receptionist, who describes the Etendeka Plateau, born 180 million years ago, as huge lava outflows created the land that is present day Namibia. With pride he explains that the lodge is wholly owned by #Khoadi-//Hôas Conservancy, and that benefits from the lodge go back to the rural community that he and the other staff come from.

On the 26 June Grootberg Lodge celebrated its 10th anniversary. The lodge is owned by the conservancy and run by Journeys Namibia as a joint venture. The Windhoek based tour operator is proud of its part in employing and training conservancy members at the lodge, a policy that pays off with winning smiles from the staff. Every visitor feels welcome here.

Without the lodge Memory Ganuses may well have remained herding goats at Miheras Pos, where her mother Rina lives, 800 metres below the plateau, and a three-hour walk in the sand from the gravel road. The spring is drying up, and even when there was water, the elephants came and raided any vegetables Rina tried to grow. "They do their own plumbing," says Memory about the elephants, which destroyed the pipes to the reservoir from the spring.

With the creation of the conservancy, the elephant population has grown. Despite their plumbing work, Memory loves them and likes to watch them from a distance. In the rainy season they climb the plateau and can be seen by tourists on game drives around the lodge.

The greatest benefit to the community is job creation. Grootberg Lodge employs 53 people, almost all of them from the conservancy. Memory supports her mother, two sisters and a brother, as well as her own baby boy. For her, the assistant manager's post is much more than a source of income, it's the start of a career in tourism.

One special guest at the anniversary celebration was Roger Collinson, a consultant who climbed the rocky path to the plateau from the Grootberg Pass between Palmwag and Kamanjab, while assisting the conservancy to find a place for a lodge. What he saw was not only a stunning view, but a huge opportunity for community based tourism. A grant from the European Union followed, which enabled the conservancy to finance the building of the lodge.

This is still virgin landscape. The drive from Grootberg down the Klip River is tortuous even in a Land Cruiser kitted out to carry tourists, who are often rewarded with sightings of black rhino, elephant, giraffe, plains game, and a wealth of bird life. The guides are all locals, who grew up with wildlife and who know every inch of the terrain.

Grootberg is one of the jewels in the community based tourism crown. Its occupancy rate is 80%, well above average, and visitors often come again. For many members of #Khoadi-//Hôas Conservancy, the lodge represents the future of the area. For Memory Ganuses, it is a beacon of hope, for her own career, for her mother's farm, and for the wildlife that the conservancy protects.



*Memory Ganuses*

# Torra

Named after the red torra rocks predominant in the area

## THE FACE ON THE COVER: BENNIE ROMAN

Bennie Roman arrived in Damaraland as a boy, exiled from South Africa. A few years later he assisted conservationist Garth Owen-Smith as a driver, before becoming the liaison officer for the newly formed IRDNC, setting up the conservancy's game guard system. He later became the Chairperson of Torra, and in his last years he advised the Big Three Trust, a consortium of Anabeb, #Khoadi-//Hõas and Torra conservancies in their negotiations to form a joint venture with Palmwag Lodge and he helped to resolve community problems.



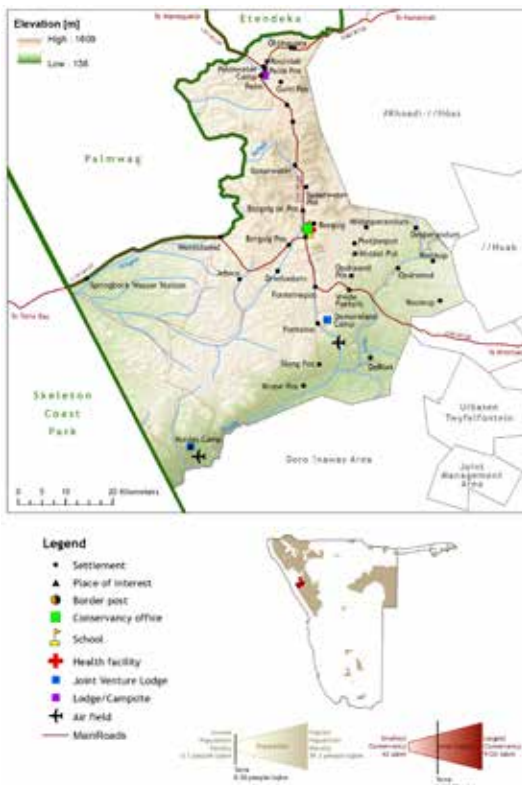
Bennie Roman

Between a rock and a hard place on the tourist route: Torra lies between the Skeleton Coast desert and the Etendeka Plateau, some of Namibia's oldest mountains. The population is as sparse as the rainfall.

Damara people have lived here for centuries and may have created the rock engravings at Twyfelfontein to the south east. In 1974 the South African apartheid regime exiled the Riemvasmaker people to the area.

Small isolated farming communities survive here from goat and cattle herding. The idea of adding income from conservation was born shortly after Namibia's independence when a resident's trust started negotiations with Wilderness Safaris to build a lodge with community involvement. The result was Damaraland Camp, which is

now an award winning eco-lodge hosting fly-and drive-in safaris. The lodge was a pioneer in training local staff to occupy management positions in the company.



## QUICK FACTS

**REGISTERED:** June 1998

**REGION:** Kunene

**AREA:** 3,493 km<sup>2</sup>

**APPROXIMATE POPULATION:** 1,333

**GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES:** Arid with less than 100 mm average annual rainfall. Largely semi-desert and sparse savannah. Landscape is a mix of hills, plains and wooded river valleys, including the scenic Huab River.

**PARTICULAR FEATURES:** Huab River and wildlife in stark desert scenery.

**MAJOR WILDLIFE RESOURCES:** Elephant, lion, leopard, black rhino, cheetah, ostrich, kudu, duiker, warthog, steenbok, gemsbok, springbok, giraffe, mountain zebra, klipspringer, spotted hyaena.

**ENTERPRISES:** Joint venture tourism agreement for Damaraland Camp, Tourism Concession Agreement for Desert Rhino Camp, Hoanib Camp, and Palmwag, Hunting Operators Agreement

**CONSERVACY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** males 6, females 1

**STAFF:** 27 staff members including 5 females and 6 game guards



## A conversion to conservation

### *Bennie Roman on the early days*

Garth was somebody that inspired me by talking. It didn't matter that he was a white outsider. He taught me to listen because he was a person who would listen patiently. He came from 'that' background and I learnt that not all white people have the same mentality.

I had a driver's licence and took out rations to the game guards: flour, tea, sugar and tobacco. Later the guards were paid wages: they had to buy their own tobacco. Garth (a pipe smoker) and the guards were not happy about that!

Being a game guard was not about money. People loved wildlife. Guards were appointed by the headmen and traditional authority. We were working together so that we could inform and investigate together.



*Old friends: Bennie Roman with IRDNC co-founder Garth Owen-Smith (left) and Endangered Wildlife Trust supporter John Ledger (right)*

## RIEMVASKER FESTIVAL KEEPS TRADITIONS ALIVE IN TORRA

The Riemvasmaker community was deported to this arid part of Kunene in 1974 by the South African apartheid regime. They were, said the government "a black spot on a white sheet". They were dumped in and around Deriet, which was, to quote chief Mangani, "like a zoo". The only things in abundance were lions and elephants. The Riemvasmakers were allowed to bring their livestock with them on trains and lorries. "We brought everything, except snakes," says the chief. There were enough of them in Kunene.

But Riemvasmaker oral historian David Isaaks notes that the community originated in Namibia, in the South. They fled German imprisonment and slave labour after the Nama and Herero uprising in 1904, and settled in Riemvasmaak, to the west of Upington. The Riemvasmakers are not exclusively Nama. They mixed with other people, including Xhosas in South Africa. Afrikaans is their common language.

Change started to come to Deriet in 1993 when Peter Ward, a consultant working for Wilderness Safaris, passed by the area on holiday. He realised that it would be a great location for a lodge, and the idea of Damaraland Camp was born. The community elected representatives to form a trust that could negotiate with Wilderness. The result, Damaraland Camp, is

now a joint venture with Torra Conservancy. The protection of wildlife has brought benefits to tourists and residents alike, but problems too.

Everybody at Deriet wants to talk about lions. The conservancy has an annual quota for game meat and trophy animals. The quota has been reduced in the recent lean years of drought, so fewer springbok, gemsbok and zebra are harvested or hunted. Torra would be fortunate to get one lion on its quota, which will bring in a lot of income. While the number of plains game has gone down due to drought, the number of predators has increased. When Damaraland Camp opened its canvas doors, there were something like 25 lions west of Etosha. Now, there may be 150, and they prey on farmers' livestock.

Farmer Jantjie Rhyn says a balance needs to be struck between farming and wildlife. Although elephants have destroyed his garden, he still struggles on. He was deported to Namibia when he was 20, but now he loves his farm.

*"Why should I leave it?" he asks. "In your heart, you know where you are coming from. That will not go away until the day you die. But you must look forward, you must grow. Now, I am a Namibian."*

*Janjie Rhyn: In love with Torra*



*Oom Nelboy Bezuidenhout dancing with Anna Dawids in Deriet*



*Damaraland Camp nestled in the hills*

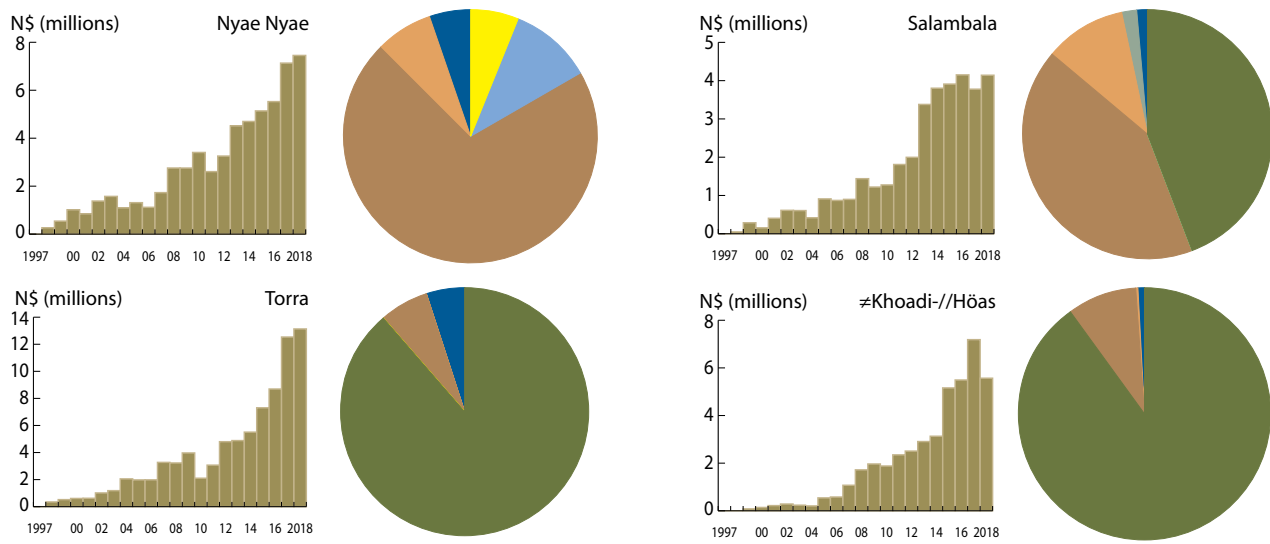


*Lions in abundance*

# The first four: Income, costs and benefits

**FIGURE 18. Returns and disbursements**

Four data sets illustrate the variation between conservancies in sources of natural resource returns. The bar charts show total cash income and in-kind benefits over time, and the pie charts illustrate the ratios between sources of returns. Disbursements in the form of running costs and benefits also vary considerably.



## Source of returns: Conservation hunting income and meat distribution

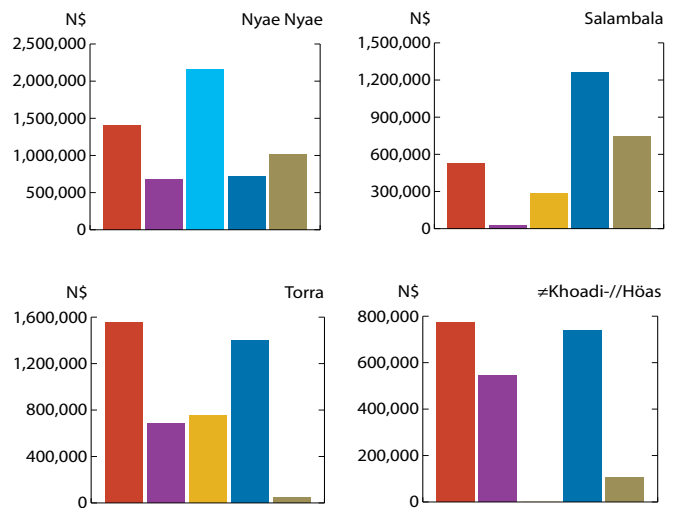


Nyae Nyae has always been heavily reliant on income from conservation hunting. Other important sources of income are Devil's Claw, sold to the pharmaceutical industry, and San crafts. Both of these are direct household incomes. Nyae Nyae is adjacent to the Okavango Delta in Botswana. With the growth of the Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA) as a tourist destination, income from tourism has the potential to grow.

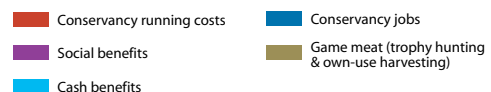
Salambala remains largely dependent on conservation hunting, but is developing tourism. With the growth of KAZA and proximity to Botswana's Chobe National Park, income and benefits from tourism should grow, lessening its dependence on hunting.

The other two conservancies also developed with income from hunting, but have diversified successfully into tourism. Torra and ≠Khoadi-/Höas both lie on important tourism routes in Kunene Region and have developed their own substantial interests in JV lodges that are generating significant income and employment.

All of the first four the conservancies have a high value and potential and are generating good returns. As with all conservancies, the MET is increasingly advocating for financial transparency and reduced running costs, which will facilitate increased benefits to conservancy residents.



## Disbursements



# Looking back

## Kunene: The oldest game guard



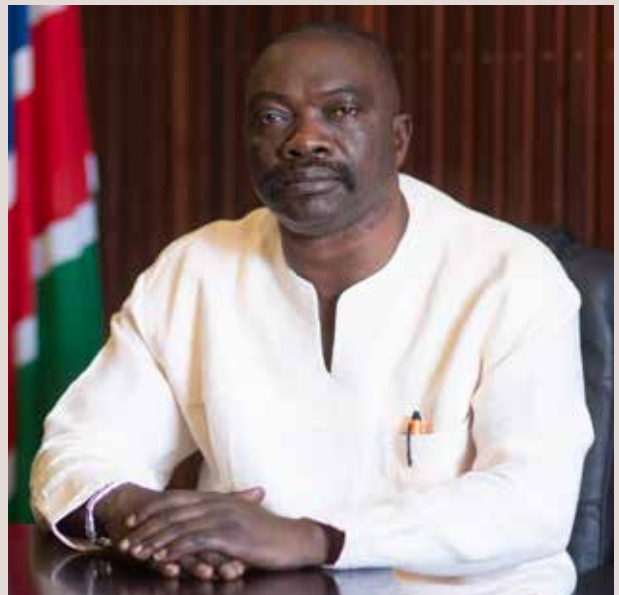
Kambabga Zariama thinks he is over 70, although he is not quite sure. He believes he is the oldest game guard in Namibia.

His work began long before there were conservancies when he was selected to be one of the first community game guards, paid with maize flour, sugar and tea – and tobacco, recalls Kambabga, who also remembers “walking up and down those mountains”.

He used to hunt, although he never considered himself a poacher. “We would shoot kudu, oryx and zebra from horseback with a bow and arrow,” he says. In those days, only the strong got the meat, and they would cook it indoors and hide the light of the fire. Now the meat is shared by everybody after a legal hunt, which is a better system.

He recalls the first poachers he caught, with the carcass of a giraffe. He took them to the Nature Conservation office in Opuwo. The magistrate suggested that the traditional authority deal with the offence, and each poacher paid a fine of 2,000 rands.

## Zambezi: From game guard to Regional Councillor



When Beaven Munali was called by the Khuta, the traditional court, in 1991, he found himself at the start of “a dream” – to work in conservation. The Khuta represented the people around Lianshulu in the Caprivi (now Zambezi) Region, a year after independence. Munali had been selected to take part in an election for the first game guards in the area, before the first conservancies were formed.

As the first game guard he had to “use my brain”. Munali instituted community meetings where he would explain his role. He started to record animal tracks in a book and he made reports to the Ministry of Wildlife, Conservation and Tourism (the precursor of the MET).

“We knew that the poachers were from the community and attended the meetings”, says Munali, who saw his task as one of persuasion. Eventually, some of these poachers would become paid game guards, and would form the core of the game guards in conservancies as they were formed.

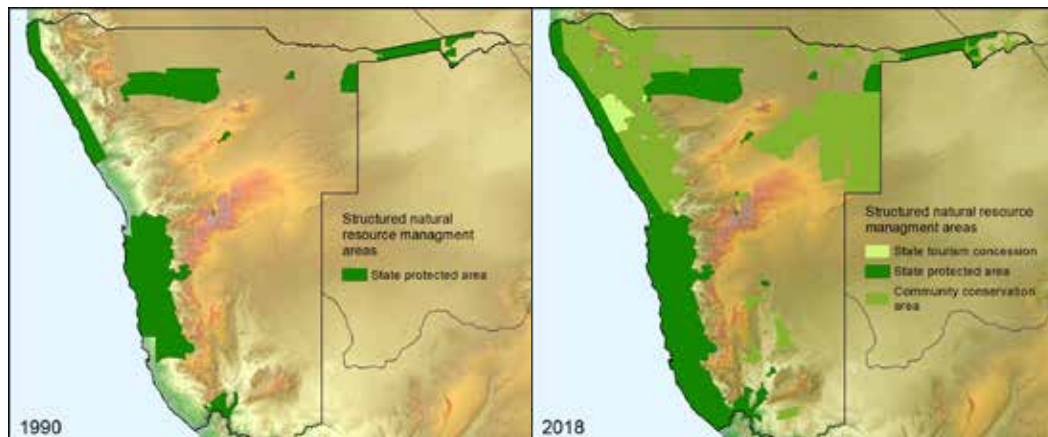
Now as the Honourable Chairman of the Regional Council, Munali is still working to convince people of the value of conservation. Asked how he now sees himself as a politician, his reply is simple. “My heart is with conservation”.



# CONSERVATION AT SCALE

At independence in 1990, there were no registered community conservation areas and a mere 13% of land was under recognised conservation management. At the end of 2018, land under gazetted natural resource management

covered 38.2% of Namibia. Privately owned farmland managed according to collaborative conservation principles account for 6.1% of Namibia. The total land available to wildlife is around 44.3% of Namibia.



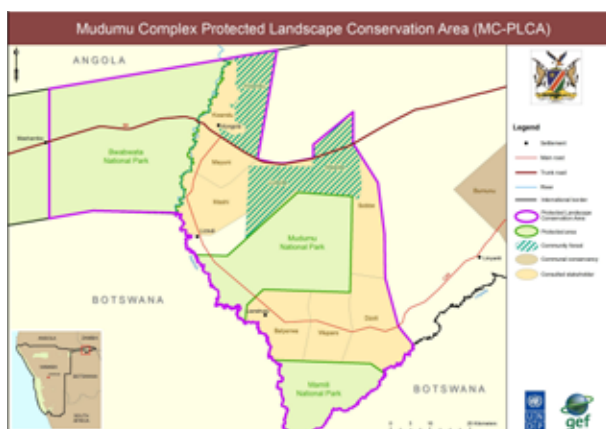
**FIGURE 19.** The expansion of conservation

At the national level the establishment of conservancies adjacent to national parks and tourism concessions has led to greater connectivity for wildlife to move.

A number of conservancies and community forests are forming joint management complexes with national parks to enable more effective management of resources and activities. Complexes remove barriers to connectivity and generate economies of scale for investments and enterprise opportunities.

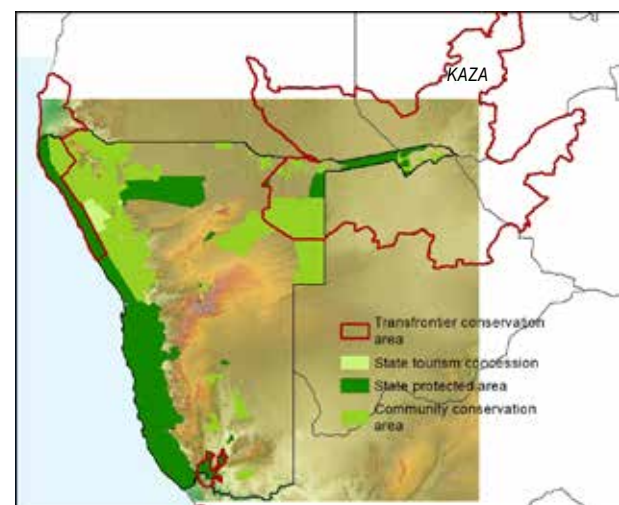
At an international scale, important transboundary linkages have been created with the Iona/Skeleton Coast Park on the Angolan border, the |Ai-|Ais/Richtersveld Transfrontier Conservation Area linked to South Africa, and the Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA), linking Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe

## National connectivity



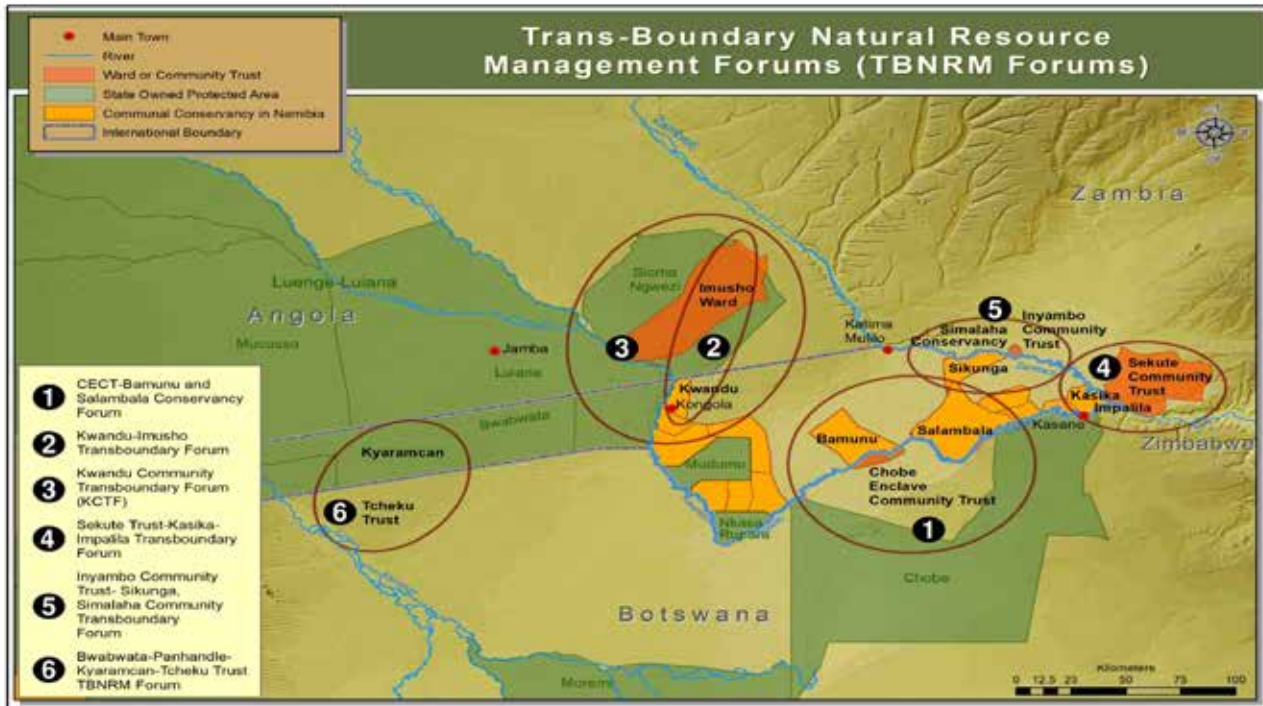
**FIGURE 20. Mudumu Complex**  
Complexes are mixed conservation areas comprising national parks, conservancies and forest areas under joint management, led by the MET.

## International connectivity



**FIGURE 21. Transfrontier conservation areas**  
One of KAZA's main objectives is to ensure wildlife connectivity between state protected areas and communal land, with community based tourism providing improved livelihoods for residents in the five country area.

# Transboundary forums



*This article was written by John Kamwi, Transboundary Coordinator of Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation (IRDNC).*

The Zambezi Region of Namibia is positioned right at the centre of the Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA TFCA). The region therefore plays a pivotal role in the TFCA, providing migration routes for wildlife and creating a framework for connectivity between conservation areas in Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Within the Zambezi Region, IRDNC works with communal conservancies and rural communities to safeguard the existing wildlife corridors which provide connectivity across international boundaries and between state protected areas.

Transboundary Natural Resource Management (TBNRM) Forums create a platform that gives conservancies and other recognised community-based organisations, rural communities and their traditional leaders a voice on conservation matters at transnational level.

Since 2002 when TBNRM Forums were first conceptualised, four forums have been established within the KAZA Region. These have:

- Re-established wildlife corridors in Sioma Ngweze National Park (Zambia);
- Installed crocodile fences in Imusho to mitigate human-crocodile conflict (Zambia);
- Conducted successful game counts in Sioma Ngweze National Park and a further game count in Angola;

- Reduced uncontrolled fires;
- Played a crucial role in policy harmonisation on closing season of fishing
- Promoted transboundary collaboration against wildlife crime.

The Forums have been fully endorsed by the five respective KAZA governments and the KAZA Secretariat. As an example of transboundary activity a partnership has been nurtured between the Kyaramacan Residents' Association (KA), representing the people living in Bwabwata National Park, and Tcheku Community Trust in Botswana's Okavango Panhandle, representing the relocated residents of an important wildlife area in northern Botswana.

They work together on their most pressing matters, i.e. poaching between the two communities, illegal crossing of residents between the international borders, uncontrolled veld fires and the illegal logging of trees in Bwabwata National Park.

IRDNC plans to continue supporting the TBNRM Forums with planning and implementing their activities, facilitating peer lesson learning exchanges between the forums and their traditional leaders, other community leaders and government agencies, and facilitating further work to promote the adoption of community-based natural resource management practices in neighbouring countries.

# WHO'S WHO

## REGISTERED CONSERVANCIES 2018

Map no	NAME	Approx people	Reg. Date	Contact
36	!Gawachab	200	Jun-05	081-552 6657
52	!Han /Awab	625	May-08	081-302 4554
23	!Khob !naub	2125	Jul-03	081-662 2386
65	!Khoru !goreb	1687	Sep-11	081-200 4921
30	#Gaingu	814	Mar-04	081-752 9003
3	#Khoadi-//Hoas	1645	Jun-98	081-549 7583
50	//Audi	1286	Oct-06	081-370 4921
24	//Gamaseb	2872	Jul-03	081-231 1543
22	//Huab	4911	Jul-03	081-279 1033
39	African Wild Dog	4589	Sep-05	081-261 5539
25	Anabeb	1476	Jul-03	081-468 4699
45	Balyerwa	1259	Oct-06	081-203 7068
64	Bamunu	2310	Mar-11	066-25 4677
6	Doro !nawas	1422	Dec-99	081-240 3125
59	Dzoti	1947	Oct-09	081-317 9707
13	Ehi-Rovipuka	1457	Jan-01	081-297 0311
55	Eiseb	1541	Mar-09	081-284 9859
77	Epupa	4585	Oct-12	081-326 6900
79	Etanga	1722	Mar-13	081-311 1584
41	George Mukoya	1082	Sep-05	081-430 1911
58	Huibes	750	Oct-09	081-402 8963
73	!ipumbu ya Tshilongo	2425	May-12	081-806 3370
44	Impalila	957	Dec-05	081-355 7321
31	Joseph Mbambangandu	1773	Mar-04	081-371 3548
66	Kabulabula	471	Nov-11	081-439 8464
84	Kapinga kaMwalye	3757	Aug-18	081-357 0198
43	Kasika	1099	Dec-05	081-887 5242
40	King Nehale	4994	Sep-05	081-289 0017
47	Kunene River	6443	Oct-06	081-347 1624
8	Kwandu	3827	Dec-99	081-393 6077
82	Lusese	1150	Oct-14	081-364 4462
11	Marienfluss	340	Jan-01	081-836 0950
16	Mashi	2402	Mar-03	081-221 6778
83	Maurus Nekaro	12620	Aug-17	081-203 9578
9	Mayuni	2545	Dec-99	081-673 5983
37	Muduva Nyangana	1742	Sep-05	081-353 9749
29	N#a Jaqna	3848	Jul-03	067-24 5047
80	Nakabolelwa	788	Oct-14	081-656 7378
1	Nyae Nyae	3073	Feb-98	067-24 4011
48	Ohungu	1294	Oct-06	081-313 2919
42	Okamatapati	1978	Sep-05	081-672 0563
76	Okanguati	2315	May-12	081-230 8007
21	Okangundumba	2068	Jul-03	081-228 77081
74	Okatjandja Kozomenje	1827	May-12	081-699 0220

Map no	NAME	Approx people	Reg. Date	Contact
53	Okondjombo	100	Aug-08	081-336 3985
57	Okongo	2852	Aug-09	081-437 7541
67	Okongoro	1759	Feb-12	081-215 3069
17	Omatendeka	2420	Mar-03	081-283 7564
75	Ombazu	3027	May-12	081-431 6825
81	Ombombo	2892	Oct-14	
70	Ombujokanguindi	717	Feb-12	081-349 5376
63	Omuramba ua Mbinda	508	Mar-11	081-298 7150
46	Ondjou	2936	Oct-06	081-753 7823
69	Ongongo	854	Feb-12	081-632 9117
20	Orupembe	191	Jul-03	081-722 8590
62	Orupupa	1535	Mar-11	081-802 4277
14	Oskop	71	Feb-01	081-328 3097
54	Otjambangu	1665	Mar-09	081-446 0461
78	Otijkondavirongo	3258	Mar-13	
86	Otijkongo	210	Aug-18	081-434 2270
18	Otjimboyo	315	Mar-03	081-658 6055
85	Otjindjerese	2030	Aug-18	
60	Otjitanda	557	Mar-11	081-283 9550
38	Otjituuo	5913	Sep-05	081-229 2587
72	Otjiu-West	824	May-12	081-692 7709
68	Otjombande	1580	Feb-12	081-260 4556
61	Otjombinde	4779	Mar-11	081-322 4923
71	Otuzemba	460	Feb-12	081-275 3251
51	Ovitoto	4299	May-08	081-224 4721
33	Ozonahi	11319	Sep-05	081-749 1466
28	Ozondundu	396	Jul-03	085 717 9377
10	Puros	1052	May-00	081-664 2102
2	Salambala	8834	Jun-98	081-824 8399
27	Sanitatas	143	Jul-03	081-740 3987
26	Sesfontein	1759	Jul-03	085-657 8118
34	Shamungwa	140	Sep-05	081-692 0035
35	Sheya Shuushona	3471	Sep-05	065 25 2088
56	Sikunga	2470	Jul-09	081-799 2382
49	Sobbe	1075	Oct-06	081-321 5917
15	Sorris Sorris	950	Oct-01	081-397 1340
4	Torra	1274	Jun-98	067-69 7063
12	Tsiseb	2585	Jan-01	064-50 4162
7	Uibasen Twyfelfontein	230	Dec-99	067-68 7047/8
32	Uukolonkadhi Ruacana	35392	Sep-05	081-34 76455
19	Uukwaluudhi	948	Mar-03	081-315 9754
5	Wuparo	1040	Dec-99	081-414 6899
α	Kyaramacan Association	4100	Mar-06	081-467 5331
6-7	Doro !nawas /Uibasen Twyfelfontein	n.a		



## FUNDING PARTNERS - PAST AND PRESENT

Australian High Commission Direct Aid Programme	
Austrian Government	<a href="http://www.bka.gv.at">www.bka.gv.at</a>
B2 Gold	Tel: 061 295 8700 <a href="http://www.b2gold.com">www.b2gold.com</a>
BAND Foundation	<a href="http://bandfdn.org">bandfdn.org</a>
Bread for the World	<a href="http://www.brot-fuer-die-welt.de">www.brot-fuer-die-welt.de</a>
British High Commission	<a href="http://www.gov.uk">www.gov.uk</a>
Canada Fund	<a href="http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca">www.canadainternational.gc.ca</a>
Comic Relief	<a href="http://www.comicrelief.com">www.comicrelief.com</a>
Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA)	<a href="http://www.um.dk/en/danida-en/">www.um.dk/en/danida-en/</a>
Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia	<a href="http://www.eifnamibia.com">www.eifnamibia.com</a>
European Union	<a href="http://europa.eu">europa.eu</a>
Finnish Embassy	<a href="http://www.finland.org.na">www.finland.org.na</a>
Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial (FFEM)	<a href="http://www.ffem.fr">www.ffem.fr</a>
German Church Development Service (EED)	<a href="http://www.eed.de">www.eed.de</a>
Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)	<a href="http://www.giz.de">www.giz.de</a>
Global Environment Facility (GEF)	<a href="http://www.thegef.org">www.thegef.org</a>
Houston Zoo	<a href="http://www.houstonzoo.org">www.houstonzoo.org</a>
Humanistisch Instituut Voor Ontwikkelingssamenwerking (HIVOS)	<a href="http://www.hivos.nl">www.hivos.nl</a>
ICC - UNDP SGP Global ICCA Support Initiative (GSI) Catalytic grant	
Icelandic International Development Agency (ICEIDA)	<a href="http://www.iceida.is">www.iceida.is</a>
KfW German Development Bank	<a href="http://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de">www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de</a>
Lion Recovery Fund	<a href="http://www.lionrecoveryfund.org">www.lionrecoveryfund.org</a>

Millennium Challenge Account Namibia	<a href="http://www.mcanamibia.org">www.mcanamibia.org</a>
Minnesota Zoo	<a href="http://mnzoo.org">mnzoo.org</a>
The Morby Foundation	
Namibian Chamber of Environment (NCE)	<a href="http://www.n-c-e.org">www.n-c-e.org</a>
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)	<a href="http://www.norad.no">www.norad.no</a>
Peace Corps	<a href="http://www.peacecorps.gov">www.peacecorps.gov</a>
Royal Norwegian Embassy	<a href="http://www.regjeringen.no">www.regjeringen.no</a>
SASSCAL	<a href="http://www.sasscal.org">www.sasscal.org</a>
Social Investment Fund	<a href="http://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk">www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk</a>
Social Security Commission	<a href="http://www.ssc.org.na">www.ssc.org.na</a>
Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)	<a href="http://www.sida.se">www.sida.se</a>
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)	<a href="http://www.sdc.admin.ch">www.sdc.admin.ch</a>
TUSK	<a href="http://www.tusk.org">www.tusk.org</a>
United Kingdom Department for International Development (DfID)	<a href="http://www.gov.uk">www.gov.uk</a>
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	<a href="http://www.undp.org">www.undp.org</a>
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	<a href="http://www.usaid.gov">www.usaid.gov</a>
Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO)	<a href="http://www.vsointernational.org">www.vsointernational.org</a>
Wildlife Conservation Network	<a href="http://wildnet.org">wildnet.org</a>
World Bank (WB)	<a href="http://www.worldbank.org">www.worldbank.org</a>
WWF-International	<a href="http://www.panda.org">www.panda.org</a>
WWF-Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States	<a href="http://www.panda.org">www.panda.org</a>

## GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry Directorate of Forestry	Tel: 061 208 7663 <a href="http://www.mawf.gov.na">www.mawf.gov.na</a>
Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry Department of Water Affairs	Tel: 061 208 7299 <a href="http://www.mawf.gov.na">www.mawf.gov.na</a>
Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture	Tel: 061 293 3111
Ministry of Environment and Tourism	Tel: 061 284 2520 <a href="http://www.met.gov.na">www.met.gov.na</a>

Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources	Tel: 061 205 3911 <a href="http://www.mfmr.gov.na">www.mfmr.gov.na</a>
Ministry of Lands and Resettlement	Tel: 061 296 5000 <a href="http://www.mir.gov.na">www.mir.gov.na</a>
Ministry of Mines and Energy	Tel: 061 284 8111 <a href="http://www.mme.gov.na">www.mme.gov.na</a>
Ministry of Poverty Alleviation	Tel: 061 23 8584

## NACSO MEMBERS

Cheetah Conservation Fund	Tel: 067 306225 <a href="http://cheetah.org/">http://cheetah.org/</a>
Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation (IRDNC)	Tel: 061 228506 <a href="http://www.irdnc.org.na">www.irdnc.org.na</a>
Legal Assistance Centre (LAC)	Tel: 061 233356 <a href="http://www.lac.org.na">www.lac.org.na</a>
Multi-disciplinary Research Centre and Consultancy (MRCC-UNAM)	Tel: 061 2063051
Namibia Development Trust (NDT)	Tel: 061 238003 <a href="http://www.ndt.org.na">www.ndt.org.na</a>
Namibia Nature Foundation (NNF)	Tel: 061 248345 <a href="http://www.nnf.org.na">www.nnf.org.na</a>
Nyae Nyae Development Foundation of Namibia (NNDNF)	Tel: 061 236327 <a href="mailto:nndnf@iafrica.com.na">nndnf@iafrica.com.na</a>
Omba Arts Trust (OAT)	Tel: 061 242799 <a href="http://www.omba.org.na">www.omba.org.na</a>
Save the Rhino Trust (SRT)	Tel: 064 403829 <a href="http://www.savetherhinotrust.org">www.savetherhinotrust.org</a>

## NACSO ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Environment & Development Consultant	PO BOX 9455, Eros, Windhoek, Namibia Tel & Fax +264 61 237 101
Erongo Regional Conservancy Association	P.O. Box 40, Uis Tel: 081-213 9137
Kavango East- and West- Regional Conservancy and Community Forest Association	P.O. Box 344, Rundu Cell: 081-353 9749
Kunene Regional Community Conservancy Association	Cell: 264-081-397 8066 P.O. Box 294, Opuwo
Kunene South Conservancy Association	Cell. 081-340 0196 Email: <a href="mailto:chairperson.skca@gmail.com">chairperson.skca@gmail.com</a>
Namibian Environment and Wildlife Society (NEWS)	Tel: 061-306 450 <a href="http://www.NEWS-namibia.org">www.NEWS-namibia.org</a>
North Central Conservancies & Community Forests Regional Association	Cell: 081-299 4698 P.O. Box 8489, Ondangwa
Sustainable Development Services	PO Box 5582, Ausspanplatz, Windhoek Tel. 061-220 555 Email: <a href="mailto:annie.s@iway.na">annie.s@iway.na</a>
Tourism Supporting Conservation (TOSCO)	Tel: 081-453 5855 <a href="http://www.tosco.org">www.tosco.org</a>
WWF Namibia	Tel: 061-239 945 PO Box 9681, Windhoek

## NACSO WORKING GROUPS

NACSO Business, Enterprises and Livelihoods Working Group	Tel: 061 230888 <a href="http://www.nacso.org.na">www.nacso.org.na</a>
NACSO Institutional Development Working Group	Tel: 061 230888 <a href="http://www.nacso.org.na">www.nacso.org.na</a>
NACSO Natural Resources Working Group	Tel: 061 230888 <a href="http://www.nacso.org.na">www.nacso.org.na</a>

## NACSO SECRETARIAT

Namibian Association of CBNRM Support Organisations (NACSO) Secretariat	Tel: 061 230888 <a href="http://www.nacso.org.na">www.nacso.org.na</a>
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# TOURISM PARTNERS

Joint Venture	Area	Conservancy	Private Sector Partner	Contact
//Huab Under Canvas	Kunene South	//Huab	Ultimate Safaris	Tel:+264 61 248137; www.ultimatesafaris.na
Brandberg White Lady Lodge	Kunene South	Tsiseb	Naude de Jager	Tel: +264 64 684 004; www.brandbergwillodge.com
Camp Kipwe	Kunene South	Twyfelfontein-Uibasen	Visions of Africa	Tel: +264 61 232 009; www.kipwe.com
Camp Kwando	Zambezi	Mashi	Losange Lodges	Tel: +264 81 206 1514; www.campkwando.com
Camp Synchro	Kunene North	Marienfluss	Kaokohimba Safaris	Tel: +264 65 685 993 www.campsynchro.com
Chobe Savanna Lodge	Zambezi	Kasika	Delta Safaris	Tel: +27 83 960 3391; www.desertdelta.com
Desert Rhino & Hoanib Camps	Kunene North	Marienfluss	Wilderness Safaris	Tel:+264 61 274500; www.wilderness-safaris.com
Etendeka Lodge	Kunene North	Anabeb and Omatendeka	Big Sky Lodges	Tel: +264 61 239 199; www.etendeka-namibia.com
Hoanib Valley Camp	Kunene North	Sesfontein	Natural Selections Safaris	Tel:+264 61 2256616 www.naturalselection.travel
Kazile Lodge	Zambezi	Mashi	African Monarch Lodges	Tel: +264 81 124 4249 www.africanmonarchlodges.com
Kuidas Camp	Kunene North	Torra	Skeleton Coast Fly-in Safaris	Tel:+264 61 224248 www.skeletoncoastsafaris.com
Kunene Camp	Kunene North	Marienfluss	Skeleton Coast Fly-in Safaris	Tel:+264 61 224248 www.skeletoncoastsafaris.com
Madisa Camp	Kunene South	Sorri Sorris	Whipp's Wilderness Safaris	Tel: +264 81 698 2908; www.madisacamp.com
Okahirongo Elephant Lodge	Kunene North	Puros	Lions in the Son	Tel: +264 65 685 018; www.okahirongolodge.com
Okahirongo River Lodge	Kunene North	Marienfluss	Lions in the Son	
Skeleton Coast Central - Shipwreck Lodge	Kunene North	Puros Sesfontein	Trip Travel	Tel:+264 61 228104 www.journeysnamibia.com
Skeleton Coast North - Khumib River Camp	Kunene North	Big 5(Puros, Orupembe, Sanitatas, Etanga& Okondjombo)	Skeleton Coast Fly-in Safaris	Tel:+264 61 224248 www.skeletoncoastsafaris.com
Spitzkoppen Lodge	Erongo	#Gaingu Conservancy	Spitzkoppen Lodge	Tel:+264 811287751 www.spitzkoppelodge.com
Zambezi Queen- House Boats	Zambezi	Kasika	Mantis Collection	Tel: +27 21 715 2412; www.zambeziqueen.com
Camp Chobe	Zambezi	Salambala	Gondwana Collections	Tel: +264 61 230 066; www.gondwana-collection.com
Chobe Water Vilas	Zambezi	Kasika	Olthaver & List Leisure	Tel: +264 61 431 8111; www.chobewater villas.com
Damaraland Camp	Kunene North	Torra	Wilderness Safaris	Tel:+264 61 274500; www.wilderness-safaris.com
Doro Inawas Lodge	Kunene South	Doro Inawas	Wilderness Safaris	Tel:+264 61 274500; www.wilderness-safaris.com
Epupa Camp	Kunene North	Epupa	Wouter Van Zijl	Tel +264 61 237294, www.epupa.com.na
Epupa Falls Lodge & Campsite	Kunene North	Epupa	Kaokohimba Safaris	Tel: +264 812508225; www.epupafalls lodge.com
Etaambura Camp	Kunene North	Orupembe	Namibia Conservancies Safaris	Tel: +264 64 406 136; www.kcs-namibia.com.na
Grootberg Lodge	Kunene South	Khoadi Hoas	Journeys Namibia	Tel: +264 61 308 901; www.grootberg.com
Hobater Lodge	Kunene South	Khoadi Hoas	Journeys Namibia	Tel:+264 61 228104 www.journeysnamibia.com
Hobater Roadside & Halt	Kunene North	Ehrovipuka	Oasis Adventure Travel & Lodging	Tel: +264 81 3371856; Gawie@wildveld.com
House on the Hill	Kunene North	Orupembe	House on the Hill - Trevor Nott	Tel: +264 81 124 6826; knott@iafrica.com.na
Jackalberry Tented Camp	Zambezi	Wuparo	Micheletti Family	Tel:+264 66 686101; rugero.micheletti@gmail.com
Kapika Waterfall Lodge (Chief Kapika Tented Lodge)	Kunene North	Epupa	Kapika Waterfall Lodge	Tel: +264 65 685 111; www.kapikafalls.com
KAZA Safari Lodge (Impalila) and Cascade Island Lodge (Ntwala)	Zambezi	Impalila	Flame of Africa	Tel: +27 31 762 22424 ; www.flameofafrica.com
Khaudum Camp	Kavango	George Mukoya & Muduva Nyangana	Namibia Exclusive Safaris	Tel:+264 81 1287787; www.nes.com.na
Khowarib Community Campsite	Kunene South	Anabeb	African Eagle	Tel:+264 61259681 www.africaneaglenamibia.com
Kunene River Lodge	Kunene North	Kunene River	Kunene River Lodge	Tel:+264 65 274300 www.kuneneriverlodge.com
Leylandsdrift	Kunene North	Puros	Skeleton Coast Fly-in Safaris.	Tel:+264 61 224248; www.skeletoncoastsafaris.com
Mashi River Safaris & Mavunje Campsite	Zambezi	Mashi	Mashi River Safaris	Tel: +264 81 461 9608; mashiriversafaris@gmail.com
Nambwa Tented Lodge	Zambezi	Mayuni	African Monarch Lodges	Tel: +264 81 124 4249 www.africanmonarchlodges.com
Namushasha Lodge	Zambezi	Mashi	Gondwana Collections	Tel: +264 61 230 066; www.gondwana-collection.com
Nkasa Lupala Tented Lodge	Zambezi	Wuparo	Micheletti Family	Tel: +264 81 147 7798; www.nkasalupalalodge.com
Nkasa West Lodge Concession	Zambezi	Wuparo, Balyerwa, Dzoti	Natural Selections	Tel:+264 61 2256616 www.naturalselection.travel
Okandombo Safari Camp	Kunene North	Epupa	Jan Izaak Cornerius Coetzee	Tel:+264 81 22752022; corniecoetzee safaris@iway.na
Okomize River Lodge	North Central	Uukolonkadhi/ Ruacana	Peter Ebersohn	Tel:+264 81 2366229; jvtacc@iway.na
Omarunga Camp	Kunene North	Epupa	Gondwana Collections	Tel: +264 61 230 066; www.gondwana-collection.com
Omatendeka Lodge	Kunene North	Omatendeka	Namibia Exclusive Safaris	Tel:+264 81 1287787 www.nes.com.na
Ongongo Camp	Kunene North	Anabeb	Ongongo Hospitality Training Centre	Tel:+264 61 239643; www.ongongo.com
Palmwag Lodge	Kunene North	Torra Anabeb Sesfontein	Gondwana Collections	Tel: +264 61 230 066; www.gondwana-collection.com
Rupara Campsite	Zambezi	Wuparo	Micheletti Family	Tel: +264 81 147 7798; www.nkasalupalalodge.com
Serondela Lodge	Zambezi	Kabulubula	Micheletti Family	Tel: +264 81 147 7798; www.nkasalupalalodge.com
Serra Cafema Camp	Kunene North	Marienfluss	Wilderness Safaris	Tel:+264 61 274500; www.wilderness-safaris.com
Sheya Shuushona Lodge	North Central	Sheya Shuushona	Namibia Exclusive Safaris	Tel:+264 81 1287787 www.nes.com.na
Sorri Sorris Lodge	Kunene South	Sorri Sorris	Namibia Exclusive Safaris	Tel:+264 81 1287787 www.nes.com.na
Tsaurab Camp(EHRA)	Kunene South	Sorri Sorris	Tsaurab Wildlife Development	Tel: +264 64 402501, info@desertelephant.org
Twyfelfontein Country Lodge	Kunene South	Uibasen Twyfelfontein	Namibia Country Lodges	Tel: +264 61 374 750; www.twyfelfonteinlodge.com
Uukwaludhi Safari Lodge	North Central	Uukwaluudhi	Uukwaluudhi Safari Lodge	Tel:+264 81 1245177; www.uukwaluudhi-safarilodge.com
White Sands Campsite	Kyramacan Association	Kyramacan Association	White Sands Resort	Tel:+264 813383224; www.whitesands.com.na
Zambezi Mubala Lodge	Zambezi	Sikunga	Gondwana Collections	Tel: +264 61 230 066; www.gondwana-collection.com

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Community conservation in Namibia grew out of the recognition that wildlife and other natural resources are vital in communal areas, and that the value of these resources can be unlocked if local communities are empowered to manage and utilise resources themselves.

For more information go to:  
[communityconservationnamibia.com](http://communityconservationnamibia.com)



Photo: Will Burrard-Lucas