

Background Information Document (BID)

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the subdivision of the Remainder of Farm Helao Nafidi Townlands No. 997 and Creation of a Public Road, Ohangwena Region

PURPOSE OF BID

- Provide a brief background about the project.
- Explain what the EIA process entails & the possible environmental impacts; and
- Invite Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) for comments and input.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction

Mr. John Mofuka, hereinafter referred to as the proponent intends to carry out the following activities.

- Subdivision of the Remainder of Portion 20 of Farm Helao Nafindi Townlands No. 997 into Portion 55 and Remainder (R/PTN 20).
- Amendment of title conditions for portion 55 (portion of the remainder of portion 20 of the farm Helao Nafidi Townlands No.997) from “Undetermined” to “Business.
- Subdivision of the remainder of the Farm Helao Nafidi townlands No.997 into portion A (2588m²), Portion B (1283m²) and the remainder
- Amendment of title conditions for portion a (portion of the remainder of the Farm Helao Nafidi Townlands No.997) from “Undetermined” to “Street” (free of conditions).
- Amendment of title conditions for portion B (portion of the remainder of the Farm Helao Nafidi townlands No.997) from “Undetermined” to “Public Open Space”.

In terms of the Environmental Management Act, No. 07 of 2007, and its Regulations (No. 03 of February 2012) the creation of public roads cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Impact Assessment study being carried out.

Green Gain Environmental Consultants cc has been appointed to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study, to develop an Environmental Management Plan (EMP), and apply for an ECC for the proposed activities.

1.2 Purpose of the EIA

The purpose of the EIA study is to identify potential environmental (physical, ecological, and cultural/socioeconomic) impacts of the intended activities.

As part of the regulated EIA process, Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) should be informed of the proposed developments and their inputs, concerns, and opinions obtained. Matters raised by I&APs will, among others, be addressed during the Environmental Scoping process.

This BID was prepared to provide background information of the project to relevant I&APs and stakeholders to solicit inputs.

2. THE PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

2.1 Locality and site description

The proposed development site (Remainder of Portion 20) is located along the trunk road from Omafo to Oshikango in the Helao Nafindi townlands. No.997.



Figure 1: Locality map for the proposed development sites

The site is currently vacant and is occupied by natural vegetation and has a small water depression feature which contains rainy water during the rainy season. The site is within the Helao Nafindi Townlands and currently zoned "Undetermined". The site has potential to accommodate the intended Medical Laboratory. However, in terms of the Helao Nafindi Township layout and General Plan, there is no provision made for a convenient access road (street) to the property.

2.2 The need and desirability of the proposed activities

The purpose of amending the title conditions of Portion 55 from “Undetermined” use to “Business” use is to enable the owner to develop a “Medical Laboratory” on Portion 55. The purpose of amending the title conditions of Portion A/997 from “Undetermined” use to “Street” (free of conditions) is to allow the creation of a 15m access road to provide direct access to Portion 55. The purpose of amending the title conditions of Portion B/997 from “Undetermined” use to “Public Open Space” is to allow the creation of a barrier space between the Truck Road (B1) and the 15m access road to Portion 55 as a safety measure for traffic.

The need for an EIA study is in line with requirements of the Environmental Management Act, 07 of 2007 as listed activities will be triggered by the proposed activities.

3. THE EIA PROCESS

3.1 Baseline study

The EIA study commenced with the collection of baseline information on the study area. Baseline information will be used as a basis for the assessment of potential impacts.

3.2 Public and stakeholder consultations

Consultation is an integral part of the EIA process hence, relevant I&APs were notified and invited to submit comments through newspaper advertisement published in two local newspapers namely, New Era and Confidante for 13 October 2023 and 20 October 2023.

The consultation process will enable an integrated and transparent approach which will result in a sustainable development that is environmentally friendly, economically viable, and socially acceptable.

3.3 Scoping and Assessment of project impacts

The scoping study will provide information on the proposed project and its surrounding environment. It identifies the potential negative as well as positive impacts of the project. It reports on management measures required to mitigate such impacts to an acceptable level.

The Scoping Report will include an assessment and EMP. The EMP will detail measures to be implemented during the planning, development/construction, and operation phase impacts are monitored, managed, and mitigated.

✓ Potential impacts

Some of the envisaged potential negative & positive impacts associated with the proposed development (during construction & operation phases) are:

- Land use impacts
- Impact on existing and adjacent properties
- Soil & Geological impacts
- Public safety
- Traffic impacts (i.e., access)
- Public Health and Safety
- Impacts of Auxiliary services

✓ Project Alternatives

The proposed development alternatives to be investigated during this EIA study include.

- Do-nothing
- Alternative land use
- Alternative layout and design

4. WAY FORWARD

Green Gain Consultants cc will continue to receive comments until **27 October 2023**. Comments received will be incorporated in the draft scoping report that will be circulated to the registered I&APs for comments before submission of the final report to the Environmental Commissioner.



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How to be involved?

- Registering your inputs (comments or questions) to the project with the EAP
- Attending the scheduled Public Meeting
- Receive the BID, completing and submitting the registration form (here attached)
- Deadline for all comments and registration is on the **27 October 2023**

Contact email: info@greengain.com.na

RESPONSE SECTION: INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

1. PERSONAL DETAILS

Name	
Organization	
Physical Address;	
Cellphone	
Telephone	
Fax	
Email:	

2. Comments:

3. Questions:
