

Fillemon Aupokolo

Environmentalist



**ENVIRONMENTALIST (ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT,
PROJECT MANAGEMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE)**

FEB. 2018 – PRESENT

PROFILE

Mr. Aupokolo is a registered member of the Environmental Assessment Practitioners of Namibia (EAPAN) with a reasonable amount of history of working in the Environmental Management water sector, mining, and exploration mining industries, with strong Management skills and GIS. And other skills in Project Management, and logistical support.

CORE SKILLS

- Environmental Mangement Act, 2007 (No. 7 2007)
- Environmental Project Management
- Environmental Management Systems
- Botanical Surveys
- Environmental Screenings
- Drafting Environmental Management Plans
- Geo Information Systems
- Legal Compliance Management
- Climate Change

NAMIBIA WATER CORPORATION LTD (NAMWATER)- Windhoek, Namibia

Managing NamWaters Environmental Systems which includes the following:

Environmental Compliance Audits – NamWater Water Supply Schemes

- Updating of Environmental Management plans for NamWater supply Schemes.
- Conducted **103 Compliance Inspections/monitoring**, for NamWater Water supply schemes Infrastructure, from the data obtained from the audits.
- Reviewed external Background information Documents and Environmental Impact Assessments External reports, providing comments with the aim of protecting NamWater's Interests.

Environmental Compliance Audits – Capital Construction Projects

Conducted Enviornmental compliance for internal and external construction coastal projects, which includes.

- Kalrand pipeline replacement project – **Completed**
- Kuiseb Collector 2 Schwarzekuppe - Swakopmund _ Section 5/(2(a) - **Completed**
- Project: C-SSSS111 Kuiseb - Collector 2 - Swakopmund Pipeline Replacement Phase 2 – **In progress**
- Project: C-SROA108 Rooikop pipeline replacement upgrade- **Completed**
- Project: C-SROB121: Kuiseb Delta New Scheme – **In progress**
- project: w/onb/nw-005/2021 – replacement of collector1-schwarzekuppe-swakopmund pipeline (phase 2): section 6a- **Completed.**

Pollution Control

- Osona Waste Water Treatment Plant** – conducted compliance visits to the plant to ensure treatment processes are not flawed.
- Okandjira Settlement** – Conductcted pollution threat analysis for contamination of the tributary river flowing to Von Bach Dam.
- NamWater Asbestos pipe pollution threat** – ascertaining best logistical solution for the disposal of the hazardous pipes.
- Opuwo Reverse Osmosis plant** – Brine discharge into environment- investigations on best solutions for the safe disposal of brine.
- Aasvoelnes Diesel Oil Spill** – conducted compliance inspection, audit report submitted.
- Namib Dairies Oil Spill** – Conducted hydrocarbon identification in the Swakoppoort dam, catchment inflow area, taking samples in the dam close to the Dam inflow.
- In 2019 we conducted a **Schistosomiasis (Bilharzia)** threat survey on von Bach and Swakoppoort dams. Bilharzia is an infection caused by parasitic worms found on the underside of snails.



Training

Advanced Excel: Data Analysis.

Environmental Online System and

EIA processes – 4 day training for

the Operation of the new EIA application processing system, offered by the

Department of Environmental Affairs.

Basics of Project Management-

Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST).

Water Quality Management and

Pollution Control - University of Pretoria (Chemical Engineering).

Ohangwena Wellfield II Capacity

Building Training: Planning /Project Management.

Mandela Washington Fellow

University of California (Davis) – Public Management Track

Limnology

Successfully conducted more than **198 Limnological Investigations** for Oanob Dam, Von Bach Dam and Swakoppoort Dam.

- The investigations include taking measurements Bio chemical, chemical and physical parameters, analysing the results to ascertain the trophic status of the dam and potential pollution as well as to recommend abstraction strategies for Dams.
- Results are analysed and used to draft abstraction reports which assist ENV to recommend for the good water quality in the water column. This in turn assists the purification plants to keep chemicals used for treatment low.
- Upper Swakop catchment area – in 2019 I was part of the team which had to identify point and nonpoint sources of pollution of major confluences, which assists to navigate potential pollution threats that could end up in the dam, by routinely taking water samples during the 2019 and 2020 rainy seasons.

Environmental Project management

Managing of EIA projects which involves:

- Reviewing and approving of Background Information Documents, Adverts, Work Programmes, Payment Schedules, Issue Response Reports, EIA and EMP reports.
- Consultants are paid according to milestones included in the deliverables listed above, once a milestone is achieved a payment certificate is drafted and correct payment procedures are undertaken to ensure consultants are reimbursed.
- Monitoring project expenditure and budget to prevent over spending.

Stakeholder Management

Extensive stakeholder engagement such as:

- Topnaar Community meetings – site awareness meetings with the Traditional Leaders.
- Ministry of Environment, Park Management, Namib Naukluft and Dorob National Park, to manage Wildlife human conflicts. As well as ensuring park access compliance for all NamWater projects including Water Supply services.
- Oshakati Water Treatment Plant Public Participation meetings

Adaptation to Climate Change

- Drafting of the Grunau and Bethanie projects Terms of Reference, the projects had to include extensive adaptation fund climate change policies guidelines.
- The projects included hybrid green programmes that will power the two RO plants, which are namely solar and wind powered green technologies which are good alternatives to reduce the impact of green house effect and climate change.
- Participated in the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Namibia (Convention of Biological Diversity 11 in 2013, country club windhoek). During the convention I sat in a few presentations.

Exemptions for Conducting EIA studies

As a custodian for bulk water supply, NamWater is occasionally requested to accelerate processes in order to provide potable water to vulnerable end users. One of the expediting processes is requesting EIA exemptions from the Environmental Commissioner via drafting letters and an EMP as a mitigation tool.

I was tasked to draft exemption letters and EMPs:

- Katji na Katji Interim Solution
- Shamvura Shamangorwa Package WTP
- Scheme powerlines to power reservoirs and associated infrastructures for Gibeon, Karasburg, Khorixas, Maltahohe, Stampriet

EIA Project Method Statements:

Running EIA projects are prone to developmental changes, if the developmental change is significant the deviation will not be covered in the Impact assessment.

As such a method statement is drafted to mitigate potential impacts.

Successfully completed method statements are as follows:

- Rooikop Pipeline replacement, diversion away from the Rooikop army base sewage treatment plant discharge.
- Kuiseb Delta New Scheme – High Dune to Mile 7, End Ection.
- Olushandja to Omahene Border Canal Refurbishment (Part A & Part B)

ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNICIAN - NOV. 2017 – JAN 2018

GECKO NAMIBIA (PTY) LTD)- Otjiwarongo, Namibia

- Conducted monthly legal compliance reports for all the triggered activities in the mine. The data is used to draft BI annual environmental reports, which are subsequently used to reapply for an environmental clearance certificate every 3 years.
- Pollution control, ensuring Tailings – (waste mining product) does not contaminate the aquifer.
- Air quality monitoring for Okoruso and Okanjande Mine, collected dust buckets once a month around okoruso mine, the buckets are used to determine the amount of dust that has settled over the preceding environment. The dust buckets located near the processing plant was used to determine the amount of graphite particles released in the air.
- Assisted with preparing of documentation for stakeholder engagement and public participation as part of the environmental assessment process e.g EPL application in Kunene region, PP meetings with Tradional Authorities, and the Kunue Regional Council.
- Created Maps in ArcGIS and Quantum GIS according to skill and experience, I mapped future mining pits by using Gps and converting coordinates to shapefiles via GIS software.
- Assessed mining impacts on the environment according to set method, common sense and knowledge gained through studies.
- Went on field trips (assisted Company Environmental Coordinator to conduct Botanical Surveys). conducted botanical survey in the kunene region in an area earmarked for copper exploration mining, the survey is used to apply for permits from the Department of Forestry.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING ADVISOR - FEBRUARY 2017 – MARCH 2018

SAM FARM CONSULTTING SERVICES, Namibia

Provided Environmental Advisory services – during the pre feasibility stage, sam farm services investigates what is required for potential irrigation schemes to operate succesfully e.g irrigation systems, soil propperties, pest control, water abstraction, water permits and environmental compliance.

- I was charged with conducting Environmental Screenings for potential irrigigation projects and advising if a potential farm is required to conduct an EIA.

Development and monitoring of operations to ensure environmental compliance activities such as:

5.1 The rezoning of land from - (d) use for nature conservation or zoned open space to any other land use. **7.5** Pest control.

8.1 The abstraction of ground or surface water for industrial or commercial purposes. **8.7** Irrigation schemes for agriculture excluding domestic irrigation. **9.1** The manufacturing, storage, handling or processing of a hazardous substance defined in the Hazardous Substances Ordinance, 1974.

REFERENCES

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EDUCATION

HONORS DEGREE, ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND GEOGRAPHY (NQA 8)

- 2014-2017
UNIVERSITY OF NAMIBIA

HIGHER DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS, (NQA 7)

- 2009-2011
UNIVERSITY OF NAMIBIA