

**BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION**  
**DOCUMENT**

**ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING  
ASSESSMENT STUDY**

**TIMBILA ECO-TOURISM LODGE AND  
RELATED ACTIVITIES**

**FARM OZANDJISSE NO. 55 & FARM OSERA OMEWA NO.  
54 & FARM HEIDEHOF NO. 52 (ERONGO REGION)**

18 May 2020



The Timbila Eco-Tourism Lodge will be located on Farm Osera Omewa No. 54, while the Tented Camp will be located somewhere along the banks of the Omaruru River, the exact localities still to be finalised.

The Farms have been used for commercial agricultural purpose, similar to the surrounding farms. The Erindi Private Game Reserve is located south-east almost adjacent to the proposed Timbila Development.

## **2.4 Proposed Development Overview**

The proposed development will comprise of a tourism component and a conservation & research component, with supporting activities. The mentioned will rely on both existing infrastructure (i.e. services) available, as well as new infrastructure to be added.

### **2.4.1 Tourism Component**

This component entails two separate developments, the Timbila Eco-Tourism Lodge and the Tented Camp, with their related amenities and supporting activities.

The Timbila Eco-Tourism Lodge will comprise of 8 chalets (sleeping two people) with other hospitality facilities, such as a bar, curio shop, swimming pool, restaurant with kitchen, spa and laundry. The mentioned will be located central at the Main Reception Area, which also includes the administrative offices and activity centre.

The tented camp facility will make provision for 16 self-catering tree-top tented units (sleeping two people per tent). A swimming pool with bar is provided at the tented camp.

Activities available to guests are game drives; game tracking; cultural experiences and conservation education.

### **2.4.2 Conservation and Research Component**

The Naankuse Ecotourism Collection will drive all tourism function while the Naankuse Foundation will drive all conservation functions, similar to all other facilities throughout Namibia.

All the proceeds generated by the Naankuse Ecotourism Collection go toward the Naankuse Foundation, which is a non-profit organisation dedicated to conserving the landscape, cultures and wildlife of Namibia.

Existing buildings at Farm Osera Omewa No. 54 will be used for the research centre and accommodation facilities. An estimated total of 16 volunteers will be accommodated at the centre.

### **2.4.3 Management and Staff**

Accommodation for management (6 people) and staff (25 people) will be provided making use of existing buildings located at Farm Osera Omewa No. 54 and Farm Ozandjisse No. 55, with a few added to provide sufficient accommodation.

#### **2.4.4 Infrastructure:**

##### *Potable Water:*

Potable water will be supplied from the existing boreholes (two), as well as two new borehole to be drilled. Water will be pumped and stored in raised water tanks at the two developments from where the potable water will be distributed throughout the tourism facilities.

##### *Waste Water:*

Waste water will be collected in in-line septic tanks from where the overflow will go to a biological wastewater treatment plant, which treats the water to a degree suitable for watering of gardens and use to fill the viewing water hole at the lodge. This system would be sufficient to treat all the waste water generated by the intended activities to a minimum of general standards as prescribed by Namibian legislation.

##### *Electricity:*

Electricity will be supplied by means of solar, augmented by grid electricity supplied by ErongoRed. A backup generator would also be installed to supply electricity in the case of an ErongoRed power failure.

##### *Household Waste:*

For household waste, an on-site recycling system will be implemented. All recyclable waste will be transported to Windhoek on a weekly basis and delivered to the company Rent-A-Drum. Organic waste will be treated on-site and compost be manufactured to be used in the gardens. There will be no on-site dump site.

##### *Access & Roads:*

Accesses to the tourism facilities will be obtained making use of the existing farm roads (gravel roads), the existing district road (D2329) passing through the Farms (see attached Map), which again links with the B1 Main Road to the east. The existing farm roads leading from the D2329 will be upgraded to 5m wide gravel roads capable of accommodating vehicles at a speed of 60km/h.

**Access control along the D2329 to the western entrance into Farm Heidehof No. 52 and the Eastern entrance into Farm Osera-Omewa No. 54 will be applied for purpose of conservation and anti-poaching.**

### **2.5 Environmental Consideration**

The Timbila Eco-Tourism Lodge and the Tented Camp will be so positioned among the existing vegetation and landscape to have the least possible long-term impact on the receiving environment, while the eco-friendly design will contribute to the least possible visual disturbance maintaining the natural beauty and tranquillity.

The proposed development could potentially result in environmental and social impacts, either positive or negative, while the focus is on mitigating the negative impacts. Both the construction phase and operational phase pose certain impacts, which will either be avoided and/or mitigated to have the least possible impact/s.

Due to the conservation philosophy and vision of the proposed development, the highest level of precaution and protection will be applied in achieving a short- and long term sustainable development contributing to socio-economic upliftment of the local people and Namibia at large.

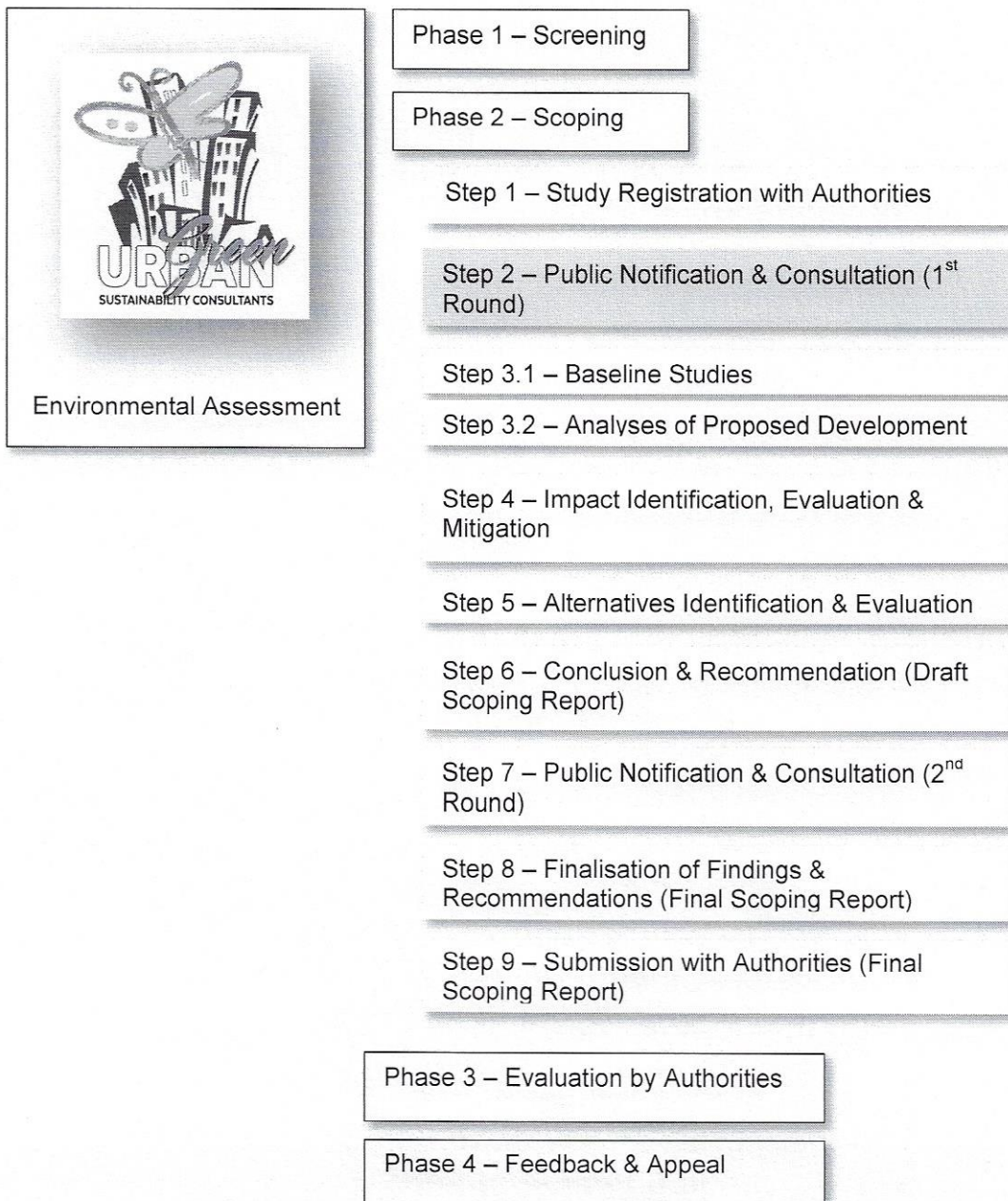
### 3. THE ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT (ESA)

#### 3.1 Legal Requirements

In accordance with Section 27(3) of Namibia’s Environmental Management Act (EMA) (No. 7 of 2007), it is required that an Environmental Clearance Certificate be obtained from the Environmental Commissioner for the proposed development, hence it is required to conduct an Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA).

#### 3.2 The ESA Process

The process of conducting an ESA is guided and regulated by the EIA Regulations (GN. No. 30 of 2012), which is schematically presented below.



### 3.3 Purpose of the Environmental Assessment

An ESA is conducted to ensure that a particular activity or activities have the least possible impacts on the immediate biophysical and social environment during its entire 'lifecycle' (i.e. during design, construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning).

The purpose of any ESA is:

- to support the goals of environmental protection and sustainable development;
- to integrate environmental protection and economic decisions early in the development planning and design process;
- to predict biophysical, social, economic, and cultural consequences of a proposed activity and to assess plans to mitigate any adverse impacts resulting from the proposed development, and
- **to provide for the involvement of the public and the relevant authorities in review of the proposed development.**

The long-term objectives of an ESA are to protect human health and safety; to avoid irreversible changes and significant damage to the environment; safeguard valuable resources, natural areas and ecosystem components; and to enhance the social aspects of proposed activities.

Urban Green cc was accordingly appointed by Otjikoko (PTY) Ltd. to apply for an ECC, as prescribed by the abovementioned legislation, and conduct an ESA. For purpose of the proposed development, a scoping study will be undertaken.

### 3.4 Public Participation

In line with Regulation 21 of the EIA Regulations (GN. 30 of 2012), thorough public consultation is required as part of an ESA.

In accordance with the public consultation process stipulated in the EMA (No. 7 of 2007) and the EIA Regulations (GN. No. 30 of 2012), all potentially Interested and Affected Parties are hereby given notice of the ESA being conducted for the proposed development and requested to register with the EAP.

In accordance with Regulation 21 of the EIA Regulations, you / your office / your institution have been identified as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) and are hereby requested to register as an I&AP by submitting your comments/concerns or input on the proposed development in writing to Urban Green cc by way of:

- **Fax** your comments/concerns or input to the office of Urban Green cc (**061 – 401 294**);
- **E-mail** your comments/concerns or input to Urban Green cc (**urbangreen@iway.na**) or
- **Post** your comments/concerns or input to Urban Green cc (**PO Box 11929, Klein Windhoek**).

**DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION AND SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS IS 10 JUNE 2020.**

**Please note:** Only comments submitted in writing will receive responses and be included as part of this scoping assessment. I&APs may call for clarification of details, but direct comments must be written or emailed to Mr. Brand van Zyl (urbangreen@iway.na) at Urban Green cc.



As an identified and registered interested and affected party, you will be kept informed throughout the environmental assessment process in accordance with Regulation 23 of the EIA Regulations (GN. 30 of 2012).

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## APPENDIX A: LOCALITY MAP

# Location of Farm Ozandjisse, Osera Omewa and Heidehof

## Legend

- Town/settlement
- Railway
- District road
- Main road
- Trunk road
- Farm
- Private game farm
- Protected area
- Region

## NOTES

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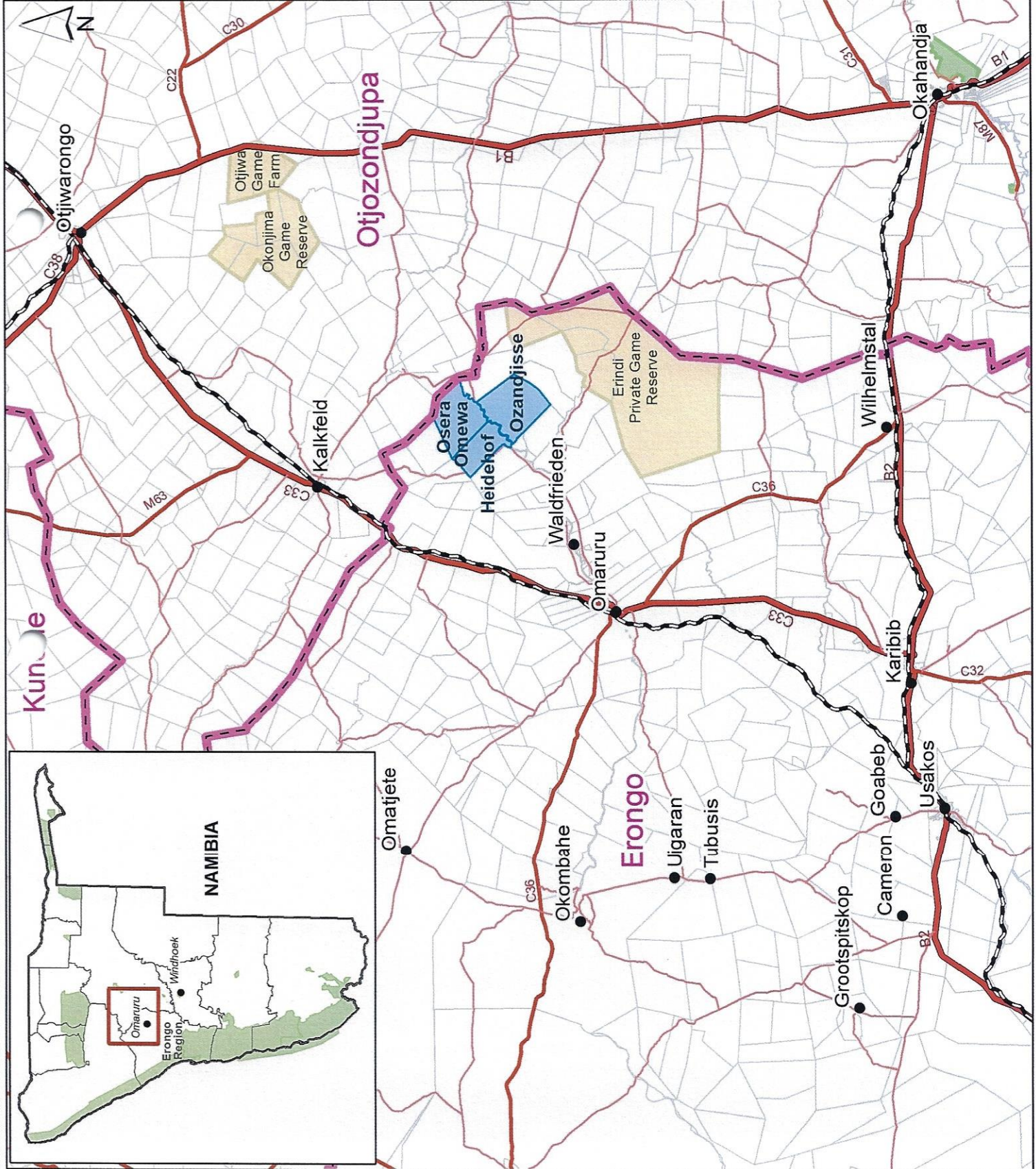
## PREPARED BY

P.O. BOX 11929  
Klein Windhoek  
Windhoek  
Cell: 081-1295759  
Tel: 061-300820  
Fax: 061-401294



DRAWN	KD	DATE	March 2020
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