

**BACK TO OFFICE REPORT****ONE PAGE MISSION  
REPORT SUMMARY**

Date: 12 Dec 2016

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<b>1. Approved Mission Itinerary:</b> Luanda – Ondjiva – Luanda		<b>2. List of Annexes:</b> Summary of responsibilities taken by stakeholders and other partners.	
<b>3. 06 to 08 December 2016</b>	<b>4. Key Counterpart (s) in Each Location:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cuvelai project team from Luanda composed of representatives from MINAMB (Eng. Constantino), CETAC (Dr. Lauriano, based in Huambo), Centro de Recursos Fitogenéticos (CRF, Dr. José Pedro based in Luanda) and UNDP (Goetz, Veronica)</li><li>• Local stakeholders of Cuvelai project</li><li>• Vice-governor of Cunene Province Dr. Cristino Ndeitunga</li></ul>		
<b>5. Purpose/Objectives of Mission</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presenting and discussing the Cuvelai project at technical level with key counterparts in the province and obtaining commitments from counterparts to develop and present detailed implementation plans of their respective components</li><li>• Visiting GABHIC in Ondjiva to obtain idea of their present and future ability to act as the integrator of meteorological and hydrological information and data in the region</li><li>• Discussing project support and arrangements with Proteção Civil</li><li>• Updating Vice-governor about project implementation and proposed timeframe with MINAMB</li><li>• Get inputs listening to the leaders, representants and local authorities of communities based in the Cuvelai Basin who are part of the project</li></ul>			

## 6. Brief Summary of Mission Outcomes:

The objective of the mission was to inform the local stakeholders (mostly government agencies but also NGOs) of the Cuvelai project about the availability of funds for specific project components and activities at technical level. In return, those stakeholders were asked to develop within the next weeks' specific implementation plans for the components under their responsibility so that these could be contracted by the project. This approach was chosen because of the very large number of individual activities identified in the PRODOC, many of them technically highly specific and falling into the responsibility of a large number of ministries and government agencies. A complicating factor is that the PRODOC is often very inclusive when identifying the agencies responsible for a certain project component, in the sense that many agencies are listed without always distinguishing who should implement and who should merely be consulted, so that there is a lot of potential for conflict about budget allocations. The workshop in Ondjiva built on the workshop held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November in Luanda where an agreement was reached among key agencies INAMET, GABHIC, INRH and Proteção Civil with regard to the institutional responsibilities for implementing various components of an Early Warning System. The basic agreement was INAMET is responsible for setting up and running a network of meteorological stations, GABHIC with support from INRH is responsible for setting up and running a network of hydrometric stations and for integrating meteorological and hydrological data into an integrated assessment, which is then to be passed on to Provincial Government and Proteção Civil for issuing alerts and organizing the response. This division of institutional roles (largely defined by existing legislation) requires a significant investment in the local GABHIC office (which currently only consists of an empty building) both from the project and (mainly) from the government.

The visit began with a meeting with the Vicegovernor Dr. Cristino Ndeitunga (responsible for infrastructure) on the evening of arrival in Ondjiva. The Vice-governor was aware of the project from the launching visit with the Minister in October, but not of the level of funding available (\$8.2 million) and of the fact that of the four years project duration the first year had already passed without any significant activity. He was very concerned about this and asked for a debriefing meeting prior to our departure to be updated about concrete commitments and timelines for project implementation. It is likely that information about the delay in project implementation will reach the Governor.

The workshop on the 7<sup>th</sup> occurred as planned and was well attended (55 participants). A brief opening was made by Vice-Governor (Dr. José de Nascimento) whom we had already briefed about the project during our first visit to Cunene in September together with Lisa Angeli. He departed right after the opening, allowing us to minimize political formalities and holding the workshop in a very technical manner. After a brief overview of the project by Dr. Constantino, and of the project implementation rules by Goetz, the main part of the workshop was to go through the list of activities, point out sets of activities that could be implemented together as a "package" (or subproject), inform about the approximate budget allocation for this package, and form a consortium of agencies that would commit to developing within the coming weeks a concrete workplan and budget for each package that could then (after any necessary revisions) be contracted by the project. Since the implementers of the components would be mostly government agencies, competitive selection processes would not be necessary although for some activities the PRODOC identifies NGOs as implementers and in those cases a competitive process will be followed. This process which took up the main part of the day was facilitated by Goetz and overall was successful with good participation from the institutions present. A list of the consortia formed and their responsibilities is annexed to this report. The project team will now follow up with the consortium leaders to help in the development of the implementation plans, with hopefully the first components ready for contracting in January or early February. Where competitive processes need to be followed, ToRs can hopefully be agreed in December and published in January 2017.

The workshop ended in the late afternoon, still leaving time for a visit to the GABHIC office. As mentioned, GABHIC is to play a key technical role in the integration of meteorological and hydrological information as a basis for flood alerts and has also been identified by agreement between the Minister and Governor as the place where the project coordinator will be based. As we had suspected, the GABHIC office of Ondjiva is at this point only an empty house. The local GABHIC representative has been identified by the government but not yet been hired or transferred to GABHIC and has apparently more an administrative than technical profile. While the house is good, there is currently no security. This makes it questionable whether the project has sufficient funds (and the mandate) to set up the GABHIC regional center from zero. During the meeting with Proteção Civil on the next morning it was therefore discussed whether it would be possible to host the early warning function of GABHIC initially through an interinstitutional agreement within Proteção Civil which already has the advantage of full security and 24/7 presence, and it is likely that both institutions would benefit from this arrangement. Proteção Civil would agree to such an arrangement which will now have to be discussed with GABHIC in Luanda.

A further topic discussed with Proteção Civil is the type of support for communications with remote communities that the project could provide (PC to provide some specific information about net coverage within the next weeks) and for the expansion of the PC's system of community organization in case of alerts. Project support to PC will be coordinated with Keita's group.

The debriefing with the Vice-governor was very positive and interactive. The Vice-governor was clearly keen on details and timelines and wants to see the project moving. He asked for most implementation plans still to be prepared in December, which is mostly likely unrealistic but nevertheless good to ensure that the agencies responsible for components keep their eyes on the ball. It was very clear that the Vice-governor would want to be informed about concrete advances during subsequent visits to Cunene.

## 7. Key recommendations /Actions to be Taken:

- Update Giza about decisions made (since he was supposed to come, but at the end didn't)
- Follow up with consortium leaders to make sure they know exactly the terms of each component as set out in the PRODOC
- Meet with GABHIC Luanda to discuss location of technical center in Ondjiva and project support to this center which may include hiring a technical expert
- Meet with INRH (which was not present at the meeting) to discuss the setting up of the network of hydrometric stations
- Push MINAMB to reach quick decision about the hiring of the National Project Coordinator
- Work with MINAMB to reach quick agreement about the ToRs to be published for those components that need to be contracted out to NGOs
- Follow up all the agreements and next steps in order to continue with the efficient implementation

## 8. Distribution:

UNDP CO  
MINAMB Luanda

9. **Proposed Debriefing Date:** 14/12/2016

**Participation in Briefing:** CO