End time Held at

Date of Start



# Minutes of the Local Project Appraisal Committee Meeting for the project titled: "Integrated approach to proactive management of Human-Wildlife Conflict and Wildlife Crime in hotspot landscapes in Namibia (HWC-WC)"

the LPAC	time					
14 July	09:00	12:30	) Windho	ek, Namibia (Virtually: Zoom):		
2021	am	pm		https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87026526255?pwd=bmpZRjU2dlhjZDJEaWpOYVYzRUorQT0		
		1 1 2 3 3 3		y		
Name of	FLPAC C	o-chai	rperson:	Mr. Colgar Sikopo		
Function				Deputy Executive Director		
Institutio	n:			MEFT, Department of Natural Resources Management		
Signatur	e:			CON		
Name	IDACC	- Ch:	0.00			
Name of Function		o-Chai	r:	Dr. Armstrong Alexis		
Institution				Deputy Resident Representative		
Signature		P		UNDP Namibia Country Office		
Signature	J.			Armstrong Alexis		
Have all	IDAC					
meeting	and in a	timely	nts received to manner?	he PRODOC for appraisal prior to the		
Remarks	•		as the Meeting	t the ProDoc and all other documents for the LPAC meeting such g Agenda and Invitation letter seven (7) days before the meeting. s were sent electronically, to limit the carbon footprint.		
Country:				Namibia		
Project Ti	itle (Full):			Integrated approach to proactive management of Human-Wildlife Conflict and Wildlife Crime in hotspot landscapes in Namibia (HWC-WC)		
Date of s				Date of approval by the GEF		
Name ar				Martha Talamondjila Naanda, email: martha.naanda@undp.org, Cell: +264 81 245 5826		
UNPAF/U		•	fra sus bio an	(2019-2023) Output 2.1. 'Relevant policies, regulatory ameworks and institutions enabled to ensure the conservation, stainable use, access and benefit-sharing of natural resources, adiversity and ecosystems, in line with international conventions and national legislation.		
Expected		UNDP	100	IPAF (2019-2023) Outcome 3: 'By 2023, vulnerable populations in		

	_	shocks and climate change effects and benefit from natural resources management); Strategic Intervention 'Support the implementation of measures designed to combat poaching and illegal wildlife trade, as well as addressing its key drivers, such as human-wildlife conflict';  CPD (2019-2023) Outcome 3: Build resilience to shocks and crises.
Expected Output(s):	5	Output 1.1: A national HWC information management centre and three regional HWC response management units are adequately staffed, trained and equipped to manage HWC information, and coordinate responses to reported cases of human-wildlife conflict in the hotspot landscapes;
	-	Output 1.2: Human-elephant conflict preventative measures are implemented in the hotspot landscapes to prevent or mitigate damage to infrastructure;
	-	Output 1.3: Human-predator conflict preventative measures are implemented in the hotspot landscapes to prevent or mitigate stock losses and injury/loss of human lives;
	-	Output 1.4: Monitoring of damage-causing lion and elephant movements, and targeted research on the efficacy of lion and elephant HWC mitigation measures, guides the ongoing development and implementation of local HWC management plans in the hotspot landscapes;
	-	Output 2.1: Operational capacities of the Wildlife Protection Service (WPS) anti-poaching staff and anti-poaching units (APUs) are enhanced in the hotspot landscapes;
	-	Output 2.2: Research and monitoring of high-risk, high value wildlife species which guides the ongoing development and implementation of science-based management plans for the protection of high-risk, high-value wildlife populations in the hotspot landscapes;
	-	Output 3.1: Strengthening the enabling environment for wildlife-based tourism, and related business enterprises, in conservancies in the hotspot landscapes;
	-	Output 3.2: Improved individual skills of conservancy members to obtain employment in wildlife-based tourism and related business enterprises in conservancies in the hotspot landscapes;

Output 3.3: Opportunities to diversify income streams are developed and piloted in conservancies across the hotspot landscapes;

<ul> <li>Output 4.1: Tacit and embedded WC and HWC knowledge sharing mechanisms are developed and implemented;</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Output 4.2: A project-based monitoring and evaluation system incorporating gender mainstreaming and social safeguards, is maintained.</li> </ul>

Programme Period:	2019 - 2023
Atlas Award ID:	00126450
Project ID:	00120509
PIMS #	6303
Project Start date:	TBD
Project expected end Date:	December 2026
Proposed Management Arrangement	□✓ <u>NIM</u> □ DEX □ NGO □ DIM

Total resources required (Total	
project funds)	
Total allocated resources	
(UNDP managed funds)	US\$ 6,247,018
UNDP Programme Resources	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<b>US\$</b> 100,000
KfW Development Bank	
	US\$ 11,715,629
Government of Namibia (Ministry	
of Environment, Forestry and	US\$ 41,711,000
Tourism/Ministry of Finance)	, 22 
Other (partner managed resources	

Implementing Partners		Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT)
1) Decisions of the LPAC		General endorsement of the project's strategy:
		Objective, Outputs and Activities (see Project Document)
[tick the applicable boxes, if		Log-frame indicators (see PRODOC Project Results Framework)
these have been endorsed by the LPAC]		Management Arrangements (see PRODOC section VII page 55)
		<u>Specific</u> endorsement of the project's budget (see PRODOC, section IX. page 59-68)
		Specific endorsement of the proposed project staff complement (see PRODOC Management Arrangements page 55) and the project's organogramme
		Endorsement of the TOR for the Project Board (see PRODOC page 55-56)
		Endorsement of the proposed strategy for stakeholder engagement (see PRODOC page 114)
Remarks on the above	The LPA	AC endorsed the project proposed strategy, objectives, outcomes
		utputs to be relevant and timely, along with the implementation
		ements. The partners are looking forward to the implementation of
		pject, emphasized the need for enhanced coordination, which was

	the different suite of approval of the properties approved for immediately considered during	ertinent to the implementation of this project as part of of projects activities. There was no single objection to the oject to proceed.   LPAC decision, the project was nediate implementation. Most of the inputs raised will be project implementation. Therefore, no major changes at will alter the project document approved by GEF.
2) Engagement o	f Implementing Entity/Responsib	
Will the project er Partner?	ngage entities other than the na	tional Executive Entity/Implementing ☐ Yes ☐ ✔ No
If YES, which and for what purpose?	<ul> <li>Government department ✓</li> <li>NGO</li> <li>Academia/Centre of excellence</li> <li>Other</li> <li>Government department</li> <li>NGO ✓</li> <li>Academia/Centre of excellence</li> <li>Other (CSO) ✓</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Other Government Departments to be engaged are:</li> <li>Ministry of Defence: Law enforcement and coordination</li> <li>Ministry of Justice: Law enforcement and coordination</li> <li>Ministry of Safety and Security: Law enforcement and coordination</li> <li>Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation (IRDNC): Coordination on Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) and Wildlife Crime (WC) activities</li> <li>Namibia Professional Hunting Association (NAPHA): Training on sustainable use of resources</li> <li>Namibia Environmental Wildlife Society (NEWS): Coordination and reporting</li> <li>Namibia Development Trust (NDT): Coordination</li> <li>Elephant Human Relation Aid (EHRA): Coordination</li> <li>Namibian Association of CBNRM Support Organizations (NACSO): Coordination</li> <li>World Wildlife fund (WWF): Coordination</li> <li>GIZ: Coordination</li> <li>Rooikat Namibia: Coordination</li> <li>Cheetah Conservation Fund: Coordination</li> <li>Legal Assistance Centre: Law Enforcement</li> <li>KAZA (Coordination)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Government department</li> <li>NGO</li> <li>Academia/Centre of excellence</li> <li>Other (UN agencies)</li> </ul>	
Is the pre-selection fully endorsed by		NDP procedures and has this been
Remarks	The MEFT has not identified RPs	for the project; however it has proposed to put in ism that will involve the above-mentioned entities. No

RPs to be engaged; however the selected will be involved as stakeholders and partners in carrying out some critical activities that requires coordination

## 3) General and Specific Recommendations of the LPAC

### 3.1. Tabling of HWC-WC Project Document

- A query was raised whether the project will also support the resettlement farms, which are equally impacted by HWC as much as communal conservancies. It was indicated that assistance will be provided where possible as the MEFT will use the revised National Policy on Human Wildlife Conflict Management of 2018 to 2027 that has made provision for support in areas impacted by HWC.
- It was indicated that it is essential to separate the issues of anti-poaching and trafficking, as they are dealt with by different units. This was noted.
- The HWC Project should be implemented in line with the 5-year Strategy on Wildlife Protection. MEFT made it clear that the project will support government, along with all stakeholders in addressing HWC & WC issues under the approved strategy by Cabinet.
- The issue of "practical coordination" as opposed to "general coordination" in words only was strongly recommended to ensure integrated efforts towards addressing HWC-WC, which has been weak. Information management through coordination with different projects targeting similar issues was encouraged. This was noted that it is also a requirement by the GEF (GEF explicitly requested this to be added to the project). Emphasis was made for the MEFT to take active leadership in the coordination efforts. Given the fact that there are a number of ongoing activities in different landscapes being implemented with support from different donors, there is a strong need for improved coordination, such that planning for activities should be holistic. MEFT further highlighted that coordination is emphasized in the Strategy on Wildlife Protection and the National Policy on HWC i.e. to bring together all relevant stakeholders, as long as they are contributing to wildlife protection.
- Besides coordination at the national level, it was reported that this project falls under the Global Wildlife Programme (GWP), which supports 32 other countries. Therefore, for the purpose of knowledge management, the project will feed into the portfolio of the GWP.
- Zonation needs to be considered as part of dealing with HWC issues, especially given the fact that some of the species that cause conflicts may cover large areas not directly targeted as a hotspot in this project. MEFT clarified that zonation is an important aspect in wildlife management and confirmed that most conservancies have zonation plans. Further, it was discussed that the issue will be considered in future planning of activities under this project, in line with the project outcomes and outputs. It was also confirmed that the project has made budgetary provision to develop management plans for some entities, e.g. conservancies, which will include zonation.
- The budget under Component 3 should consider support to promote "diversification of income streams", including making investments at household level. Alternatives streams will be explored under Output 3.3

It was generally observed that the budget to cover what is included in the ProDoc and involvement of game-guards in project implementation is recommended, given their knowledge in identifying human-wildlife conflict hotspots. Perhaps they need support with the necessary equipment to manage WC. In addition, training of communities was pointed out as being important, to help them establish their own business enterprises.

# 3.2. Gender Action Plan and Stakeholder Engagement Plan

- It was observed that LAC was not included in the consultation. Therefore, it was suggested to be added to the list of stakeholders;
- WWF, IRDNC and NAPHA were re-emphasised as critical and needs to be included as stakeholders in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan;
- It was pointed out that HWC-WC is critical for the Namibian wildlife management efforts, and touches
  on diverse groups of stakeholders; hence, during the PPG phase close contact and collaboration with
  national, regional (hotspot landscape) stakeholders was done;
- NAPHA would like to take some role in the "sustainable use of resources" training;
- The need for including an investment on improving communications with conservancies and farmers in rural Namibia was suggested as they need to be part of the whole process;
- ACTION 1: It was agreed that an updated SEP needs to be done and be attached as an addendum to the LPAC minutes and project document.

### 3.3. Project Governance and Management Arrangements

 There was a strong emphasis and discussion on coordination. Stakeholders stressed that this should be practical - "lets walk the talk".

# 3.4. HWC-WC Project Risks, Social & Environmental Risks and ESMF -Strategy for IP involvement

- There were no specific comments from stakeholders on this particular topic. However, the presenter emphasized the importance of noting the items below:
- The comprehensive risk assessment process is required by GEF, and will strengthen the quality of programming;
- The Social and Environmental Standards are structured around 3 principles: Human Rights, Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, and Environmental Sustainability;
- The HWC-WC project is ranked as high-risk as it accommodates activities of anti-poaching;
- High-risk does not mean that it is a bad project, it just means that the project has potential to trigger risks. Management plans are subsequently developed to manage these risks;

- The ESMF includes the Indigenous People's Planning Framework (IPPF), and the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM);
- Already identified risks include e.g. potential safety risks to local communities, human rights risks and more. Encounters with poachers could also pose a risk. Moderate risks include the capacity to implement project activities, among others;
- Further frameworks will be developed during implementation, based on the SESP and ESMF.
- The abovementioned risk assessments are living documents, and risks will have to be actively monitored throughout project implementation.
- COVID-19 Specific risks were identified and these need to be considered dynamically as possible; given the overall need to keep people safe and save livelihoods.

# 3.5. HWC-WC Project Quality Assessment

The Stakeholders present during the LPAC meeting did not raise any issues for this particular item; However, they general agreed that the project was of generally high quality in all the 7 criteria covered by the Project Quality Assurance (PQA) at design. It is expected that the same level of quality will be maintained during implementation to yield same PQA assessment results at implementation and closure.

### 3.6. Way forward and Closing Remarks

- UNDP, MEFT thanked all stakeholders and partners who took their tie to participate in the LPAC
- UNDP thanked the MEFT for its leadership during the design process as well as the lead role played in the Working Group that led the Project Design Phase. I the same vein the entire PPG Team (James, Jonas, Fillipus, Selma, Ben) was commended for a job well done.
- As all stakeholders present during the meeting were in support of the project and commended it as being well designed; the way forward was summarised as follows:
  - LPAC decision, the project was approved for immediate implementation. Most of the inputs raised will be considered during project implementation. Therefore, no major changes were proposed that will alter the project document approved by GEF.
  - ✓ After LPAC minutes are signed off by the co-chairs
  - ✓ UNDP, MEFT and NPC will officially sign the project document, after that the project will be officially under implementation.

	4) List of participants in the LPAC				
No.	Name	Gender	Institution	Title	Email
1.	Mr. Bennett Kahuure	М	MEFT	Director, Directorate of Parks and Wildlife Management.	Bennett.Kahuure@meft.gov.na

2.	Mr. Colgar Sikopo	М	MEFT	Deputy Executive Director, Department of NRM.	colgar.sikopo@meft.gov.na
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25.	Mr. Ben Begbie- Clench	М	HWC-WC PPG Team	Independent consultant	benbegbie@gmail.com
26.	Mr. Barry De Klerk	М	Ministry of safety and security (Protected Resources Division)	Deputy Commissioner	barridekler@gmail.com
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65. Muronga Thomas	М	tmuronga87@gmail.com
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# Annex: 1 Summary of Key Recommendations and Proposed Changes/Amendments

Comments raised Response given Recommendations		
		Recommendations
1.Will the project also address HWC on resettlement farms given that there is persistent HWC especially from cheetah?	Project target areas (hotspots) were identified through a consultative process that indicates higher incidences of HWC and WC. The main focus of the project is on specific species mainly lions, elephants and other predators.	The MEFT will be putting in place a Coordination mechanism that will provide details of different projects that will support different sites.
2. Suggestion for the project to align its activities to already existing strategies, e.g. 2021-2025 National Strategy on Wildlife Protection.	All activities are aligned with existing policies and strategies as reflected in the project outputs e.g. aligned with the revised HWCP.	Project has been drafted in full alignment with the strategy and policy in place.
3. Did the project consider the issue of zonation, which is very crucial especially in conservancies as part of the project strategy to mitigate HWC?	Most conservancies already have zonation plans in place, but the challenge is the implementation of these plans.  The revised HWCP fully supports zonation of different land uses.	Point noted and will be taken into consideration during project implementation.
4. There is a need for the project to embrace coordination with various stakeholders, especially with regards to HWC and WC.	The project has a strong emphasis on coordination and will fully support efforts that are geared towards stakeholder coordination. The project will maintain synergies with already existing and on-going projects at national, regional and local levels.	<ul> <li>MEFT to set up a forum for all projects in 2021 at national level to enhance coordination.</li> <li>MEFT will take the lead and ensure that coordination is taking place.</li> </ul>

5. It was mentioned that some conservancies do not keep records of HWC and WC incidences although they do experience them. In addition, some conservancies that share boundaries are home to wide ranging species such as elephants that move across conservancies, covering large areas. Will the project also consider other neighbouring conservancies, especially with regards to elephant monitoring to ensure that benefits accrue to both?	Monitoring of species e.g. elephants due to the nature of their behaviour (moving across conservancies) will benefit all conservancies irrespective of whether it is included in the project or not.	Noted and will be considered during project implementation.
6. The project should consider investment in wildlife-based enterprises to also target households so that the impact and benefits also accrue at household level.	Noted.	Noted.
7. Will the project also consider Omaheke and Otjozondjupa conservancies although currently not part of the targeted hotspot landscapes?	GEF advised that projects should take a precautionary approach when dealing with areas or activities not in the approved Prodoc.	Additional activities may be considered, provided that they do not have an impact on the project scope, outcomes and budget.
8. Some stakeholders (e.g LAC and GIZ) are omitted in the stakeholder list presented.	Noted.	The stakeholder engagement plan will be revised and updated.

# Annex: 2 Screenshot of participants and social media clip for the HWC-WC LPAC meeting



Annex: 3. Photos of some participants during the LPAC meeting



# Annex: 4. Remarks By: Dr. Armstrong Alexis UNDP Deputy Resident Representative



# **Remarks**

By:

# **Dr. Armstrong Alexis**

**UNDP Deputy Resident Representative** 

LPAC meeting for the Integrated approach to proactive management of Human-Wildlife Conflict and Wildlife Crime in hotspot landscapes in Namibia (HWC-WC) Project

14 July 2021

Virtual meeting

Windhoek

- My Co-Chair and Deputy Executive Director at the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism in the Department of NRM, Mr. Colgar Sikopo;
- Invited Guests, representing international, regional and local NGOs and CBOs;
- Distinguished Partners and Stakeholders from various organizations;
- My colleagues from the UN family;
- Ladies and Gentlemen.

# Good morning all,

The United Nations Development Programme in Namibia (UNDP Namibia) is delighted to partner with the Government of the Republic of Namibia through the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) in yet another intervention under our Sustainable Environment and Enhancing Resilience Portfolio (SEMER) to address environmental threats, human wildlife conflict and wildlife crimes in Namibia. This new project responds to the Environmental Sustainability Pillar.

The project titled "Integrated approach to proactive management of human-wildlife conflict and wildlife crime in hotspot landscapes in Namibia" will directly contribute to the realization of UNPAF OUTCOME #3 in ensuring that "vulnerable populations in disaster prone areas and biodiversity sensitive areas are resilient to shocks and climate change effects and benefit from natural resources management" in Namibia. Moreover, it will enable the realization of relevant policies, regulatory frameworks and institutions to ensure the conservation, sustainable use, access and benefit sharing of natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems, in line with international conventions and national legislation.

In June 2021, we were pleased to learn that the Global Environment Facility (GEF) has generously approved this project with a grant worth of US\$ 6.2 million. The approval was made against the project document (**Prodoc**) resources to enable Namibia to incentivise wildlife conservation through proactive management of human-wildlife conflict and

wildlife crime while realizing wildlife-based benefits to rural communities in selected hotspot landscapes. This project document is a framework detailing the outcomes, outputs and key activities against which the GEF has allocated the utilization of these resources.

#### Ladies and Gentlemen,

Collaboration and coordination is required in all steps when delivering any development services. UNDP has made it mandatory to constitute local project appraisal committees (LPACs) to ensure that the principles of stakeholder engagement, which includes public, private and civil society are adhered to. Besides that, stakeholder consultations and engagement during project designs underlies UNDP programming approach.

I am pleased to say that following the consultations undertaken during the design, this meeting is another opportunity that UNDP and the MEFT accord to the stakeholders to make final contributions prior to the commencement of the project implementation. Furthermore, at the end of this LPAC meeting, UNDP would like to get your clear endorsement for the proposed strategy to deliver on the GEF funding expectations to enable us to proceed with the implementation.

### Distinguished Partners,

The HWC-WC Project aims to incentivise wildlife conservation through proactive management of human-wildlife conflict and wildlife crime to bring about wildlife-based benefits to rural communities in selected hotspot landscapes.

At end of this project, the GEF expects Namibia to make great strides in addressing the following four (4) issues:

- 1: Management, Prevention, and Mitigation of Human-Wildlife Conflict;
- 2: Combating Wildlife Crime and Protecting Wildlife Populations;

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3: Building the Wildlife-Based Economy (WBE) to promote Co-existence; and

4: Knowledge Management, Stakeholder Coordination and Monitoring and Evaluation

of HWC and WC.

Seeing that the project we are appraising today is already approved by the GEF, our work is made easier for us, as it means that the strategy is in full alignment with the GEF objectives; thus, they deemed it ready for implementation. However, as per the UNDP mandatory policies, an LPAC needs to be constituted to finally endorse the project

before the Delegation of Authority.

Before I conclude, I would like to acknowledge the diligent hard work of the Working Group chaired by the MEFT and the PPG Team that worked tirelessly to consult, engage

and develop this response.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate the Government of Namibia particularly through the MEFT for taking bolder steps to promote co-existence with Widlife despite the challenges emanating from the conflicts and crimes.

Thank you!

# **DocuSign**

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**Record Tracking** 

Status: Original

7/26/2021 12:33:07 PM

Holder: Mekondjo Hitila

mekondjo.hitila@undp.org

Location: DocuSign

Signer Events

Armstrong Alexis

armstrong.alexis@undp.org
Deputy Resident Representative

UNDP Country Office - Namibia

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication

(None)

**Signature** 

armstrong alexis

Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style Using IP Address: 50.201.95.250

Signed using mobile

Timestamp

Sent: 7/26/2021 12:39:56 PM Viewed: 7/28/2021 11:12:20 PM Signed: 7/28/2021 11:12:29 PM

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

Not Offered via DocuSign

Colgar Sikopo

colgar.sikopo@meft.gov.na

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication

(None)

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

Not Offered via DocuSign

Sent: 7/28/2021 11:12:31 PM

In Person Signer Events	Signature	Timestamp
Editor Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Agent Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Intermediary Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Certified Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Carbon Copy Events	Status	Timestamp

Martha Naanda

martha.naanda@undp.org

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication

(None)

**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:** 

Not Offered via DocuSign

Witness Events	Signature	Timestamp	
Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp	
Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps	ĺ

Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
Envelope Sent	Hashed/Encrypted	7/26/2021 12:39:56 PM
Payment Events	Status	Timestamps