



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT,  
FORESTRY AND TOURISM

# ANNUAL REPORT

2021  

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2022





## Message from the Minister

The 2021/22 marked the second full financial year of operating within the constraints and challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, which waned early in 2021 only to return in winter with devastating impacts on the Namibian people and its economy. His Excellency President Geingob declared 2021 to be the year of resilience and called on all Namibians to join hands to help defeat the COVID-19 pandemic.

In executing its mission to ensure environmental sustainability, biodiversity conservation and tourism growth in 2021, the resilience of the Ministry was tested to the limit yet it did mark the beginning of the journey to rebuild and recover our economic sectors.

A 39% increase in international tourist arrivals in 2021 compared to 2020 was encouraging, albeit well down on the record numbers of 2019.

Nevertheless we enter into the 2022/23 financial year with a spirit of renewed optimism and fortitude that our tourism sector will bounce back bigger and better and guided by the Tourism Sector Recovery Plan (2022-2025) that was developed during the period under review.

The difficult economic circumstances and specter of the COVID-19 pandemic have challenged us to rethink and come up with new and better ways in which we serve our people. I am pleased that our communal conservancies and community forests have been able to withstand the worst impacts from the pandemic, thanks in no small part to the establishment of the Conservation Relief, Recovery and Resilient Facility (CRRRF), which has been operational since 5<sup>th</sup> May 2020. The CRRRF has played an outstanding role in ensuring the continuation of anti-poaching activities and mitigation of human wildlife conflict in communal conservancies as well as minimizing job losses in the CBNRM sector. The CRRRF has been able to mobilize over N\$227 million from a range of stakeholders is a powerful example of what can be done when Government, communities, NGOs, private sector and local and international donors come together in the face of crisis.

Human wildlife conflict and wildlife crime continued to pose substantial challenges to the Ministry's operations and its function to conserve biological diversity. We have worked hard to attend timely to incidences of human wildlife conflict and have improved efficiencies in the payment of offsets to help communities and farmers to cope with incidence of human wildlife conflict through the Human Wildlife Conflict Self Reliance Scheme. In this regard, I am pleased to report that 35 communal conservancies were directly supported with N\$3.69 million to pay their affected members, while 559 payouts worth over N\$2.62 million was paid out to farmers and communities in communal areas outside conservancies that were affected by livestock losses, crop damages and human injury and loss of life. With assistance from our development partners, we have also focused on practical interventions to prevent human wildlife conflict such as the construction of water point protection walls, construction of predator-proof kraals and the collaring of elephants and lions to better understand wildlife movements and to detect potential conflict in good time.

With regard to wildlife crime, a slight increase in cases of rhino poaching was recorded in 2021 compared to 2020 (43 cases compared to 40). It is notable that 63% of these poaching incidences took place in the Etosha National Park. Considerable successes were however also achieved in terms of law enforcement. The integrated database of wildlife crime is now fully functional and is providing reliable and comprehensive information to inform investigations of wildlife crime. A total of 371 cases for wildlife crime were registered in 2021 with 788 suspects arrested and 204 high value wildlife products seized. A total of 287 individuals were convicted for wildlife crimes with 246 of these individuals receiving custodial sentences.

Widespread forest and veld fires, a symptom of climate change impacts, were another immense challenge faced by the Ministry during the 2021/22 financial year. A total of 3.1 million hectares, following on from 3.25 million hectares in 2020, were burned and 1,234 incidents forest and veld fires occurred in fire prone regions in 2021. An estimated 900 livestock and 500 game were killed with 6 human lives lost due to veld fires. The largest fires were observed in Kunene, Omusati, and Otjozondjupa and Kavango East regions.

On an operational level, the Ministry has embraced the challenge of doing more with less. Our overall budget for 2021/22 declined by 11% and the development budget by 44%, while revenue generation continued to be depressed due largely to the COVID-19 pandemic. In spite of the continued constraints, the Ministry continued to operate according to the highest standards of good governance and financial management. During the period under review, an unqualified audit opinion for the 2020/21 financial year was received from the Office of the Auditor General with regard to financial management, compliance with Government legislation and processes and performance and continued efforts were taken to reduce expenditure on cost drivers such as transport, subsistence and travel and utilities.

The Ministry continued to mobilize support for priority activities through a variety of donor partners and the private sector and a total of 12 projects in the fields of biodiversity conservation, climate change and sustainable land management are at various stages of implementation with the support of partners including the KfW, GIZ, United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. I am especially thankful to these organizations for the role they have played in supporting, amongst others, the maintenance and upgrading of our infrastructure in protected area, anti-poaching measures, climate change resilience as well as activities such as the national clean up campaign.

The Ministry continued to strengthen the enabling legislative and policy framework for the sustainable utilization of natural resources and to promote the sustainable growth of the tourism and gaming sector. Important developments in this regard included the finalization of regulations and the coming into force of the Access to Biological and Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge Act of 2017, the Gaming and Entertainment Control Act of 2018 and the Lotteries Act of 2017. I look forward with excitement to the full implementation of these pieces of legislation.

I take this opportunity to pay tribute to all of the staff of the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism for your hard work, dedication and commitment, especially those in the regions that put their lives on the line every day dealing with dangerous animals and situations. To the general public and our many stakeholders, I assure you of the Ministry's commitment to do its utmost to ensure that our communities continue to benefit from the conservation and sustainable utilization of all of our natural resources.

**Pohamba Shifeta, MP**  
**Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism**





## Preface

This report presents an overview of the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism and narrates some of the main achievements of the Ministry during the 2021/22 financial year as well as our priorities going forward into 2022/23 and beyond.

As per Article 95L of the Constitution, the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism is duty bound to ensure the maintenance of ecosystems, essential ecological processes and biological diversity of Namibia and utilization of living natural resources on a sustainable basis for the benefit of all Namibians, both present and future. We are guided by the values of accountability, innovation, professionalism, commitment and excellence as we pursue the implementation of this wide-ranging and far-reaching mandate.

The year of 2021 was declared the year of resilience by His Excellency President Geingob and the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism focused our efforts on building resilience, amongst others the resilience of our tourism sector to the catastrophic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the resilience of our communities and wildlife to challenges such as human wildlife conflict and wildlife crime as well as building the resilience of fire-prone areas to cope with the devastating impacts of forest and veld fires.

The perfect storm of the COVID-19 pandemic, the depressed economy and difficult fiscal environment has also deeply challenged the Ministry to become more resilient and to reset the ways in which it conducts its operations. The increasing need to do more with less has highlighted the need to work ever more closely with our partners and stakeholders. This is evident in amongst others anti-poaching operations, human wildlife conflict mitigation and prevention, maintenance and development of infrastructure in protected areas, wildlife translocations and the development of our tourism and gaming sectors.

The main aim of this report is to inform our stakeholders, interested parties and the general public with regard to who we are, what we do and how we are performing in terms of achieving our mandate. I take this opportunity to thank all of the Ministry staff for their hard work and efforts during the financial year as well as all partners and support organizations.

I hope and trust you will enjoy reading this annual report and find it informative in terms of the operations and activities of this Ministry.

  
**Teofilus Nghitila**  
**Executive Director**



# 2021 - 2022

## THE FINANCIAL YEAR IN NUMBERS

**11%** decline in overall budget in 2021/22 compared to 2020/21

**44%** decline in the development budget in 2021/22 compared to 2020/21

**99.9%** overall budget execution rate during 2021/22

**74%** expenditure of the overall budget on personnel in 2021/22

### FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES

**73%** of positions filled within the Ministry

**N\$37.47 million** in revenue generated, **53%** less than predicted due mainly to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic

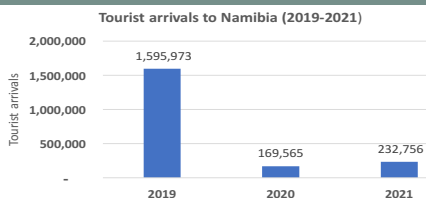
**2019/20** resulted in another unqualified audit for the Ministry

**485** tourism businesses surveyed in the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 on the tourism sector

**89%** decline in international tourist arrivals in 2020 followed by a **37%** increase in 2021.

**82%** forecasted increase in tourist arrivals in 2022

**97%** drop in demand recorded by tourism businesses and **93%** decline in revenue



### TOURISM

**9** tourism concessions identified and under development in the Tsau //Khaeb National Park

**43 rhinos** poached during 2021 – an increase of **7.5%** compared to 2020

**63%** of the rhinos poaching cases took place in Etosha National Park

**N\$2.62 million**

### WILDLIFE AND PROTECTED AREAS MANAGEMENT

paid out for **559** cases of crop damage, livestock loss and human injury and loss of life caused by human wildlife conflict outside communal conservancies

**95km** of roads in Etosha National Park re-gravelled

**371** wildlife crime cases registered in 2021 and **788** suspects arrested and **287** individuals convicted for wildlife crimes

**N\$892,220** in fines that were issued for wildlife-related crimes in 2021

# 2021 - 2022 THE FINANCIAL YEAR IN NUMBERS

## COMMUNITY-BASED CONSERVATION

**N\$46.4 million**

generated by communal conservancies (2020)

**35** communal conservancies received payments worth **N\$3.69 million** to mitigate human wildlife conflict

**58%** increase in the amount paid to communal conservancies to offset human wildlife conflict

**3.1 million** hectares of land burned by **1,234** forest and veld fire incidents

**816** patrols and **557** inspections were carried out with regard to potential illegal forest management operations

**90%** of Daan Viljoen Game Park and **48%** of Etosha National Park estimated to have burned during 2021

## FOREST MANAGEMENT

**105,995** tree seedlings sold and donated

**76,430** hectares of deforested and degraded landscape targeted for restoration by 2040

**1,148** applications received for environmental clearance certificates and **833** environmental clearance certificates issued

**N\$81 billion** estimated investment required for Namibia to achieve its climate change targets in the Nationally Determined Contribution (2021-2030)

**80** sites inspected for environmental compliance and **15** notifications and **12** compliance orders issued

**12** donor-funded projects under implementation in direct support of the Ministry's interventions

## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**91%** targeted reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030



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# Acronyms

ABS	Access and Benefit Sharing
AGM	Annual General Meeting
ARTP	Ai-/Ais Richtersveld Transfrontier Conservation Area
AU	African Union
BRTT	Blue Rhino Task Team
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CEPA	Communication, Education and Public Awareness
CBNRM	Community Based Natural Resources Management
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
COP	Conference of the Parties
CRRRF	Conservation Relief, Recovery and Resilient Facility
DSL-IP	Drylands Sustainable Landscape Impact Programme
EBSA	Ecologically or Biologically Significant Area
ECC	Environmental Clearance Certificate
EEC	Environmental Education Center
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIF	Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia
FMB	Forest Management Body
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GIZ	Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit
KfW	German Development Bank
HWC	Human Wildlife Conflict
ICTD	Inter-Ministerial Committee on Tourism Development
IIU	Intelligence and Investigation Unit
INDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ISOER	Integrated State of the Environment Report
ITRI	International Tourism Revival Initiative
IWPP	Integrated Wildlife Protection Project
MAWLR	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform
MEFT	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism
MSP	Marine Spatial Plan
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRUZ	Managed Resource Use Zone
MTA	Material Transfer Agreement
NAMPOL	Namibian Police
NBC	Namibia Broadcasting Corporation
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NCUC	National Clean Up Campaign

NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NDF	Namibia Defense Force
NDPs	National Development Plans
NEEN	Namibia Environmental Education Network
NILALEG	Namibia Integrated Landscape Approach for Enhancing Livelihoods and Environmental Governance to Eradicate Poverty
NP	National Park
NPC	National Planning Commission
NTCAC	National Tourism Competitiveness Advisory Council
NWG	National Working Group
NYS	National Youth Service
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
PCBs	Poly Chlorinated Biphenyls
SDAC	Sustainable Development Advisory Council
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SMART	Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
SWM	Solid Waste Management
TFCAs	Transfrontier Conservation Areas
TK	Traditional Knowledge
TWC	Transboundary Wildlife Crime
UNAM	University of Namibia
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNWTO	United Nations World Tourism Organization



# 1. About the Ministry

## 1.1 High Level Statements and Core Values

The mandate of the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) is derived from the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia, various pieces of legislation, and the Cabinet directive (May 1991) that established the Ministry. Article 95 (L) of the Namibian Constitution states that the State shall ensure “the maintenance of ecosystems, essential ecological processes and biological diversity and the utilization of living natural resources on a sustainable basis for the benefit of all Namibians, both present and future”.

The Ministry’s vision is for Namibia to be a leading nation in biodiversity conservation, environmental management, climate resilience and sustainable tourism development.

The mission of the Ministry is to ensure environmental sustainability, biodiversity conservation and tourism growth for equitable benefit of current and future generations.

The Ministry is currently guided by the following core values in all its operations as per table 1:

**Table 1: Core values**

<b>ACCOUNTABILITY:</b>	We commit to take responsibility and account for our actions.
<b>INNOVATION:</b>	We always seek new and better ways to serve the Namibian public
<b>PROFESSIONALISM:</b>	We conduct ourselves in a manner befitting of a public servant with due regard to all the Public Service standards and norms
<b>COMMITMENT:</b>	We pledge to utilize our full capabilities in fulfilling our mandate
<b>EXCELLENCE:</b>	We perform our duties to the highest standard and always seek to do the best.

## 1.2 Strategic Themes of Operation and Objectives

The current Strategic Plan (2016/17-2021/2022) came to an end during the review period. It sets out six strategic themes and ten strategic objectives for the Ministry as highlighted in the table below:

**Table 2: Strategic themes and objectives**

<b>STRATEGIC THEMES/PILLARS</b>	<b>STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</b>
Biodiversity and Conservation Management	Promote conservation and equitable distribution of natural resources
	Ensure reduction of human wildlife conflict.
	Ensure wildlife management and protection.
	Promote biodiversity economy of rural areas.
Tourism Growth	Promote tourism growth and investment.
	To increase revenue from the gaming sector.
Climate change and Environmental Sustainability	Enhance environmental governance.
Accelerate Sustainable Development	Ensure improved Public Service Delivery.
Regulatory Governance	Ensure effective regulatory frameworks & compliance.
Operational Excellence	Enhance Organizational Performance.

This report profiles the main achievements of the Ministry during 2021/22 in pursuit of these strategic objectives.

### 1.3 Structure of the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism

The high level structure MEFT comprises of three (3) departments and seven (7) directorates as per the diagram below:

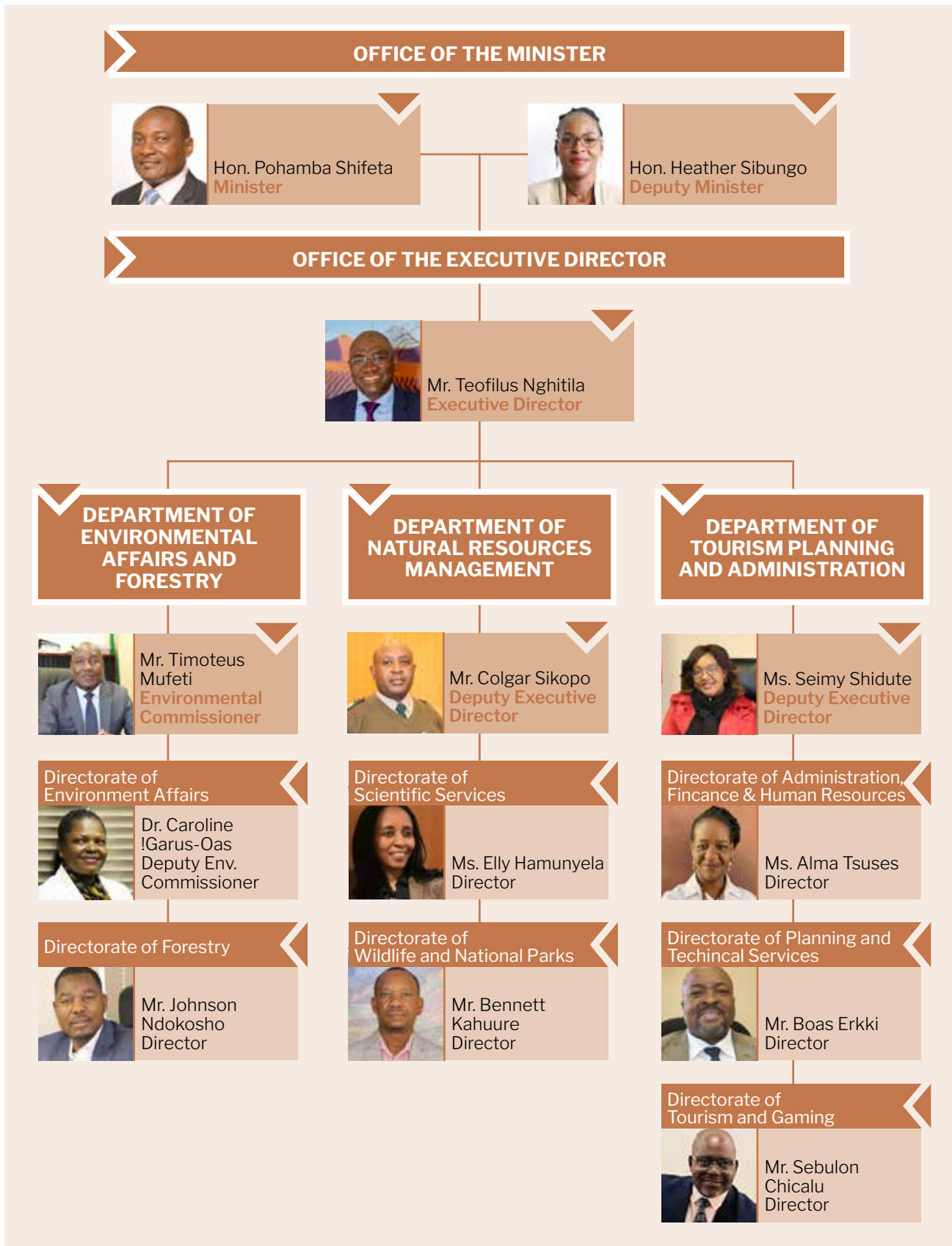
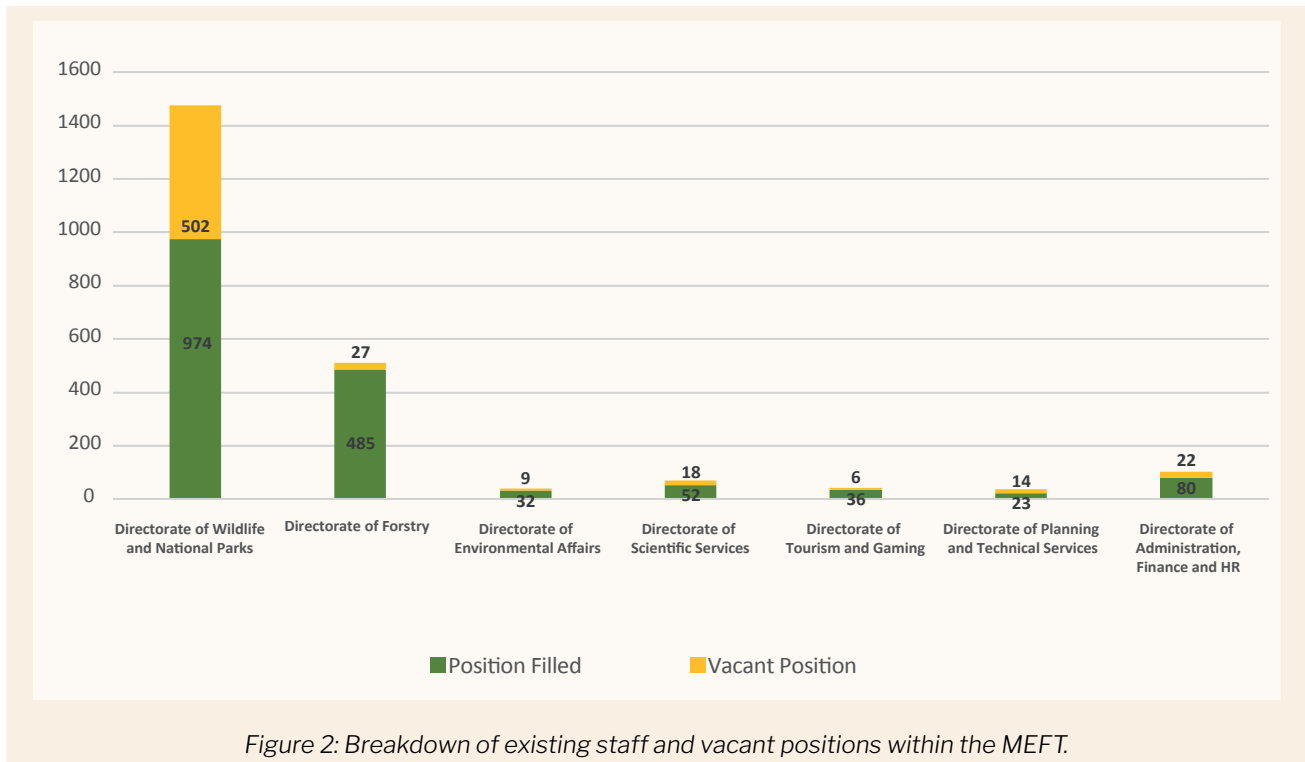


Figure 1: High level overview of the MEFT structure.

The MEFT has an existing staff compliment of 1,698 persons with a total of 2,301 persons on the Ministry's approved structure. Together the DWNP and DOF account for 86% of the Ministry's staff and the breakdown of staff per Directorate is presented in the chart below:



## 1.4 Key Functions of Directorates

The key functions per Directorate are as follows:

### Directorate of Administration, Finance and Human Resources

Provision of administrative support services, including budgeting, accounting, personnel affairs and organizational procedures and the provision of logistics, material and equipment, transport services, secretarial and other auxiliary services.

### Directorate of Planning and Technical Services

Planning, monitoring and evaluation of MEFT strategies, coordination of development cooperation programs, development and maintenance of MEFT infrastructure, information, communication and technology services.

### Directorate of Environmental Affairs

Responsible for sustainable management of natural resources and protection of the environment, implementation of multilateral environmental agreements relating to climate change, biodiversity, desertification, waste and chemicals management, environmental awareness and information.

### Directorate of Forestry

Responsible for sustainable forest management and optimal utilization of forest resources.

### Directorate of Scientific Services

Provision of specialized functions and research services for the sustainable management of wildlife species and indigenous plant products, issuance of permits relating to utilization of wildlife and indigenous plants, wildlife capture and translocation, facilitation of wildlife-related economic development through concessions and other means.

### Directorate of Tourism and Gaming

Formulation of legislation, plans and policies for tourism and gaming, regulation of the tourism and gaming sectors, including national lottery, revenue collection from gaming, publication of tourism statistics

### Directorate of Wildlife and National Parks

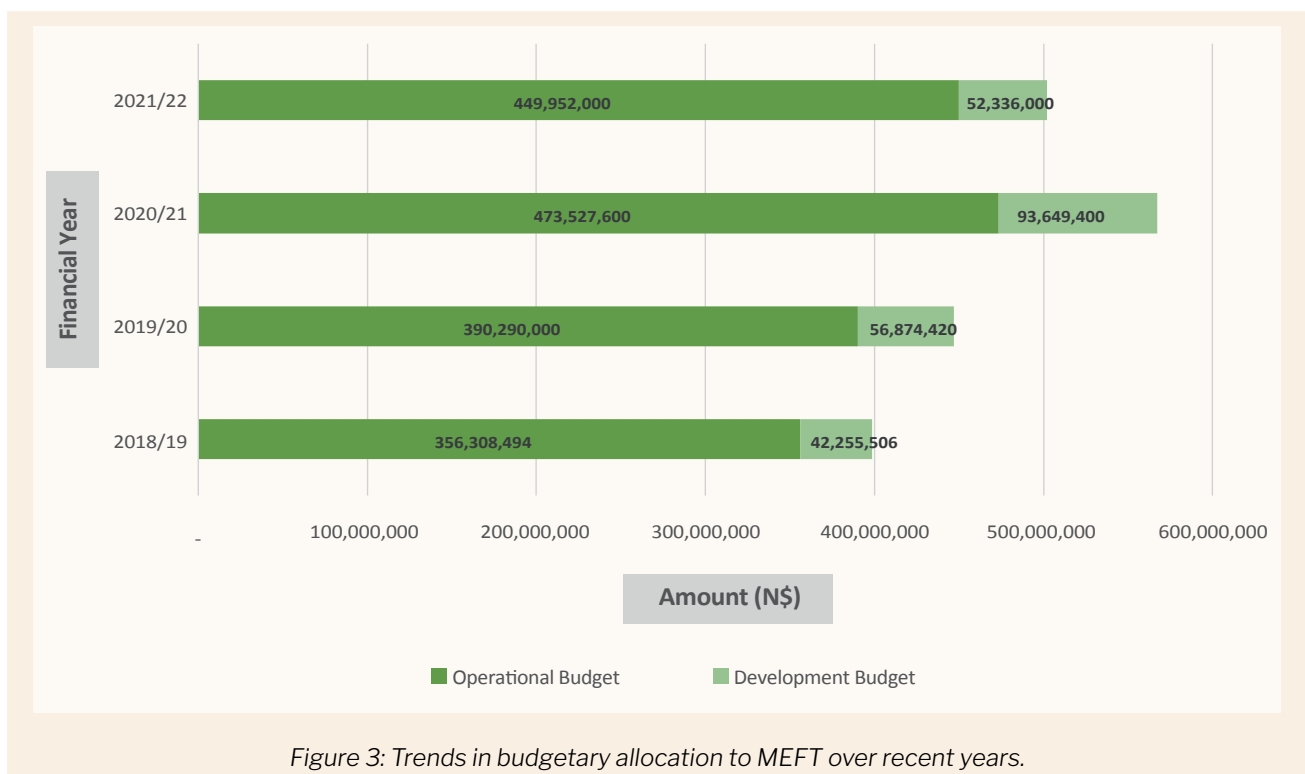
Management of protected areas, support to communal conservancies, prevention of wildlife crime and development and enforcement of wildlife protection legislation, human wildlife conflict management, management of environmental education centers.

### Office of the Internal Auditor

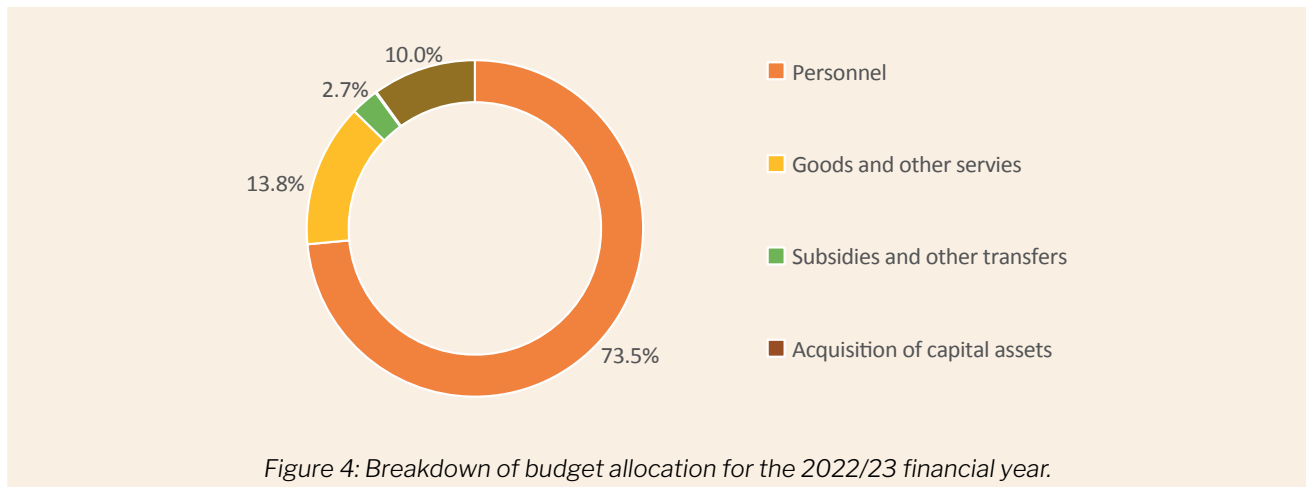
Responsible to examine, evaluate and report on systems of internal control, accounting records and quality of performance, risk management, asset verification and revenue management.

## 1.5 Budget for the 2021/22 Financial Year

The Ministry was allocated a revised budget of N\$503.288 million for the 2021/22 financial year, of which N\$449.952 million was for the operational budget and N\$52.336 million was for the development budget. This represented an overall budget decline of 11.4% compared to the previous financial year, with a 44% cut to the development budget.



It is notable that just over 73% of the Ministry's total 2021/22 budget was appropriated for personnel, 13.8% for goods and other services and just 10% for development projects.



## 1.6 Public Enterprises and Statutory Bodies

The following public enterprises and statutory bodies are subsidized and or supported by the MEFT:

- Game Product Trust Fund;
- Namibia Tourism Board;
- Nature Conservation Board; and
- Sustainable Development Advisory Council.

The achievements of these public enterprises and statutory bodies are not covered in detail in this annual report as they are reported separately by each organization.

## 1.7 Supporting Projects

A variety of short-term multilateral and bi-lateral projects provide cross cutting support to the MEFT and often supplement the core budget of the Ministry in terms of funding infrastructure projects in national parks and targeted interventions linked to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, climate change adaptation and mitigation and sustainable land management. The following main support projects and programs under implementation during the period under review are summarized in the table below:

**Table 3: Supporting projects and programmes**

DONOR FUNDED PROJECTS	MAIN FOCUS AREAS	BUDGET	FUNDING SOURCE	TIMELINE
Namibia National Parks Program IV (NAMPARKS IV)	Protected Areas infrastructure and management in the North-East and TKNP.	EUR14 million (approx. N\$235.6 million)	German Government via KfW	2015-2022
Namibia National Parks Program V (NAMPARKS V) (incl. COVID-19 fund)	Protected Areas infrastructure and management in Coastal Parks. Support to mitigate Ministerial essential administration cost.	EUR34.5 million (approx. N\$580.5 million)	German Government via KfW	2018-2023
Integrated Wildlife Protection Project (IWPP)	Anti-poaching infrastructure, equipment and activities.	EUR 17.1 million (Approx. N\$287.7 million)	German Government via KfW	2021-2024
Solid Waste Management (SWM)	Solid waste disposal systems in 6 national parks.		German Government via KfW	2022-2026
Community Conservation Fund of Namibia	Poverty Oriented Support to Human Wildlife Conflict, focusing on prevention and mitigation targeting the top 20 communal conservancies affected by HWC and specific problematic key species (eg. elephants, lions, crocodiles, wild dogs, cheetahs, leopards).	EUR 8 million (Approx. N\$134.6 million)	German Government via KfW	2020-2024
	COVID-19 mitigation support to all communal conservancies – covering operational losses and support to joint ventures operating in communal conservancies	EUR 11 million (Approx. N\$185.1 million)	German Government via KfW	2020-2024
Namibia Integrated Landscape Approach for enhancing Livelihoods and Environmental Governance to eradicate poverty (NILALEG)	Support to five pilot landscapes to implement measures to increase climate resilience, biodiversity conservation and sustainable land management. Target landscapes are in Kunene, Omusati, Ohangwena, Kavango West and Zambezi.	USD10.8 million (approx. N\$161 million)	Global Environment Facility via UNDP	2020-2025
Climate Change and Inclusive Use of Natural Resources	CBNRM support. Implementation of Namibia's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).	EUR12.67 million (approx. N\$213.2 million)	German Government and the EU Commission via the GIZ	2021-2024
Bioeconomy Economy in Selected Landscapes in Namibia Project	Development of biodiversity-based economies and landscapes in the areas of Brandberg, Etosha West, Ombonde in Kunene Region and Waterberg	EUR5 million (approx. N\$84 million)	German Government via GIZ	2019-2024
Bush Control and Biomass Utilization	Control and sustainable utilization of invader bush.	EUR12.5 million (approx. N\$210.3 million)	German Government via GIZ	2018-2024



DONOR FUNDED PROJECTS	MAIN FOCUS AREAS	BUDGET	FUNDING SOURCE	TIMELINE
Enhancing Namibia's capacity to establish a comprehensive Transparency Framework for MRV of climate actions and reporting on NDC implementation (CBIT)	Monitoring and reporting implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement.	USD 1 million (approx. \$15.3 million)	Global Environment Facility via UNDP	2020-2023
Integrated landscape management to reduce, reverse and avoid further degradation and support the sustainable use of natural resources in the Mopane-Miombo belt of Northern Namibia (DSL-IP)	To initiate a transformational shift towards sustainable, integrated management of multi-use dryland landscapes in northern Namibia, building on Land Degradation Neutrality principles	USD 6.1 million (approx. N\$103 million)	Global Environment Facility via FAO	2022-2027
Integrated Approach to Proactive Management of Human Wildlife Conflicts and Wildlife Crime in Hotspot Landscapes in Namibia (HWC-WC) Project	HWC and wildlife crime focusing in North-central (incorporating flagship Etosha National Park and conservancies to the north and the west including Concessions e.g. Palmwag, Etendeka and Hobatere), North-west (Kunene), and North-east (incorporating Bwabwata-Mudumu National Park Complex and falling partially within KAZA TFCA)	USD 6,247,018 (approx. N\$105.5 million)	Global Environment Facility via UNDP	2021-2027

## 1.8 Key Stakeholders

The MEFT has a wide range of partners including:

- Line ministries, especially those engaged in the management of natural resources;
- Intergovernmental Agencies including the various mechanisms of the United Nations, African Union (AU) and Southern African Development Community (SADC);
- International financing agencies such as the Adaptation Fund, Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund and multilateral and bilateral partners including United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Bank, World Wildlife Fund, German Development Bank (KfW) and the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ);
- Private sector companies, particularly those operating in the tourism sector, gambling establishments, proponents applying for environmental clearance and various wildlife and biodiversity-related permits
- Regional Councils, Local Authorities and Traditional Authorities;
- Academic institutions and researchers; and
- Non-Governmental Organizations and Civil Society Organisations including community-based organizations engaged in the management of natural resources.

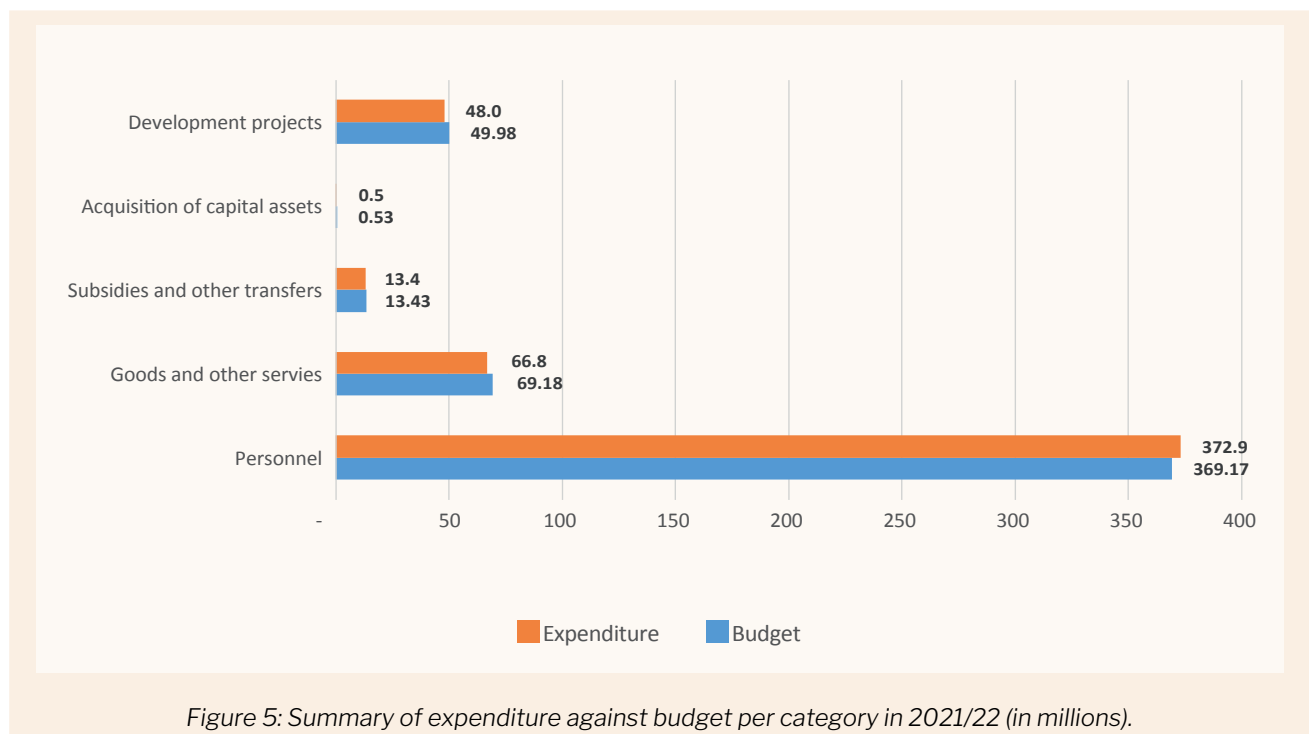


## 2. Enhancing Organizational Performance and Service Delivery

The MEFT strives to ensure good governance and improved service delivery by applying the principles of accountability, transparency and efficiency in its everyday operations. During the period under review, the Ministry received an unqualified audit opinion in all auditing aspects with regard to the 2020/21 financial year. This includes aspects relating to financial management, compliance and performance.

### 2.1. Financial Performance

The Ministry received a total budget allocation of N\$502,288,000, of which N\$449,952,000 was for the operational budget and N\$52,336,000 was for the development budget respectively. A total of N\$2,356,540 was viremented from the development budget to the operational budget during the course of the financial year. The overall execution rate for the 2021/22 financial year stood at 99.9%, 100% for the operational budget and 96% for the development budget.



In terms of the development budget, the Ministry implemented 8 projects and also provided N\$1 million in co-financing towards the implementation of the NAMPARKs Programme. After the mid-term budget review, the development budget was reduced to N\$49 million and an execution rate of 96% was recorded against the revised budget. The expenditure report with regard to the development budget is summarized in the table below.

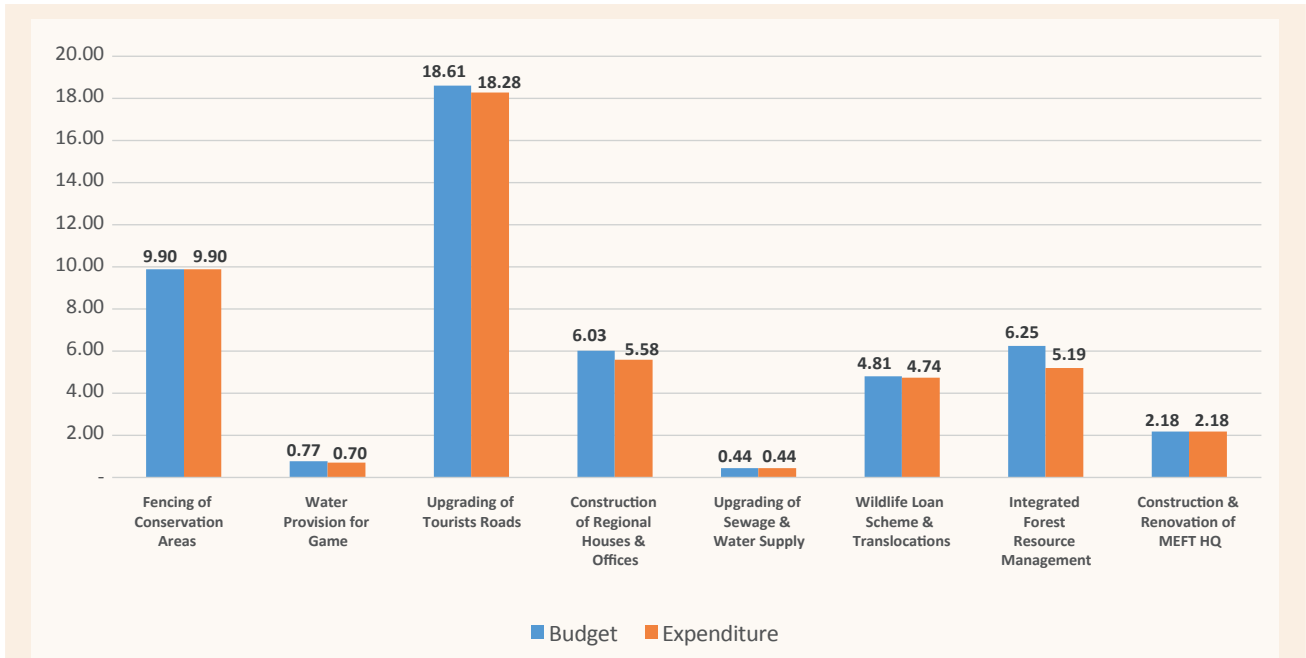


Figure 6: Summary of expenditure per development budget projects in 2021/22 (in millions).

In terms of revenue, the Ministry collected total revenue amounting to N\$37,472,628.55 during the 2021/22 financial year. This was 53% less than the predicted revenue for the period, reflecting the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on revenue generation. Nevertheless, park entrance fees and the newly introduced conservation fee accounted for 75% of the revenue generated. Gambling license fees, wildlife utilization permits, permit fees and forestry products were the other main revenue generators as per the figure below.

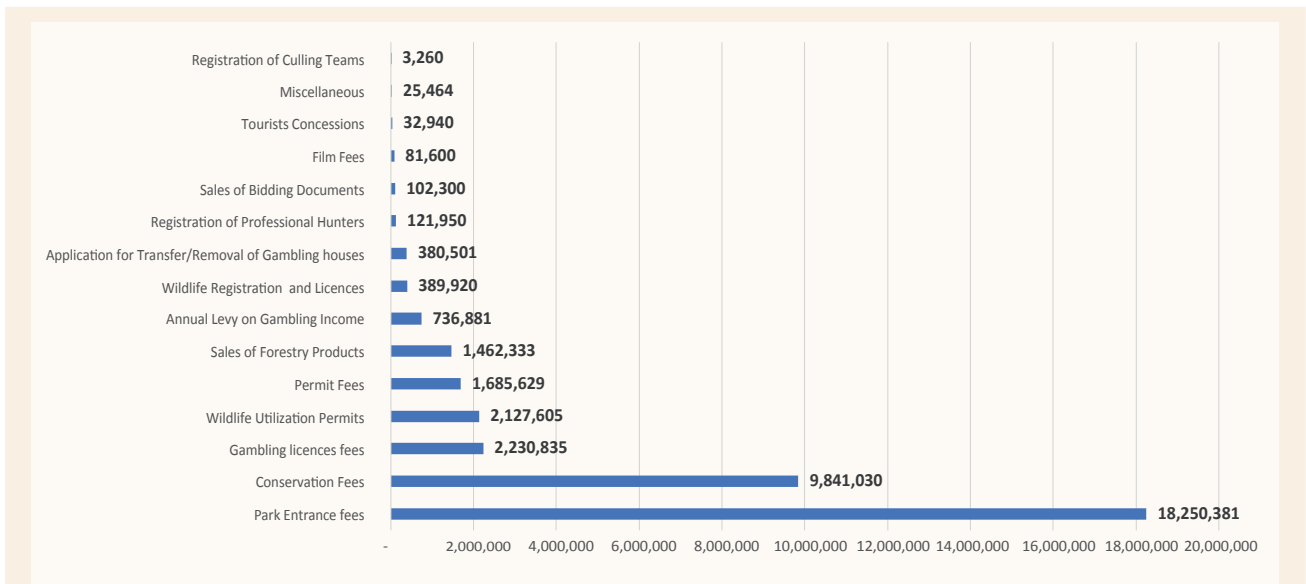


Figure 7: Breakdown of revenue collected during the 2021/22 financial year.

## 2.2. Operational Performance

During the period under review, the performance of Directorates and staff members was monitored on a quarterly basis. The performance of the different Directorates is summarized in the figure below.

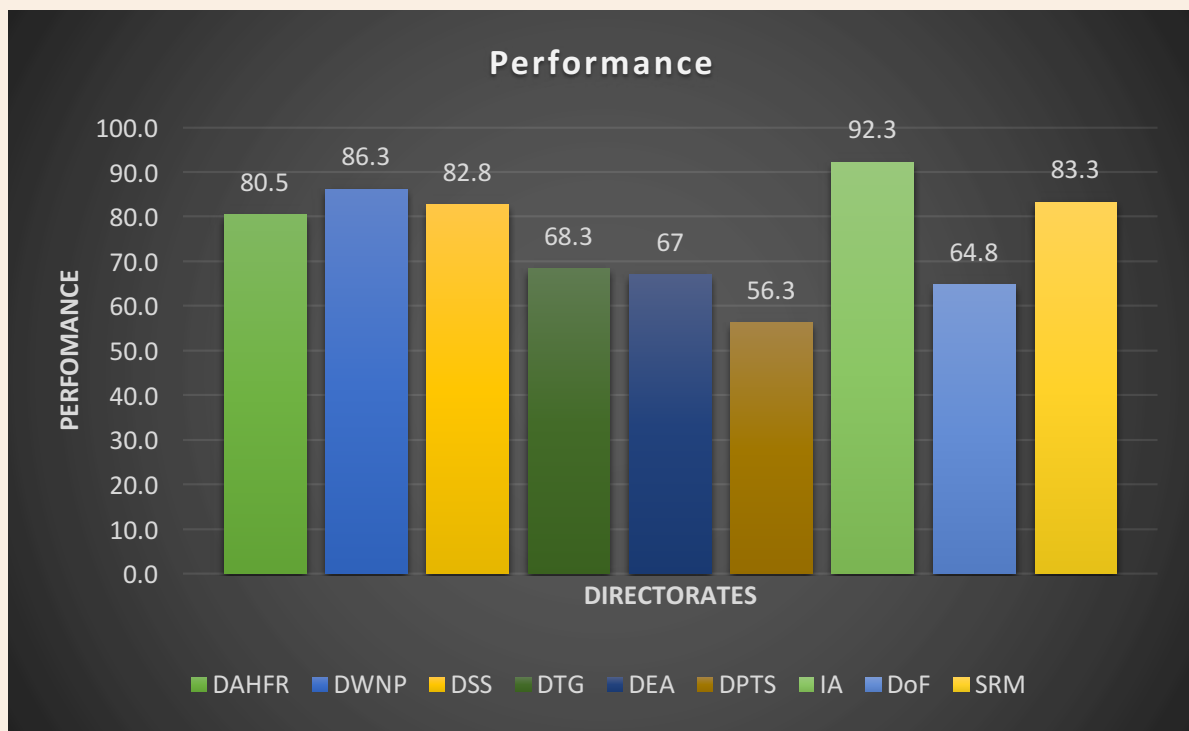


Figure 8: Performance of MEFT Directorates during 2021/2022 financial year.

With respect to the implementation of the Performance Management System, 85% of staff members had signed Performance Agreements for the 2021/22 financial year and an average of 74% of the staff members had their Performance Agreements reviewed quarterly.

## 2.3. Developing a skilled and motivated workforce

In spite of the difficult financial environment, the MEFT continued to develop the capacity of its staff, particularly targeting critical areas such as law enforcement. A total of 28 staff members from all 14 regions of the country were trained on aspects of law enforcement relating to forest resources. Training was also conducted in Omaruru and Waterberg to equip newly recruited staff under the Division of Wildlife Protection Services. A total of 63 staff members were equipped with specific and specialized skills that will enable them to protect our precious species and natural resources.

A long-standing challenge to the morale and image of the MEFT was also resolved with the launch and distribution of a new staff uniform. The uniform was developed for staff members of the Directorate of Wildlife and National Parks and is planned to be expanded to the other Directorates.

The MEFT also developed the Environmental Sector Career Guide to raise awareness and encourage young Namibians to take up careers in the environmental sector.



Figure 9: Launch event of the new MEFT uniform.

## 2.4. Introduction of cost cutting measures and business reengineering processes

In the context of doing things better and improving service delivery, the MEFT continues to implement measures to cut costs and re-engineer business processes. During the period under review, the following measures were undertaken:

- Contracting the National Youth Service to provide security services at all Directorate of Forestry offices countrywide. These services were previously provided by a private company.
- Introduction of a camera monitoring system at Waterberg Plateau Park. This system allows for water points and other strategic points at Waterberg Plateau Park to be monitored in real time and from Windhoek. This will result in considerable savings relating to patrols and it is planned to roll this system out further to other protected areas.
- Use of drones for forest resources inspection and monitoring. Two drones were tested in the field to assess the illegal harvesting of forest resources in the Omaheke Region. The results show that the drones are an effective way to provide near real time information that can cover large areas in a short space of time to track illegal operations rapidly.
- Introduction of pre-paid meters for staff in national parks. In order to complement Government efforts of introducing cost saving measures and reducing monthly overheads, the MEFT, jointly with Namibia Wildlife Resorts (NWR), successfully installed metering (prepaid and conventional meters) for staff houses in Etosha National Park.
- □ Development of online services: the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) continued to assist the MEFT with the development of the online permit systems for both forestry and wildlife-related permits. The consultancy to develop an integrated online permit system for all of the MEFT's permits was advertised and is expected to be completed in the 2022/23 financial year.



# 3. Managing Protected Areas and Wildlife

The MEFT considers and promotes protected areas not only as being critically important for protecting the country's most important habitats and species but also as engines for local economic development. Namibia's protected areas are a cornerstone of the tourism industry and flagship national parks such as Etosha National Park and the Namib-Naukluft Park continue to be leading tourist attractions.

Namibia is home to 20 State Protected Areas and Game Reserves, which cover hugely varied ecosystems and some 17% of the country's land mass. There are three Transfrontier Conservation Areas (Ai-/Ais / Richtersveld, Iona Skeleton Coast and Kavango-Zambezi (KAZA)) of which the KAZA is the largest known TFCA in the world. In addition, Namibia's entire 1,500km coastline is under State Protected Area status.

During the period under review and given the importance of protected areas to the economy, the Ministry has focused its attention on the following issues regarding protected areas:

- Development and maintenance of parks infrastructure and maintenance including fencing, housing, offices, tourism facilities and roads. Given the shortage of financial resources, the Ministry has adopted a mixed approach to the development and maintenance of infrastructure in protected areas involving donor-funded projects and shifting its focus to maximize the use of its own internal staff and those of partners such as the National Youth Services (NYS).
- Improving the management of protected areas through amongst others the development and implementation of park management plans, devolved management and budget authority, improved law enforcement and the collaborative management of parks.
- Increasing the benefits to local communities from the sustainable use of natural resources through the granting of concessions.

## 3.1. Infrastructure Development and Maintenance in Protected Areas

### 3.1.1 Fencing

The Etosha Fence Upgrade Project was launched in February 2020, and work commenced to repair the fence in the hotspot area around Onanke on the northern boundary. The Ministry undertook practical measures to strengthen the implementation of the Friends of the Parks Program and involved the NYS and neighbouring communities to assist with the fence work. A total of 10 NYS staff began assisting the Ministry with the repair of the fence in Etosha National Park in September 2021. Fencing materials were procured and construction of the 15km cattle proof fence along Onanke Area was completed.

A contractor was appointed to repair and electrify 15km Section A, B; (70km) K1, K2 (27km) of the elephant and predator proof boundary fence as well as patrol stations/camps for Etosha National Park during the reporting period.

### 3.1.2. Roads and cut-lines

The contracted company, Otesa Civil Engineering (PTY) Ltd., was appointed to re-gravelling the main tourist road in Etosha National Park between Galton Gate and Olifantsrus, including the Dolomite detour, completed 95km out of 126km since the start of the project. The same contractor was appointed to rehabilitate the



Figure 10: Part of Completed 70km road section along Dolomite De-tour in Etosha National Park.

remaining 15km sections between Olifantsrus and Mbari and the 71km section between Mbari and Okaukuejo with N\$60 million funding from the Road Fund Administration and the work commenced during February 2022.

### 3.1.3. Water Infrastructure

A total of twelve waterholes in Etosha National Park and Khaudum National Park were upgraded during the financial year. In Etosha waterholes were upgraded to solar installations, whereas in Khaudum National Park the upgrades included the construction of antelope troughs, hides and elephant reservoirs. In Etosha National Park, the following waterholes were upgraded: //Khurus, Sonderkop South, Nomab, Rateldraf, Karosshoek, Eindpaal and Pan Point. In Khaudum National Park, Doringstraat, Leeupan, Burkea, Tari Kora, Dussi and Omuramba were upgraded.

In Bwabwata NP one water installation was upgraded to solar, and in Mangetti NP two new boreholes were drilled, and equipped with solar systems, troughs, reservoirs and protection walls. In the south, the construction of a new water point in the new section of the Naute Game Park was completed. The Ghoggab and Gamkab water points were upgraded, and a contract for work to take place at Hobas has been awarded and the work has commenced.

### 3.1.4. Waste Management in Protected Areas

A mobile recycling station, donated by Rent-A-Drum, was operationalized at Ombika in Etosha National Park. The station was delivered and installed on 22 November 2021, and training on the operation of the baling machine and proper sorting of recyclables was given to beneficiaries from the Hai //om community. Recycling (collection and sorting), bailing of metal and plastic, and crushing of glass is done at the station and recyclable materials from near-by lodges are also accepted and processed. In December 2021, recyclable materials were received from several lodges in the vicinity for processing, including Ongava Game Reserve, Gondwana Etosha Safari Camp and Lodge, and Mopani Lodge. The materials are then transported out of the Park to Rent-a-Drum.

As part of infrastructure maintenance, solid waste was emptied and removed from Okaukuejo, Etosha National Park and repairs for a faulty inlet pump station and rectification of foreign screening bucket is underway at Sesriem while final retention will be released on completion.

### 3.1.5. Construction of Park Facilities and Regional Offices

The construction of park stations at Skeleton Coast, Cape Cross Seal Reserve, Dorob National Park and Namib Naukluft Park commenced in December 2022.

Routine maintenance of staff housing and other infrastructure took place in all Parks. The Ministry installed four new air conditioning units at Ruacana office, while eight were installed at the Southern Regional Office in Keetmanshoop. Maintenance and repairs were carried on a power generator at Otjovazandu in Etosha National Park. Renovations were carried out at MEFT offices in Ongwediva and Okakarara, while construction of the Omaruru office also commenced.



Figure 11: Groundbreaking event marking the construction of Cape Cross Seal Reserve Station in December 2022.

### 3.1.6. Park Management Plans and Strategies

The management plan for Cape Cross Seal Reserve was reviewed during the year, and the review of the Waterberg Plateau Park management plan commenced. Funding was secured from the KfW for the review and development of management plans for Daan Viljoen Game Park, S. Von Bach Dam Game Park, Naute Game Park, /Ai /Ais Game Park, Hardap Game Park, Gross Barmen and South-West Nature Reserve.

The conservation fee was fully rolled out to all national parks and game reserves in April 2021. The fees are being deposited into the Game Products Trust Fund.

### 3.1.7. Trans-frontier Conservation Areas

Various meetings and activities relating to TFCAs and Landscape Management were undertaken during the financial year. These included meetings at different levels of the KAZA TFCA and the /Ai /Ais-Richtersveld Transfontier Park (ARTP) and also at SADC TFCAs Steering Committee and SADC Financing Facility level to enhance coordination interventions, funding and to create synergy.

A KAZA TFCA Action Plan was developed and a consultation commenced with the KAZA Secretariat and partner states to develop a Livelihoods Diversification Strategy for the KAZA TFCA. Furthermore, an implementation agreement was signed between MEFT and the Peace Parks Foundation on the 27 February 2022 for a Project Proposal on Community Livelihood Development and Human Wildlife Conflict Mitigation (CLD-HWCM) for the Namibian Component of the KAZA TFCA. The CLD-HWCM Project aims at enhancing community livelihoods and mitigate Human-Wildlife Conflict, and will run for two years starting from May 2022.

A stakeholder workshop took place for Law Enforcement and Anti-Poaching Strategies for KAZA and SADC. Within the three thematic Wildlife Dispersal Areas, Transboundary Wildlife Crime (TWC) was identified as a cross cutting common challenge, which resulted in Trans-Frontier Law Enforcement Joint Patrols supported through the KAZA TFCA. The key objective is to combat wildlife crime through a synchronized patrol approach. The Joint Law Enforcement Operation conducted in the Zambezi Chobe Floodplain Wildlife Dispersal Areas was the first of its kind and due to the high level of commitment from stakeholders, a number of successes were achieved during the operation. Furthermore, three Joint operations were held between Namibia and Botswana (NAMBOT) in March, June and September 2021.

As part of the KAZA Wide Aerial Survey, eight Elephants were collared in the Kwando River Wildlife Dispersal Area. The aerial survey will be conducted from July-October 2022, and will be conducted in line with the recently revised CITES MIKE Aerial Survey Standards. Funding for the project has been secured and a coordinator has been appointed.

With regard to the Land Use Plan for the Managed Resource Use Zone (MRUZ) of Bwabwata National Park, the following projects were implemented: the concept note for the cattle removal was completed and stakeholder meetings took place; the Kwe Traditional Knowledge Center feasibility study was conducted; the zonation of Bwabwata National Park was completed and funding was secured for the implementation of the Land Use Plan; the Wildlife Corridor Strategy was finalized and launched on 21 October 2021; and signs were printed to demarcate the MRUZ.

A joint funding grant of EUR300,000 was secured from the SADC TFCA Financing Facility to support mitigation measures for conservation and tourism development in both the ARTP and Iona Skeleton Coast TFCA (Namibia and Angola). However, a grant agreement is yet to signed for implementation to kick off. There was little substantive progress with regard to the operations of the Iona Skeleton Coast TFCA and further engagement is required with the Angolan authorities.

## 3.2. Wildlife Monitoring and Translocation Activities

In order to gauge the integrity of biodiversity and to measure the diversity and number of wildlife, the MEFT conducted wildlife counts in various areas including national parks, conservancies, and private land for species. The counts also inform quota setting for hunting and game translocation planning to ensure sustainable utilisation of wildlife resources.

### 3.2.1. Kunene river crocodile survey

An aerial survey of crocodiles was conducted in the lower 353km of the Kunene River in April 2021. The direct count data from this survey as well as an N-mixture model was used to estimate the population of crocodiles in the study area. These results were then compared to those of a previous aerial survey that took place in 2012. The direct count yielded a result of 287 crocodiles and the model estimated a total population of 583 crocodiles. When comparing the 2021 data to those of 2012, the direct count data showed a 49% decrease, while the model showed a 28% decrease. Importantly, these results should be seen as indicative of population trends rather than exact figures. The



Figure 12: Large Crocodile counted during the Kunene river crocodile survey.

apparent decrease in population is a source of concern and will be further investigated.

### 3.2.2. Nyae Nyae Buffalo Camp survey

An aerial survey was conducted of the Tsumkwe buffalo camp on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021. The main objective of the count was to get an updated estimate for the disease-free buffalo and black and white rhino in the camp. The camp has been surveyed almost annually since 2009. The surveys indicated the growth of the buffalo population and indicates possible problems such as density dependence and carrying capacity. In 2016 and 2018 the estimates for the buffalo were very close to what was expected, and a concern was raised that the population was beyond the carrying capacity. The 2020 and 2021 surveys indicated a decline in buffalo figures, which could possibly be attributed to the national drought experienced in combination with density dependence factors.



Figure 13: Disease-free buffalo herd photographed during 2021 Nyae Nyae Buffalo Camp survey.

### 3.2.3. Mangetti NP Helicopter survey

A fifth consecutive helicopter survey was undertaken to conduct an all species survey of Mangetti National Park. The count was conducted from 9-10<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and the most significant species counted in the park were eland, blue wildebeest and plain zebra.



Figure 14: Eland herd photographed during 2021 Mangetti National Park survey.

### 3.2.4. Waterberg Plateau Park Helicopter survey

The helicopter survey of Waterberg Plateau Park was conducted from 6-7<sup>th</sup> September 2021. It indicated a very even number of sightings. The most significant species on the park in terms of management are the disease-free buffalo. This species reached figures of over a 1,000 in recent years and needed significant reduction to avoid destruction to grazing and competition with other rare species on the park, namely, roan, sable and white rhino. The buffalo numbers were reduced through live sales to Zambia and an additional 300 buffalo were removed in 2021 to reduce the current numbers to an estimated 578.

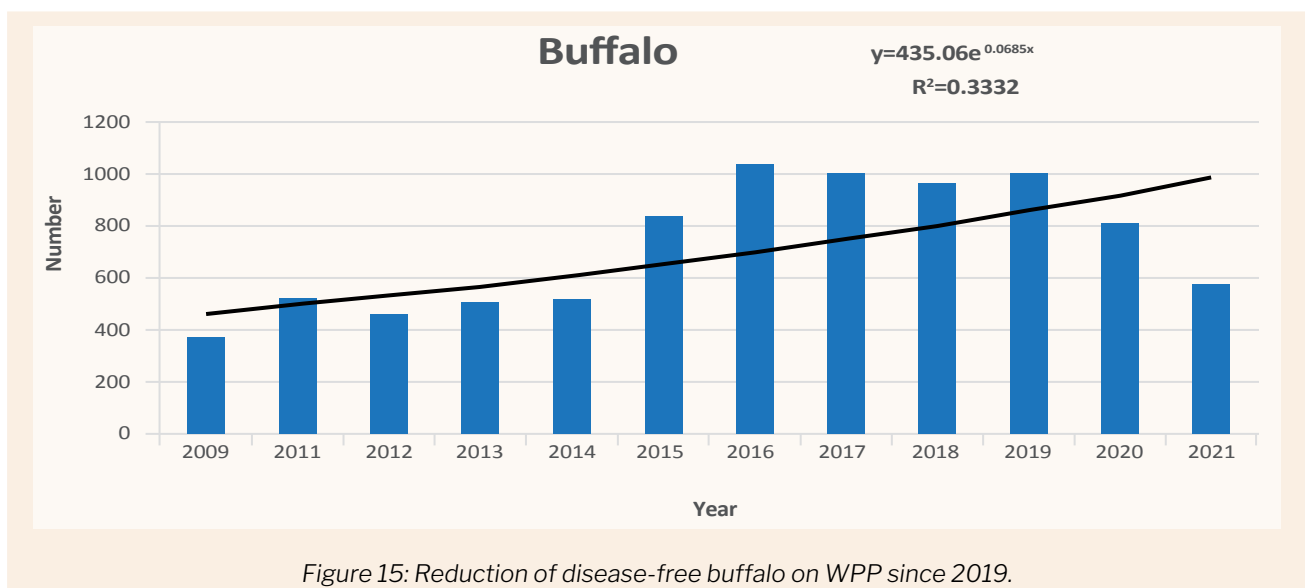


Figure 15: Reduction of disease-free buffalo on WPP since 2019.



Figure 16: Walking a white rhino to transport crate.

### 3.2.5. National Rhino Program

The National Rhino Program involves rhino-related surveys, monitoring, research and operations. During the 2021-2022 financial year, the National Rhino Unit immobilized 123 black rhino and 32 white rhino, of which 78 black rhino and 32 white rhino were dehorned for security purposes. Major undertakings also included translocations to parks and in the custodian program for range expansion, biological management and security purposes.



Figure 17: Executive Director of MEFT participating in the dehorning of a white rhino.

### 3.2.6. Bird Counts

General bird counts were conducted at the coast and a few inland sites in both summer and winter, and the data was submitted to Wetlands International. Specific monitoring activities were also undertaken for endemic and vulnerable species, including the Damara tern and vultures.

The Damara Tern is a Namibian breeding endemic with the majority of the birds breeding along the Namibian coast during the summer months. A species management plan for the Damara Tern was adopted by the MEFT in order to protect this bird. One of the activities outlined in the plan is a survey of all former breeding colonies, which was carried out in December 2021 and February 2022 with support from the Working Group for International Waterbird and Wetland Research (WIWO). This was the first comprehensive survey of all historically known Damara Tern breeding colonies and it was considered a success. However, for future surveys, more time needs to be allocated per colony and it was considered that it is needed to visit all colonies on a monthly basis from about November to March, funds and manpower permitting.

A project to tag vultures in Etosha National Park and North-east Regions, as well as to collar large carnivores to aid in carcass detection, continued throughout the year. This involved mainly initiatives to ring and tag vultures, deployment of camera traps and undertaking of a breeding survey. The movements of these vultures (*map below*) and carnivores are continually monitored, and feeding sites visited.

Currently nine Lappet-faced Vultures fitted with tracking devices which are reporting and the resulting data is providing us with valuable information on their movement.



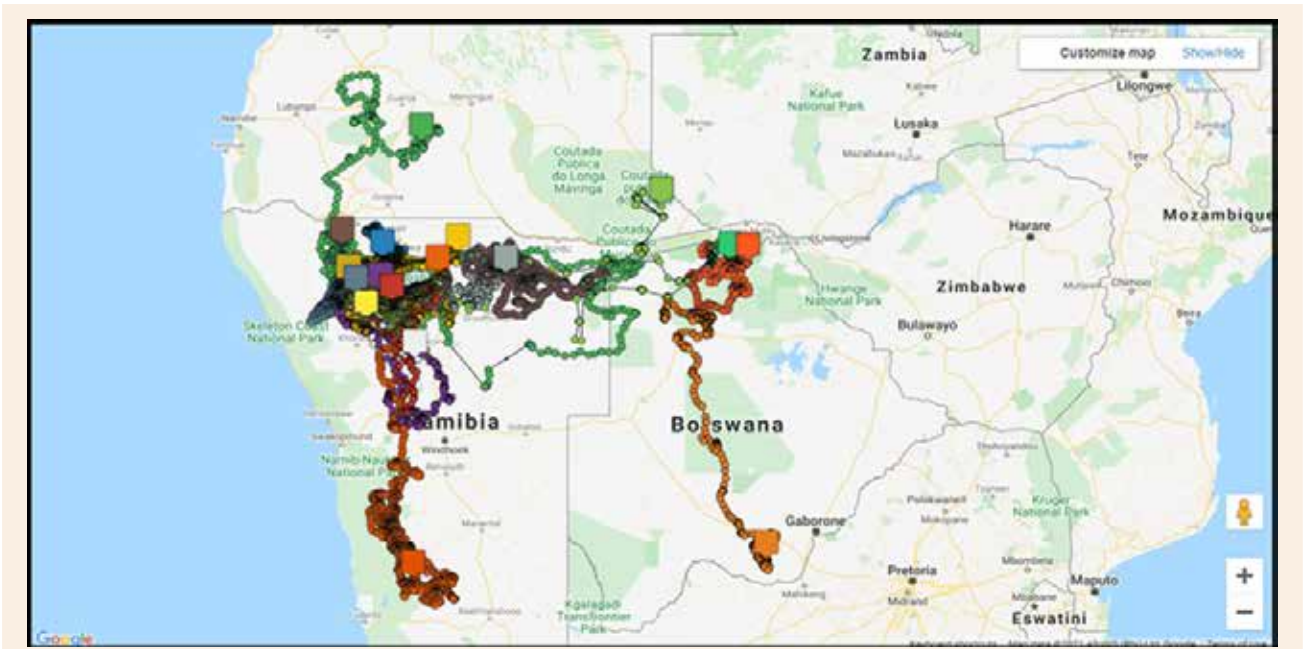


Figure 18: Map showing the movements of tagged vultures within the region.

### 3.2.7. Translocations of Wildlife

The 2021/2022 financial year was extremely busy and successful for game capture and translocation, in spite of obvious challenges linked to the COVID-19 pandemic. This is an area of operation characterized by excellent collaboration and partnership. The MEFT has prioritized the strengthening of its game capture unit through the capital budget and tremendous financial and technical support was received from KFW (Namparks V Covid Relief Funding), Namibia Nature Foundation, GPTF as well as the Giraffe Conservation Foundation.

This support includes transportation equipment such as trailers crates for various species, camping equipment, veterinary equipment and drugs, maintenance and fuel for vehicles

The following translocations/captures occurred during the 2021/2022 financial year:

- 15 Giraffe from a private farm to Huab Conservancy
- 103 Zebra from Etosha National Park to Nyae Nyae Conservancy
- 47 Plain Zebra from Mangetti National Park to Khaudum National Park
- 250 Impala from private farmers to Khaudum National Park
- 7 Zebra from Mangetti National Park to Okongo Conservancy
- 8 Roan from Khaudum National Park to Okongo Conservancy



Figure 19: Photographs of selected translocation activities during 2021/22.

- 2 Roan translocated from Khaudum National Park to Mangetti National Park
- 25 white and black rhino to suitable areas as part of the implementation of the species management plan
- 6 Hartebeest removed from a farm in the Waterberg area to the Waterberg Plateau Park.

Ad hoc translocations took place during the year to remove various species of wildlife found in urban areas. Animals in need of treatment for various reasons were also dealt with, for example animals that had become entangled in wire or snares, or sustained injuries due to other reasons. Unfortunately, in some cases the injuries can be too severe and the animal must be euthanized.

Several animals in Etosha National Park were immobilized for training of veterinary students from the UNAM Veterinary Campus at Neudamm. These included lions, kudu, giraffe, springbok, gemsbok, eland, Plain zebra and red hartebeest.

An operation was conducted to immobilize buffalo in Nyae Nyae for sampling for Foot and Mouth Disease free status certification. Twenty-eight animals were immobilized for testing during the operation. Another FMD testing operation took place at Waterberg Plateau Park, during which 118 buffalo were immobilized.

In collaboration with the Namibia Association of CBNRM Support Organization (NACSO), the annual road-strip counts took place in Conservancies in southern Namibia. The annual game count in Kunene Region was also conducted. This exercise was carried out by officials from the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), the Natural Resources Working Group, and Mowe Bay Rangers. The Game count covered large sections of Kunene and Skeleton Coast Park. Annual waterhole game counts took place in Khaudum National Park and Nyae-Nyae Conservancy and in Zambezi Region an aerial census took place during September 2021.

### 3.3. Empowerment of Communities

#### 3.3.1. Support to Communal Conservancies

A total of N\$46.4 million was generated by communal conservancies during the year, mainly through tourism joint ventures, conservation hunting and own use hunting. An estimated N\$10.3 million (22%) out of the 46.4 million generated was spent on the implementation of community livelihood projects mainly in Kunene, north-central regions, Zambezi and Otjozondjupa. Community projects included the development and maintenance of water points, school renovations, renovations of Traditional Authority structures, village electrification, solar panels for household electricity, funeral support, HWC mitigation measures, cash benefits, and Traditional Authority support.

Revenue generated continued to be negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. All 86 communal conservancies continued to be supported through the Conservation Relief, Recovery and Resilient Facility (CRRRF) with regard to operational costs and salaries and various tourism joint ventures, hunting operators, crafters, harvesters and SMEs operating in communal conservancies were also supported through the CRRRF. A total of N\$19,507,111 was paid to communal conservancies during the period May 2021 – April 2022.

The establishment of permanent jobs in Conservancies was negatively affected by COVID-19 effects on the tourism sector, however, 25 permanent jobs (game guards, security guards, managers, administrators, sale assistants, herders etc.) were created and 29 seasonal jobs (devil's claw harvesters).

During 2021, only 29 out of 86 Conservancies complied with the identified requirements for good governance –(i) Conservancy Committee elected, (ii) Annual General Meeting held, (iii) Game Management Utilization Plan implemented, (iv) Benefit Distribution Plan implemented and (v) financial statements submitted. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many conservancies were not able to hold their AGMs, which made them non-compliant.

Induction training for 16 Conservancy Management Committees was conducted, and Human Wildlife Conflict Register training was conducted for all 86 conservancies.

A total of 98,289 kg of meat to the value of N\$2,457,225 was distributed to the members of 35 conservancies through trophy hunting. A further total of 75,691 kg of meat to the value of N\$1,892,275 was distributed to the members of 24 conservancies through own-use hunting.

Fifty-five hunting contracts are currently active with different communal conservancies.

### 3.3.2. Support to Community Forests

Community Forests generated an estimated amount of N\$556,576 during the year from wood auctioning, brick making, furniture making, vegetables, seedlings, honey, bush feed, devil’s claw, crafts, thatching grass, Ximenia kernels, camping fees, sand mining and permits issuance for forest products.

Office facilities at Ncumcara, Likwaterera, Katope, Sikanjabuka, Sachona, Lubuta and Kwandu Community Forests were constructed and inaugurated by the Hon. Minister at Ncuncuni Constituency in Kavango West region on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021. The official handing over of office containers for Ziliteni, Kahenge and Cuma Community Forests was also completed.

Declared Community Forests in Zambezi, Kavango East, Kavango West, Ohangwena, Oshikoto, Oshana, Omusati, Kunene, Omaheke and Otjozondjupa regions implemented projects on climate change adaptation sponsored through the Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia (EIF). The projects include water infrastructure, sustainable water utilisation and management, integrated climate change adaptation, hydroponic farming systems, tree nurseries, vegetable nurseries, woodcarving and fire management. Some of the completed projects included rainwater harvesting to combat drought at Ohepi Community Forest and earthdams upgrading at Oshaampula Community Forest while the hydroponic projects produced large quantities of vegetables such as tomatoes, onions, spinach, cabbages, lectures and green peppers which were sold to the public.

Forest inventory training was provided to selected staff members to conduct forest inventories at community forests and state forest reserves. The forest inventories were carried out at seven community forests (Bukalo, Sikanjabuka, Zilitene, Ncaute, Cuma, Otjituo and Kapinga ka Mwalye) as well as at Kanovlei State Forest Reserve for them to be able to update and develop management plans. The data is being processed to produce the inventory reports.

Most of the declared community forest areas received funding from the CRRRF worth a total of N\$517,500, mainly to carry out patrols to monitor the illegal transportation and harvesting of forest resources and to conduct inspections of illegal fencing activities and clearance of crop fields in community forest areas. Awareness raising engagements were also held with community members to discuss issues such as illegal fencing. Several illegally harvested and processed forest products were confiscated and impounded and some of the confiscated wood was publicly auctioned.



Figure 20: Ximenia at Oshaampula CF office waiting for collection by Eudafano cooperative (Photo: M. Amutenya 2021).



Figure 21: Examples of vegetable and fodder production and hydroponics at Okongo Community Forest (Photo, M Moses 2021).

A total of 30 community members in conservancies and community forests were trained in bee-keeping and management in Zambezi region.

### 3.3.3. Concessions

The MEFT continues to use concessions create opportunities for business development and the economic empowerment of formerly disadvantaged Namibians through the tourism, hunting, and forestry industries.

#### Tsau //Khaeb National Park Concessions

The opening up of the Tsau //Khaeb National Park to tourism activities has offered a variety of new opportunities. The Tourism Development Plan for the Park, launched in 2020, identified new tourism concessions in the Park, which were awarded as follows:

**Table 4: Tourism concessions awarded in Tsau //Khaeb National Park**

CONCESSION	TYPE OF AWARD	CONCESSION HOLDER	DATE AWARDED	KEY BENEFITS
Red dunes, Roter Kamm and Orange River	Direct 20 years Campsites Guided 4x4 tours	Han /Awab Conservancy in Bethanie	23-03-2021	Conservancy still to appoint Operator to implement concession
Game Viewing and Roter Kamm Crater	Tender 12 years Guided 4x4 tours	Aus Desert Tours	13 -07-2021	20 jobs Average N\$570,000 concession fees to MEFT yearly
Northern Sand and Sea	Tender 12 years Guided 4x4 tours	Living on the Edge	13 -07-2021	20 jobs Average N\$480,000 concession fees to MEFT yearly
Luderitz Coast and Mining	Tender 12 years Guided 4x4 historical mining town tours	Sandwich Harbour 4x4	13 -07-2021	5 jobs Average N\$290,000 concession fees to MEFT yearly
Kolmanskop	Tender 12 years Sightseeing- Tours	Ghost Town Tours	13 -07-2021	20 jobs Average N\$450,000 concession fees to MEFT yearly
Orange River	Tender 25 years Lodge	OMDIS Town Transform Agency	13 -07-2021	31 jobs Average N\$ 2 million concession fees to MEFT yearly
Old wagon trail	Direct Aus Community Tourism Trust			Award is still pending

With regard to concessions, it is notable that the COVID-19 pandemic continued to have a major impact in 2021/22 and some concessions that were put on tender failed to attract investors. Other concessions in the Tsau //Khaeb National Park such as the Oranjemund Coast and Mining concession can only be advertised on tender once the issue of maintenance of roads to be used jointly by mining and tourism operators is resolved. The MEFT also continues to engage with the Ministry of Mines and Energy and NAMDEB Sperrgebiet Diamond Mine over access protocols for former mining areas for tourists and concession holders

### **Khaudum National Park Concessions**

The upgrading of the Sikerete Concession was completed during September 2021. The Okavango River Basin Water Commission (OKACOM) assisted to upgrade the Sikerete concession awarded in 2008 to Muduva Nyangana and George Mukoya Conservancies as well as the Gciriku Traditional Authority. The tented campsites, office, kitchen restaurant and bar at the concession site were constructed.

The development of infrastructure was aimed at assisting the 3 joint concession holders to negotiate for a higher concession fee during the tender process to procure an operator, however the operator is not yet in place.

### **Namib Naukluft National Park Concessions**

The Farm Sukses concession was originally awarded as a campsite concession and was restructured to make it more attractive to investors. Additional rights were provided making it possible for the investor to construct a lodge in addition to the campsite. The concession, which was awarded jointly to Huibes and Oskop Conservancies, will be advertised on tender during the new financial year to procure an investor or operator.

An Association for the #Aonin (Topnaar) Community was established on 18 August 2021, with the official launch on 3 December 2021 for the sustainable management and conservation of natural resources in the Dorob National Park (DNP) and Namib Naukluft National Park (NNNP). An exchange visit to the Bwabwata National Park and Mudumu North/South Landscapes in the Namibia Component of KAZA TFCA took place in March 2022 to build capacity and create awareness for the newly established Topnaar Association Management Committee.



## 4. Implementing measures to reduce the impact of Human Wildlife Conflict and to prevent wildlife crime

Human wildlife conflict and wildlife crime have been identified as major twin challenges facing the Ministry. This chapter highlights the efforts being made by the Ministry in addressing these challenges. Both challenges are being addressed according to relatively new policy frameworks – the Revised National Human Wildlife Conflict Management Policy (2018-2027) and the Revised National Strategy on Wildlife Protection and Law Enforcement (2021-2025).

Human Wildlife Conflict is a complex and delicate challenge resulting in damage to crops, livestock losses as well as injuries and loss of human life. It also involves damages to property, such as fences, buildings, water tanks and pipes and reservoirs. It particularly affects vulnerable farmers and poor rural communities. Addressing Human-Wildlife Conflict requires striking a balance between conservation priorities and the needs of people who live with wildlife. The Revised National Human Wildlife Conflict Management Policy provides an integrated, flexible and comprehensive policy and framework towards dealing with human wildlife conflict that aims to meet the country's national and international commitments to biodiversity conservation while taking into account the rights and development needs of Namibia's people.

Namibia, as well as the region at large, is confronted by the threat of wildlife crime and illegal trade. Over recent years, this has become a million-dollar criminal enterprise that has expanded to more than just a conservation concern. The increasing involvement of organized crime in poaching and wildlife trafficking threatens peace, strengthens illicit trade routes, and destabilizes economies and communities that depend on wildlife for their livelihoods.

In response to this threat, the Ministry revised its National Strategy on Wildlife Protection and Law Enforcement in 2021 and focus in the 2021/22 financial year was on the implementation of the strategic programmes of the Strategy, which include:

- Wildlife crime prevention and law enforcement
- Investigations and intelligence
- Legal framework and prosecutions
- Transboundary illicit trade
- Protection of rhinoceros within and outside protected areas
- Protection of elephant
- Protection of pangolin
- Community safety and security
- Partner and stakeholder coordination
- Awareness and communication

### 4.1 Implementation of the Human Wildlife Conflict Self Reliance Scheme

The Ministry continued to implement the Human-Wildlife Conflict Self-Reliance Scheme, which was established in 2019 in accordance with the Revised Human Wildlife Conflict Policy to offset the impacts of human wildlife conflict on farmers and local communities in communal areas.

A total of 35 communal conservancies received payments worth N\$3.69 million to pay their members who suffered as a result of human-wildlife conflict. This is typically a once-off N\$60,000 payment to each conservancy although it was repaid to several conservancies affected by many incidences and six conservancies were paid additional amounts due to a backlog of payments. This represented a 58% increase in the amount paid to communal conservancies compared to the 2020/21 financial year.

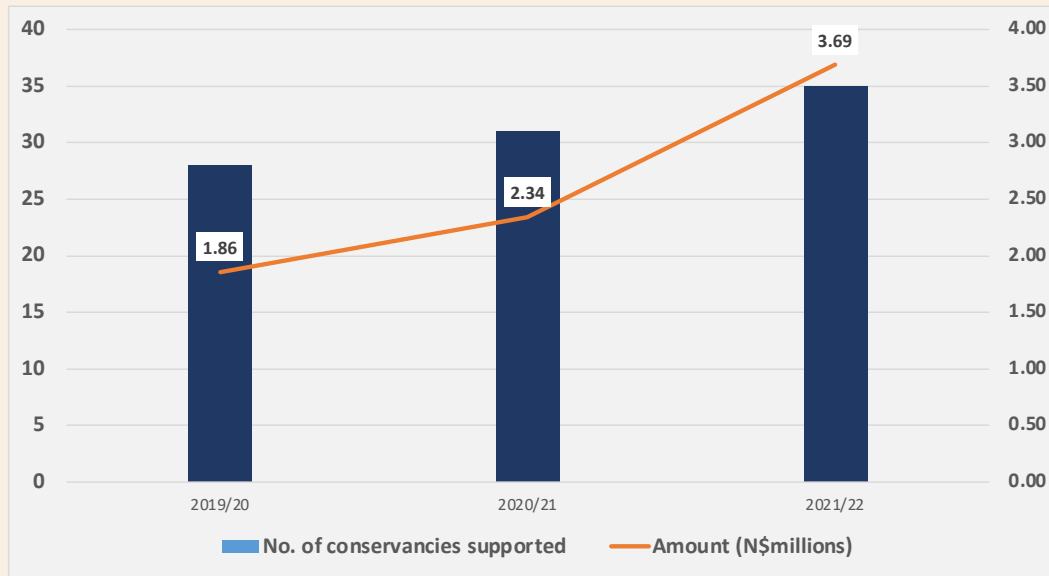


Figure 22: Trends in HWC payments made to communal conservancies in terms of number of conservancies and amounts paid from 2019-2022.

A total of 559 payouts worth just over N\$2.62 million were made for livestock losses, crop damages, human injury and for loss of human live under the HWC Self-Reliance Scheme in areas outside communal conservancies. This was a slight decline compared to the N\$2.86 million paid out in 2020/21 for 821 claims but still was far above the N\$1.87 million paid out in 2019/20 for 387 claims. The breakdown of payouts made per year (2019-2022) is presented in the figure below and shows that 38% of payments made in 2021/22 were for human deaths, 30% for crop damages and 24% for livestock losses, with 7% for human injuries. It is notable and unfortunate that 10 human lives were lost to human wildlife conflict in 2021/22, with four deaths each occurring in Zambezi and Kavango East and one in both Kunene and Kavango West. Elephants were responsible for 4 of the deaths while crocodiles and hippopotamus were responsible for 3 of the deaths.

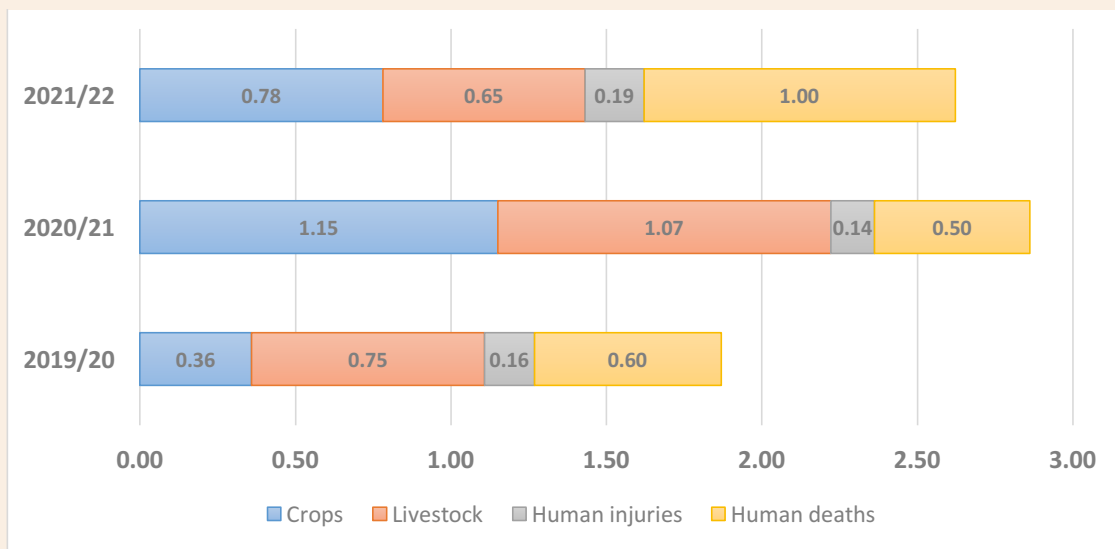


Figure 23: Breakdown of payouts made in N\$ millions with regard to human wildlife conflict per financial year in areas outside communal conservancies (2019-2022).

A total of seven political regions account for the 345 claims paid out with regard to crop losses. Over 91% of the claims came from Kavango West (64%) and Kavango East. Zambezi region accounted for 4% of the crop damage claims paid with Ohangwena, Oshikoto, Omusati and Kunene accounting for the remainder. Elephants were responsible for over 98% of the claims, while buffalo and hippopotamus were responsible for the remainder.

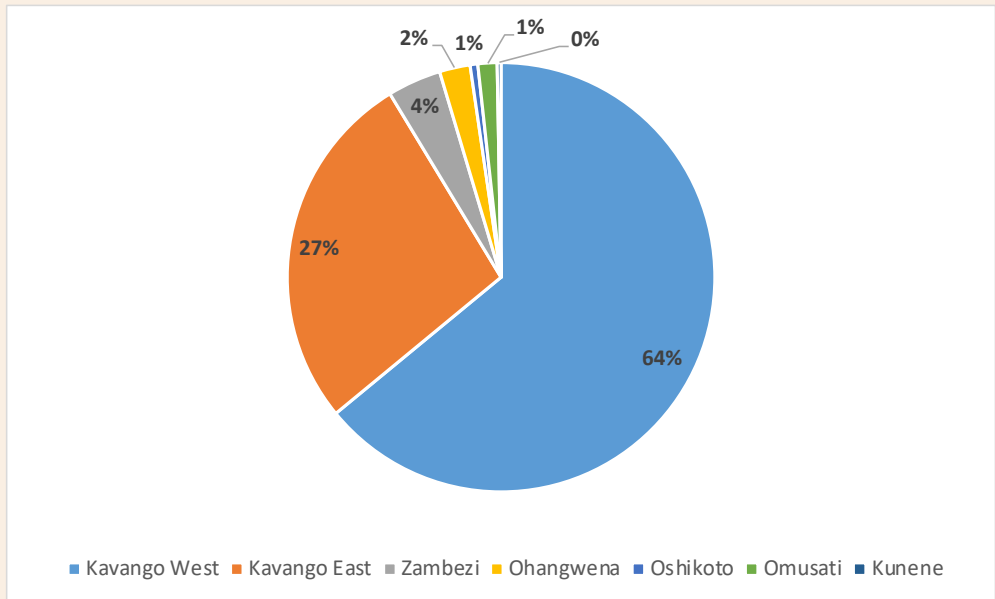


Figure 24: Breakdown of crop losses claims paid out per region.

A total of 191 livestock loss claims were paid out in 12 of the political regions. Over 70% of the claims for livestock losses, that were paid out, emanated were from the north-eastern regions of Kavango East (42%), Zambezi (17%) and Kavango West (11%). The Oshikoto Region accounted for 10% of the paid out claims with the other regions each accounting for less than 5% of the paid out livestock claims.

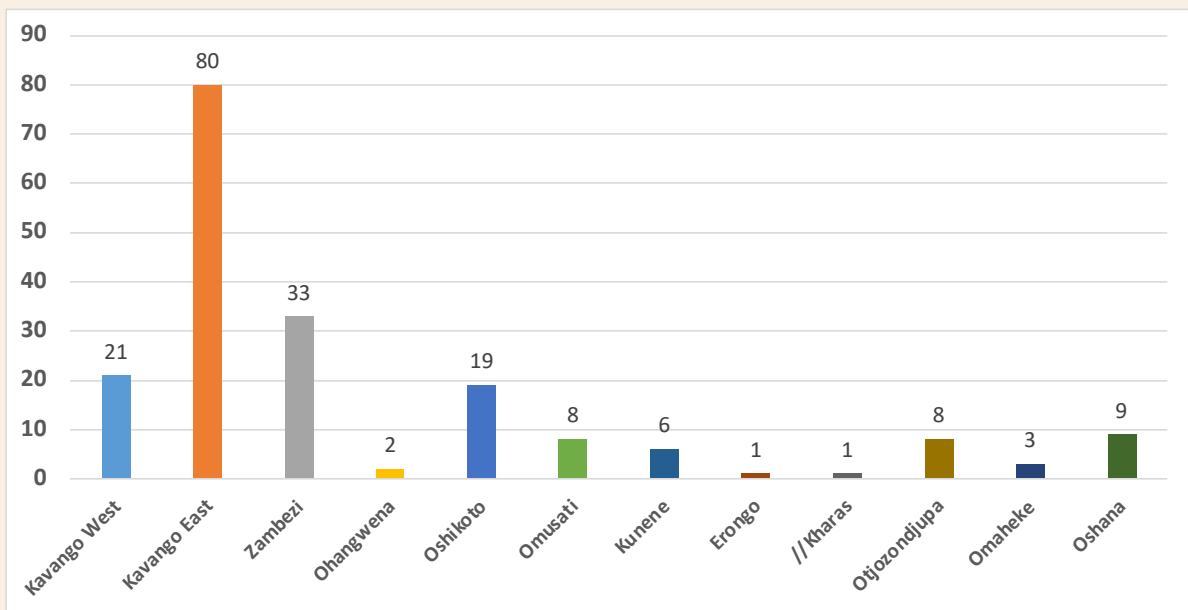


Figure 25: Breakdown of livestock loss claims that were paid out per region.

Of the livestock loss claims paid out in 2021/22, 57% were for cattle, 32% were for goats, 7% were for sheep with the remainder for donkeys, horses and pigs. In terms of the average over the past 3 years, 5 animals have been responsible for the majority of livestock claims - crocodile (24%), wild dog (23%), hyena (23%), lion (18%) and leopard (7%) with the trends in actual figures displayed in the figure below. The remaining 5% of the losses were attributed to caracal, cheetah, jackal, hippopotamus and elephant.

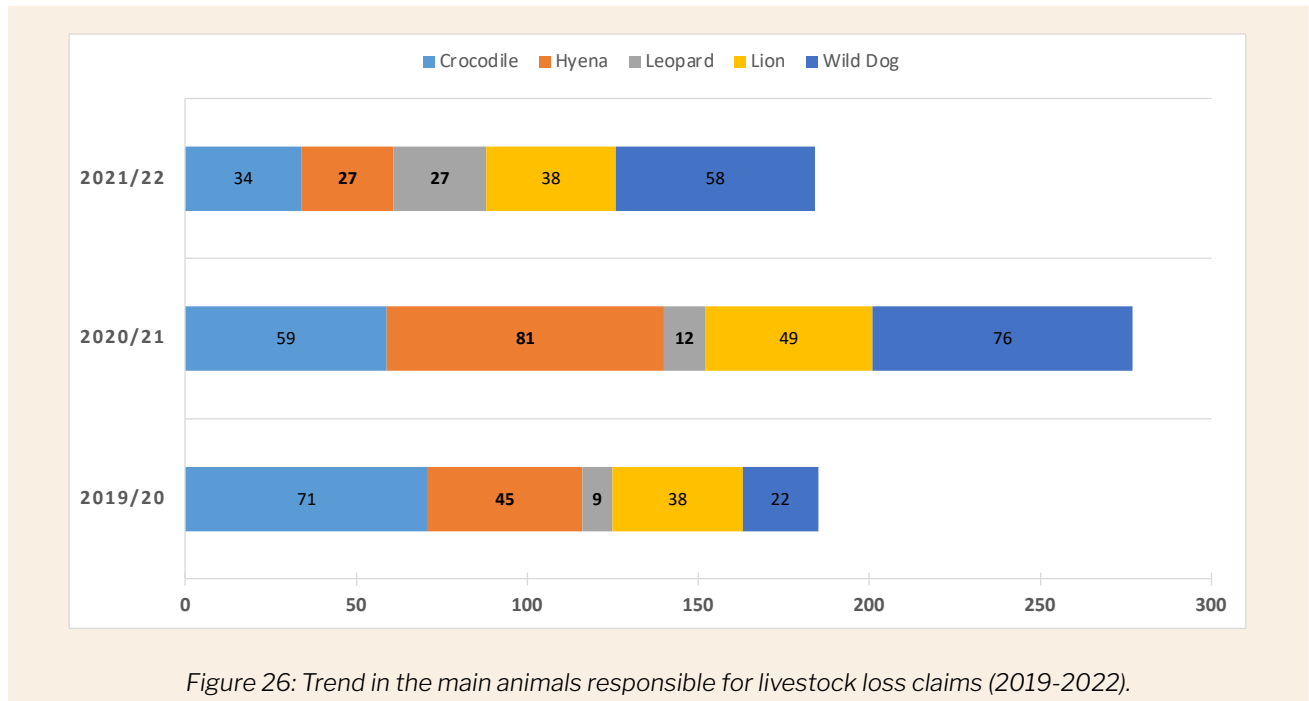


Figure 26: Trend in the main animals responsible for livestock loss claims (2019-2022).

## 4.2. Practical Human Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Measures

Technical solutions implemented for mitigating HWC across the country included the following:

- Development of crocodile and elephant species management plans;
- Construction and distribution of three crocodile cages for use in Zambezi, Kavango East and Kunene;
- Construction of two leopard/cheetah transport cages;
- Collaring of elephants and lions in Kunene Region, Erongo Region and Etosha National Park as part of an early detection program to mitigate conflict (10 elephants in Kunene and Erongo, 4 lions in Etosha National Park, 22 lions in Kunene, 5 lions in Hobatere);
- Construction of predator-proof kraals in Kunene Region;
- Rehabilitation of six boreholes in northern Kunene (Okatjandja Kozomenje, Otuzemba and Orupupa conservancies) and installation of six solar pumps in Kunene;
- Construction of twelve water point protection walls and one elephant dam in Kunene;
- Development of a SMART model for human wildlife conflict (to be rolled out in 2022/2023);
- HWC awareness raising initiatives were undertaken; and
- Declaration of four lions, one leopard and twelve elephants as problem animals.

As part of elephant-human conflict mitigation, two herds of elephants were captured in north-west Regions for live sale. A herd of 15 animals from the Omatjete area was sold to Timbila Reserve, and a herd of 22 animals from the Kamanjab area were captured by a local company for export.



Figure 27: Crocodile destroyed at Mupapama Village in Kavango East Region after it killed several goats.

During September 2021, a total of 51 buffaloes were exported to Zambia after being held in quarantine at Waterberg Plateau Park. Translocations of buffaloes have been taking place for a number of years in an attempt to reduce numbers of wildlife on the Plateau to ease grazing pressure and to reduce the threat of buffalo escaping to neighboring farms. During 2019, a total of 117 buffaloes were exported to Zambia, and during 2020 a total of 85 buffaloes were exported there.

### 4.3. Research into wildlife causing Human Wildlife Conflict

#### 4.3.1. KAZA TFCA Movement Study

The Ministry participated in the KAZA TFCA Movement study, which is aimed at collaring economically important species, documenting their movement and scientifically analysing such movement to publish results and identify wildlife corridors with in KAZA to link landscapes. The collaring of large carnivores and elephants also aids in HWC mitigation by setting up early warning systems and acting on problem animals. Finally, the collaring assists in population estimation and monitoring. During the 2021-2022 financial year, a total of 11 lions, 3 spotted hyena and 5 elephants were collared and their movements were documented.



Figure 28: Elephant bull being collared in Nyae Nyae Conservancy for human wildlife conflict mitigation.

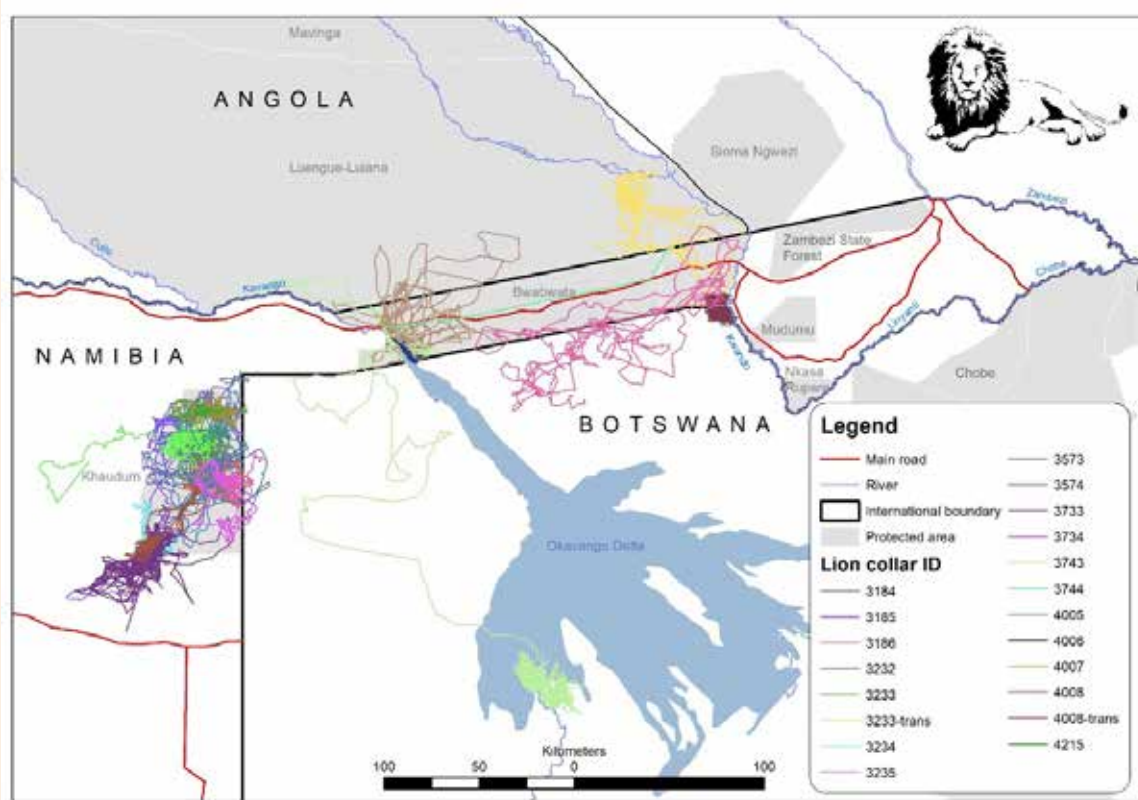


Figure 29: Movement data produced from collared lions in the KAZA TFCA.

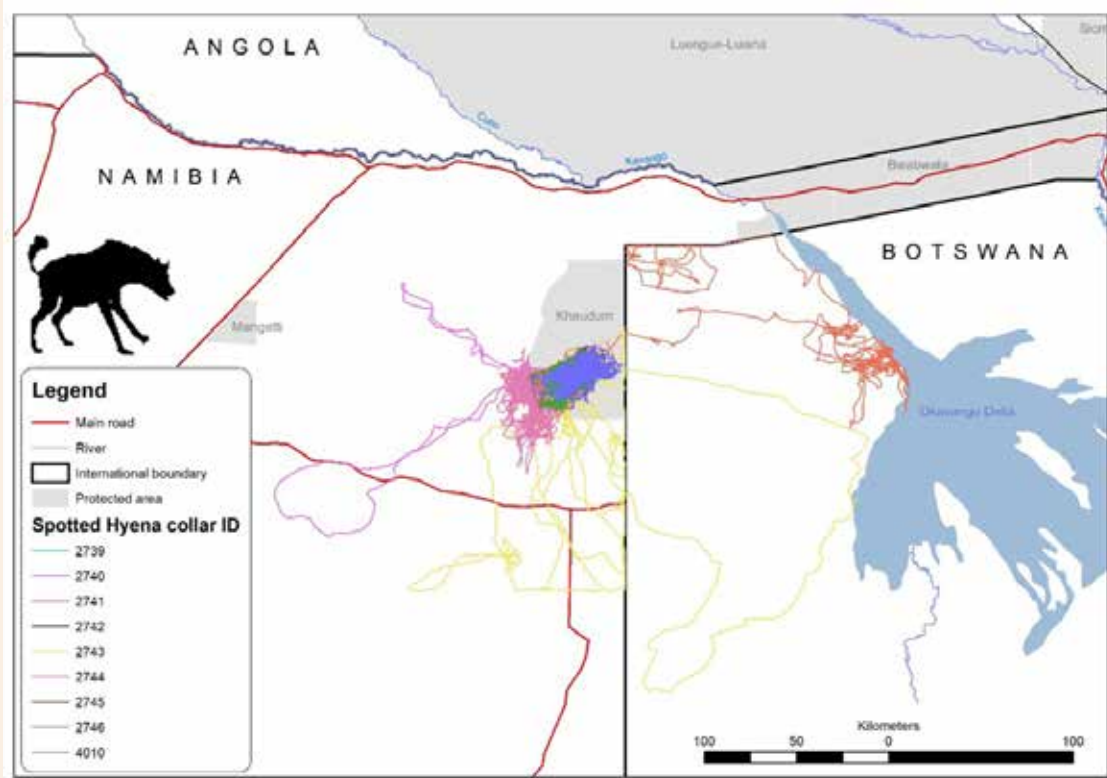


Figure 30: Movement data produced from collared Spotted Hyena in the KAZA TFCA.

### 4.3.2. Crocodile HWC study in Kavango River System

Along the Kavango River, the daily activities of communities are intertwined with fish, crocodiles and freshwater resource as a food source, income generator (i.e. sale of fish and game viewing through ecotourism) and bartering. Recent studies have shown that the fish stocks are declining at a rate that has started to impact on these communities where not enough fish can be harvested for the daily needs for a single household. This especially can impact on the rural poor communities, women and children as unskilled workers depend on fishing to earn an income as a means of support.

It is against this background that the MEFT collaborated with the Kamutjonga Inland Fisheries Institute (KIFI) to conduct the following activities:

- Assessment of the fish catches on the Kavango River (fish population structure and assessment of the subsistence fisheries and informal markets for fish)
- Population structures of the fisheries was obtained from surveys conducted with gillnets
- Population structures of the crocodiles was obtained from aerial surveys
- Catch, tagging and behavioral monitoring of fish and crocodiles. Ten crocodiles and 24 commercially important Cichlids were tagged.
- Establishing the understanding of local actions and perceptions to crocodiles through a questionnaire survey and relating the behaviour of people fish and crocodiles
- Consideration of the establishment of Freshwater Protected Areas (FPAs) and facilitate the management thereof.



Figure 31: MEFT and KIFI staff sampling and fitting a satellite unit to a crocodile.

It is considered that establishing FPAs in the area could greatly benefit both riparian communities and wildlife. Firstly, the development and implementation of a monitoring system could ensure the timely warning to safeguard human lives against crocodile attacks. The second impact would be the empowerment of the communities to manage their own resources for their benefit, and thirdly a socio-economic approach to ensure that the livelihoods of the relevant communities improve through a sustained fishery while protecting the ecosystem services on which these communities depend.

### 4.3.3. Lion monitoring work in Erongo and Kunene Regions

The persistent and severe drought conditions in the north-west of Namibia have resulted in increased incidents of human-lion conflict. Predators such as lions and humans increasingly share the landscape resulting in livelihoods lost to lions and subsequent retaliatory killing. In Kunene region, illegal settlers are known to occupy wildlife corridors and poison predators, which is a further challenge.

The MEFT, with its partners, deployed about ten early warning loggers at strategic places in northwest Namibia to provide farmers with an alert when collared lions are approaching their village. The loggers collect data from collared lions. From May 2021 to February 2022, a total of 22 lions were collared. The early warning systems are linked to collars, loggers, servers, the SMART data and lion rangers to mitigate human-wildlife conflict.



Figure 32: MEFT staff collaring a lioness in Kunene Region, May 2021.

The village of Otjomapenda was identified as the ideal place to set up a ranger camp to ease the resources spent on the transport of rangers for patrols. The ranger camp will help reduce illegal hunting in these areas and the camp was constructed from 14-28<sup>th</sup> February 2022.



Figure 33: An early-warning logger being installed by MEFT staff, October 2021.



Figure 34: Standing solid... the completed lion Rangers fly camp at Otjomapenda in Ehi-rovipuka conservancy, March 2022.

## 4.4. Development of Species Management Plans

The following Species Plans were developed to varying degrees during the 2021-2022 financial year with a view to guiding the management of these species, which are vulnerable to poaching and / or human wildlife conflict:

- National Elephant Conservation and Management Plan 2021/2022-2030/2031 – Approved
- Black Rhinoceros Management Strategy 2021/2022 – 2030/2031 – Submitted for Approval
- White Rhinoceros Management Strategy 2021/2022 – 2030/2031 – Submitted for Approval
- National Lion Conservation and Management Strategy 2022-2032 – Submitted for Approval
- Black Rhinoceros Custodianship Programme Strategy 2022 – 2031 – Submitted for Comments

### 4.5. Wildlife Crime Statistics

Wildlife crime statistics were released in the National Report for 2021 on Wildlife Protection and Law Enforcement in Namibia. The report represents the third edition of annual wildlife-crime reporting at the national level. In its revised format applied for 2021, the report recognizes the important roles played by a range of government agencies, NGOs, funding partners, communities and the private sector. At the same time, the report shines a light on the complexity and serious impacts of wildlife crime by providing comprehensive data and detailed analyses.

The rapid escalation of wildlife crime in Namibia over the past decade necessitated the adaptation, innovation as well as implementation of new approaches and systems. The most important adjustment has been to increase inter-agency collaboration. The nexus for this is created by the Blue Rhino Task Team, a formal partnership between the MEFT Intelligence and Investigation Unit and the NAMPOL Protected Resources Division, which works closely with regional MEFT, NAMPOL and NDF units, the Office of the Prosecutor General, Financial Intelligence Centre, Anti-Corruption Commission, Namibia Revenue Agency and other partners. Activities are guided by the National Strategy on Wildlife Protection and Law Enforcement 2021–25, and seek to consolidate the achievements and progress made over the past five years.

Namibian wildlife crime reporting is underpinned by hard data, which unflinchingly portrays results and enables the presentation of wildlife crime and law enforcement trends. Comprehensive data compilation, analysis and publication are made possible through the strong inter-agency collaboration that channels data from various sources into the Integrated Database of Wildlife Crime in Namibia.

The idea of one National Integrated Database of Wildlife Crime in Namibia was first conceived in 2018, and by now it has become a fully operational database that provides superb analytical capabilities, such as identifying links between known suspects / perpetrators, firearms, identifying the most-targeted species and areas of crime prevalence and evaluating the nationalities of perpetrators. Trends over time can be analyzed in any category, and data can be mapped geographically to identify hotspots and gaps. All of this enables investigators to work strategically, based on reliable information.

Statistics from the National Report for 2021 on Wildlife Protection and Law Enforcement in Namibia are presented in a summarized version below:

Since the resurgence of rhino poaching in the country in 2014/2015, Etosha National Park was initially the main target, however there was a shift in focus during 2017-2019 to the Black Rhinoceros Custodian Program and private white rhino farms. Since 2020, cases in Etosha National Park have increased again to 50% (2020) and 63% (2021) of the total rhinos poached.

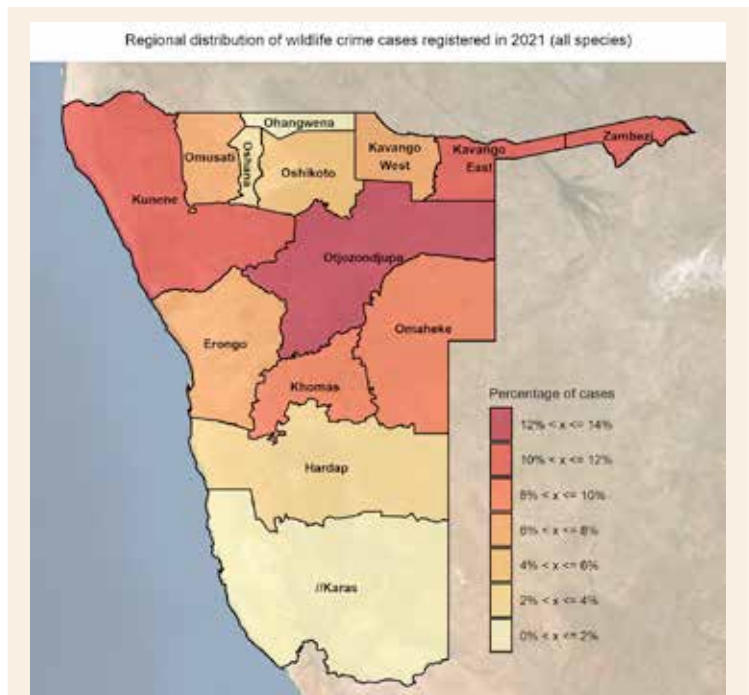


Figure 35: Regional distribution of wildlife crime cases in 2021.

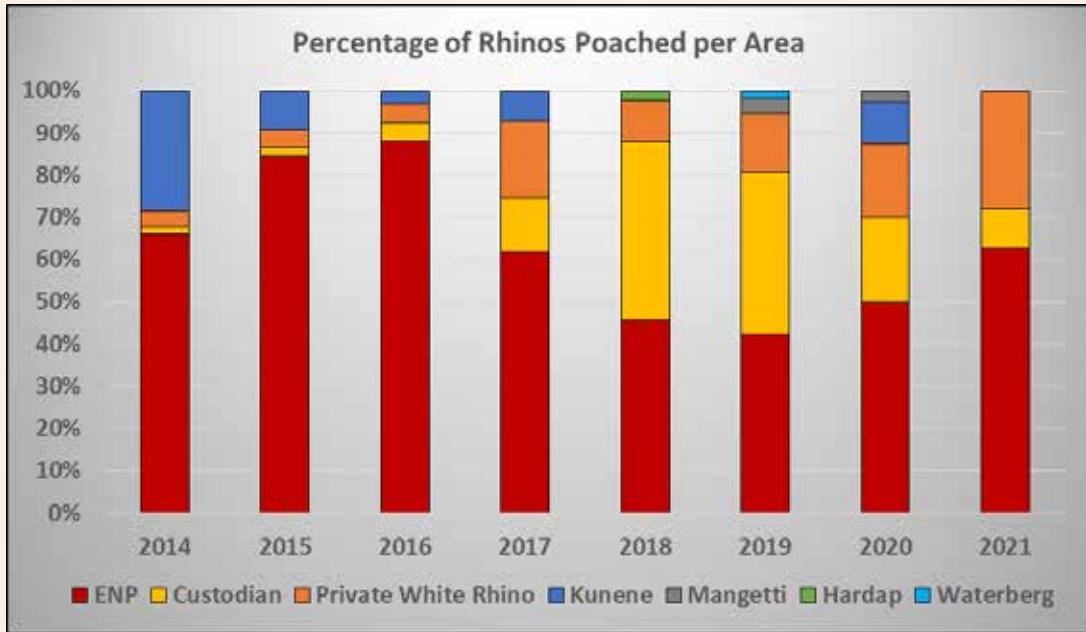


Figure 36: Annual percentage of rhinos poached per area (2014-2021).

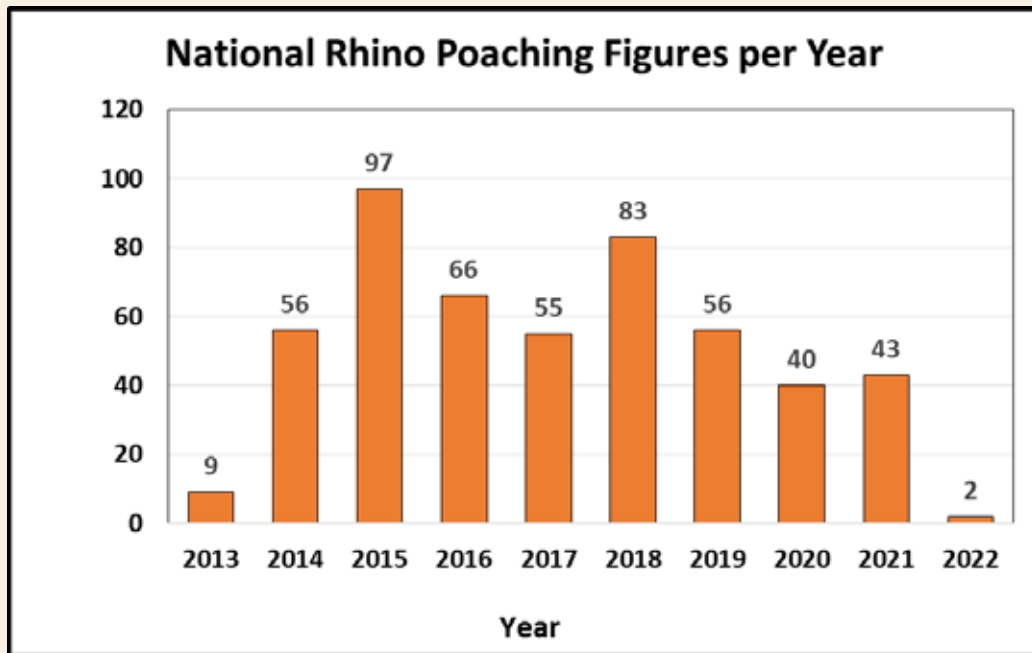


Figure 37: Number of rhinos poached annually from 2013-2021.

**Table 5: Wildlife crime statistics**

<b>WILDLIFE CRIME CASES REGISTERED FOR 2021 (ALL CATEGORIES)</b>	<b>371</b>	
related to meat poaching	185	
related to high-value species poaching/trafficking	145	
related to pangolin poaching/trafficking	69	
related to elephant poaching/trafficking	57	
related to rhino poaching/trafficking (both species)	22	
cases of conspiracy to poach rhino (pre-emptive arrest cases)	7	
<b>SUSPECTS ARRESTED (ALL CATEGORIES)</b>	<b>788</b>	
related to meat poaching	440	
related to high-value species poaching trafficking	288	
related to pangolin poaching/trafficking	124	
related to elephant poaching/trafficking	97	
related to rhino poaching/trafficking (both species)	76	
cases of conspiracy to poach rhino (pre-emptive arrest cases)	24	
<b>HIGH-VALUE WILDLIFE PRODUCTS SEIZED</b>		
Pangolin live animals	21	
Pangolin dead/skins	65	
Elephant complete tusks	103	
Rhino complete horns	15	
<b>OTHER SEIZURES</b>		
Firearms seized (related to high-value species)	18	
Vehicles impounded (related to high-value species)	25	
<b>INDIVIDUAL'S WILDLIFE CRIME CASES FINALIZED IN COURT (ALL SPECIES)</b>	<b>359</b>	
related to meat poaching	242	
related to high-value species poaching/trafficking	93	
<b>INDIVIDUALS CONVICTED FOR WILDLIFE CRIMES (ALL SPECIES)</b>	<b>287</b>	80% conviction rate
related to meat poaching	199	82% conviction rate
related to high-value species poaching/trafficking	66	71% conviction rate
<b>CONVICTIONS RESULTING IN CUSTODIAL SENTENCE</b>	<b>246</b>	19 months on average
related to meat poaching	160	14.5 months on average
related to high-value species poaching/trafficking	64	29.1 months on average
<b>CONVICTIONS RESULTING IN MONETARY FINE</b>	<b>268</b>	NAD 12,046 on average
related to meat poaching	189	NAD 5,048 on average
related to high-value species poaching/trafficking	60	NAD 31,748 on average

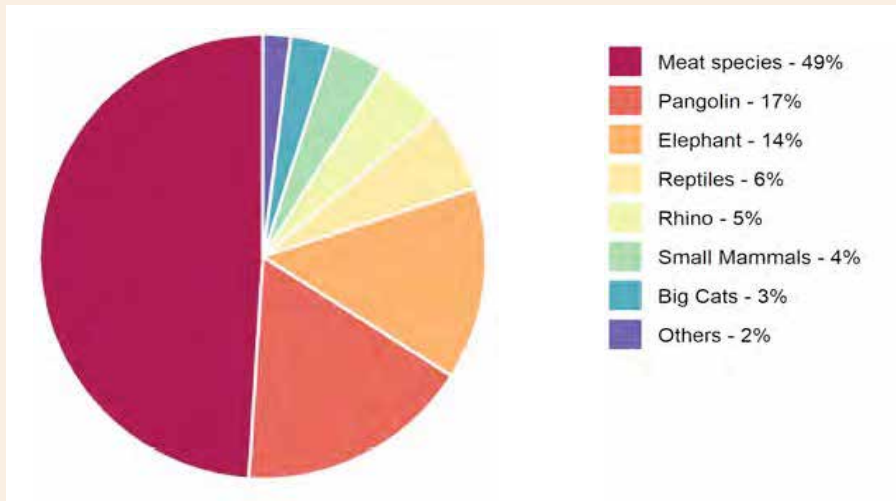


Figure 38: Ratio of targeted species for all registered cases recorded in 2021.

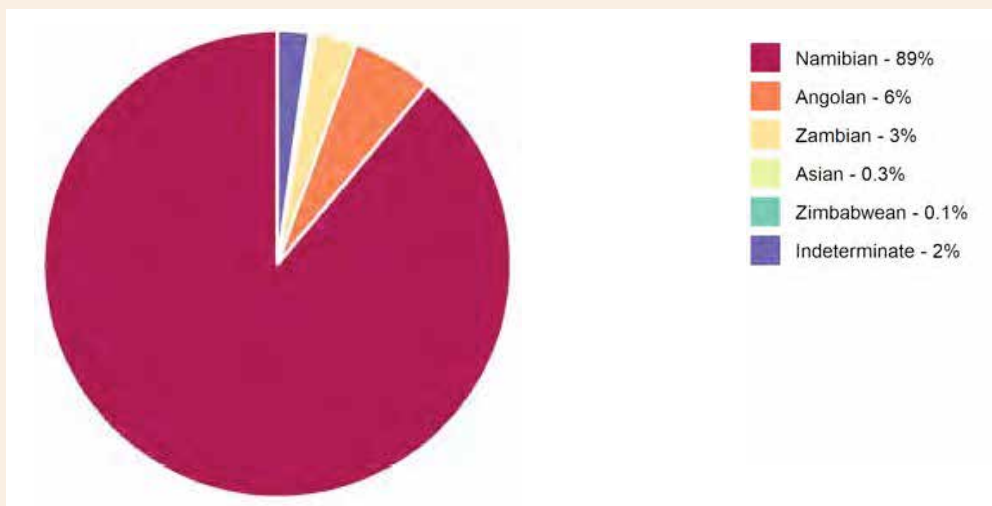


Figure 39: Ratios of suspects' nationalities for all arrests recorded in 2021.

#### 4.6. Crime Prevention and Law Enforcement Activities

Training of staff and stakeholders has been a major focus of crime prevention and law enforcement activities. The newly appointed Rangers of the Wildlife Protection Services (WPS) Division of the MEFT, underwent two weeks of weapons and first aid training at the Lucius Sumbwanyambe Mahoto Correctional Facility in Omaruru. Other staff members from the WPS Division, as well as some staff members of the Intelligence and Investigations Unit, received weapons refresher training and first aid training at the facility.

A further three months of training took place at the Waterberg Plateau Park APU School for the Rangers, including tactical, navigational, bush craft and basic scene of crime training, which was offered by the Africa Anti-Poaching Services. Other training during the three months included training on the different legislation; Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) training, pangolin first responders training; vulture and poison crime scene training; as well as rhino monitoring and behavioral training and elephant behavioral training. The training was supported by the Integrated Wildlife Protection Project (IWPP).

Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) Training of Trainers training was conducted for 27 trainees during November 2021. The training was offered by the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism SMART trainers, as well

as by SMART trainers of the North Carolina Zoological Society (NCZS). The group included trainees that physically use SMART in Parks, as well as MEFT staff members without prior experience in SMART.

The MEFT and NAMPOL maintained their approach of proactive communications, issuing weekly wildlife crime statistics to the media and various partners. This has kept all stakeholders, including the public, informed on law enforcement impacts. Enforcement of rules and regulations continues in all Protected Areas and Regions as standard procedure. This includes inspections at butcheries to ensure that they are in possession of valid permits to trade in game meat.

The table below summarizes the number of Admission of Guilt (AGO) fines issued for the contravention of rules and regulations, as well as the amounts fined during the 2021/2022 financial year in the different regions:

**Table 6: Wildlife crime fines issued**

AREA	NUMBER OF FINES	AMOUNT
Etosha NP	70	NAD 97,120
North-east Regions	28	NAD 60,660
North-central Regions	16	NAD 33,720
North-west Regions	73	NAD 138,820
Central Regions	135	NAD 531,500
Southern Regions	20	NAD 30,400
<b>Total:</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>NAD 892,220</b>



# 5. Promoting growth of the Tourism and Gaming sectors

The impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic continued to ravage the tourism sector with it being so dependent on attracting visitors and tourists from other countries. The restricted movements and closure of borders due to COVID-19 in the last two years have negatively impacted the tourism industry and the country's economic prospects. As a people-oriented industry, tourism remains one of the hardest-hit economic sectors of our country, however it was encouraging that 2021 marked the beginning of some positive signs of recovery.

In spite of the pandemic, the MEFT continued efforts to develop a robust tourism sector that is inclusive of both private and public sectors, and community partners, to appropriately manage tourism so that the sector's contribution to GDP is increased and leads to poverty reduction and income distribution especially in rural areas.

## 5.1 Tourism Sector Stakeholder Coordination

Efforts to counteract the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, has led to improved coordination and collaboration in the tourism sector. A National Tourism Task Force was established in 2020 and the MEFT spearheaded the Tourism Revival Initiative programme successfully up to September 2021. The National Tourism Task Force comprised of representatives from key stakeholders including co-opted institutions and private expertise and was instrumental in shaping aspects of the COVID-19 regulations which allowed tourism activities to continue.

The MEFT also focused efforts on improving coordination of tourism at the regional level and plans to establish Regional Tourism Forums in each of Namibia's 14 regions. Inception meetings were held with Regional Governments of Erongo, Otjozondjupa, Oshikoto with a view to establishing Tourism Regional Forums and respective Governors were appointed as Chairpersons of the Forums in February 2022. An initial consultation meeting was held with the Governor of Kavango East region on the same subject in September, 2021.

Strengthened collaboration was also achieved with Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security and linkages were created between the MEFT statistics office and the Electronic Border Management System to allow for more timely production of tourism statistics.

## 5.2. Development of the Tourism Recovery Plan

In order to understand fully the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the sector, a COVID-19 Socio-economic Impact Assessment on Tourism in Namibia was launched and published in August 2021. Produced in collaboration with UNDP and the UN Crisis Bureau, the assessment demonstrated the impacts of COVID-19 on a range of tourism businesses (restaurants, accommodation establishments, tour guides, transport operators, etc.). This included, amongst others, the decline in revenues, scaling down of operations, capital losses, retrenchments and wage reductions, increased prices of inputs and disruptions to supply. The assessment also documented impacts on operations to national parks as well as communal conservancies and community forests.

The COVID-19 impact assessment generated important recommendations that fed into to the development of the National Tourism Sector Recovery Plan. Stakeholder consultations on the Plan took place throughout the 14 regions during the period November 2021-March 2022.

The implementation of the Tourism Sector Recovery Plan will commence with the new financial 2022/2023 and it will guide interventions for the next three years. The following are the main strategic interventions or pillars of the Tourism Sector Recovery Plan, with each containing their own programs and key activities, spread over time in phases:

- Strategic Intervention 1: Policy Matters and Covid-19 Tourism Regulations and Measures
- Strategic Intervention 2: Aggressive Online Marketing and Promotion Campaigns
- Strategic Intervention 3: Attract New Geo- and Special Segments of the Global Travel Markets
- Strategic Intervention 4: Increased Tourism Market Intelligence through Statistics, Data Collection and Analysis
- Strategic Intervention 5: Improve Accessibility and Connectivity

The MEFT must secure and mobilise funds through Treasury, donor/ development partners funding and other sources to fund the Tourism Sector Recovery Plan and impactful tourism projects.

### 5.3. Tourism Awareness, Promotion and Networking

As part of strengthened efforts to raise tourism awareness and promotion, the MEFT undertook the following interventions in all the regions:

- Collaborated with NTB and NBC with regard to the launch of the Domestic Tourism Campaign in September 2021.
- Launched Tourism Sector COVID-19 Vaccination Drive campaign in January 2022.
- Participated in the Local Tourism is Lekker Expo in Swakopmund from 28-29th November 2021.
- Successfully spearheaded and hosted UNWTO-Africa region Brand Africa Conference in Windhoek in June 2021 to promote tourism recovery post COVID-19.
- Lobbied on behalf of MEFT and subsequently Namibia won the bid to host “Africa Youth in Tourism Innovation challenge and Summit” for the next three years, 2022-2024.
- Participated in the World Expo 2020 in Dubai and spearheaded a range of events linked to the Namibia Travel and Tourism Week and Seminars, which took place from 5th-13th March 2022 with the aim to promote the country as a tourism destination.
- Participated at UNWTO 24th Session of General Assembly, in Madrid Spain, 30 November to 3 December 2021.
- Participated in the Master Class and at an Exhibition of Meetings of Africa Events (MICE) in South Africa 28 February to 3 March 2022.

### 5.4. Tourism Competitiveness Index Score

According to the 2019 Global Competitiveness Report released by the World Economic Forum during the period under review, Namibia improved its ranking from 100 out of 140 countries in 2018 to 94<sup>th</sup> out of 141 countries in 2019. Despite the improvement in ranking Namibia however still remains the 6<sup>th</sup> most competitive economy in Sub-Saharan Africa behind Mauritius (49), South Africa (67), Seychelles (74), Botswana (90) and Kenya (93)”. The Global Competitiveness Index is based on 12 pillars: Institutions, Infrastructure, ICT adoption, Macroeconomic stability, Health, Skills, Product markets, Labour market, financial system, Market size, Business dynamics and Innovation capacity.

In order to improve competitiveness, the MEFT facilitated the identification of and stakeholder consultation for the establishment of new tourism routes and products and offers support to the private sector/stakeholders to commercialise and manage the products. During the period under review, the MEFT:

- Developed two concept notes for tourism transboundary route development within KAZA partner countries and these routes were approved by KAZA secretariat. Private Sector must now commercialise it.
- Held an inception meeting with Masubia Traditional Authority for the establishment of the Royal Homestead.
- Launched with UNESCO the Strategy for Sustainable Heritage Tourism Development and Employment Creation at Community Level and further provided input to the formulation of the Sustainable Cultural Tourism Strategy for Southern Africa.
- Created awareness on the importance of Tourism, Heritage and Culture to strengthen Community participation with UNESCO, GIZ, Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture and other key stakeholders.
- Launched the project on “Promoting sustainable tourism and private sector engagement for inclusive community development in response to the Covid-19 Crisis on 17 March 2022 in collaboration with GIZ, UNESCO, Ministry of Education, Arts and culture and an Action Plan was adopted.

### 5.5. Tourism Statistics

The Tourist Statistical Report for 2020 was finalised and launched in August 2021 and disseminated to stakeholders. The report demonstrated the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and revealed an 89% decline in tourist arrivals from the 2019 tourist arrivals figure. This showed that there were 169,565 tourist arrivals in 2020 compared to 1,595,973 in 2019. South Africa, Angola and Zambia made up the top three African tourist markets while Germany, United Kingdom and United States of America were the top three overseas source markets.



Figure 40: Trends in annual tourist arrivals from 2015-2020.

A Statistical Report was compiled, launched and disseminated in August 2021 aiming to measure the success of the Tourist Revival Initiative in terms of tourist arrivals. It provided statistics on the movement of international tourists into Namibia after the national lockdown ended in September 2020. During the period September 2020 - March 2021, a total of 61,663 tourist arrivals were recorded with only 340 tourist arrivals received in September 2021 when Namibia started to open up after the national lockdown.

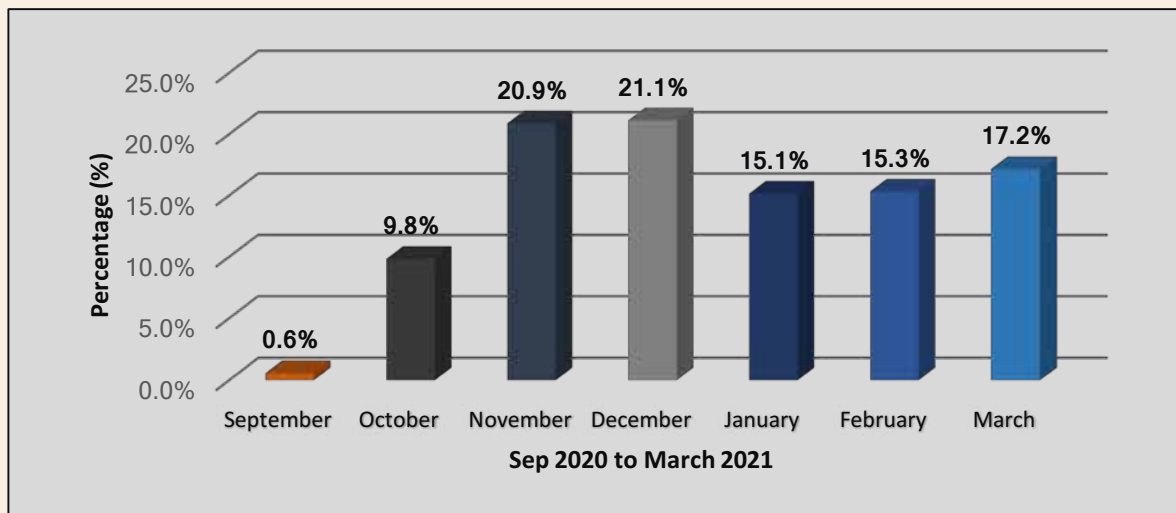


Figure 41: Monthly breakdown of the 61,633 tourists that arrived under the Tourism Revival Initiative (September 2020-March 2021).

A Tourist Statistical Report for 2021 was produced in January 2022 based on information from 15 entry points linked to the electronic border management system. A total of 233,692 tourist entries was observed all border points across the country in 2021. This shows an overall increase of 37.81% when compared to the overall tourist arrivals in 2020. The data show that Hosea Kutako International Airport was the most active border point with 43.7% of tourist arrivals followed by Ariamsvlei with 15.1%, Noordoewer with 13.1%, Trans-Kalahari with 10.5% and Rooikop with 6.4% of the overall tourist arrivals.

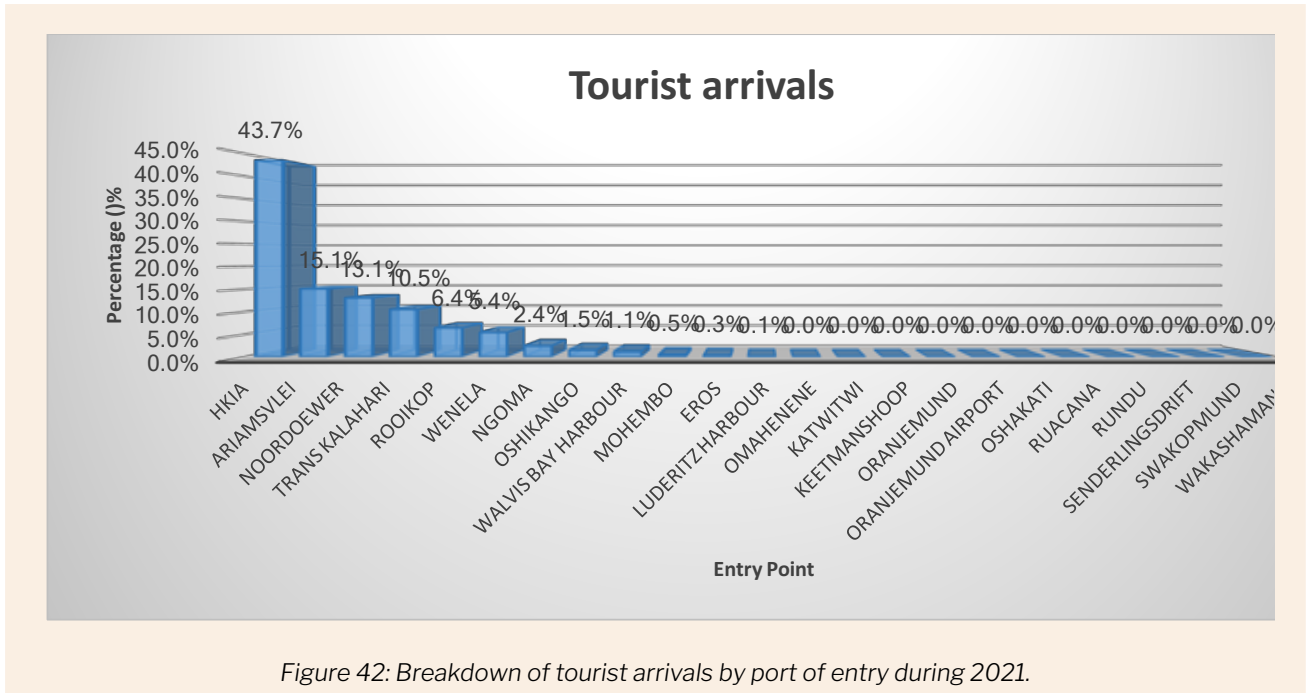


Figure 42: Breakdown of tourist arrivals by port of entry during 2021.

### 5.6. Gaming Promotion and Regulations

The Gaming and Entertainment Control Act No. 13 of 2018, and the Regulations were operationalized on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021. The above Act replaces the old Casinos and Gambling Houses Act, 1994 (Act No. 32 of 1994) which became outdated for the evolving gambling industry.

The Gambling Board was established and subsequently appointed its Board of Directors in 2021 to oversee the gambling industry. It is led by Rtd. Commissioner: Ben Shikongo as Chairperson, deputized by Ms. Toska Sem. Other members of the Gambling Board are Mr. Erastus Johannes, Mr. Josua Kaumbi, Ms. Sandra !Owoses, Ms. Amanda Heydenreich, and Ms. Uerijeta Kauaria.

The MEFT started with the strict implementation of the new law regulating gambling activities in the country. It is now required that all gambling establishments and slot machines are registered. Once all the machines are registered, they will be connected to a central monitoring system which will monitor all significant events associated with gambling machines. This system will also help the government to determine the amount of tax to be paid by operators on slot machines.

In 2018, there were an estimated 260 licensed slot machine operators in the country, of which six were casinos, while 254 were gambling houses. These licensed operators had a total of 2,845 registered slot machines, which contributed approximately N\$22 million to the Government coffers annually. It is estimated that there are more than 20,000 slot machines currently operating illegally in the country. This would be dealt with under the new Act as there would be a database of all gambling machines brought into or manufactured in the country.



Figure 43: Retired (Rtd) Commissioner: Ben Shilongo, Chairperson of the Gambling Board, receiving his official appointment letter during the inauguration by the Hon. Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, Hon. Pohamba Shifeta, on 8th December 2021.

## 5.7. Lotteries Regulation and Board

The Lotteries Act, 2017 (Act No. 13 of 2017), and the Regulations were operationalized on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021. The above Act replaces the Lotteries Act of 2002 (Act No. 15 of 2002) which has become outdated for the evolving lotteries industry.

The MEFT established a new entity called the Lotteries Board and subsequently appointed its Board of Directors in 2021. The Board will be responsible for the issuing of lottery licences and for establishing the State Lottery Trust Fund. It is headed by Mr. Micheal Mutonga as Chairperson, deputized by Ms. Tabitha Mbome. Other members of the Board are Ms. Herlinda Alcock, Ms. Charlotte Kapse, Mr. Wycliff Shillifa, and Mr. Immanuel I Hanabeb.

## 5.8 Tourism Bilateral Agreements

The MEFT initiated discussions to explore bi-lateral ties to promote cooperation in various tourism areas with the following countries:

- **India:** The Ministry undertook engagements as part of the 4th Session of the Namibia / India Joint Trade Committee meeting to identify areas for cooperation in tourism.
- **Kenya:** A ministerial technical working group was established between the two countries.
- **Zambia:** The Joint Commission Meeting between Namibia and Zambia took place at Windhoek Country Club and a progress report on the implementation of the MoU in the field of tourism was presented there.
- **South Africa:** the memorandum of understanding in the field of tourism was finalized and is expected to be signed during the next Bi-National Commission meeting.
- **Ghana:** The memorandum of understanding was drafted and power of attorney was granted to MIRCO to sign it at the upcoming Joint Commission Meeting in Ghana in April 2022.
- **Jamaica:** Meetings were held with officials from the Ministry of Tourism of Jamaica on various initiatives and a draft memorandum of understanding is being legally vetted before signature in 2022/23.
- **Tanzania:** The MEFT held meetings with the Minister of Tourism of Tanzania and Tanzania Tourism Authority Senior Officials in Madrid, Spain, and discussed collaboration with co-destination marketing and packaging by Tour Operators, Air Tanzania and Tourism Authorities of the two countries.



*Figure 44: Mr. Michael Mutonga (second from left), Chairperson of the Lotteries Board, and other Board members receiving their official appointment letters from the Hon. Deputy Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, Hon. Heather Sibungu, on 10th November 2021.*



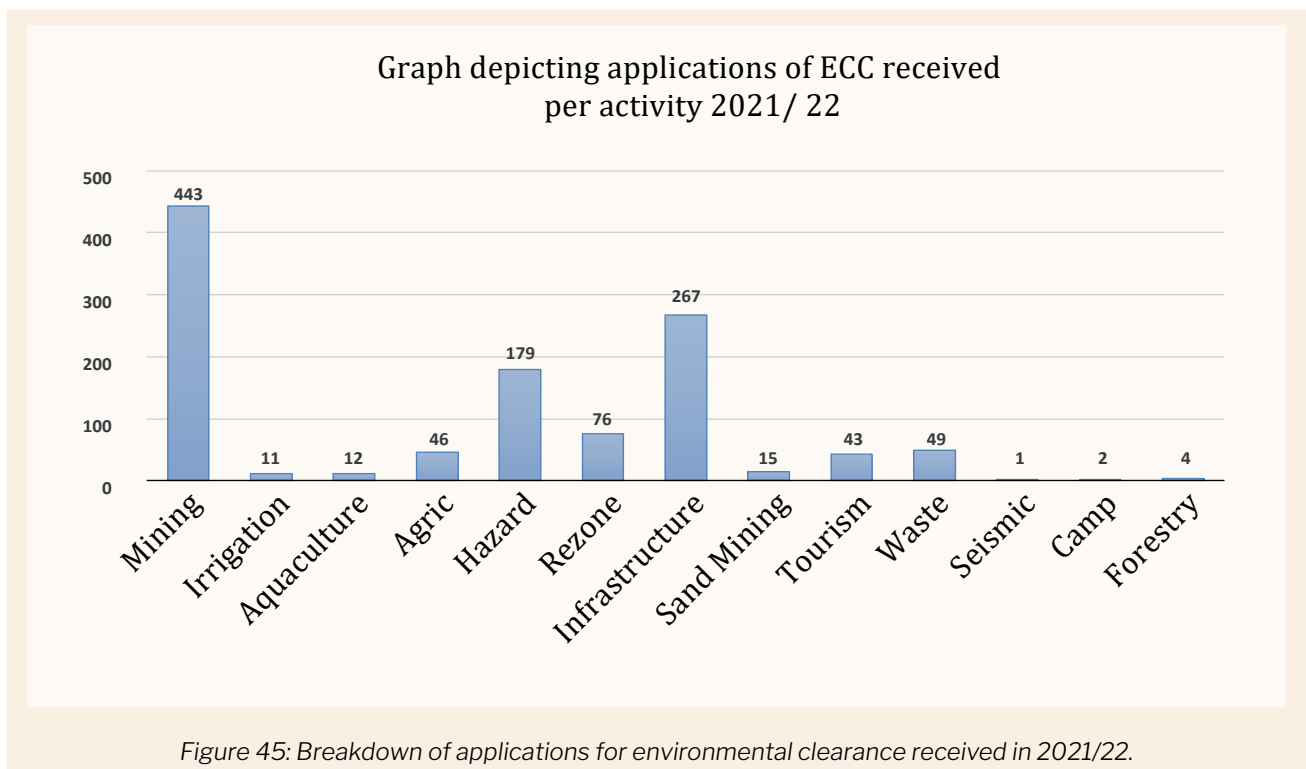
# 6. Ensuring environmental sustainability and transition to a green economy

In order to ensure the sustainable management of natural resources and the protection of the environment in particular, the Environmental Management Act (EMA), 2007 (Act No. 7 of 2007) is of key importance. In terms of the EMA, all developmental activities which may have adverse impacts on the environment must have environmental clearance.

The MEFT, as National Designated Authority to the Green Climate Fund and focal Ministry to the Rio Conventions, is also at the forefront of transitioning the country towards a green economy.

## 6.1. Implementation of the Environmental Management Act

A total of 1,148 applications for environmental clearance were received in the year under review of which 833 environmental clearance certificates were issued, especially for activities related to hazardous substances, infrastructure development, urban development and mining. In comparison to previous years, application for environmental clearance certificates has improved due to the online application system and intensification of awareness activities that have been carried out.



Graph depicting applications received per month and Environmental Clearance Certificates issued

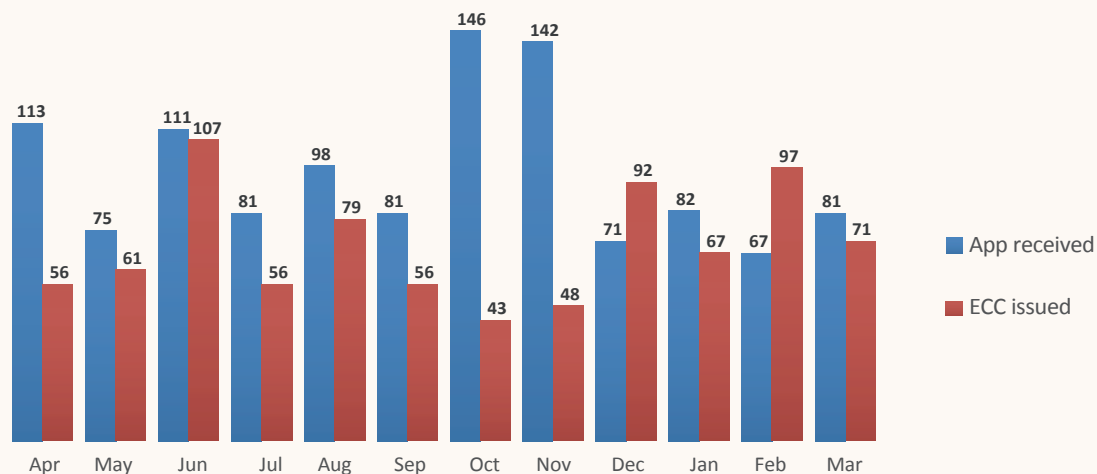


Figure 46: Breakdown of applications and environmental clearance certificates issued monthly during 2021/22.

Despite, the challenges of COVID-19, a total of 80 sites were inspected for environmental compliance and monitoring. 15 notifications and 12 compliance orders were issued respectively during the period under review and these related mainly to waste management and sand mining activities. Records, revealed that in comparing sites inspected and compliance orders and notifications issued, it can be concluded that that there is improvement in the implementation of Environmental Management Plans that formed the basis upon which the environmental clearance certificates were issued.

Illegal sand mining remains a challenge and the Ministry is working closely with Traditional Authorities and the Namibian Police to better regulate the mushrooming sand mining activities. The Ministry has also developed draft regulations specific to sand mining in terms of Section 56 of the Environmental Management Act in order to improve coordination and regulation of this natural resources.

**Sustainable Development Advisory Council**

The Environmental Management Act makes provision for the establishment of the Sustainable Development Advisory Council. During the review period, the Council held two meetings. It also held a retreat and planning session from 10-11 May 2021 to develop a 5-year Strategic Plan to guide its operations.

During the period under review, the Council approved the following documents to guide its operations:

- Communications Strategy
- Resource Mobilization Strategy
- SDAC 5 Year Strategic Plan (2021-2026)

The Council and the Environmental Investment Fund (EIF) jointly hosted the third edition of the Sustainable Development Awards on Friday May 21<sup>st</sup> under the theme “accelerating the green economy transformation as we recover from COVID-19”. The Sustainable Development



Figure 47: Hon. Pohamba Shifeta, Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, officiating at the 3rd edition of the Sustainable Development Awards.



Awards, first held in 2015, are the brainchild of the Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia and Sustainable Development Advisory Council and are aimed at rewarding and showcasing outstanding performances that contribute to the sustainable development of the Namibian nation.

The following were different categories awarded:

- Private Sector Champions for Sustainable Development;
- Community level natural resource management and utilization initiatives;
- Best Research and Development for outstanding pieces of research or innovations in the field of sustainable development;
- Youth Action for Sustainable Development;
- Pioneering journalism in the field of sustainable development;
- Women and Environment;
- Sustainable Schools;
- Green Financial Services/Institution; and
- Thought Leadership

The Council also provided guidance and oversight to the development of the Second Integrated State of the Environment Report, which was launched on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022. The report has been described as a landmark publication that provides detailed information on the health of Namibia's environment in terms of 171 indicators covering five main areas: (i) Environmental resources and their uses (ii) Environmental protection, management and engagement (iii) Residuals and waste products (iv) Extreme events and disasters (v) Human settlements and environmental health.

Further information on the Council is available at [www.sdacnamibia.org](http://www.sdacnamibia.org)

## 6.2 Waste Management

### 6.2.1. Implementation of the National Solid Waste Management Strategy

During the period under review the term of office of members of the National Solid Waste Management Advisory Panel came to an end and the re appointment was facilitated and concluded. Following the appointment of new member of the advisory panel, two meetings were held.

The Advisory Panel established a sub-committee to advise on measures for the phasing out of single use plastic items such as thin carrier bags, plastic bottles and utensils. The sub-committee has met and started working on the process and its recommendations are expected to be tabled to the Hon. Minister to take forward further. The Advisory Panel is also playing an active role in advising with regard to the reinvestment of environmental levies that are being collected by the EIF.

### 6.2.2. Implementation of Basel, Stockholm and Minamata Conventions

The ongoing implementation of PCB elimination has been carried out during the period under review. Transformers that are contaminated with PCB were identified for disposals. Consultant to facilitate the removal of contaminated transformers has been appointed Disposal plan is being finalized. Inventories of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) were carried out in order to first quantify them and thus determine the extent of the problem intending to develop appropriate intervention measures for managing these chemicals and protecting humans and the environment from their effects.

Both the African Regional preparatory meeting for the Conferences of Parties and the Conference of Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions held in May 2021 were attended virtually.

The fourth Conference of Parties (COP 4) to the Minamata Convention on Mercury was attended, the discussion on phasing out mercury dominated the discussions of the conference.

With regard to the implementation of the Basel Conventions, issuance of endorsements for the transboundary movements of waste is ongoing. During the period under review the brief national report was submitted.

### 6.3. Implementation of the Rio Conventions

Synergistic implementation of the 3 Rio Conventions has received considerable attention at international level to enhance cooperation between conventions. Furthermore, close implementation amongst the Rio Convention ensures that there is no duplication of efforts, but rather an efficient approach to channel much needed resources to implement the conventions in a synergistic approach. Therefore, the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism as a national institution that coordinates the implementation of the three Rio Conventions, recognized and adopted the synergistic approach to implement the conventions.

The MEFT has discontinued a separate national reporting committee for each convention and established a new reporting committee called the National Committee on Rio Conventions (NCRC). The NCRC committee approach will enable much needed funds to be channeled in a manner that will ensure that climate change, biodiversity and sustainable land management issues are covered simultaneously (through pragmatic project development).

#### 6.3.1. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

The national committee quarterly meetings of the Sustainable Land Management (SLM) to review the implementation of Namibia's NAP3 and to guide further intervention measures relating to desertification, land degradation and drought have been merged with the other Rio Conventions. All three Rio Conventions convened committee meetings twice this financial year.

Under the current review, there was no regional land degradation assessment undertaken due to lack of funding to complete Oshikoto and the two Kavango regions. The remaining fund has been invested in analyzing data for regions with incomplete full analysis. However, MEFT in collaboration with the University of Namibia with funding from the Namibia Integrated Landscape Approach for Enhancing Livelihoods and Environmental Governance to Eradicate Poverty (NILALEG) Project has established a Spatial Monitoring Lab to monitor the three United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) land degradation assessment monitoring indicators. The monitoring lab will form the integral part of future land degradation assessment and long-term monitoring particularly in areas under restoration.

Namibia became a member of the Africa Forest and Landscape Restoration (AFR100) initiative with the efforts to restore more degraded lands. As a result, the country has submitted ambitious targets to restore 76,430 ha (combined targets of 35,000 ha from NDC and 41,430 ha from Land Degradation Neutrality targets) of deforested and degraded landscape by 2030/40. The AFR100 members will benefit both financially and technically to implement restoration efforts through calls to submit funded proposals.

Namibia is a member of the Great Green Wall (GGW) initiative that was originally initiated in the Sahel region, and has been extended to southern Africa in 2017. The initiative that is being implemented at the SADC level, its progress has been hugely affected by the Covid 19 pandemic. However, a draft regional strategy to implement the Great Green Wall in southern Africa was developed. The GGW has now resumed its preparation for implementation in SADC region, furthermore Namibia will be assisted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to hire a consultant to undertake a national assessment and, including national stakeholder engagement.

#### 6.3.2. United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity

During the period under review, all NBSAP II steering committee quarterly meetings to report on the progress made on the implementation and challenges have been merged with the other Rio Conventions (section 1.3). All three Rio Conventions convened committee meetings twice this financial year.

The Marine Spatial Plan (MSP) under the implementation of NBSAP II is one of the supporting pillars for Namibia's Blue Economy Policy. The MSP is being developed by the National Working Group (NWG) comprising sectors that use marine space.

The MSP development has attained significant milestones and it is envisaged that by the end of 2022 the plan may be ready to be implemented, this of course takes into account the formation or mainstreaming of the plan into existing relevant legal frameworks.

The following milestones have been met:

- Finalisation of the user zones.
- Finalisation of the user guidelines in all zones.
- Updating and development of the second edition of the Current Status Report of the Marine Spatial Plan in Namibia.
- Endorsement of the MSP by all sectors/institutions with activities in the ocean space.
- Various validation workshop with all sectors with activities in the ocean space

Regarding the Ecologically or Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs) in the marine environment, the Namibian EBSAs have been submitted to the CBD Secretariat during 2019 for consideration and adoption. The EBSAs Regional Technical Working Group has completed the drafting of the management guidelines for national and transboundary EBSAs and Namibia has held bi-lateral meetings with South Africa and Angola to discuss and agree on the management guidelines. Namibian EBSAs guideline management have been integrated into the MSP plan, the EBSAs may be subjected to the Marine Protected Areas. The delineation of the EBSAs is part of the collective efforts and a decision adopted by the Parties at the CBD COP to expand protected areas of the marine environment. It is estimated that a total of protected area coverage in the marine environment has now risen to 21%. The new coverage provides hopes to attain 30x30 CBD global coverage of protected areas on land and sea as articulated under target 3 of the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity framework (GBF).

### 6.3.3. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

As part of international obligations, the MEFT participated in the Conference of Parties (COP) 26 which was held in Glasgow, Scotland from 31 October to 13 November 2021. The Namibia delegation was led by his Excellency Dr. Hage Geingob who delivered remarks at the high level segment for the World Leaders Summit and also led the delegation in engaging international investors for Namibia's ambition to develop green hydrogen agenda. In addition, the Namibia delegation was fully represented at technical level composed of staff from Ministries, Stated Owned Enterprises, Private Sectors, Academia and Youth Organizations.

The MEFT successfully submitted national communications to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change - namely: Fourth Biennial Update Reports (BURs), Revised Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) and First Adaptation Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). These communications lay out the detailed measures that strive to facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change, National greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory, and programmes containing measures to mitigate climate change. The updated Namibia NDC commits to reduce its GHG emission by 91% from 89% targets that were initially set in the first NDC in 2015. The estimated investments required for the remainder implementation of the NDC period (2021 -2030) is USD 5.3 billion (approximately NAD 81 billion), of which 10% is unconditional (NAD 8 billion).



Figure 48: H.E. President Dr. Hage Geingob delivered his speech at high level segment of the UNFCCC COP26.

## 6.4. Resource mobilization

The MEFT, as the National Designated Authority to the Green Climate Fund and Adaptation Fund, as well a focal point Ministry to various multilateral funding mechanisms, continued to coordinate the development and submission of bankable project proposals to access funding from various windows.

Under the review period, a 5-years Regional Project proposal on Building Resilience on Climate Change Adaptation in drought-stricken South Western Africa Communities was approved by the Adaptation Fund at the total amount of USD 12 million. The project aims to enhance adaptation capacities and resilience towards climate change impacts and variability in the trans boundary between Angola (Cuando Cubango basin) and Namibia (Okavango river catchment). The project was officially launched and the governance advisory structure of Regional and National Project Steering Committee was constituted. The project will be executed by DAPP Namibia.

The Green Climate Fund approved a readiness funding of USD 300,000 to develop the Green Hydrogen Strategy for Namibia. The EIF will be the executing entity for this project.

Various milestones were attained under the Implementation of Integrated Early Systems funded by World Food programme. The Project aims to strengthen the infrastructure network and capacity building to better collect, analyze and interpret climate related data. To date, the project procured the early warning equipment such as station computers and android devices and were successfully handed to the participating institutions (MEFT, OPM, MWT and MAWLR). Furthermore, a series of GIS training and crop monitoring were also provided to the technical personnel.

In terms of the Global Environment Facility, the 5-year Project on Dryland Sustainable Landscape – Impact Programme titled: “Integrated Landscape Management to reduce, reverse and avoid further Degradation and Support the Sustainable use of natural resources in the Mopane-Miombo belt of northern Namibia (DSL-IP Project) was approved. Project implementation will take place from March 2022 to November 2027 with funds totalling USD 6.1 million from by the Global Environment Facility (GEF 7). The project is part of a global impact programme led by United Nations Food for Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and focusing on Sustainable Forest Management under the broad theme titled Dryland Sustainable Landscapes Impact Programme. The project will promote sustainable forest and land management in dryland landscapes of the rural northern regions of Namibia, more specifically Oshikoto, Omusati and Kavango East.

A project funded with EUR860,000 by the French Development Agency (AFD) and the French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM) to develop terrestrial biodiversity spatial plans was approved. Undertaking spatially explicit biodiversity assessment, prioritisation and planning is one of the most important science based tools to monitor and protect biodiversity at a national scale. The spatial biodiversity assessment, prioritisation and planning (SBAPP) process allows countries to: (i) monitor the status of threats and the level of protection of ecosystems and species within a country, and (ii) geographically identify priority areas for the conservation of this biodiversity. The work towards developing the plan will commence in May 2022 once the signing of the project has taken place in April 2022. Tertiary institutions, National Museum of Namibia and the National Botanical Research Institute will be part of the project to develop the national spatial plan.



# 7. Sustainable management of forest resources

The forestry sector, including charcoal production, invader bush harvesting and logging and value addition to timber resources, are of considerable importance to the Namibian economy. During the 2021/22 financial year, the Ministry focused its efforts on the following strategic activities:

- Expansion and transformation of production at MEFT orchards, nurseries and plantations
- Development of a sustainable charcoal production industry
- Restoration of degraded ecosystems such as those affected by bush encroachment
- Improved prevention and control of forest fire management
- Local level value addition to timber for the production of furniture, tables and other finished products
- Value addition and development of the non-timber forest product sector
- Development and application of new technologies for forest and land cover monitoring such as drones

## 7.1. Legislation Development

The Ministry undertook several important initiatives to strengthen legislation and the regulation of forest resource use.

In terms of the review of the Forestry Act and its regulations, a national stakeholder consultation workshop was held and the proposed revisions were presented to the MEFT management. The main proposed revisions to the Act and its regulations are to:

1. Simplify establishment of Community Forests
2. Forest Management Plans mandatory (with Resource Inspections)
3. Bush and timber harvesting: Tighten permit conditions and enforceability
4. Improve fire management
5. Increase penalties and timber values

With regard to the gazetting of state forest reserves, the notice of intention to declare the Zambezi State Forest Reserve was published in the Government Gazette on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022. This process allows for a 60-day objection period. Management plans for the Hamweyi (Kavango West) and Kanovlei (Otjozondjupa region) State Forest Reserves were finalized. Consequently, meetings were held with the villagers, Regional governors, Mbunza and Shambyu Traditional Authorities to sensitize these stakeholders on the process of gazetting the said state forest reserves.

## 7.2. Regulation of forest resource use

Forest resource use is regulated through conducting patrols, manning roadblocks as well as carrying out forest resource inspections. To this end, various forest permits were issued to the public; namely harvesting, transporting, marketing, exporting, importing and transit. Due to illegal operations, a large quantity of forest produces such as timber, firewood, charcoal, poles and droppers were confiscated and impounded at Forestry Offices and other government institution sites countrywide.

A Joint Patrol “Operation Thunder 2021 Omaheke”, spearheaded by NAMPOL (Protected Resources Investigation Subdivision) in collaboration with DoF and Parks and Wildlife, and Customs visited 57 farms. The purpose was to look at the utilization of natural resources and how the users are complying with the conservation laws. Six people from various farms were fined to value of N\$7,000. The offences ranged inter alia from not obeying permit conditions to illegal harvesting of protected trees.

The tables below provide a summary of law enforcement activities undertaken and the results therefrom.

Table 8: Law enforcement activities conducted

DIVISION	ACTIVITY (NR OF DAYS)			
	ROAD BLOCKS	INSPECTIONS	PATROLS	BORDER PATROLS
Central & Southern Regions	61	284	165	-
Northern Regions	521	273	616	14
Forest & Botanical Research	-	-	35	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>816</b>	<b>14</b>

Table 9: Forest products confiscated

ITEM	DIVISION		
	CENTRAL & SOUTHERN REGIONS	NORTHERN REGIONS	TOTAL
Charcoal (tons)	537	6	543
Planks	-	3,669	3,669
Logs	60	-	60
Poles	4,359	1,974	6,333
Droppers	2,629	1,566	4,195
Rafters	-	590	590
Firewood (tons)	502	69	571
Tools (Panga and Axes)	-	17	17
Uprooted roots (tons)	25	-	25
Wood curving produced for marketing	-	26	26
Mobile sawmill	-	1	1

Table 10: Confiscated wood auctioned

ITEM	DIVISION					
	CENTRAL & SOUTHERN REGIONS		NORTHERN REGIONS		TOTAL	
	QUANTITY	VALUE (N\$)	QUANTITY	VALUE (N\$)	QUANTITY	VALUE (N\$)
Planks	-	-	3,669	294,560	3,669	294,560
Blocks	-	-	10	2,000	10	2,000
Semi-blocks	-	-	20	3,100	20	3,100
Woodcarvings	-	-	870	17,360	870	17,360
Firewood (tons)	-	-	10	3,250	10	3,250
Droppers (bundles)	-	-	63	1,260	63	1,260
Poles	-	-	567	-	567	2,835
Mini logs	-	-	7	100	7	100
Thatch grass (tons)	-	-	5	510	5	510
Uprooted roots (tons)	-	-	25	-	25	5,000
<b>Total</b>						<b>329,975</b>

Table 11: Fines issued and court cases opened

DIVISION	FINES ISSUED	VALUE OF FINES (N\$)	NR OF COURT CASES OPENED AND PENDING
Central & Southern Regions	24	20,000	3
Northern Regions	49	28,300	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>48,300</b>	<b>7</b>

Table 12: Type and number of permits issued

PERMIT	DIVISION	
	CENTRAL & SOUTHERN REGIONS	NORTHERN REGIONS
Harvesting	3,187	290
Harvesting own use	-	111
Harvesting commercial	-	117
Transport	6,585	1,405
Transport own use	-	417
Transport commercial	-	422
Bee farming permit	-	2
Marketing permits	2,675	835
Transit permits	-	1,533
Import permits	-	10
Export permits	5,990	307
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18,437</b>	<b>5,449</b>



Figure 49: Illegal harvested poles at Otjitho area transported to Uukolonkadhi Community Forest office at Oshifo in Omusati Region. Photo by J Shipingana 2021



Figure 50: Confiscated firewood ready to be transformed in charcoal in one of the Otjiwarongo district farms, Otjozondjupa region. Photo, K. Lisao, 2021.



Figure 51: Mobile sawmill and tractor used for illegal operation in Kapinga Kamwalye conservancy, Kavango East, the mobile sawmill was confiscated and impounded at Rundu Forestry office. photo, J. Niipale, 2021

### 7.3. Forest and Veld Fire Management

The year under review was particularly challenging in terms of forest fire management. A total of 3.1 million hectares, following on from 3.25 million hectares in 2020, were burned and 1,234 incidents forest and veld fires occurred in fire prone regions in 2021. An estimated 900 livestock and 500 game were killed with 6 human lives lost due to veld fires. The largest fires were observed in Kunene, Omusati, and Otjozondjupa and Kavango East regions.

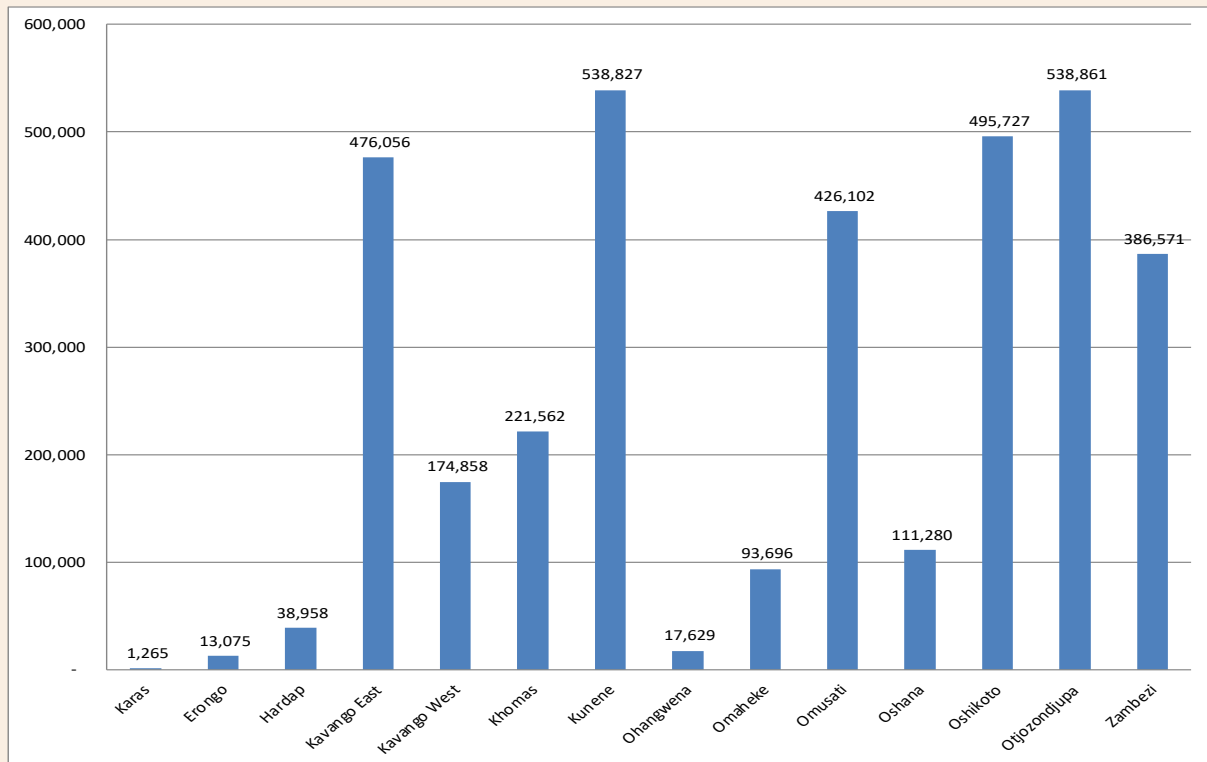


Figure 52: Burned areas per regions during 2021.

The country's national parks were severely affected by veld fires. An estimated 48% of Etosha National Park was burned during September-November in 2021 (excluding the Etosha Pan, which is generally devoid of vegetation). Etosha was particularly damaged by veld fires that spread into the park from commercial farms to the south, while one severe fire entered the park from the north-west in November 2021. Lightning was a cause of other fires that took place. The areas affected by veld fires in Etosha National Park are demonstrated in the figure below.

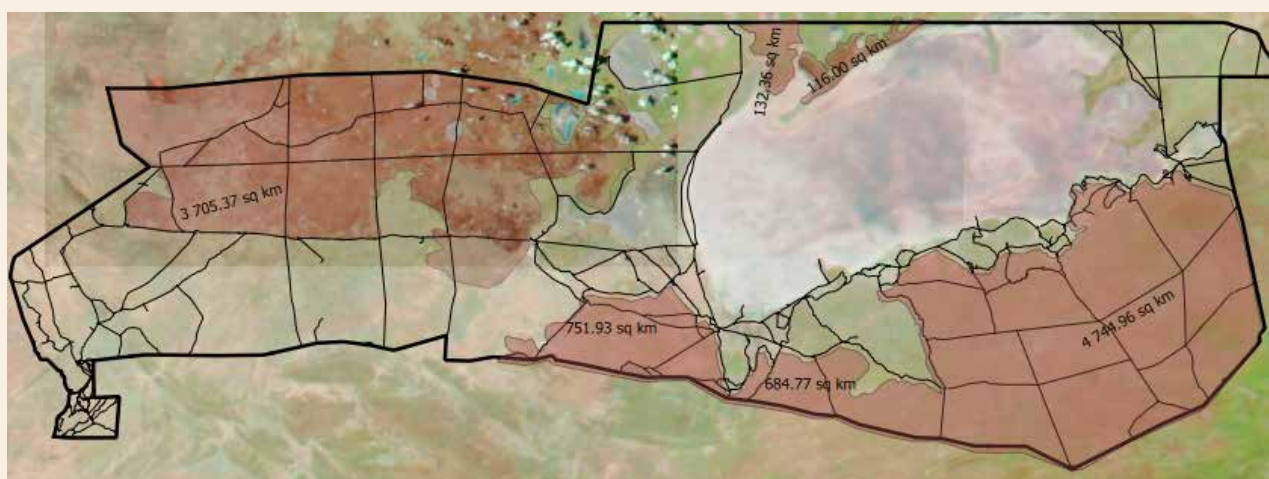


Figure 53: Map showing the area of Etosha National Park burned during the 2021 fire season.

Approximately 90% of Daan Viljoen Game Park was destroyed during fires that occurred during June, July and August 2021. The most devastating of the fires entered the Park from neighbouring farms. Several natural fires also occurred in north-east Parks, including Khaudum National Park during the year, however, all fires were brought under control.



Figure 54: Suppression of fires at Likwaterera Community Forest in Kavango East.  
Photo, J Niipale, 2021

In line with the draft National Forest and Veld Fire Management Policy and Strategy, a number of interventions were undertaken to ensure better preparedness and management of veld fires:

- Forest fire assessments were carried out at all fire prone areas to determine the fuel load.
- A total of 208 awareness campaigns on fire prevention and suppression were conducted at all fire prone areas through community meetings, TV and radio talks.
- The Ministry trained a total of 300 people across the country in basic fire prevention and suppression while more than 150 Ministry staff members and other stakeholders participated in fire fighting. This training was conducted in fire prone regions including Hardap, Khomas, Otjozondjupa, Omusati, Oshikoto, Ohangwena, Oshana, Kavango West, Kavango East and Zambezi. The aim was to sensitize the communities on matters of forest fire management, how to prevent and deal with fire incidences.
- Incidences of forest and veld fires were suppressed through a collaborative approach involving MEFT staff members, Regional Councils, NDF members, Namibian Police Force, Town Councils, and community members.

## 7.4. Tree Planting and Orchard Development

Tree planting and orchard development are key activities to increase forest cover, generate income and employment and to improve food security for local people. It involves seedling production and support to tree planting and other activities on private farms, on land allocated to individual households and in community forests as well as in woodlots and orchards on communal lands.

Table 13 : Tree seedlings production and dispersed

ITEM	DIVISION			TOTAL
	CENTRAL & SOUTHERN REGIONS	NORTHERN REGIONS	FOREST & BOTANICAL RESEARCH	
Seedlings produced	26,484	69,840	28,063	124,387
Seedlings sold	18,428	58,830	96,61	86,919
Seedlings donated	5,009	11,515	2,552	19,076
Viable seeds collected (kg)	81	148	58	287
Seedlings planted	740	279	136	1,155
Fruits harvested (kg)	756	358		716



Figure 55: Orchard at Etunda Green Scheme Project in Omusati region.  
Photo: M. Moses, 2022.

Fruits, mainly mangos, guavas and citrus species, were harvested from orchards in Otjozondjupa, Oshana, Oshikoto, Omusati and Kavango East regions and some were sold to the public, while some fruits were processed into seeds and sown at government tree nurseries.

The care and maintenance of orchards is also carried out by casual labourers that are contracted annually. This is an important source of employment recruited to take care of orchards.

The MEFT entered into an agreement with two groups/individuals Epukunoyana Literacy Group and Mr Tataati Komeya, to lease Ogongo Departmental Woodlot for a period of two years. The two will grow vegetable and each will be given a number of fruit trees to plant and take care. The trees and the plot will remain the properties of the Ministry.

## 7.5. Land Cover and Forest Monitoring

Forest resources monitoring and inspections has been a challenge in terms of insufficient staff and the costs associated with transport. One of the possible solutions being tested in this context is the use of drones.

The first pilot use of drones was undertaken in the Omaheke Region, where drones were used to inspect illegal harvesting and charcoal production activities on farms and corridors in the area. The results shows that the use of drones is an efficient method of getting findings on time for decision making and responses. The piloting will be extended to other regions for comparison with different scenarios and activities.

A forest cover map was generated of the Kavango West region making use of drone images and ground sampling at 37 plots. It is considered to be tropical dry forest which is mainly characterised by tall trees of canopy height of 5m to 10 m and canopy cover of more than 25%. The forest is characterised by trees, shrub and grass in areas with deep sandy plains. Most of the forest areas are on communal land and communities settle within the forest as their livelihoods depend on the forest for grazing of



Figure 56: Drone image showing the scattered bags of illegal charcoal production in a farm, Omaheke region.  
Photo, P. Shikongo, 2021

of

livestock. Tree species are mostly dominated by *Baikiaea plurijuga* (Zambezi teak), *Pterocarpus angolensis*, *Terminalia sericea* and *Guibortia Coleosperma*.

The following is the map of sample plots visited and drone photos taken during the fieldwork.

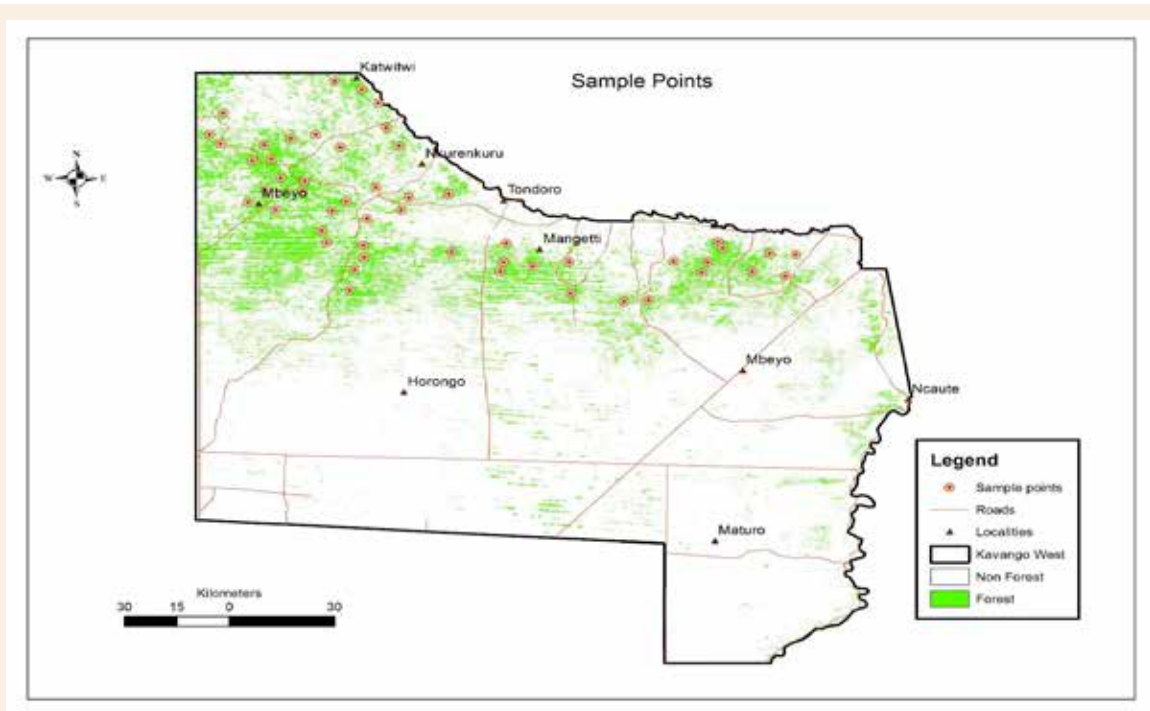


Figure 57: Forest cover map of the Kavango West Region.



## 8. Research, Communications, Education and Public Awareness Activities

The MEFT chairs a multi-stakeholder committee that reviews applications to conduct environmental-related research and associated collection of biological samples, and makes recommendations to the NCRST, the authority for research permit issuance. It also has a dedicated Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) Committee to oversee implementation of activities in the MEFT CEPA Strategy (2019-2030).

### 8.1. Issuance of CITES Permits

CITES permits largely constitute export permits for wildlife trophies, an activity that is tightly coupled with tourism and the global economy. Fluctuations in the number of CITES permits issued annually could be a reasonable reflection of the state of the tourism industry. The remarkable decline since 2019-2020 as shown in the figure below can possibly be attributed to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

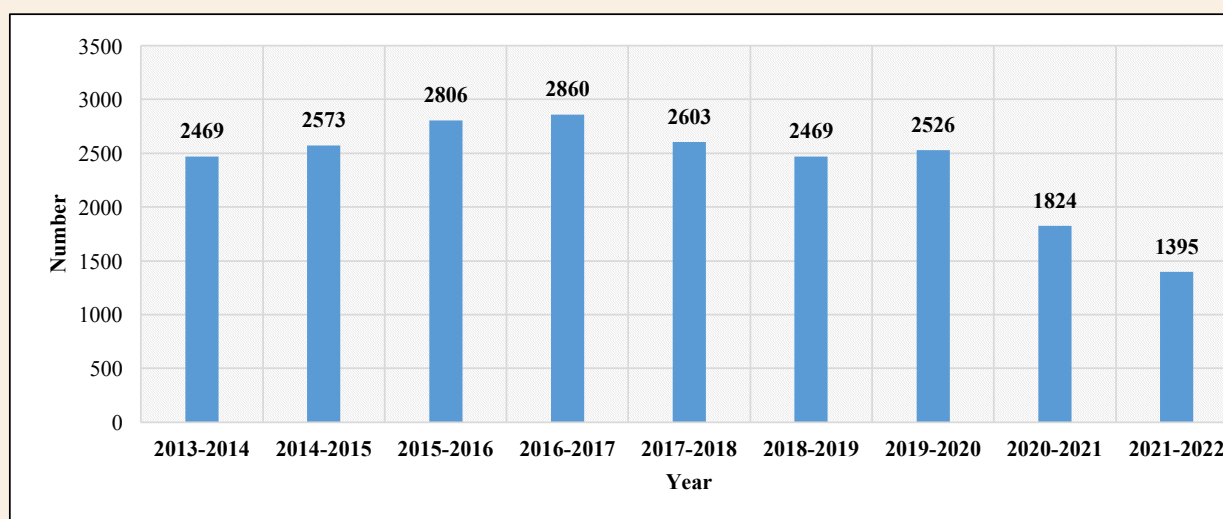


Figure 58: Number of CITES permits issued per year (April - March) over the years.

### 8.2. Forest and Botanical Research

The intervention aims to develop and implement forest and botanical research projects and provide technical/scientific services to the forestry sector.

#### 8.2.1. Forest Research

A variety of in-situ forest research was conducted during the period under review:

- Fire Ecology Trials were undertaken at Makambu and Kanovlei to test early burning and rotational burning techniques.
- Drought and frost resistant trials were conducted on species of olive, citrus trees, apple, grapes, salt bush, cork bush and acacia at Soutput and Swartrand research stations in //Kharas and Hardap. The survival rate of the selected trees species planted was 77% and 61% respectively.



Figure 59: Grafting activities of Monkey Orange at Kaguni and Mile 20, Kavango West Region.  
Photo S. Elago, 2021.

- Domestication of *Strychnos cocculoides* (Monkey orange) was carried out at the Kaguni and Mile 20 villages in Kavango West using grafted scions.
- *Sclerocarya birrea* (Marula) germplasm: Vegetative propagation (grafting and budding) was done at liheke forestry nursery in Oshana region.

### 8.2.2. Botanical Research

As part of curating and maintaining national plant collections, specimen mounting (342), specimen filing (648) and folder creation (1,280) was conducted at the National Herbarium. 23 Taxonomic/biodiversity papers were sourced in an effort to ensure that the herbarium is up-to-date with present taxonomic changes. Eleven (11) identification reports were completed and dispatched. Four (4) photo identifications, 235 specimen identifications and 405 name changes were completed during the period under review.

In terms of the genebank, 20 seed accessions were collected, 1,157 accessions were characterized, 146 accessions were multiplied, 184 germination tests were conducted, 36 accessions were cleaned and eight (8) accessions were distributed.

The cuttings of 13 indigenous species were undertaken, 14 species propagated, 19 species transplanted and seeds of seven (7) indigenous species collected.

With regard to research on Namibian flora and genetic resources, the following work was conducted:

- A new species of *Petalidium* from the Orange River and the new distribution record for *Indigofera breviraecemosa* is being described by Mr Leevi Nanyeni. A new species, *Osteospermum namibensis* was published by Mr Wessel Swanepoel. The type specimen has been lodged with the National Herbarium and has been incorporated.
- The Monocot checklist was extensively worked on during the COVID-19 staff rotation period. The large families such as Poaceae and Cyperaceae were completed. This included taxonomic verification of both families and mapping for Poaceae.
- The Cyperaceae family was selected for mapping purposes when staff members were working on COVID-19 rotation with a total of 169 distribution maps generated. In addition, 12 species were checked and corrected from families Tecophileaceae and Dioscoreaceae and a total of 8 distribution maps were generated. In total 177 distribution maps were generated towards completing the Monocot Checklist.
- Two (2) collaborative field trips were undertaken to the Ohangwena, Kavango East and Zambezi Regions with 94 herbarium specimens being collected. It is suspected that there may be two new *Ochna* species collected in the Zambezi Region, or at the very least be new records for Namibia.

Namibia became a member of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) and the National Herbarium and National Museum of Namibia were successful in becoming part of the two-year GBIF Africa Biodiversity Information for Development (BID) Programme. Funding was received for mobilization of biodiversity data on the GBIF platform.

The Kavango East, Kavango West and Zambezi Regions are the focus areas for the GBIF project. Two GBIF-funded technicians were appointed during the reporting period to assist with mobilization of specimen data. To date 53 of 121 families were completed and partially completed, amounting to 1,341 of the 3,376 records recorded as specimens collected in the Zambezi region. The next step is the extraction of the corrected records, standardization and publishing of these on GBIF.

Under the On-farm Conservation project, the National Plant and Genetic Resources Center (NPGRC) maintains and collects traditional crop cultivars (landraces) and farming systems and practices with regard to crop conservation. The NPGRC received financial assistance of N\$400,000 from the Mobile Telecommunication Company (MTC) and the Environmental Investment Fund (EIF) to support the development of a community seedbank in the Kavango West Region, to promote on-farm conservation, farmer seed systems and Climate Smart Agricultural practices. The project involves the establishment of a community seedbank, and training to communities in seed handling, collection and processing.



Figure 60: Seed bank project launch and handover from the stakeholders. Photo, E Strauss, 2021

In order to support the long-term conservation and sustainability of selected indigenous plants in Namibia, 3 projects are underway and a number of activities were undertaken during the reporting period:

(i) *Schinziophyton rautanenii* (manketti) resource base sustainability: a mapping exercise of the manketti resource base is being conducted as part of the larger BMZ-funded and GIZ-implemented BioInnovation Africa (BIA) Project.

(ii) Understanding and Supporting Indigenous/Local Communities in Conservation and Sustainable Use of Indigenous Fruit Trees (IFTs) in the Ohangwena Region: this one year project is being implemented in collaboration with CRIAA SA-DC with funding from the UNDP-GEF Small Grants Project through the EIF. The aim is to develop a strategy, in consultation with resource users, to conserve indigenous fruit trees, especially *Ximenia*, in the Ohangwena Region. Consultations with Tulongeni Twahangana Co-operative (TTC) and member Associations were undertaken. A number of seeds of the different *Ximenia* species have been planted at the TTC factory to determine their propagation potential and soil samples collected for analysis. Stakeholders were also conducted on how sustainability of IFTs can be realized.

(iii) Developing sustainable value chains to ensure and enhance the use of key underutilized Agroforestry species (baobab and marula) in food production and environmental resilience for the BAORULA Consortium, led by UNAM. A proposal for funding for this project was finalised for submission to the EU in February 2022. The project aims to enhance the use and market value of indigenous African tree species in ways that are sustainable, support carbon building and agroforestry, improve economic diversity and harness, and develop local expertise in the refinement and production of versatile products. If successful, the project should get underway during 2022 for five years.

With regard to the red list project, 1,600 records were checked and corrected on Red List Data Base (RLDB), including the addition of all tree and grass species that were not yet added to the RLDB. A total of 213 assessments were carried out, resulting in 67 changes in status, 31 of which were for species not assessed before, and 10 assessments completed on IUCN Species Information System. There are currently a total number of 2008 taxa with a Red List status. Mentoring has started for a M.Sc. student for Red List assessment work on the genus *Namibia*.

In terms of the identification and research of Important Plant Areas (IPAs), two projects were approved through the Nedbank Go Green Fund:



Figure 61: Handover of the two IPA projects approved by the Nedbank Go Green Fund. Photo, E Strauss, 2021

- Identifying and Delimiting Important Plant Areas (IPA) in Namibia (case study Warmbad) Project (N\$120,000). The aim of this project is to better define the boundaries of the Warmbad area as a proposed IPA.
- Exploring and conserving plant diversity in the Kunene Region of Namibia through botanical collections (N\$100,000). The aim of the study is to collect representative plant specimens and photographs from under-collected locations in the Kunene region.

Two (2) NUST Work Integrated Learning (WIL) students were mentored to conduct IPA analysis on two different proposed IPAs. The two MSc. students were mentored to analyze large parts of the north-central and north-eastern areas of Namibia.

The following scientific papers/articles were published:

- Treichel, C., Strohbach, B.J., Carr, S., Loots, S. & Neckel, A. 2021. *Euryops walterorum*, a declining restricted-range endemic of the Greater Gamsberg. *Namibian Journal of Environment* 5(A): 25-38.
- Darbyshire, I., Tripp, E.A. and Chase, F.M. A taxonomic revision of *Acanthaceae* tribe *Barlerieae* in Angola and Namibia Part 2 submitted (Accepted)
- Daniels, Q and Throop, H. Ecophysiological responses of *Terminalia sericea* to fire history in a semi-arid woodland savannah, central Namibia. *South African Journal of Botany* submitted

### 8.3. Communication, Education and Public Awareness activities

#### Environmental Education Centers

The MEFT's Environmental Education Centres are in high demand for school groups, and are a great platform at which awareness of wildlife and conservation matters can be imparted to the youth. Environmental Education Centers were badly affected due to the COVID-19 pandemic during 2020, however, in 2021 the Centers received more regular school visits.

#### Environmental Education and Education for Sustainable Development Policy

The EE/ESD Policy Implementation Strategy and Action Plan 2022-2026 was developed with financial assistance from UNESCO and launched on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022 in Windhoek. A multi-sectoral task force for the implementation of the EE/ESD Policy was also launched and it is overseeing the implementation of the Policy and its Implementation Strategy and Action Plan.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the MEFT and the University of Namibia (UNAM) on EE/ESD to develop to build capacity curriculum of practitioners and environmental skills to equip the youth.

#### Commemoration of Environmental Days

The commemoration of all relevant environmental days was conducted with focus on engaging young people and learners. The International Day for Biological Diversity was held at Gobabeb Research Centre on 22 May 2021. The World Environment Day and World Day to Combat Desertification were commemorated through the media due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. Adverts



Figure 62: Launch of the EE/ESD implementation Strategy and Action Plan (2022-2026) at Nampower Convention Centre on 29 March 2022.



Figure 63: The National Arbor Day celebration and the handing over of prizes to Enkono Primary School, Oshana Region. Photo, F. Hainduwa, 2021

reminding the public about the biodiversity day were placed in all the print media and talk at various location language radio stations. All environmental days were celebrated were possible and adverts were placed in media and talks were organised with various local language radio stations.

The International Day of Forests and National Arbor Day was celebrated in all 14 Regions with trees planted and donated to the public. A total of 19 schools in Omusati, Oshana, Ohangwena and Oshikoto regions participated in the *School Tree Planting Competition of FY2021/22*. The schools received a combination of 240 seedlings and information on how to grow trees was shared.

**Climate Change Awareness**

As part of the awareness-raising to combat climate change and promote climate action, the MEFT conducted a series of mass awareness and public outreach to different stakeholders including policy makers. A comprehensive short course on interpretation of climate change was developed, tailor made and rolled out to the Parliamentarians Standing Committee on Management of Natural Resource Management and Public Administration. Numerous information dissemination events were also held through partaking at Oshiwambo National Radio and Shipi FM.

**National Clean Up Campaign**

The MEFT continues to spearhead the national clean-up campaign that was initiated by His Excellency President Geingob in 2018. The MEFT donated various clean up materials to various Regional Councils and Local Authorities and the national clean-up campaign day was commemorated at Katima Mulilo on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

**8.4. Natural Resources Economics and Environmental Information**

The MEFT coordinates and organizes the quarterly meetings of the Technical Working Group on Natural Capital Accounting and oversees the undertaking of the wildlife, forest and fishery accounts. Consultative meetings were held for data collection and analysis and for the compilation of both completed fishery and wildlife physical accounts.

The Ministry also collect biophysical and economic data for update of wildlife physical and monetary accounts. Most of the data for update of wildlife accounts were collected. The Wildlife physical accounts completed, but not yet published. With regard to the fisheries accounts, the biophysical, landing Teofilus by species and economic data were successfully collected and the fishery accounts were updated (physical and monetary accounts).

The MEFT coordinated the finalization the State of the Environment Report and it was launched on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.



Figure 64: Surrounding farmers participated in tree planting during National Arbor Day celebration at Oshalande Orchard at Oshalande village, Ohangwena region. Photo A. Aushona 2021



Figure 65: Governor of Zambezi Region, Hon. Sampofu and Deputy Environmental Commissioner, Dr. Garus-Oas during the National Clean-up Campaign at Katima Mulilo.



Figure 66: Hon. Minister Pohamba Shifeta and the Executive Director Mr. Nghitila launch Namibia's Second State of the Environment Report 31 March 2022 at MEFT Headquarters.



# CHALLENGES AND PRIORITIES

The Ministry has identified the following priorities during the 2022/23 financial year:

- (i) Recovery of the tourism sector: the tourism showed some positive shoots of recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and the Ministry will seek to build on this momentum and based on the Tourism Sector Recovery Plan. Mobilizing resources for the implementation of the Plan will be of key importance.
- (ii) Operationalization of the Boards for the State Lottery and Gambling: these Boards are essential to oversee the establishment of a National Lottery for Namibia and to provide for better regulation and development of the gambling sector.
- (iii) Lifting the suspension on the harvesting, transportation and marketing of timber resources.
- (iv) Ensuring preparedness for veld fires: Veld fires are likely to become ever more severe and frequent with climate change. The MEFT will focus on enhancing preparedness in 2022/23 based on better repair and servicing of vehicles and equipment, preparation of cutlines in fire prone areas, strengthened regulation of charcoal production and awareness, collaboration and capacity building initiatives on fire management.
- (v) Tackling illegal farming and settlements in declared Community Forests.
- (vi) Continued wildlife crime prevention and law enforcement: the MEFT will work with stakeholders to ensure that there is appropriate human capacity and manpower to fight wildlife crime; provide suitable and sufficient equipment, techniques and supplies; strengthen surveillance, patrolling and detection; and conduct proper investigations and intelligence.
- (vii) Support to communal conservancies and community forests: the main initiatives here will be continued support to communal conservancies and community forests via the CRRRF so that they can withstand the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- (viii) Prevention and mitigation of human wildlife conflict: in line with the Revised National Policy on Human Wildlife Conflict Management, the MEFT will continue to tackle loss of life and damage to infrastructure, crops and livestock caused by wildlife. Priority interventions will include, amongst others, destroying problem animals, assisting communities financially through the Human Wildlife Conflict Self Reliance Scheme and supporting communities with promising mitigation measures in hotspot areas such as predator proof kraals, protection walls around water infrastructure, alternative grain storage infrastructure, and the installation of elephant drinking troughs.
- (ix) Protection and management of key species based on research and monitoring, which guides strategies and plans to protect and manage key species and natural resources. The MEFT will continue to capture and translocate wildlife and identify new and alternative markets for wildlife and related products.
- (x) Maintenance, upgrade and development of new protected area infrastructure, including fencing, roads, waste management facilities and water points. This is a major challenge but the MEFT is committed to ensuring that good quality services are enjoyed by visitors to protected areas and that adjacent communities are protected from human wildlife conflict.
- (xi) Identification and execution of new wildlife and tourism concessions for the benefit of our local communities so that conservation and tourism drives economic development in rural areas. The focus will be on delivering concession opportunities in Namibia's coastal parks during the 2022/23 financial year.
- (xii) In terms of overall management of the environment and natural resources, a key priority is the strengthened implementation of the Environmental Management Act of 2007 to tackle activities leading to the degradation of the environment such as sand mining, timber harvesting and waste disposal practices. There is still a need to improve the capacity of the Ministry's regional staff so that they are empowered to enforce the Environmental Management Act and provide guidance and advise clients that are enquiring about environmental clearance related issues.
- (xiii) Continued mobilization of investment and new project proposals in the areas of climate change adaptation, biodiversity conservation and combating land degradation.
- (xiv) Improvement of regional offices and living conditions of regional staff based on the renovation and construction of new offices, park stations, staff houses and upgrading of communications infrastructure.
- (xv) With regard to improved organizational performance, governance and service delivery, priority activities will be to implement efficiency and cost cutting measures, finalization of an integrated online system for all permits issued by the Ministry, recruiting and filling priority positions as well as improving the efficiency of the procurement process to allow for better execution of capital projects.



# Annex 1: Financial Statement

SUBDIVISION	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE	BUDGET VARIANCE	% SPENT BUDGET
Remuneration	325,023,450	325,611,738	-588,288	100%
GIPF	37,225,000	37,047,979	177,021	100%
Other Conditions	5,599,990	8,891,885	-3,291,895	159%
Social Security	1,323,560	1,309,750	13,810	99%
<b>PERSONNEL EXP.</b>	<b>369,172,000</b>	<b>372,861,352</b>	<b>-3,689,352</b>	<b>101%</b>
DSA	5,354,800	5,128,642	226,158	96%
Material and Supplies	1,817,210	1,649,548	167,662	91%
Transport	18,834,645	18,591,554	243,091	99%
Utilities	40,809,765	39,596,716	1,213,049	97%
Maintenance	847,900	482,698	365,202	57%
Rentals	-	-	-	0%
Other services	1,520,110	1,396,289	123,821	92%
Training Course, Symposiums and Workshops	-	-	-	0%
Printing And Advertisements	-	-	-	0%
Entertainment Politicians	-	-	-	0%
Office Refreshment	-	-	-	0%
Official Entertainment / Corporate Gifts	-	-	-	0%
Security Contracts	-	-	-	0%
<b>GOODS AND OTHER SERVICES</b>	<b>69,184,430</b>	<b>66,845,448</b>	<b>2,338,982</b>	<b>97%</b>
Membership Fees: International	2,413,755	2,405,810	7,945	100%
Membership Fees: Domestic	212,400	152,400	60,000	72%
SOE (045)	10,800,000	10,800,000	-	100%
SOE	-	-	-	0%
<b>SUBSIDIES AND OTHER TRANSFERS</b>	<b>13,426,155</b>	<b>13,358,210</b>	<b>67,945</b>	<b>99%</b>
Furniture and Office Equipments	429,950	399,387	30,563	93%

SUBDIVISION	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE	BUDGET VARIANCE	% SPENT BUDGET
Operational Equipment, Machinery And Plants	96,005	96,005	0	100%
ACQUISITION OF CAPITAL ASSETS	525,955	495,392	30,563	94%
<b>OPERATIONAL BUDGET</b>	<b>452,308,540</b>	<b>453,560,402</b>	<b>-1,251,862</b>	<b>100%</b>
Fencing of Conservation Areas	9,897,900	9,897,827	73	100%
Water Provision for Game	768,600	699,992	68,608	91%
Upgrading of Tourists Roads	18,608,205	18,280,301	327,904	98%
Construction of Regional Houses and Offices	6,025,100	5,577,912	447,188	93%
Upgrading of Sewage and Water Supply	441,150	441,010	140	100%
Namibian Parks (Namparks) Financial Contributions	1,000,000	1,000,000	-	0%
Wildlife Loan Scheme- Reintroduction of Game to Communal Conservancies	4,810,005	4,735,259	74,746	0%
Integrated Forest Resource Management	6,245,000	5,185,290	1,059,710	0%
Bush Thinning And Ecosystem Rehabilitation	-	-	-	0%
Bush Value Chain Development Scheme	-	-	-	0%
Construction and Renovation of MET Headquarters	2,183,500	2,182,998	502	0%
<b>DEVELOPMENT BUDGET</b>	<b>49,979,460</b>	<b>48,000,589</b>	<b>1,978,871</b>	<b>96%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>502,288,000</b>	<b>501,560,991</b>	<b>727,009</b>	<b>100%</b>



