

Detailed Project Description

NAMIBIA: Namib Coast Biodiversity Conservation and Management Project

1. The Namib Coast Biodiversity Conservation and Management (NACOMA) Project aims to enhance coastal and marine biodiversity conservation through the mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into coastal policy, legislative framework, and institutional and technical capacity and by supporting targeted investments for biodiversity conservation in critical ecosystems on the coast. The project's four components are:

- Policy, Legal and Institutional Framework for Sustainable Ecosystem Management of the Namib Coast
- Targeted Capacity-Building for Coastal Zone Management and Biodiversity Conservation
- Targeted Investments in Critical Ecosystems for Biodiversity Conservation, Sustainable Use and Mainstreaming
- Project Management and Performance Monitoring

2. The four components were selected in order to assist the Government of Namibia at national, regional and local level to address the three key sector issues identified in section A.1: (i) slow decentralization with currently absence of environmental functions delegated; (ii) increasing human-made threats to fragile coastal ecosystems in particular related to uncontrolled economic activities; and (iii) lack of a common vision and mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation into development planning and management for the coastal zone. All components are closely interlinked and address together these key sector issues.

3. The components have been defined during the preparation phase of the project through a participatory approach including numerous meetings and workshops with all concerned stakeholders and specific technical assessments and studies.

Project Intervention Zone

The following definition of an intervention zone aims to provide a workable scale for coastal planning and management, in particular related to aquaculture expansion, terrestrial mining concessions, downstream fish processing, expansion of settlements, salt refining, tourism and agriculture upstream from important river mouths.

4. NACOMA's intervention area runs the full length of the coast, from the median line of the Kunene River to the north to the Orange River Mouth (Ramsar Site) to the south. The western and eastern boundaries have been defined to include all identified biodiversity hotspots, critical species habitats, coastal ecosystems and distinctive coastal landscapes, and include the main areas where current and predicted activities and development cumulatively impact on coastal ecological function and biodiversity. At sea (western boundary), the NACOMA intervention area follows an internationally-recognized boundary (territorial sea at 12 nautical miles) as it is extensive enough to include the biodiversity-rich near-shore islands and rocks to the north and south of Lüderitz, including the furthest one (Hollams Bird Island, 10.7 nautical miles from land). It also encompasses the areas most likely to be affected by the mainly near-shore activities and processes identified during NACOMA Project preparation, e.g., shore- and shallow-water diamond mining out to a depth of 150m. This provisional limit will be re-assessed during the first year of NACOMA implementation to take account of possible coastal impacts from offshore oil drilling, fisheries and other processes or activities in the EEZ, as well as marine impacts from coastal

activities. On land (eastern boundary), the intervention area will be delimited by the eastern boundary of coastal urban municipalities and outside urbanized, by an arbitrary line around 2-3 km from the coast. This needs to be adjusted to take in fragile habitats (e.g. unprotected dune belts) as well as important landscape features. In estuaries and river mouths, areas of jurisdictional and management uncertainty, the boundary will need to extend at least to the limit of salinity and if necessary, further inland. The riparian 'strip' will be broad enough to include associated wetlands and fragile watersheds and areas subject to riparian mining concessions or major agriculture. One option would be to follow the boundaries of local authorities with territory adjacent to these rivers

Component 1: Policy, Legal and Institutional Framework for Sustainable Ecosystem Management of the Namib Coast

Introduction

5. This component fills the current gap for mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation and management into policy, legal and institutional structures affecting the development of the coastal zone. Such a process falls within existing national, regional, local and sectoral frameworks, i.e. Vision 2030, NDP 2, RDPs, NBSAP, NAPCOD, all of which call for sustainable development of the coastal zone of Namibia. As such, this component focuses on the development of a highly participatory policy framework, the Namibia Coastal Management White Paper, which is seen as the critical element for sustainable ecosystem management of the Namib coast. The GRN has acquired considerable experience of developing policy White Papers through a participative process, mainly for individual sectors.¹ In the cross-sectoral context of coastal management, NACOMA will provide structured support for defining issues and priorities, discussing alternative scenarios and building consensus, notably through its detailed arrangements for inter-institutional dialogue and participation (see Annex 20). Further, this component will provide institutional and legal input to support a paradigm shift from nationalized to regional and local management of biodiversity and coastal resources through the on-going decentralization process. The clarification of institutional mandates will be particularly relevant for the future role of the ICZMC, the potential lead structure to facilitate mainstreaming coastal biodiversity conservation into sectoral policies and actions. The component will fill further the knowledge gap about linkages between socio-economic, environmental and biodiversity conservation issues through the participatory development of regional coastal profiles. These will be used as basis for local, regional and national decision-making processes and will feed-back into the State of Environment Report and National Resource Accounting efforts.

6. The *primary target group* for this component is the national (mainly MET, MFMR, MME, MAWRD, MWTC, MRGLH), regional and local governments involved in coastal zone management.

7. The specific outputs from this component will include:

- An agreed upon formal draft definition of the coastal zone for policy and legislative purposes.
- A publication of recommendations for proposed legal amendments.
- A formal approval of mandates and members of an extended ICZMC
- Coastal Management White Paper and corresponding joint coastal zone vision

¹ *Towards Responsible Development of the Fisheries Sector* (MFMR, December 1991); *White Paper On National Policy On Disability* (MLRR, March 1997); *Energy Policy* (Energy Policy Committee of MME, May 1998); *Minerals Policy* (date?); *White Paper on the Water Policy Framework* (approved by Cabinet in 2000 as a basis for continued consultation under the responsibility of the Namibian Water Resources Management Review).

- Coastal profiles for each coastal region

8. This component will include the 4 following *sub-components*:

Sub-component 1: Review of Existing Laws and Support for Appropriate Legislation

Sub-component 2: Clarification of institutional mandates

Sub-component 3: Development of Policy Framework

Sub-component 4: Development of Coastal Profiles

Sub-component 1: Review of Existing Laws and Support for Appropriate Legislation

Purpose

9. This sub-component will support the establishment of a coastal legal and policy group (issue group) aiming to review and improve the legal and regulatory framework conducive to coastal biodiversity conservation and mainstreaming. An initial limited review has been carried out during preparation and will provide the basis for this task.

Activity 1 – Detailed review of Existing Coastal Zone-Related Legislation and Identification of Adjustments

A review of existing coast-relevant legislation, which will include the legal frameworks for biodiversity conservation and key economic sectors, would be undertaken by a small group of legal experts. The review will be available at the end the first year of the project. Focused consultation on implementation and associated consistency questions that arise during the review process will be held with the main stakeholders. The review and gap analysis will lead to the development of a prioritized list of proposed adjustments to current legislation for biodiversity conservation and recommendations on possible new legislation (e.g. replacement of Sea Shore Ordinance, drafting of new Coastal Zone Management Act). This list will be prepared in collaboration with interested parties through meetings and targeted workshops. It will be completed at the end of year 2. In addition, this activity will include targeted support and technical assistance to the MET in EIA, which is a critical instrument to enable and support ICZM and mainstreaming of biodiversity.

The review will further focus on the financial resources and income sources available to coastal RCs and LAs for biodiversity conservation and ICZM. RCs and LAs will be assisted to identify alternative sources of funding to reduce reliance on national government funding and increase their local and regional operational budget.

Activity 2 - Amendments to Current Legislation and Development of a Coastal New Law (if needed)

Once all key stakeholders (SC, ICZMC and other line ministries) have agreed on the proposed adjustments, necessary steps will be taken to amend or repeal existing legislation during the course of the project and, as necessary, to prepare draft ICZM legislation for submission to Parliament for approval.

Sub-component 2: Clarification of Institutional Mandates

Purpose

10. The purpose of this sub-component is to clarify institutional mandates of the key players (such as RC, LA and line ministries) regarding the conservation and sustainable use of coastal biodiversity. This clarification will be a major contribution to mainstream environmental and biodiversity planning and will foster the decentralization process of key sectoral line ministries. It will also improve coordination and cooperation among key stakeholders at local, regional and national level and across sectors in terms of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use. Finally, this clarification will be particularly relevant for the ICZMC, the potential lead structure to

facilitate mainstreaming of coastal biodiversity conservation management and sustainable use into sectoral policies and actions.

Activity 1 - Review and Clarification of Roles and Mandates of Key Institutions

This activity will consist of the review of roles and mandates of key institutions involved in biodiversity conservation and coastal development. The mandates for the following relevant institutions will be reviewed: main line ministries (MET, MRLGH, MAWRD, MFMR, MME, MWTC, MLRR), the ICZMC, RCs, LAs and the RDCCs, land boards, private sector and NGOs/CBOs. The review will identify overlaps, conflicts and grey areas regarding roles and mandates in terms of biodiversity conservation through multi-stakeholder consultations. Several workshops with role players will be conducted to make sure that all key stakeholders identify and agree on basic mandates and roles with particular reference to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use on the coast. Also, “problem-solving workshops” on specific issues (e.g. MPA jurisdiction issues; scope of MET decentralization) will be held.

Activity 2 – Support MET to Pilot Transfer of Environmental Responsibilities

Based on the process above, decentralized biodiversity-related functions of line ministries (mainly MET, but also MFMR, MAWRD) will be clarified and transitional guidelines for RC, line ministries’ regional office operational staff, management and administration of these activities will be jointly developed (supported by donor-initiatives for decentralization).

Sub-component 3: Development of Policy Framework

Purpose

11. This sub-component will use a broad based public participation process engaging a range of local, regional, and national level stakeholders to collect elements for developing an integrated coastal zone management vision, based on the findings and results of sub-components 1.1. and 1.2. The vision will be later included into the Namibia Coastal Management White Paper. The Namibia Coastal Management White Paper will provide an overarching and comprehensive framework to support integrated planning and decision-making affecting coastal lands and waters, based on the carrying capacity of the Namibian coast as a whole. The appropriate process and methodology will be finalized and detailed at appraisal. However it follows the following approach (see also Annex 3):

Activity 1 – Development of a National Coastal Zone Vision

A collaborative national coastal zone vision will be developed to ensure sustainable conservation and management of the coastal and marine ecosystems. The vision will be based on the generic principles of ICZM including SEA as one key instrument. This vision will be developed and shared by government agencies, local communities, NGO/CBOs, private sector, academic institutions and other relevant stakeholders. Technical assistance will be provided for the preparation of the vision.

Activity 2 - Development of a Namibia Coastal Management White Paper

A policy and legal expert working group will be established to facilitate together with the ICZMC and the SC the development of a draft Namibia Coastal Management White Paper (NACOWP) in accordance with the findings of the previous sub-components. The pre-defined main principles of the NACOWP are summarized below:

- **Ownership:** A sustainable ICZM policy that meets the needs and maximizes opportunities for the Namibian people, environment and economy needs to be seen as ‘home-grown’ and responsive to as wide a range of interests as possible. A strong sense of ownership and transparency are key incentives to effective policy implementation. At the same time, the

WP process must be firmly grounded in the broader policy context in terms of national sustainable development planning and ongoing decentralization.

- **Participation:** This collaborative approach is already embedded in arrangements for NACOMA's implementation, which combine a broad-based executive unit (SC) with the advisory ICZMC. The SC, combining key line ministries and high-level regional representation, is well placed to initiate the policy-making process early on in NACOMA.² The ICZMC, whose mandate will be clarified and strengthened during the project, has the potential to draw in and engage the full range of relevant stakeholders, including community-based and private sectors, in the policy formulation process.
- **Balance and equality:** The WP process needs to ensure balanced coverage of the Namibian coast as a whole, taking account of the characteristics, unique values and environmental sensitivity of different parts of the coast. The methodology for the preparation of the WP will integrate strategic environmental assessment principles to determine coastal carrying capacity and provide a strong basis for ecologically sustainable zoning for different coastal land- and water- uses.

The WP development process will involve both public and specialist consultations. It needs to be closely tied to all relevant NACOMA activities to maximize synergies and minimize delay. For example, the legal and institutional review process (Cps. 1.1-1.2) is an essential first step towards clarification of roles and functions for the coast, whilst the development and updating of coastal profiles (Cp.1.4) will provide primary material for the contextual parts of the WP.

The main stages of the White Paper development process will involve:

- Issue-specific research and consultation on different activities/processes affecting coastal lands and waters (issue teams build on issues identified and material compiled during the NACOMA preparatory phase and from other resources e.g. BCLME programme).
- Prioritization of policy issues, presentation of options/scenarios to address the issues identified and recommendations on the preferred policy and further action in each case. Issue teams lead consultations with key stakeholders.
- Broader public consultation at various milestones of these specialist consultations (starting with explanatory sessions and progressing towards discussion of specific options).
- Consolidation of inputs and recommendations to produce a preliminary draft policy ('green paper' or equivalent) and draft vision.
- Public consultation on 'green paper' followed by expert-led development of draft WP.
- Public comment invited on draft WP, prior to finalization, approval by the National Government (e.g. ICZMC members) and publication.

² Previous White Paper processes (mainly single-sector) have been spearheaded by special committees within the appropriate line ministries, prior to presentation to Cabinet and/or the National Assembly. The process from committee formulation to submission of the policy seems generally to have taken about 2.5 - 3 years.

- Throughout the Project's lifetime, the draft WP will be reviewed and amended as to capture lessons and best practices developed through and by Project activities in year 5.

External assistance may be needed to conceptualize and support the policy process: this should be determined at appraisal.

Sub-component 4: Development of Coastal Profiles

Purpose

12. This sub-component will fill further the knowledge gap about linkages between socio-economic, environmental and biodiversity conservation issues through the participatory development of regional coastal profiles, to be a basis for mainly local, regional but also national decision-making processes and feed-back into the State of Environment Report and National Resource Accounting efforts.

Activity 1: Preparation of Coastal Profiles

This activity will support the establishment of regional-level technical committees/task forces for each coastal region. The technical committees will be in charge of gathering socio-economic, environmental and biodiversity data on the Namib coast for each region in order to draft the coastal profiles. The content of the coastal profiles will be built on the model of the existing coastal profile for the Erongo Region, which will be subsequently up-dated but adapted to regional differences.

The profiles for the three other coastal regions, Kunene, Hardap and Karas, will be developed on the basis of coastal spatial planning and zoning, covering land and water areas as to determine preferred locations for strict biodiversity conservation, for limited access and controlled use of biodiversity and the natural resource base, for sustainable low to medium-impact use, such as recreational purposes, and for sustainable economic development. The coastal zone profiles will be linked to the Regional Development Plans. The process of drafting and developing these profiles will be based on the capacity built in the Regional Councils under component 2.

Activity 2: Review, Publication and Updating of Coastal Profiles

Through public meetings for comments and feedback, and through focused workshop for input from a broad range of local, regional and national level stakeholders, the draft coastal profiles will be reviewed and endorsed. The coastal profiles will be in place in the four RCs at the end of year 2. Finally, a system will be set-up at RC level in order to continuously update the profiles.

Component 2: Targeted Capacity-Building for Coastal Zone Management and Biodiversity Conservation

Introduction

13. This component aims to fill the capacity gap at local, regional and national level in support of integrated coastal zone management, biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in particular related to mainstreaming of coastal biodiversity and resources into development planning and key economic activities. Taking into account the results from sub-component 1.2 (clarification of institutional mandates), and based on the available training needs assessment and in collaboration with other initiatives, this component will provide urgently needed targeted support to key stakeholders at various levels. The component will further provide support to MET's efforts to mainstream and decentralize biodiversity management aiming at strengthening local and regional delivery mechanisms. This component enables stakeholders to develop and

make best use of appropriate communication tools and channels based on a sound knowledge management system and action plan, including feed-back loops for inter-sectoral, vertical and international sharing of lessons learned and best practices.

14. The *primary target group* of this component is the national (mainly MET, MFMR, MME, MAWRD, MWTC, MRGLH), regional and local governments involved in CZM.

15. Specific outputs from this component:

- Skills to formalize and set-up a coastal biodiversity ecosystem monitoring mechanism linked to other sectoral and national biodiversity monitoring efforts
- Targeted training to RCs facilitated MET's mainstreaming and delegation of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use responsibilities for biodiversity in and outside protected areas in two out of four coastal regions through clear job description of regional development planners.
- A coastal and marine biodiversity M&E mechanism is defined, agreed among ICZMC members, and fully operational.
- A knowledge management system, as defined by Project, is in place, implemented and utilized by the three main target groups.

16. This component will include the 3 following *sub-components*:

Sub-component 1: Training for ICZM

Sub-component 2: Biodiversity Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism

Sub-component 3: Coastal Biodiversity Knowledge Management

Sub-component 1: Training for ICZM

Purpose

17. This sub-component will provide the national, regional and local government agencies training identified during preparation and following the clarification of the institutional mandates under component 1. A particular effort will be dedicated to specify and address the needs in terms of targeted capacity to support MET's (central and regional office) efforts to pilot the decentralization process of biodiversity conservation management.

Activity: Development and Implementation of a Training Strategy

Based on the available detailed training needs assessment, and supported by the CZ Scientific Group and recommendations following the sub-component 1.2 (clarification of institutional mandates), a training program that addresses these needs will be finalized. This program would be adapted to the individual needs of the different stakeholders. Pre-identified training themes include:

- Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM - planning and management including management plans³)
- GIS and mapping
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Participatory approaches (communities, private sector, government)
- Communication and negotiation skills

The form of training will be identified per each RC/LA/LM, including, for example, manuals and procedures, on the job training, TA, formally accredited courses or workshops and study tours. Available training resources in line ministries, regional offices and specified training centers (e.g.

³ The draft Parks and Wildlife Management Bill will become the legal framework for management plans (content, format, legal status and periodic review).

MET's DASS training officer, MFMR center in Henties Bay) and professional trainers will be used as needed. The two Environmental Advisors will play a significant role in overseeing and complementing the implementation of the training program.

Sub-component 2: Biodiversity Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism

Purpose

18. Under this sub-component existing biodiversity M&E systems would be reviewed, data and information gaps and needs assessed and a cost-effective and accessible method for a long-term coastal and marine biodiversity M&E system linked to national, regional and local environmental monitoring efforts and in conjunction with the coastal profiles will be developed, if needed or existing ones up-graded. The users of the coastal and marine M&E system are expected to be mainly decision-makers at various levels as well as scientific groups interested in issues affecting coastal and marine biodiversity conservation and uses.

Activity 1 – Data Collection, Analysis and Storage

This activity will focus on the collection of biodiversity data within the 4 regions to establish project baseline and monitor trends over the project period in synergy with other initiatives (SPAN project, BCLME programme). The following steps will be undertaken by NACOMA and/or in partnership with other initiatives:

- Review of existing m&e systems in place and multi-stakeholder decision on most sustainable and cost-effective mechanism to be supported.
- Development or up-grading of methodology for data collection.
- Data analysis and compilation into integrated database using technologies such as GIS, aerial photography, remote sensing.
- Identification and development of suitable indicators for monitoring biodiversity changes and other related issues.
- Then, coastal biodiversity M&E related data would be systematically collected, stored in the system, up-dated and made accessible to the stakeholder by the end of year 2.

Activity 2 - Establishment of a M&E System

In order to develop a new - or expand an existing – long-term coastal and marine biodiversity M&E system at national or regional level, this activity will support the purchase of hardware and software, and the design of integrated system for the M&E (i.e. database), if needed (see activity 1).

Sub-component 3: Coastal Biodiversity Knowledge Management

Purpose

19. This sub-component is concerned with addressing the knowledge gap related to coastal and marine biodiversity among all stakeholders. It will follow the findings and issues identified in the Project Participation Plan and support the development of a coastal biodiversity knowledge management system and a communication action plan. A replication plan to share lessons learned inside Namibia and with other countries in the sub-region would be prepared by MTR. It would further provide access to existing learning and knowledge sharing tools, in particular for regional and local governments but also line ministries. The installation of effective and appropriate communication, networking and coordination (including reporting) mechanisms between Regional Councils and MET is expected to establish and consolidate communication between Regional Councils, MET and other stakeholders.

Activity 1 – Development of a Knowledge Management System

Under this activity a knowledge management mechanism (network) linking all four regions and other key implementing agents at national, regional and local level will be developed to enhance their capacities to share information, including status of the site-specific management plans, environmental interventions, best practices (replication elements) and monitoring and evaluation assessments. ICZMC is expected to play a major role in defining the scope and content of the KM mechanism and to lead the networking.

To this end, the Project will build on and use the Distance Learning and Information Sharing Tool (DLIST) as an established and successful information platform. Also, links with related programs, such as the BCLME, SPAN, BENEFIT and others, will be established to share information and lessons learned.

The system will be in place by the end of year 1 and under implementation by year 2 (under the supervision of the ICZMC).

Activity 2 -Development of a Communication Strategy

As part of the knowledge management mechanism, a communication strategy including a public education and awareness campaign will be developed to provide the public with information on the coastal vision and NACOWP development process. Such a campaign is expected to be carried out through a range of tools, e.g. radio clips, a newsletter for distribution in the regions (and in tourist offices), the development of websites with specific information pertaining to each region (linked to the coastal profiles), and up-dated websites of MET/DEA and other line ministries, etc. Further, it will contribute to increase overall environmental awareness in particular related to coastal resources and management among all stakeholder groups.

Component 3: Targeted Investments in Critical Ecosystems for Biodiversity Conservation, Sustainable Use and Mainstreaming

Introduction

20. This component will fill on-the-ground gaps for coastal biodiversity conservation and sustainable use throughout the Project intervention zone.

21. The *primary target groups* are local, regional, and national government (MET, MAWRD, MFMR, MME, MWTC) involved in CZM, local communities and private sectors.

22. Specific outputs of this component:

- Revised or developed Management plans for identified terrestrial and marine hotspots
- Conservation and sustainable use activities as proposed inside management plans for terrestrial and marine hotspots with significant importance for biodiversity conservation on the Namib coast successfully implemented.
- New Marine Protected Areas and a Walvis Bay Nature Reserve.

23. This component includes the 2 following *sub-components*:

Sub-component 1: Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Management Plans

Sub-component 2: Implementation of Priority Actions under the Management Plans

Sub-component 1: Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Management Sites and Plans

Purpose

24. This sub-component includes a participatory review, up-date and development of at least 75 % of all management plans for coastal and marine biodiversity priority conservation sites and

their buffer zones in line with recommendations on the appropriate financial and institutional mechanisms and capacity developed emerging from component 1 and 2. In order to increase functioning biodiversity conservation management in priority coastal areas, demarcation and gazettement of sites would be supported.

Activity 1: Review and Up-dating of Existing Management Plans

Under this activity, draft, outdated and proposed management plans and associated activity plans for the 11 identified terrestrial hotspots of the Namib coast (see Annex 18, table 3) will be reviewed through a highly participatory process involving the key stakeholders and in close coordination with other initiatives (e.g. SPAN). This will allow identification of strength and weakness of each management plan in terms of management effectiveness, biodiversity conservation, boundaries, legislation, and enforcement but more importantly assure mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into regional and local development planning. In order to make sure that management plans are well implemented, an annual review will be undertaken by trained staff from the PA by using an adapted version of the "site-level management effectiveness tracking tool"⁴, the Namibian Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (NAMETT).

Activity 2: Creation of New Protected Areas

Conservation gaps through the existing network of protected areas on the coast will be filled by NACOMA in complementarity with SPAN and other initiatives. Identified Project intervention sites of global biodiversity importance will demonstrate a potential for benefit sharing with communities as well as for sustainable use activities with local, regional and national benefits (linked to regional and local development planning and NACOWP principles).

(i) Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)⁵

Following the "COFAD report"⁶ where the establishment of fifteen possible Marine Protected Areas on the Namibian coastline is identified, the Project will support the creation of at least 3 MPAs along the Namib coast. During the first year, an agreement between MET and MFMR on the basic approach and exact numbers of MPAs will be facilitated. Once, this agreement is reached, the MPAs provisional boundaries, key issues and management objectives will be identified, followed by the draft of management plans for the identified MPAs sites, and the necessary "classification" process will start during year 3. In order to make sure that the newly developed management plans are well implemented, an annual review will be undertaken by staff from MPA by using a simple tool entitled "Score Card to assess progress in achieving management effectiveness goals for Marine Protected Areas"⁷ or an adapted version of the NAMETT.

(ii) Other Protected Areas

NACOMA will support the creation of other conservation areas such as e.g. the proposed Walvis Bay Nature Reserve which aims to put the currently unprotected major Walvis Bay

⁴ Reporting Progress at Protected Area Sites – A simple site-level management effectiveness tracking tool – 2003 – world Bank / WWF alliance for forest conservation and sustainable use.

⁵ The MPA definition follows the ICUN one: "Any area of intertidal or subtidal terrain, together with its overlying water and associated flora, fauna and cultural features, which has been reserved by law or other effective means to protect part or all of the enclosed environment".

⁶ Advisory Assistance to the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources Baseline Study of the Establishment of Marine Reserves in Namibia – Short Term Consultancy Report, 1998.

⁷ Hatzios M., Staub F. Score Card to assess progress in achieving management effectiveness goals for Marine Protected Areas. 2004. The World Bank.

hotspot (wetlands) under effective management.⁸ Other wetlands, near-shore sites and unprotected islands might be included at a later stage.

Sub-component 2: Implementation of Priority Actions under the Management Plans

Purpose

25. This sub-component supports the implementation of site-specific management plans through targeted investments related to biodiversity conservation and rehabilitation, in and outside identified hotspots. It prioritizes small-scale use of coastal resources to support sustainable livelihoods with high potential for piloting, testing and learning. The analysis of coastal use values during preparation has indicated that these uses are relatively under-developed in Namibia. Fairly recently initiated efforts are underway by stakeholders such as the University of Namibia to research these kinds of potential uses and some targeted and site-specific activities have been identified during project preparation. This sub-component will follow the incremental and sustainable principle and, thus, will be closely linked to national, regional and local site-specific planning and management efforts. Generic criteria would be cost effectiveness, value added, sustainability, empowerment of previously disadvantaged, partnerships and co-financing, community involvement. During the process of activities identification and approval, an EMP, developed during Project preparation, will be utilized to ensure that on-the-ground activities are carried out in line with World Bank Safeguard Policies, and that all possible negative impacts are considered and mitigation measures are spelled out prior to the implementation of any activity.

Activity 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Rehabilitation Activities

This activity will focus on the support to specific activities of local, regional and national importance for biodiversity conservation such as:

- Conservation planning
 - Identification of additional coastal biodiversity hotspots through support, for example, for aerial surveys and spatial planning⁹
 - Identification of priority conservation and protection measures throughout the coastal region
 - Support to priority targeted research projects (e.g. study of lesser known taxa, surveys of key habitats, indigenous knowledge, fungal pathogens on *Welwitschia*) in order to guide management planning and monitoring
- Conservation management and monitoring
 - Monitoring of hotspots based on initial baseline assessment and follow-up monitoring and enforcement (patrols, control measures)
 - Provision of adequate equipment for local staff (office and monitoring)
- Habitat restoration
 - Vegetation cover restoration e.g. using indigenous plants
 - Soil erosion control in biodiversity priority areas
 - Pilot demonstration of biodiversity-friendly restoration of land after mining and exploration

⁸ The Walvis Bay Dunes (Between Walvis Bay and Swakopmund) are excluded from the Nature reserve. A plan is in place for these dunes and the Municipal intentions are to recruit an private company to manage the area on its behalf as per the Plan.

⁹ In line with IUCN-defined categories for zoning activities and spatial planning.

- Protection of water resources
 - Identification of key coastal waters, their resources, uses and conservation needs
 - Development of coastal waters plan (feeding into land-use planning process)

Activity 2: Sustainable Use of Prioritized Ecosystems Activities

This activity will focus on on-the-ground support for sustainable use of prioritized ecosystems as described in the management plans. The following main activities were identified during a broad-based stakeholder preparatory workshop and are in line with priorities of the University of Namibia's Marine and Coastal Resource Centre in Henties Bay as well as of regional and local authorities :

- Support to pilot environmentally friendly **aquaculture and mariculture** practices and technology such as (i) mariculture development focusing on comparing different seaweed diets for on-shore culture, confirming the feasibility of spawning broodstock under local conditions and examining the feasibility and environmental impact of ranching, (ii) mushroom development including evaluating the suitability of locally available substrates for culture of oyster mushrooms, identification of indigenous mushroom species for cultivation at the coast and evaluation of different designs of low-cost mushroom houses, and (iii) seaweed development for sustainable harvesting
- Support to pilot environmentally friendly **livestock** management
- Support to pilot **coastal agriculture** and **plant biodiversity**: (i) Bio-saline agriculture (particularly the cultivation of brackish water fodder crops), (ii) propagation of useful endemic plants, such as the Hoodia cactus, and trials of the cultivation of plant species for habitat restoration, medicinal plants, agricultural use, desert greening and sand dune stabilization
- Support to other environmentally friendly **natural product processing** (e.g., nara plant, fish, guano, shell)
- **Eco-tourism**: (i) small-scale infrastructure (camp sites and associated small scale facilities, e.g. desert paths, view sites, sign posts); (ii) services (training for tourism guides, training for impact assessment, information sheets, brochures, development of new biodiversity friendly ecotourism products, in partnership with the communities and the private sector)
- **Water resources**: Awareness raising for watershed management or underground water management if relevant including support to initiate management plans for freshwater resources.

Component 4: Project Management and Performance Monitoring

Introduction

26. The aim of this component is to ensure that the project achieves its stated objectives through proper management and timely delivery of its outputs as defined in work plans.

27. The *primary target group* is the PMU staff.

28. Specific outputs of this component:

- Project reports and work plans

29. This component includes 2 *sub-components*:

- Sub-component 1: Project office and management

- Sub-component 2: Project reporting and information

Sub-component 1: Project Office and Management

Purpose and activities

30. This sub-component supports the establishment and operationalization (through staffing, office infrastructure and Project management related capacity-building) of a slim Project management unit (PMU) housed in the Erongo Regional Council (see Annex 6). The PMU will be in charge of project coordination and oversight. This sub-component will also support the administration, financial management and procurement and monitoring (to be outsourced partly). Further, two Environmental Advisors will be recruited to provide operational TA throughout the project lifetime for the ICZMC members, line ministries, RCs and Las on ICZM planning, management, monitoring issues (see training programme).

Sub-component 2: Project Reporting and Information

Purpose and activities

31. This sub-component supports the PMU in conducting performance monitoring, evaluation of Project progress and M&E reporting, which will enable the delivery of Project reports according to project implementation plan (including the EMP) and support the development and implementation of a Project Management Information system to ensure timely dissemination of information among national, regional and local government, communities and other donor-supported Projects and programs.