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Green Viewpoint

Official newsletter of the Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia



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Planning for life below 1.5 degrees Celsius!

An increase of up to 1.5 degrees Celsius of global warming will bear impacts and costs far greater than expected, according to a comprehensive assessment by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released in October 2018.

Nowhere on the African continent will these impacts and costs be felt worse than in Namibia – one of southern Africa's most arid countries. The past decade has already seen an astonishing run of record-breaking droughts, heat waves and floods in riverine and floodplain areas of the Republic, placing an enormous burden on government's normal emergency relief efforts. While the Ministry of Environment and Tourism has championed Namibia's preparedness for adverse climate change impacts, supported by a multi-sectoral cast of organizations and agencies; a lot more will have to be done in the likelihood of substantially higher warming of the earth's climate – with subject scientists predicting a rise of up to 2.7 degrees within the next 11 years.

In this issue of *GreenViewpoint*, we introduce you to an innovative rangeland and ecosystem management project aimed at revolutionizing adaptation practices in the arid Kunene Region. The project is the first of its kind approved by the GCF under the Simplified Approval Process (SAP). The Project Management Unit of the Empower to Adapt: Enhanced Direct Access project; GCF financed initiative looking at building climate change resilience in conservancies and community forests; also reports on the progress of this 5-year project. Twelve months of planning and outreach has culminated in the submission of close to 60 proposals for grants financing in the areas of climate proof infrastructure, climate resilient agriculture and ecosystem adaptation.

While communities grapple with the impacts of a looming drought, the CRAVE project, implemented in north eastern Namibia is currently stepping into unknown territory – laying the groundwork for innovation while building capacity in climate resilient agriculture. Their efforts are covered on page 16 and 17 of this edition.

We bid farewell to the year 2018 having launched the SUNREF Namibia programme; an innovative financing regime aimed at revolutionising private sector investments in green enterprises.

It has also been a year of physical change, with the Fund relocating to new offices. We look forward to seeing you here with in 2019.

On behalf of the Fund, we wish you all a blessed holiday period and all best wishes for 2019!

Lazarus Nafidi

EIF gets 1st GCF Simplified Approval Process grant



3 March 2018: The Ministry of Environment and Tourism as the National Designated Authority (NDA) to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) has announced the approval of another US\$ 9.5 million (N\$109.4 million) grant to Namibia for climate adaptation. The announcement of the approved funding was made at the 19th Meeting of the Board of the Green Climate Fund in Songdo, South Korea on March 1; and makes it first project to be approved through the GCF's newly designed Simplified Approval Process (SAP).

The approved project – improving rangeland and ecosystem management practices of smallholder farmers under conditions of climate change in the Sesfontein, Fransfontein and Warmquelle areas of Namibia is aimed at reducing the vulnerability of smallholder farmers under climate change conditions by safeguarding natural capital that generates ecosystem services to sustain agricultural production systems. The project will be implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry and is expected to benefit a total of 44,400 smallholder farmers and their families.

Empowering Direct Access workshop



29 May – 1 June 2018, Songdo, Republic Of Korea: The Green Climate Fund's second Empowering Direct Access workshop attracted over 90 participants. These participants included members of Direct Access Entities and National Designated Authorities (or focal points), which represent the national governments of developing countries interacting with GCF.

The workshop supported organisations seeking Direct Access Entity accreditation, as well as helping accredited Direct Access Entities develop high-quality projects or programmes to submit to GCF, based on their alignment with national priorities. It provided participants with information about GCF's readiness programme, project preparation facility, and specific requests for proposals such as the Enhancing Direct Access pilot and the Simplified Approval Process (SAP). The workshop also covered updates about GCF policies and procedures.

The workshop produced a number of outcomes and points of shared learning that will help Direct Access Entities progress their engagement with climate finance - with a select few being:

- Environment Investment Fund of Namibia (EIF) representatives emphasised how vital their close cooperation with Namibia's National Designated Authority, the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, was in selecting national priorities that best fitted GCF's funding criteria. EIF was a star attraction at the workshop, and many participants were interested to hear about its experience in becoming the first Direct Access Entity to be granted approval for both GCF's Simplified Approval Process (SAP) and Enhanced Direct Access programme.
- Peer to peer knowledge sharing formed a core of workshop interactions. While Direct Access Entities are dealing with a wide range of differing conditions in tackling climate change, discussions in and out of plenary sessions identified a number of regional synergies. This included the potential for Direct Access Entities in Colombia, Brazil and Peru to cooperate in reducing emissions from forest loss and degradation in the Amazon basin.

Structured Dialogue with Africa



3 - 6 April 2018: The government of Mali in collaboration with the Green Climate Fund hosted GCF's Structured Dialogue with Africa. The event brought together almost 250 key stakeholders from 49 countries to increase the involvement of African countries with GCF. It also helped to accelerate the design and implementation of ambitious projects and programmes that conform with countries' climate action aspirations and to the GCF mandate. Eleven ministers and one state secretary from various countries in the region attended the high-level segment on the first day which was chaired by Mali President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita.

Over the four days, participants appreciated the opportunity to engage in open and frank exchanges among themselves and with the GCF Secretariat on issues of high strategic importance. During the high-level segment, ministers described their countries' visions and perspectives in transitioning Africa on a paradigm shift towards a low-emission and climate-resilient future. They also highlighted measures necessary to deal with the climate change implications of socio-economic development and investment trends in Africa.

Stakeholder Validation for Ecosystem-based Adaptation project

26 September 2018: A stakeholder group consisting of representatives of academic institutions, line ministries, non governmental organizations, community based organizations - came together today to validate the development of the Ecosystem based Adaptation (EbA) project that looks at addressing climate change impacts on vulnerable communities using a landscape approach.

The project is due for funding consideration by the Green Climate Fund board.



Office relocation notice

15 September 2018: The Environmental Investment Fund would like to inform all of its stakeholders in Namibia and in the SADC region, that it has relocated offices. While the physical address has changed all contact details remain the same.

We have Moved!



Take Note of our New Address

8933 Heinitsburg Heights
c/o Heinitsburg & Burg Street
Klein Windhoek
Across Heinitsburg Hotel!

 Environmental Investment Fund
of Namibia | ensuring sustainability



P: +264 61 431 7700
www.eif.org.na



SAP001

Improving rangeland and ecosystem management practices of smallholder farmers under conditions of climate change in Sesfontein, Fransfontein, and Warmquelle areas of the Republic of Namibia

Like the rest of the country, the Kunene region has an arid climate and a very short wet season, mainly extending from February to April. The climate of the region is dry for most of the year and characterized by dust storms especially from August to October. The terrain is semi-arid and gradually becomes desert land towards the skeleton coast.

Climate change observations in the region are indicative of on-going natural variability. Changes in rainfall patterns in the last few years have had great impact on the livelihood of the inhabitants - which is one of the reasons for the development of the SAP001 project!

Project background

The project addresses the vulnerability of smallholders farmers from prolonged droughts periods through a variety of activities ranging from floodwater harvesting and groundwater recharge to promoting climate-resilient technologies for enhanced agricultural and livestock production.

While the project aims to benefit the Kunene region on capacity building in employing climate change early warning systems, it is specifically aimed at developing capacity for climate adaptation in agricultural practices in the following geographic localities of the region:

- Sesfontein;
- Warmquelle;
- Fransfontein.

GCF results areas

- Health, food and water security
- Livelihoods of people and communities

Overall project objective

To reduce the vulnerability of smallholder farmers under climate change conditions by safeguarding natural capital that generate ecosystem services to sustain agricultural production systems.

Project sub-objectives

Promote investments in integrated drought early warning systems and improve existing ones

Strengthen and improve the capacity of key stakeholders in drought risks management at regional, national and local levels

Support communities to undertake innovative adaptation actions that reinforce their resilience to drought





Anticipated activities

Floodwater harvesting and groundwater recharge;

Promote a range of climate-resilient technologies for enhanced agricultural and livestock production;

Improving the dissemination of climate risk information among communities in the Kunene Region;

Improving fodder management practices, supporting backyard gardening activities and promoting drought tolerant breeds and small stock farming practices;

Developing and building on existing early warning systems and improving information on climate change risks - integrate into farmer and pastoralist practices.

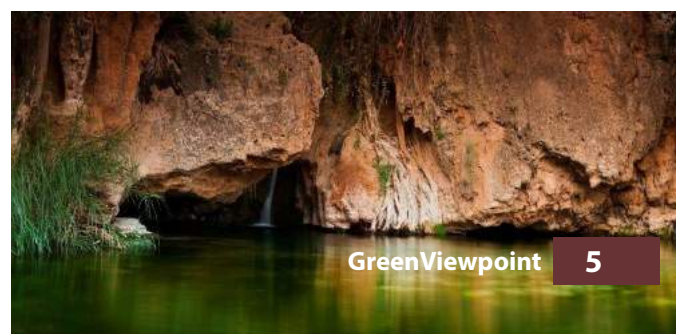
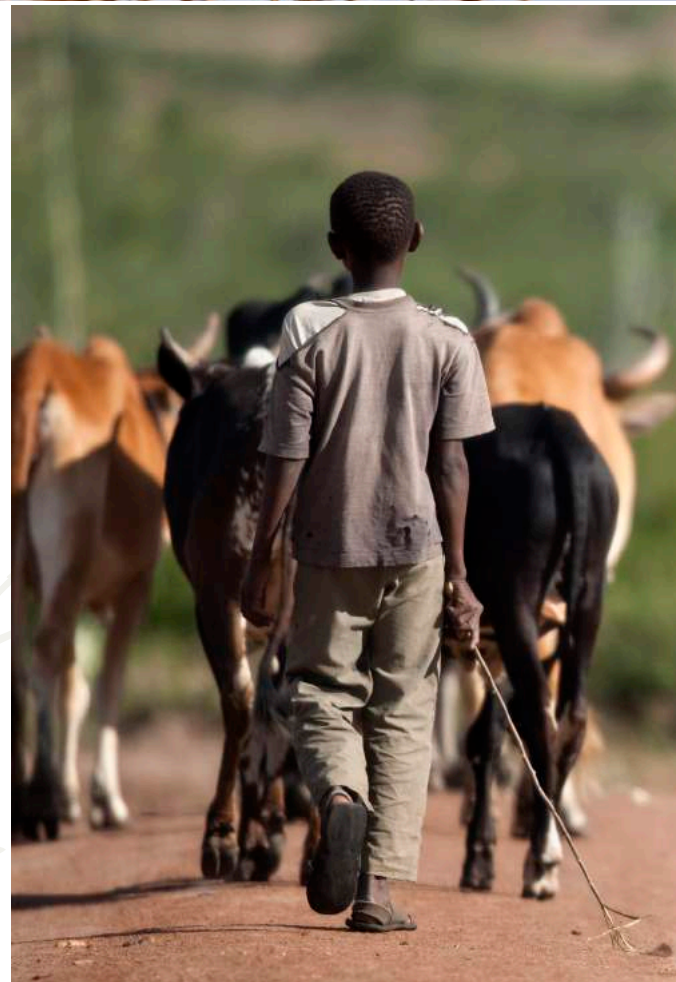
The project will improve knowledge and understanding of climate change impacts among stakeholders, develop a community-based early warning system to reduce climate risks, and an action research approach linking traditional and scientific knowledge through the use of seasonal forecasts.

Green Schemes in the Kunene region will be supported to incorporate sustainable agricultural practices with a strong focus on learning and knowledge management component to capture and disseminate lessons learned.

Farmers Associations in the target areas will use the Green Scheme facilities for learning and replication purposes.

Quick facts on Kunene Region

Total size of region: 115,293 km²
Total population: 88,600 (2011 Census)
Economic sectors: Livestock farming,
Crop farming,
Tourism and wildlife,
Fishing.



SUNREF Namibia lifts off

Green finance label for sustainable industry launched



The Sustainable Utilisation of Natural Resources and Energy Financing programme (SUNREF Namibia), is a three-year initiative by the French Development Agency (AFD), dedicated to promoting a new renewable energy finance programme in Namibia.

The innovative programme, which was formally launched in Windhoek by environment minister Pohamba Shifeta on 24 May 2018, is aimed at supporting local businesses to start or expand existing businesses in renewable energy and tourism sectors.

Sunref Namibia will facilitate access to affordable green technologies, thereby guaranteeing the development of a low carbon environmental footprint and contributing to the reduction of the causes of climate change and other environmental disturbances in Namibia. Financing of enterprises under this programme will be made through loans from three participating commercial banks – FNB Namibia, Bank Windhoek and Nedbank – that will each disburse a total of 15 million euros for green investments in sustainable agriculture, sustainable tourism, efficient technologies and renewable energy segments.

The programme seeks to finance private sector investments in green technologies in the sustainable agriculture, sustainable tourism, renewable energy and energy efficiency market segments. The programme is being deployed by the Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia (EIF), that will host the technical assistance facility that will support the participating banks as well as project developers throughout the implementation of the programme.

Speaking at the launch, Shifeta highlighted Namibia's commitment to the Paris Climate Agreement as embodied in the Cabinet-approved intended nationally determined contributions (INDC) document of 2015.

"The INDC contains highly ambitious climate change adaptation and mitigation targets in a range of sectors such as energy, waste, agriculture and forestry and industrial production," he stated. He also emphasised the importance of development financing in these sectors and called on increased investments in sectors such as waste management to ensure that Namibia does not lag behind in innovations such as waste-to-energy technologies.

Similar projects financed through Sunref South Africa and selected projects that had been financed by the Namibian commercial banks through the initiative were showcased at the launch.

In Namibia, these include the solar PV plant for the refrigeration of fish installed by the Atlantic commercial cold storage for N\$3,4 million at Walvis Bay and the N\$110 million Aussenkehr PV plant in the south, which generates 5MW of electricity.

“
... the INDC contains highly ambitious climate change adaptation and mitigation targets in a range of sectors such as energy, waste, agriculture and forestry and industrial production.
”

Pohamba Shifeta
Minister of Environment and Tourism

In South Africa, the Bronkhorstspuit biogas plant that uses manure from 25 000 cows to electrify BMW's Rosslyn factory, was built through a 9,5 million euro (N\$144 million) Sunref loan. It is the biggest biogas plant in southern Africa.

The French ambassador to Namibia, Claire Bodonyi, reiterated her government's commitment to the Sunref programme as well as the Paris Agreement. "France is the fifth leading donor to Namibia and in support for climate change we need to act – not for us but for our children – France will not give up the fight. The Paris agreement is irreversible and will be implemented. There is no Planet B," she said.

Representatives of the participating banks took part in a panel discussion where they answered questions from the audience.

Regional director of AFD, Martha Stein-Sochas reiterated that the Sunref programme is a less expensive loan facility and not a grant, to provide "funds to local industries for green projects. This will help start-ups and small enterprises to access cheaper finance".

SUNREF Projects financed

Solar PV Aussenkehr Project details

The Solar PV Aussenkehr project financed by Bank Windhoek is a good example of the positive impact of SUNREF projects:

Amount of clean power:

14,883 MWh/year of clean power produced per year (first year figure), that will reduce imports.

Employment creation:

100 jobs created during construction
6 permanent maintenance jobs generated

Total carbon emissions saved:

8,500 tCO₂eq per year for 25 years



Solar PV Atlantic Commercial project details

The Solar PV Atlantic Commercial project financed by Nedbank

Amount of clean power:

11,707 MWh of demand avoided from the Namibian grid

Employment creation:

Two (2) permanent maintenance jobs generated

N\$Nam 5,5 million saved for the 25 years of life of the project
9,483 tCO₂eq avoided

11,707 MWh of demand avoided from the Namibian grid



What type of projects are eligible? details

Renewable energy and energy efficiency

Solar PV plants, renewable energy retrofits, biomass plants, energy efficient buildings

Sustainable Agriculture

Aquaponics, Aeroponics, Debushing for agriculture

Sustainable Tourism

Tourism concessions, Eco-Tourism facilities and operations

Launch of SUNREF Namibia programme - 24 May 2018, Safari Court, Windhoek



Technical Assistance Facility: Remy Naude of AETS and the RDJ Consulting team of Lahja Amaambo and David Jarrett



EIF CEO Benedict Libanda provides an overview of the SUNREF Namibia programme



Committed to Climate goals: French Ambassador to Namibia, H.E. Claire Bodonyi reconfirmed her country's commitment towards the Paris agreement in her speech.



Network to increase your net worth: Matthew Pengeyo from Unity Energy came to see what the SUNREF Programme offers for energy entrepreneurs



Teamwork makes the dream work: The EIF Team (from left to right), Ouatjiri Zamuee, Selma Shitilifa, Lizl Timbo, Aina-Maria Iteta, Lazarus Nafidi, Yvette Hausiku, Tiree Ngaujake and Nesley Xarageb



National commitment: Teofilus Nghitila (Environmental Commissioner), Benedict Libanda (EIF CEO), Hon. Pohamba Shifeta (MET Minister), Martha Stein-Sochas (AFD Director: Southern Africa) and H.E. Claire Bodonyi (French Ambassador to Namibia).



Gratitude: Karl Aribeb, Director of Operations at the EIF delivered the closing remarks at the function.



Team Leader: Jose Luis Bobes, Head of the Technical Assistance Facility presents some of the projects financed under the SUNREF label in Namibia and South Africa.



Bridging the gender divide in green entrepreneurship: Mekere Miezze, Uerii Kauria, Tiree Ngaujake, Venessa Mungunda and Tracey Zamuee.

New faces at the Fund

At the Environmental Investment Fund, we believe that learning and building capacity is the cornerstone of sustainability. Our project internship programme allows young Namibians to expand their knowledge and develop new professional skills, enabling the Fund to adapt to change and meet the challenges ahead. This year the Fund recruited new staff members across all business units of its operations.



Cosmos Dylan Shaduka
Program Assistant: SUNREF Namibia

Cosmos joined the Fund as Program Assistant on the SUNREF Namibia Technical Assistance Facility in December 2017. He comes from a predominantly scientific and business orientated background with interests in Chemical Sciences, Renewable energy and Business Administration - and has worked in the mining, consulting, entrepreneurial and financial sectors.

"My personal objectives for the SUNREF Namibia Facility is to facilitate access to affordable green technologies for Namibian SMEs, and thereby guaranteeing a low carbon footprint for the country and contributing to a reduction of the causes of climate change", he says.



Tiree Ngaujake
Assistant: Corporate Communications

Tiree recently joined the Fund as Corporate Communications Assistant. She holds a Diploma in Business Administration from the University of Namibia and a Marketing Management Certificate; and is currently pursuing an Honours degree in Public Relations and Communications.

She's planning to improve the Fund's public profile by growing its social media presence; and is looking forward to taking part in some exciting public awareness campaigns.



Nigel Cloete
Human Resource Assistant

Nigel joined the Fund recently as a Human Resources Assistant. He looks forward to contributing towards creating an environment where staff can thrive and be productive.

"I would like to work towards creating a culture of positivity at the Fund; enabling an environment of collaboration. I look forward to the challenges of practicing diplomacy, which is the skill of handling people so that there is little or no ill will; so employees know how to navigate office relationships."



Mvute Uunona
Finance and Administrative Assistant

Mvute Uunona is the Finance Assistant in the Fund's Finance and Administration Department with effect from September 2018. The holder of a B. Tech degree in Accounting and Finance, Mvute has a strong passion for numbers, which she has applied practically during her formative training on donor-funded programmes such as the Global Fund, Star for Life and Project Hope.

She believes that her desire to contribute towards building Namibia's capacity to sustainably utilize its natural resource base and her own personal principles centered on accountability, transparency and integrity make her and the EIF a good fit. "I believe two hands are better than one so I look forward to working with my new teammates to achieve the goals of EIF".

New faces at the Fund



Esme Hoeses
Young Professional: CBNRM EDA Project

Having previously joined the Fund as an Intern in the Operations Department, Esme joined the CBNRM EDA Project as a Young Professional on Monitoring & Evaluation, where she will be providing support towards the project's M&E and grants management functions.

She looks forward to tap into the ability of evaluating Climate Change Actions in Community Based Natural Resource Management for Sustainable Development.



Salome Naivela
Young Professional: CBNRM EDA Project

Salome is an Office Management and Technology graduate from the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST), and joined the Empower to Adapt: CBNRM EDA Project as a Young Professional in June 2018. She is excited about starting her career at the Environmental Investment Fund where she hopes to bring her office administration skills to add value to the 5-year project.



Talitha Litwayi
Intern: CRAVE Project

Talitha is an enthusiastic young lady who joined the Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia as an intern under the CRAVE Project. She studied at the University of Namibia where she obtained a double major Bachelor Honours Degree in Geography & Environmental Studies and Sociology. Her interests are environmental management, climate change, remote sensing, GIS and wildlife conservation. She believes that EIF will provide her with great skills and enhance her knowledge in the environmental field.



Paulina Fendinat
Intern: CRAVE Project

Paulina is a self-motivated and competent forester who joined EIF as an intern under the CRAVE project. She holds the following qualifications: MSc Forestry Sciences (Speciality: Mycorrhizae) from CCS HAU India, Bachelor of Agriculture Management and National Diploma, both from the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST). She has strong interests in national projects involving climate smart agriculture (CSA), improvement of agro forestry systems, and natural resource management. She is looking forward to gaining more insights and experience across the sector while striving to increase her value to the organisation.

Namibia Readiness Support Project

Namibia Readiness Support Project - NAMRS002

Project overview

The Namibia Readiness Support Project is a financial support package designed by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) for the Namibian designated authority (NDA), Ministry of Environment and Tourism. Approved in September 2017, the grant funding received through the project will be used to strengthen the institutional capacities of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, with a view towards enabling it to efficiently engage the GCF as well as to improve coordination in view of planning and climate programming for Namibia.



Lesley-Anne van Wyk
Project Coordinator

Lesley-Anne is the Project Coordinator for the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Readiness Support Project based at the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET). Her role with the recently launched project includes managing the day-to-day activities of the project, managing partnerships and advocacy efforts as well as overseeing monitoring and evaluation activities. She is a young Namibian woman with eleven years of work experience in diverse roles including project management, communications for development and policy research in dynamic organisations based in the development sectors of both Africa and Europe. She holds a Masters degree in Globalisation and Development Studies from the University of Maastricht in the Netherlands and a Bachelors degree in Journalism from the University of Pretoria in South Africa.



Panduleni Shikongo
Project Intern

Panduleni holds a Bsc in Natural Resources Management from the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) and also recently completed her Postgraduate Diploma in Integrated Water Management from the university of Free States in South Africa. She is currently a Project Intern for the Green Climate Readiness Support Project (NAMRS002) at the Ministry of Environment and Tourism. Her duties involve assisting in the production of website and news-letter articles, reports and carrying out administrative tasks. She is passionate about sustainable environmental management, and would like to broaden her knowledge base in climate finance.



Fatima Shaningwa
Project Intern

Fatima Shaningwa holds a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Health Sciences, which she obtained from the Namibia University of Sciences and Technology in 2017. As an Environmental Health Practitioner, she has interned at various institutions and recently joined the Ministry of Environment and Tourism in 2018 as a Project Intern for the Green Climate Fund Readiness and Support Project. Her core responsibility is to assist in stakeholder and media liaison. She is passionate about health and environmental issues affecting the general public.

For more information on the workshops, please contact Readiness Support Project Intern Fatima Shaningwa: 061-284 2052, fatimashaningwa@gmail.com

Public engagement for effective climate planning

Stakeholder Engagement workshops

One of the key guiding principles of the National Policy on Climate Change for Namibia 2011 is "Awareness generation, education, training and capacity building".

The Ministry of Environment and Tourism in partnership with the Environmental Investment Fund through the Green Climate Fund Readiness Support Project conducted a series of consultative workshops across Namibia from 29 October to 16 November 2018. The workshops targeting all 14 Regions of Namibia, brought together stakeholders including representatives from all levels of government, community based organisations, indigenous communities and traditional authorities with the aim to:

1. increase awareness and knowledge on climate change, climate policy-making, climate finance and climate change adaptation and mitigation; and,
2. identify transformative climate change adaptation and mitigation projects for submission to the Green Climate Fund from a broad group of stakeholders from all regions of Namibia.

Regional Learning Forum

Strong regional collaboration is needed for southern African countries to improve their access to international climate change funds. Therefore, the importance of organised learning forums cannot be underestimated.

From 25 - 26 October 2018, six countries from southern Africa came together in Swakopmund, Namibia - to share their experience and learnings on accessing climate finance, specifically from the Green Climate Fund (GCF). Co-hosted by Namibia's Ministry of Environment and Tourism, in partnership with Namibia's Environmental Investment Fund, the event brought together over 40 delegates in the coastal town of Swakopmund.

Delegates at the Learning Forum benefited from the insights of outgoing African GCF board member, Mr Zaheer Fakir. He encouraged them to collaborate on a regional level to improve their access climate finance. "It requires partnership, not only with foreign partners, but partners within Africa itself. You have different countries with different capacities and it's about time that we start functioning as one unified Africa and supporting each other to achieve that."

It is hoped that this Learning Forum will be a springboard for southern African countries to start communicating more regularly around their climate change activities, especially their progress and challenges with accessing climate finance. A second Regional Learning Forum is expected to take place during the first half of 2019.



Participants at the Stakeholder Consultation workshop in Opuwo, November 2018



Participants at the Stakeholder Consultation workshop in Rundu, October 2018



Delegates at the Regional Learning Forum in Swakopmund, 26 October 2018



Objective

- To increase climate resilience in productive landscapes and socio-economic systems in CBNRM communities, by working directly with local stakeholders and anticipated beneficiaries;
- Develop community-level strategies and implement technologies (gender friendly) that will reduce climate change threats to the local livelihoods.



Meeting Regional leadership - ensuring political buy-in!

On 30 May 2018, the Project Implementing Unit met the Regional Leadership of Kunene Region on the invitation of the Governor, Hon. Marius Sheya. The aim of the meeting was to brief the Regional leadership in attendance - comprised of Majors and Constituency councillors; on the climate adaptation projects that would impact the region.

Empowering local communities through capacity building

In July 2018, the EIF commissioned a series of training workshops in climate change adaptation awareness and basic project proposal writing techniques, using the EIF project template as a basis for the proposal writing component of the training. The Namibia Development Trust (NDT) was contracted to facilitate the workshops.

The workshops were held in Opuwo, Ondangwa, Katima Mulilo, Otjiwarongo and Keetmanshoop. A total of five hundred and sixty four (564) participants from Conservancies and Community forest organizations participated in the training. Of these participants, three hundred and twelve (312, 55%) were women.

The training modules covered the following thematic climate change areas:

- Climate change and impacts on communities
- The EDA Project and its funding windows
- Grant application and approval process
- The EIF project proposal template
- M&E Plan and Reporting
- Environmental and Social Safeguards
- The Grant Contract

“ **More women (51%) than men attended the regional training workshops.** ”

Ronnie Dempers
Namibia Development Trust

Developing a Local Climate Monitoring system

The EIF contracted Namibia Nature Foundation in June 2018 to design and develop a local climate monitoring system for integration into existing Namibian CBNRM local-level monitoring efforts such as the existing Event Book System (EBS) for both communal conservancies and community forests.

It is expected that the consultant also develops an implementation plan that will facilitate effective implementation of the updated EBS with climate change monitoring fully embedded. The study is currently underway with a stakeholder workshop imminent to validate proposed climate change components to be incorporated in the existing EBS and the proposed local climate change monitoring system.



CBNRM EDA Project update

Call for proposals launched

The Minister of Environment and Tourism, Pohamba Shifeta officially launched the Call for Proposals on Climate change Grants in support of the Empower to Adapt: Creating Climate Change Resilient Livelihoods through Community-based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) in Namibia project, at a press conference event in the capital Windhoek, on 30 July.

Through the grant facility, created under the project, the EIF intends to invest up to US\$ 8 million (an estimated N\$100 million) into envisaged 33 grants to successful grantees across three investment windows - Climate Resilient Agriculture, Climate-proof Infrastructure and Ecosystem Based Adaptation. Individual Grant sizes are estimated to range between US\$ 50,000 and US\$ 400,000 (N\$ 1.2 million and N\$ 5.3 million) and the project duration is expected to be between 1 – 3 years.

Eligible entities for these grants are all duly registered and gazetted Communal Conservancies and Community Forests. Applicants must submit a project proposal in the format prescribed by the Environmental Investment Fund, which should reach the Fund no later than **3 November 2018, 17:00**.



... the EIF intends to invest up to US\$ 8 million (an estimated N\$100 million) into envisaged 33 grants to successful grantees across three investment windows.

Pohamba Shifeta
Minister of Environment and Tourism

Marketing and outreach initiatives

Following the Call for Proposals at the end of July, the Project Implementing Unit went about to widely publicize the launch of the facility with the aim of reaching as many conservancy and community forest members as possible. The team set up at the following regional platforms during the months of August and September to provide additional information to potential beneficiaries:

- Ongwediva Annual Trade Fair, 24 August - 1 September 2018;
- Okakarara Trade Fair, 3 September - 8 September 2018;
- Keetmanshoop Expo, 10 - 14 September 2018;
- Windhoek Industrial and Agricultural Show.

The project also started work towards making access to the grants facility easy for potential applicants. For these reasons separate consulting teams have been at work to develop a webpage for the project and an online grants application system. Both communication platforms were launched in the month of October 2018.

Enabling access to information

The EIF has started work towards making access to the grants facility easy for potential applicants. For these reasons separate consulting teams have been at work to develop a webpage for the project and an online grants application system. Both communication platform will be launched in the month of October 2018.

Phenomenal response for grants

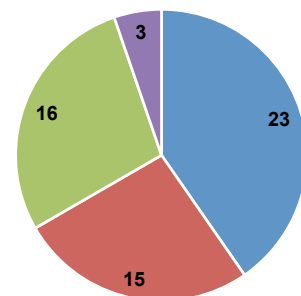
The call for proposal yielded a total of 57 project proposals for the facility's 3 investment windows under the projects' grant facility. The proposals under each investment window were as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| • Climate Resilient Agriculture | 23 |
| • Climate-proof infrastructure | 15 |
| • Ecosystem-based Adaptation | 16 |
| • Combination of investment windows | 3 |

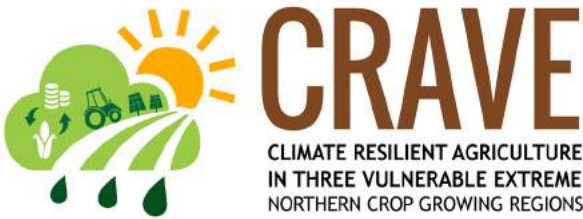
Assessment of proposals is currently underway.

For more Information on the Empower to Adapt: CBNRM EDA Project and upcoming project plans, contact Ms. Selma Shitilifa on cbnrmeda@eif.org.na

First Call for Proposals Grants proposals received per investment window Nov 2018



- Investment window 1: Climate-resilient agriculture
- Investment window 2: Climate-proof infrastructure
- Investment window 3: Ecosystem Based Adaptation
- Combination of investment windows



Objective

To reduce vulnerability and food insecurity to climate risks and threats while increasing the adaptive capacity, well-being and resilience of the vulnerable small-scale farming communities.



Project governance

On 12 March 2018, the CRAVE Project Board held its 2nd meeting at Hotel Thule, Windhoek. The agenda was to endorse the 2018/19 Annual Work Plan and Budget, the composition of the Regional Steering Committee, the beneficiaries' selection criteria and demonstration sites' selection criteria. One of the main issues transpired, was the Governance structure to be reviewed and official appointment to be led by the EIF Board. Members officially appointed with Mrs. Johanna Andowa, an EIF Board member and Director within the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry as the Chairperson for the CRAVE Project Board.

Horticultural farmer's inventory

The project has conducted a horticulture farmer's inventories assessment in the target regions to determine the key challenges faced by farmers in production, and identify gaps. A total of 459 (179 Male and 280 Female) potential beneficiaries were assessed in the 3 regions (Kavango East, Kavango West and Zambezi) as part horticulture farmer's identification process. These number of horticulture farmers were mainly dominated by 60% women vs 40% male.

The outcome of the assessment indicated that Horticulture farmers in the target regions face production challenges such as lack of appropriate technologies for implementing climate smart agriculture and poor infrastructure. During this inventory assessment, some farmers were already found practicing some of Conservation Agriculture principles on both Rain-fed and Horticulture .

Extraction of underground and surface water study

The Ministry of Agriculture Water and Forestry through the Directorate of Water Resources Management and Directorate of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Coordination technical team undertook a field trip from the 21 - 29 April 2018 to collect data and conduct sampling for the study. The data included hydrometric, groundwater level and water abstraction data, while sampling for water quality was conducted for both groundwater and surface water.

Samples were collected and submitted to a laboratory for chemical analysis. Samples were required to be taken from flowing water in the river and running pump from the ground. The hydrometric station provided downloaded surface water levels for the Okavango River at Mukwe and Kongola stations. While at Kongola, water quality samples were collected from the Kwando River. The team further assessed the large scale irrigation schemes annual abstraction amount in the target area to be able to update the amount of water abstracted by these major irrigation users. Analysis of the data is currently under way and the results of the assessment will be concluded and shared accordingly. The monitoring and updating of the utilization of water use by the selected horticulture farmers during production in the next 3 years will be required to have concluded evidence of the sustainable water use of the horticulture farmers in the target regions.



CRAVE Project update



Mashare Climate Resilient Agriculture Centre of Excellence

On 28 May 2018, the appointed Consultants, Jack Mutua Architects, for the provision of architectural and project management services for the refurbishment of Mashare Agriculture Development Institute (MADI) carried out the site assessment. During the assessment the measurements to depict the existing infrastructure as accurately as possible. The Civil and structural engineers Conenpro Inc. Consulting Engineers identified specialists to carry out topographical surveys and geotechnical surveys on site.

The Consultants Inception Meetings was held on the 20th June 2018 with the Ministry of Agriculture Water and Forestry to present the agreed scope, approach to the consultancy and deliverables achieved to date. The design and drawing were shared and inputs were provided for further modification and to quantify the drawings to a realistic amounts.

Innovative Crop Insurance & incentive scheme

The Fund contracted the firm, CIS Namibia, to develop and implement a Crop Insurance and Incentive scheme in June 2018. The objectives of the crop insurance and incentive scheme is to help small-scale farmers that will cover weather induced losses in agricultural production such as drought & flood risks. The scheme is also aimed at facilitating small-scale farmers' access to agricultural credit by reducing the risk of loan default.

The consultants have presented a draft scheme and its working modalities and barring further stakeholder engagement and testing, the scheme should be ready for piloting during the 2019/20 cropping season.

World Food Day

On 30 October, the CRAVE Project took part in the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry's commemoration of World Food Day event at Bunya village in the Kapako Constituency in Kavango West. The event held under the theme, "Our actions are our future: a Zero Hunger world by 2030 is possible", drew delegates from SADC as well as the European Union.

Government ministries and agencies plus local private sector companies showcased their products and services in the agricultural, fisheries, forestry, food and water sectors. The CRAVE project handed over Tractors, seeds and other farming implements to beneficiaries.

For more Information on the CRAVE Project and implementation plans please contact Ms. Mkwetu Mweutota on mmweutota@eif.org.na





Objective

Develop community-level strategies and implement technologies that could reduce threats to the Namibian environment.

Featured project

Gwanamene San Community Project

The San Community micro drip irrigation vegetable garden was funded by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme being implemented via the United Nations Development Programme at tune of **USD45,000.00**.

The project was aimed at improving food security among the San community as well as to improve their livelihood through income generation by selling some of their produce. It is located on two sites: Oluthalwegolo and Omusati Gwaniita in the Uuvudhiya constituency.

On each site, five micro drip irrigation systems were set up with a total of 1000 poly bags. The micro drip irrigation method was used as a measure against climate change were the area is hard bit by drought. The system uses very minimal water. The fertility of the soil can be managed and the shade net does protect against sun and keeps insects out of garden. Due to water problems in the area, the project managed to secure water connection to both sites through NamWater pipeline.

Through the supporting entity, Namibia Development Trust, project members were trained and involved in all activities undertaken with a crucial task to ensure knowledge transfer to the San community. That includes how to practically set up micro drip irrigation systems, how they operate, how one can maintain them and importantly how to produce vegetables using the drip system.

Even though they harvest enough produce to sell, transport to take their vegetables to local markets is a problem. Despite some challenges, the committee members are pulling together to work as a team, make the project a success and defeat the stigma that San people cannot handle gardens.

To date the project has successfully distributed vegetables to households for own consumption to improve nutrition and sold some vegetables to local customers.



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Game Products Trust Fund



Objectives

Namibia's Game Products Trust Fund (GPTF) has been established in 1997 by adopting the Game Products Trust Fund Act. As per GPTF Act, the objectives of the Fund are:

- To allocate funds to conservancies, wildlife councils and protected areas, and to persons, organizations and institutions approved by the Minister of Environment and Tourism, to be used for those conservancies and wildlife councils, protected areas, persons, organizations and institutions in connection with projects and programmes regarding wildlife conservation and management and rural development.
- To support measures aimed at improving the relationship between people and wildlife.



New Board of Directors appointed

The Minister of Environment and Tourism, Pohamba Shifeta officially inaugurated the Game Products Trust Fund's (GPTF) new board members who resumed office on 11 July 2018.

The new board members are:

- Louisa Mupetami who was reappointed as chairperson from Ministry of Environment and Tourism,
- Taina Nankela from Ministry of Finance,
- Dr Johannes Shoopala from the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry,
- Asser Ujaha from the Kunene Regional Community Conservancy Association and;
- Richard Nyambe from the Zambezi Natural Resource Management Association.

The fund aims to make grants to emerging conservancies and wildlife councils for the purposes of implementing and maintaining projects and programmes, approved by the board in consultation with the Minister of Environment and Tourism, regarding wildlife conservation and management and rural development.

It also aims to allocate funds, subject to the provisions of the Game Products Trust Fund Act, to protected areas, and to persons, organisations and institutions approved by the minister, to be used in connection with projects and programmes regarding wildlife conservation and management and rural development.



Drive-Your-Rubbish Home

We recently responded to the waste management problem on Namibia's countryside by launching a public awareness and call-to-action initiative, titled Drive Your Rubbish Home anti-litter campaign. The campaign is targeted at the public transportation sector, specifically long-haul busses, taxis and passengers and seeks to achieve a change in the behavior of passengers to become litter conscious while on their journeys.

The campaign further seeks to turn the drivers and owners of passenger busses into responsible citizens by providing information and waste disposal bags.

Setting out the Fund's zero-tolerance position on litter and pollution prevention, the campaign was activated at three (3) Public Bus terminals in Windhoek – Rhino Park, Ombili and Monte Christo, where close to 300 Bus drivers took part in the educational and awareness-raising activities.

With our partners from the Namibia Bus and Taxi Association (NABTA), we provided Driver and passenger awareness sessions on anti-littering, preceded by a clean-up campaign at each terminal. In total we distributed 1,000 Refuse bags to Bus drivers, targeting 6 bags for each Bus Driver.

The campaign will be spread to all the small towns in Namibia from January 2019 until June 2019.



National Clean-up Campaign

The 25th of May also known as Africa day was officially inaugurated as the national cleanup campaign day led by H.E Dr Hage G. Geingob, the President of the Republic of Namibia.

The President has implored on all town and regional authorities to continuously ensure that clean-up campaigns are implemented on a daily basis.

MET launches Customer Service Charter

Minister of Environment and Tourism (MET), Pohamba Shifeta on 8 August 2018, urged MET staff to work for their people and customers during the launch of the ministry's Customer Service Charter. Shifeta also said that supervisors need to supervise their people as per their job description.

The minister said having the charter in place, the ministry is expected to deliver valuable service not only to clients from abroad, but customers within Namibia and the public in general. At the same event, the Deputy Minister of Environment and Tourism, Bernadette Jagger urged the staff to be involved in the implementation of the charter.



Aina-Maria Iteta is the Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist at EIF. She has over ten years' experience in a variety of fields such as natural resource management, national early warning on food security, planning & economics, agricultural production and extension, monitoring and evaluation, project financing and development statistics.

Gender and Climate Change

Aina-Maria Iteta
M&E Specialist
Environmental Investment Fund

I recently shared the Environmental Investment Fund's experience on gender assessments, mainstreaming gender into climate change and other gender related experiences during the GCF Empowering Direct Access Workshop held in Songdo, South Korea. By then it was already a known fact that climate change impacts do not discriminate between men and women, however, the level of resilience differs within the gender stream. Men and women are not affected equally by climate change and due to existing social and economic imbalances; men tend to be more resilient to climate change than women.

It is for this very reason that the Green Climate Fund's (GCF) gender policy advocates sets out a target of 50/50 involvement and benefits on climate change projects and activities financed by the Fund. At country level, Namibia has made enormous strides in the gender space, duly recognized by its 2017 accolade, "*African Excellence Gender Awards for 2017*", for its efforts in implementing the national gender policies and initiatives towards promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women in Namibia.

The Environmental Investment Fund has aligned its gender policy to the national policy and taking into consideration the GCF gender requirements which are mostly alike. At the Fund, the staff component is comprised of 53% women and 47%, - just one way in which we have changed our recruitment drive to achieve practical outcomes. This is also expected to be reinforced in all GCF climate change projects that the Fund is managing to ensure that the overall gender – climate change mainstreaming is achieved.

Although there is a significant improvement in women participation in politics, private sector and including our executive and legislature

in Namibia, more needs to be done especially at regional, local and community level. There is no better example of the current disparities than in the agricultural sector. According to the Agricultural Survey by the Namibia Statistics agency, females head the largest proportion of subsistence farming households in the country. However women are also said to have limited access to capital, productive land, knowledge and services and these factors differently decrease resilience and adaptive capacities of women. Livestock production is male dominated, while Crop production is dominated by women who plant, weed and harvest while men are responsible for mending fences and tilling land. This is because of a cultural history among communities whereby men own and control livestock, agricultural equipment and household tools, crop produce and movable assets.

Men in Namibia also make major decisions at household level. They make decisions regarding the allocation of resources required for responding to climate-change risks. It becomes suffice to say that when faced with disasters, a woman alone cannot decide how the household must respond to severe risks posed by drought, floods, pest outbreaks and other related climate-change disasters. Decisions are often or always made by the spouse who is the head of household. Women usually make immediate decisions regarding means of coping that would ensure food security, while man take care of long term and capital related investment decision. In some societies, women are not encouraged to participate in discussions at community level as part of their cultural values and principles.

For more gender and climate analytics and lessons from EIF supported projects you may contact the resources below.

For further insights into Gender and Climate Change, refer to a new publication here:
<https://www.eif.org.na/index.php/download/unam-gender-and-climate-change-in-cbnrm>

Activity Wall



Corporate appointment: EIF's Chief Executive Officer Benedict Libanda was appointed as a Director on the inaugural Nature Conservation Board by the Minister of Environment and Tourism. The Board's function is to advise the ministry on economic growth, conservation, sustainable use of wildlife resources and other wildlife matters. October 2018



EIF for Food Security: EIF and CRAVE staff commemorating World Food Day in Kavango West; October 2018



Top in the profession: EIF Head of Human Resources, Lizl Timbo, is recognised at HR Practitioner of the Year 2018 by the Institute of People Management (IPM), at the IPM Convention in October 2018.



Empower to Aadapt: Participants of the EDA CBNRM Project receive training certificates during the countrywide Regional Climate Change Awareness and capacity-building workshops; July 2018



Green is the new Gold: The Fund won top honours in the indoor category at the Windhoek Industrial & Agricultural Show 2018 (WIAS '18) in October 2018.

Upcoming events

JANUARY 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 1	18	19
20	21 2	22 3	23	24	25	26
27	28 4	29 5	30 6	31		

NOTES

1. Dallas Safari Club Convention - 17 - 20 January 2018,
2. NMH - Cleanest Town of the Year Tour, 21 Jan - 9 Feb 2018,
3. EIF Quarterly workplan review, 22 - 23 January 2018,
4. SUNREF Steering Committee meeting, 28 January 2018,

FEBRUARY 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 7	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

7. EIF, 6th Year Anniversary, 13 Feb 2018

MARCH 2019


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 8	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

8. Namibia, Independence Day, 21 March 2018



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 EIF Namibia

 Green_Viewpoint

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