

DEVELOPMENT OF ELEPHANT RIDGE CAMP

Public Meeting Agenda

12 March 2020, Thursday (10:00 AM - 13:00 PM)

1. 10:00 - 10:30

Welcoming and Opening

Otjimboyo Conservancy and Community Leaders Don Muroua (Chair/Facilitator from Trinity Environmental Solutions)

2. 10:30 - 10:45

Purpose of the Meeting and Overview of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process

D. Muroua

3. 10:45 - 11:45

Proposed Projects' Background and Description **Otjimboyo Conservancy and Wild Tented Accommodation Africa**

4. 11:45 - 12:00

Proposed Projects' Impacts (Bio-physical and socio-economic)

D. Muroua

5. 12:00 - 12:45

Discussions, questions and answers

Otjimboyo Conservancy and Wild Tented Accommodation Africa Mr. Don Muroua

6. 12:45 - 12:50

Next Steps

Mr. D. Muroua

7. 12:50 - 13:00

Closing Remarks

Otjimboyo Conservancy and Community Leaders

EIA Study for the Construction of Elephant Ridge Camp

Minutes of the Public Participation Meeting held in Omihana, Otjimboyo Conservancy

(12 March 2020)





PROPOSED ELEPHANT RIDGE CAMP

Public Meeting Minutes

Venue: Omihana

Date: 12 March 2020

Time: 10h05 to 11h45

1. Opening and Welcoming

After a prayer by a community member, Headman Mr. F.K. Tjiveze from Zeraeua Traditional Authority took the floor and welcomed everyone on behalf of the community.

Headman Mr. F.K. Tjiveze welcomed the participants and officially opened the meeting and emphasised the current dire situation the community finds itself in; highlighting the devastating drought and the lack of employment opportunities in the Conservancy, and in general in the Daures Constituency. He went further and requested the community to be one as the time was now ripe and to ensure that the Investor feels confident in investing in the community.

The Headman further stated that he believed that the proposed project will surely contribute to the growth of the community in the Conservancy and that this project positive impact can be felt throughout the community if well managed. The Headman requested the community to cooperate and share good ideas during this meeting.

2. Overview of the Meeting

Don Muroua from Trinity Environmental Solutions (TES) explained that the public meeting was going to discuss and address issues related to the proposed development of a Tented Camp to be known as Elephant Ridge Camp. Don and the Investors representative Mr. Gunter von Hundelshausen gave an overview of the proposed developments.

Don emphasised the need for a proactive participation during the meeting as it was the right platform to ask questions, give suggestions, provide information, recommendation and to receive feedback from the project Investor and Conservancy Management Committee.

The meeting was attended by over 65 conservancy members, Investor and Traditional Authority.



3. Project background and description, overview of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) process and its role

Don Muroua from TES, Chairperson of the Conservancy and the Investor gave presentations on the projects background, the EIA processes and its role. Their presentation highlighted the following:

- Background of the project
- Project Rationale and need for the development
- EIA process and compliance with national laws, guidelines and policies
- Proposed project description and possible impacts
- Project technical details

Find attached the Background Information Document.

After a long and detailed presentation, an opportunity was given for comments, recommendations, suggestions and clarification questions. Comments, questions and responses are presented in the table below.

Table 1: Meeting Comments, Questions and Responses

SOURCE/COMMENTATOR COMMENTS/QUESTIONS **RESPONSES** Herman Kasaona Mr. Kasaona gave his view It was the mood of the community that this Elephant Guide and volunteer on the proposed from EHRA development in relation to Public Meeting was a possible impacts of the waste of time since development. He was of the there were several opinion that this proposed meetings held already development will not have that discussed the negative impact on the proposed development. movement of the livestock and wildlife. They also indicated that have they already He highlighted the fact that, agreed and signed a this Camp will be the first MOU with the Investor opportunity for development and are fully behind the and job creation in the proposed Camp. conservancy since gazettement over 16 years Don explained again the purpose of the EIA ago. process and that every Namibian with interest proposed into the development need to be given an opportunity to give their inputs in order to ensure that such development is



		sustainable both environmentally and socially.
Ronny Tjivinde Secretary of the Conservancy	He highlighted that all the community members are in support of the proposed development, especially those nearest to the location of the proposed Camp such as Eitavere and Okaepe settlements.	Comments were noted.
Erastus Kavari Conservancy member	He took the floor and shouted "I support the project and willing to work together with the Investor and Conservancy"	All the participants from the community resonated these sentiments.
Rabbie Tjivinde Traditional Authority	He wanted to know how many people will be employed as starting staff.	Gunter von Hundelshausen highlighted that, they plan to initially employ 10-15 staff members and these number will increase as the beds occupancy rate increases overtime. He further explained that senior staff members will be sourced from their already operating facilities to ensure that service delivery is on par with their other establishments.
Herman Kasaona Elephant Guide and volunteer from EHRA	He was of the opinion that the people in the community are mostly uneducated and will require training. Thus, he wanted to know if training will be provided.	Gunter von Hundelshausen replied and assured that all staff members will be trained on the job and will be supervised by very experienced colleagues. He also informed the meeting that they usually rotate staff members within their facilities to further contribute to staff training and



		development.
Christof Tjiuma Conservancy member	He wanted reassurance that local community members will be employed if such skills are available locally.	Gunter von Hundelshausen assured the meeting that, all unskilled staff will be from the Conservancy, while skilled staff will be temporally be brought in from outside. He also told the meeting that they will work with the Conservancy and Traditional Authority in terms of identifying local skills and how recruitment will take
		Gunther added and cautioned that the Covid-19 pandemic will negatively impact of the global tourism industry for some time. He reiterated that, they want to be ready when the situation changes and hence they plan to continue with the development of Elephant Ridge Camp.
Delange Tjivinde Conservancy member	He wanted to know when construction will start.	Don explained to the participants the next EIA process steps and indicated that most likely the construction could start not earlier than August 2020 due to various legal processes required.



4. Way forward and Conclusion

Mr. D. Muroua gave a word of appreciation to those who made time to come to the meeting. He encouraged those present to share the information they received and to contact him anytime if more information is required. Interested and Affected Parties were invited to register and/or to send any responses on the proposed project via post-mail or fax or e-mail. All the contact details were made available at the meeting.

5. Meeting Closure

Traditional Authority Councilor Mr. Rabbie Tjivindet thanked everyone for coming and making time to attend the meeting. He also thanked Gunther and his team for their trust in the Otjimboyo Conservancy. He also assured the meeting that such development will take place in a transparent manner and through a consultative process.

He also encouraged people to be proactive and to come to him, the Conservancy or to the Traditional Authority to get more information.

The meeting was adjourned after a prayer.

This minutes are true reflection of the public meeting that took place in Omihana on the 12 March 2020.

NGATURUE DON MUROUA

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

E-mail: trinityenvir@iway.na

Cell: 0811707737 or 0813503086

PO. Box 3559 Windhoek

	Name	=	OCGANISATION	Contact
(1)		Muroya	ElAConsultant	John John Jan
		n. Igsaona	Elephant Guid	0817958822
		E TIVINGE	T/A.	08/3362578
		N KANHOJA	C. G.G.	0816/35870
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		Municipale	Meuber	08/6704886
		Kavilleja	Member	0818409039
	11	Kewineja	Vice Secreberry	0812263419
		LOTTO.	MEMBER	0817359453
		GE BIVINDE	MEMBER	0817554241
17	FRANS	Muinjanque	Member	0813746192.
		ORUM TILLIMA	Member	
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21	Elizabet	th Mounto	member	UAI 7991566
22	TEKLA	mbyrure	member	0816501624
23	Pairi Iseho	Mombora	member	021-2646-227
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	SIMON HANATII	Hayall member	_
	ERASTUS Kavari	Member	_
	Edward Kangombe	Member	
	Puymue Ikora	Member	0814177114
38	IMMANUEL fileman	member	08/4832028
	Tico kaviheya	member	08/7829550
	Ben Kyumbena	member	08/7779010
	Bevery Juinde	member	081-2591013
	JULIANDA COORAD	Member	0814393162
	ueriuko mbombolo	member	C816433808
	Diana Xociqus		0816401145
45	Veundina KARIKO	Member	
46	Sem Amungala	Member.	08/3629689
	Jaruret Hasoona	member	0817073032
	ARON Jangura	Member.	_
	Zembe Tangerra	Member	
50	MARIA TimA	Member	0816081168
	Icanongo Hambo	Member	
52.	Rosalia Kuvake	Momber	
53	Christophine kuvare	Member	_
54.	INGENESIA TIVINSE	Member	
	Pokii KASAONA	Momber	
5.6.	Beatiz Mukuhu	Member	
	1-Ricla TANTOS	Mamber	
	Malarafuer leascena	Member	
5-9	Vemuna	Member	_
60.	Kumbe Kaviheya	Member	
61.	Elenshine Maskas	menbel	0812007451
62.	Fillip HAUfiku	Member	0813077782
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63. Evefine Kasaona	Member	
64. Malcori Kasaona	member	
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