

6 PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Public consultation and participation form an important component of an EIA process. It provides potential Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and stakeholders with an opportunity to comment on and raise any issues relevant to the project for consideration as part of the assessment process. This greatly assist the EAP (Environmental Consultant) to thoroughly identify and record potential impacts and to what extent further investigations are necessary. Public consultation can also aid in the process of identifying possible mitigation measures. The consultation for this project has been done under the EMA and its EIA Regulations and as per the following subsections.

6.1 Pre-identified and Registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs)

Relevant and applicable national, regional, and local authorities, and other interested members of the public were identified. Pre-identified I&APs were contacted directly, while other parties who contacted the Consultant after project advertisement notices in the newspapers, were registered as I&APs upon their request.

6.2 Communication with I&APs, and Means of Consultation Employed

Regulation 21 of the EIA Regulations details the steps to be taken during a public consultation process and these have been used in guiding this process. Communication with I&APs with regards to the project was facilitated through the following means and in this order:

- A Background Information Document (BID) containing brief information about the project activities was compiled, uploaded on the MEFT (ECC) Portal for project registration and shared with registered stakeholders / Interested and Affected parties (I&APs).
- A Stakeholders (I&AP)'s List was developed and updated as new I&APs register for the EIA. 120 I&APs were registered – Appendix D. The BID was shared with the pre-identified key stakeholders such as the Oshikoto Regional Council (Onyaanya and Omuntele constituencies), ministries such as Urban & Rural Development, Works & Transport, MEFT's Forestry Directorate, etc.
- Project EIA notices were published in the following newspapers - Appendix E:
 - *New Era*: The notice appeared in the newspaper on the 14th and 21st of June 2024.
 - *Windhoek Observer*: The notice appeared on the 13th, 18th and 21st of June 2024. The consultation period ran from the 13th of June to the 12th of July 2024.

- EIA notices in both English and Oshiwambo languages were prepared for printing in A3 size posters that were pasted at selected points/places along the DR3645, including the constituency offices as shown in Figure 6-1 and copy of the notices are attached hereto as Appendix F.



Figure 6-1: The EIA public notice posters at along the DR3645 major settlements and villages

- Consultation meetings were scheduled and held with the community and local stakeholders (in the area from 03 July to 04 July 2024 - Figure 6-2 and Figure 6-3. The meeting in Onamutayi Village (Onamutenya Area) had 48 attendees, Omuntele 16 attendees, Ondjamba 14 attendees and Engoyi had 14 attendees. The number of attendees includes 3 Serja HGE Consultants and one representative from RCC.





Figure 6-2: Consultation meetings in progress at Onamutenya and Omuntele on the 04th of June 2024



Figure 6-3: Consultation meetings in progress at Ondjamba and Engoyi B on the 04th of July 2024

Minutes were taken from all the meetings, and these are attached hereto as Appendix G.

6.3 Feedback and Issues raised by the Stakeholders (I&APs)

Some issues were raised by I&APs during the consultation period (via email – Figure 6-4 and consultation meetings) and these issues have been recorded and incorporated in the EIA Scoping Report and EMRP.

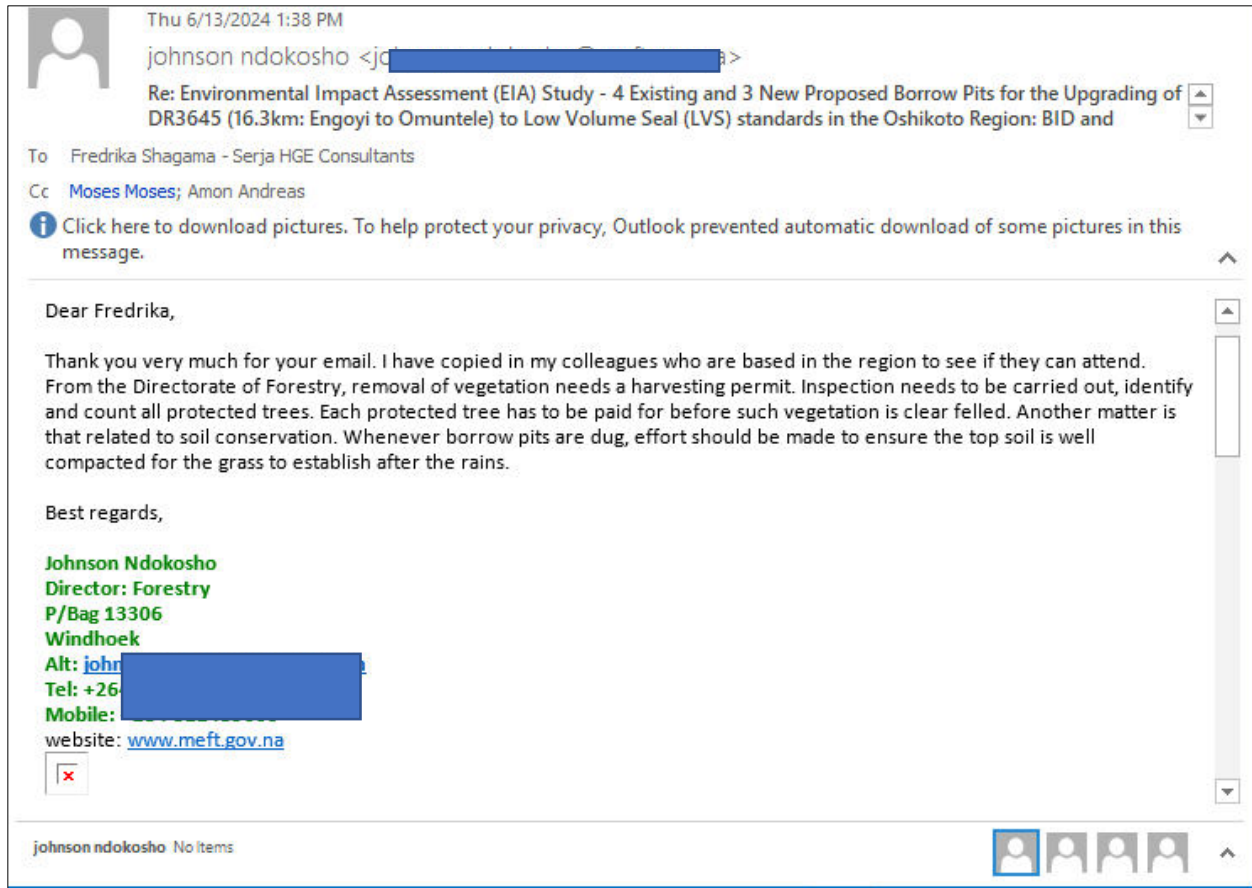


Figure 6-4: The only email comment received from one stakeholder (I&AP) on 13 June 2024

The summary these few key issues are presented in Table 6-1.

Table 6-1: Summary of main issues and comments received throughout the consultation period

Aspect	Summary of impact or concern
Comments and Issues received or noted during the consultation period (via email before the meetings)	
The loss of floral species (the removal of protected trees) and permitting requirements	"From the Directorate of Forestry, removal of vegetation needs a harvesting permit. Inspection needs to be carried out, identify and count all protected trees. Each protected tree has to be paid for before such vegetation is clear felled."
Soil conservation owing to physical disturbance (borrow pits activities)	"Soil conservation: whenever borrow pits are dug, effort should be made to ensure the topsoil is well compacted for the grass to establish after the rains."
Comments and Issues received or noted during the consultation meetings	

Aspect	Summary of impact or concern
Rehabilitation of old/existing as well as new borrow pits	Rehabilitation of existing BP that pose a risk to people and livestock.
The need for social responsibility related to borrow pits (for community use as rainwater holding structures/dams for livestock)	Communities requesting to be assisted with deepening or re-working of existing borrow pits from the construction of DR3645 in 2007 and have been used for livestock watering. Some of the crucial pits have naturally backfilled. Thus, requiring some work.
Recruitment of project personnel (labourers)	The community expressed dissatisfaction with the unfair employment of people at the road (less locals especially the Engoyi side and Onamutenya).
Damaging of local / community access roads	The community access roads are damaged by heavy trucks that transport construction materials from BPs, especially from the BP6 area. This has become difficult for small vehicles and non-4x4 to use these roads.
Air quality and visual (dust generation)	There is an issue of dust generation in the area along the road, especially places like Ondjamba. Dust suppression efforts should be implemented and done regularly for growth centres such as Ondjamba because it gets dusty. This also affects school children while in classrooms. This is an issue of air quality and visual.
Observed issues in the field	
Community safety at or near BPs and the DR3645 itself	Children and some adults standing near the heavy trucks at the BPs claiming to be looking for firewood. Some community members were also seen standing to their friends and or family members who are working on the road. They were informed of the risks and to stay away from road works and BPs. This was also raised in the community meetings for elders/parents to talk to children to stay away from the road.
The issue hauling and loading operators being alone at BPs	This is a concern in case of injuries and there is no one else to attend to them. Frequent site checks by foremen or colleagues? Or perhaps hire neighbours on short-term contracts to check in?
Damaging of community water pipeline across the road due to construction works	Some community members raised an issue of their pipeline inadvertently getting cut or damaged along the road during preparation of the road sites for construction.
Over speeding by project truck drivers	It was observed that some truck drivers and light vehicle drivers are over speeding along the DR3645 despite the current conditions of the road (being under construction) with limited mobility and manoeuvring at some sections. This result in the generation of dust along the road and even on access roads (haul roads) to BPs.

Aspect	Summary of impact or concern
Lack of PPE for some SME workers in the field	Some SME workers did not have PPE, and this was addressed as RCC indicated that they had communicated to that specific SME management to act, and PPE delivery was underway on the same day. The PPE were delivered, and the workers were seen wearing PPE later that day.

The consultation period ran from the 13th of June 2024 to the 12th of July 2024 to allow the submission of comments after the consultation meeting. Comments received during the consultation meetings were as summarized above and indicated in the meeting minutes.

6.3.1 Feedback on the Review of the Draft Scoping Report and EMRP

The draft environmental Scoping Report, environmental management & rehabilitation plan (EMRP) and minutes from the consultation meetings were circulated to the registered stakeholders and I&APs for review and comments on the 22nd of July to the 30th of July 2024 - Figure 6-5. There were no comments received on the documents.

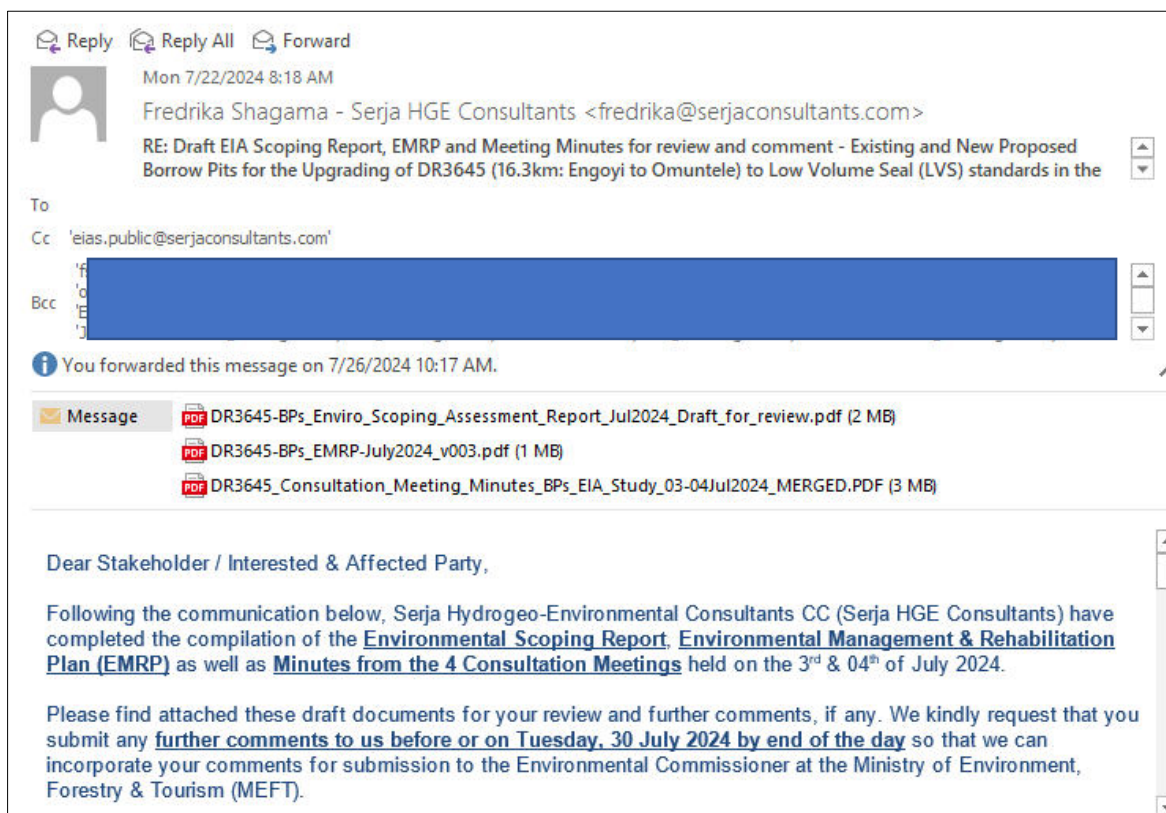


Figure 6-5: The email communication to stakeholders and I&APs for the review and comments on the draft Scoping Report, EMRP and Meeting minutes

6.3.2 Concluding remark on the overall EIA Consultation process and feedback

The comments and issues raised during the consultation period were significant, however, they were submitted as objections that would hinder, halt or terminate the project activities. The stakeholders and I&APs would just like to see improvements made where the project activities are lagging in terms of environmental and social sustainability. More importantly, the I&APs would like to see the implementation of management and mitigation measures to reduce the significance of the impacts while continuing with the road construction works because they need the road to improve their mobility and accessibility to economic and social services centers.

The next chapter (Chapter 7) is the presentation of potential impacts identified, the impact assessment methodology, description of impacts and their assessment.

Bunya kindergarten boosted

■ John Muyamba

Bunya village in the Kapako constituency of Kavango West region received a brick wall kindergarten on Monday as a donation from Netagea Investment (Pty) Ltd, which is a beneficiary of the government fishing quotas.

All quota beneficiaries are required to give back to the community as part of their corporate social responsibility.

The kindergarten was constructed to the tune of N\$77 074.

It is the first of its kind in the



Donation... Bunya community received a donation in the form of a brick-structure kindergarten block from Netagea Investment Pty Ltd on Monday. Photo: John Muyamba

village, which is earmarked as a settlement.

Before the good Samaritans chipped in, the kindergarten was previously operated from a shade built with corrugated roof sheets.

"We started the kindergarten at the church. In the church yard, we built our shade, and we taught the pupils there. Parents were happy, and they brought their children.

We started with 45 learners, and at that time there was no grade 0 at Bunya combined school," said Benedicta Kadira, one of the teachers and founders of the kindergarten.

"We started with a N\$10 monthly fee. We are doing it for the love, and not the money. Towards the end of 2023, I got a call that some good Samaritan

wants to support someone who has never been granted donor support before, and they came to investigate. They were content, and they gave us this building. We are indeed grateful, and now many kids will be brought here because we are no longer teaching in the open space, but in a building," Kadira said.

"Our journey to this moment began with a vision to positively contribute to the education sector. We heard about Kadira's passion for teaching, and further investigations revealed that she is trained to be a pre-primary teacher through the ministry of gender equality. She made efforts to teach the community babies at the community church premise," said Netagea chairperson, Naftalie !Gaoseb. Previously, Netagea donated a printer to a school in the marginalised community in the Ruacana constituency, and a water pump to an orphanage in

Tsumeb. Recently, they donated a temporary structure of a boys and girls hostel at Mburu-uru primary school in Kavango West.

"Once again, we are here to celebrate the beautiful occasion of the official donation handover of this brand-new kindergarten building. At Netagea, we believe in the power of education to transform lives and uplift communities. We recognise that early childhood education lays the foundation for a lifetime of learning, growth and success," he said.

Netagea recognises the need for women's empowerment, hence the decision to empower Kadira with a kindergarten building.

"We were so deeply touched by her persistence and passion for teaching that we decided to build a kindergarten for her to serve the children of the community better," he noted.

-jmuyamba@nepc.com.na

Epukiro kindergarten falling apart

■ Zebaldt Ngaruka

GOBABIS – An early childhood development centre at Epukiro constituency's Omaueozonjanda settlement in the Omaheke region is in a precarious deteriorating state.

Epukiro Kindergarten was built in 1991 by the community members at the settlement with some funding from the Council of Churches in Namibia.

It is one of the oldest ECDs in Omaheke. The centre registered over 40 pupils for this academic year.

The centre also had a poultry farming and horticulture culture section, which were aimed at equipping learners with agricultural skills from a tender age.

All of these have now become white elephants.

Amongst others, there were cracked walls, broken windows, doorless classrooms and non-functioning toilets when the *New Era* crew visited the centre recently.

One of the teachers at the centre, Utiapatje Kangootui, lamented their conditions, saying they are teaching the future leaders of Namibia in an uncondusive environment.

"This building might fall one day, and that will cause danger to the lives of both the children and staff members of the school," Kangootui said.

She added that learning is disturbed, as the wind is blowing away materials during lesson time due to the broken windows and doors.

"Even though the floors here are in a dilapidated state, our playground is only left with its name, as all the playing equipment is damaged," she added.

The teacher said toilet facilities are not working, and pupils and staff find it difficult when nature calls.

"We use water baskets to flush one toilet for all of us here – and that is not even hygienic," said the teacher.

Asked what other needs the centre has apart from renovations required to rescue the ailing building, Kangootui said office equipment, tables and

chairs for the pupils are among their most pressing needs.

"We also need expansion on toilet facilities where teachers can be separated from the pupils. It will be ideal if we have a better security fence for our place to avoid theft of property," she requested.

Another concern is that the centre is situated next to the police station, which teachers view as not an ideal environment for pupils.

"That is a big distraction for the children, as you know the fear of police officers by the kids in society, in addition to the behaviour and bad language used by some inmates at the station," she stated.

She recommends a wall to be built between the centre and police station.

"Even the fence between us and the police is not strong – and sometimes, the trial-awaiting suspects cross over. This is not good at all. The security of little ones might be at risk, and something must be done," she asked.

The centre also needs a computer, printer, television and teaching materials for children.

"We requested the constituency office for a feeding programme so that our pupils can eat here because sometimes we stay up to 17h00," Kangootui said.

According to some community members, a water tank that was supposed to be at the centre vanished into thin air.

"Even some materials used for gardening and pig projects were taken. These are the

people who are supposed to look after the centre, but they took properties for their own use," said an anonymous community member. The head of ECD in the region, Clency-Star Kandetu-Kambirongo, is aware of the problem at Epukiro Kindergarten.

She clarified that the ECDs are community-based projects, and the ministry only facilitates them.

"Our mandate is to oversee whether the standard is observed. We only assist with building once we get donations. We do not even pay the salary of the teachers, nor do we recruit. It is all in the hands of the community, and we only check the records of teachers to see whether they have criminal records related to child trafficking," she said.

She added it is the responsibility of the Epukiro community to raise money to renovate the facility, as the ministry does not have funds.

"We were there in Epukiro, and made an assessment in 2022 to see whether they meet the standards required by the ministry of gender equality. We advise them to renovate the centre, or else it will face closure," she said.

On the feeding programme at the ECDs, the head said: "We are thinking of a model to be used to curb this problem. We tried to get assistance from constituency councillors, but they are facing difficulties, as the food they are distributing is for drought relief, and not meant for ECDs".

-zngaruka@yahoo.com



Dilapidated... The Epukiro Kindergarten in Omaueozonjanda is in a perilous state.

Photos: Contributed

PUBLIC NOTICE: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY - FOUR EXISTING AND THREE NEW PROPOSED BORROW PITS FOR THE UPGRADING OF DR3645 (16.3KM: ENGOYI-OMUNTELE) TO LOW VOLUME SEAL STANDARDS IN THE OSHIKOTO REGION

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Contact Person:
Ms. Fredrika Shagama
Mobile No.: +264 (0) 81749 9223
(SMS or WhatsApp)
Email:
eias.public@serjaconsultants.com



I-TECH Namibia promotes activities that increase human capacity for providing HIV/AIDS clinical care and support through the development of health care worker training systems. I-TECH invites suitably qualified persons to apply for the following positions:

- Senior District Quality Manager x1 (Otjiwarongo)
- District Quality Manager x1 (Rundu)
- HIV Testing Services Mentor x1 (Rundu)

Detailed advertisement and further information at:
<https://www.go2itech.org/employment/>

Closing Date: 21 June 2024

I-TECH Namibia is an equal opportunity employer, people with disabilities and from designated groups are encouraged to apply.

2 000 offenders pardoned

NIËL TERBLANCHÉ
Staff Writer

In an effort to address overcrowding in prisons and to encourage rehabilitation, President Nangolo Mbumba has issued a pardon and reprieve order leading to the release of more than 2 000 offenders from correctional facilities across Namibia.

This order, announced during the commemoration of Namibia's 34th independence anniversary, will see 313 inmates receiving full pardons and 1 108 temporarily released from prison.

The Namibian Correctional Service disclosed that these releases represent a substantial proportion of the 4,330 offenders who were considered for the presidential pardon.

The pardon will also see the release of 709 offenders serving sentences under community supervision while 98 will be temporarily released.

The presidential decree, published in the Government Gazette on 3 May 2024, took effect on 21 March 2024.

President Mbumba's decree, as outlined in the Government Gazette, specified that offenders eligible for the pardon and reprieve included those who have demonstrated good conduct and have

served significant portions of their sentences.

The presidential pardon covers offenders aged 60 and above, those who are permanently bedridden, and juvenile offenders who have maintained meritorious conduct.

The presidential decree in the Government Gazette detailed the categories of offenders eligible for release, noting that those convicted of serious crimes such as murder, rape, treason, and drug trafficking are excluded from this pardon.

The exclusion of offenders guilty of serious crimes ensures that individuals who pose a high risk to society or who have a history of serious offences are not released prematurely.

Monika Gaoses, Commissioner-General of the Namibian Correctional Service, emphasised the government's commitment to a balanced approach between rehabilitation and maintaining public safety.

"This pardon and reprieve are part of our broader strategy to reduce prison overcrowding and support the reintegration of reformed individuals back into society," Gaoses said.

She added that the NCS's focus is on those who have shown a genuine commitment to rehabilitation and who are unlikely to

re-offend.

A significant number of the pardoned offenders are those serving short-term sentences or those who have already served a large portion of their sentences.

Dr Andreas Mwoombola, a criminologist and expert on correctional reforms, praised the initiative as a progressive step towards humanising the correctional system in Namibia.

"This pardon demonstrates a commitment to reforming the criminal justice system in a way that balances the need for public safety with the imperative of giving individuals a second chance," Dr Mwoombola said.

He added that the pardon is a reflection of a justice system that values rehabilitation and understands the socio-economic impact of incarceration." The comprehensive nature of the pardon reflects a careful consideration of the needs of both the offenders and the broader community.

The Namibian Correctional Service will collaborate with community organisations to provide support and resources to facilitate the successful reintegration into society of the pardoned offenders.

The collaboration with community organisations will be aimed at reducing recidivism and helping former offenders build productive and law-abiding lives.



President Nangolo Mbumba

PROCUREMENT NOTICE



MTC hereby invites companies to participate in the following procurement opportunity:

TENDER NO: MTC25-24-0

Request for Courier Services to Various Local Destinations for MTC.

Briefing Meeting:

Wednesday, 13 June 2024 @ 11:00 AM

Briefing Meeting Venue:

Microsoft Teams, the link will be on MTC's website

Closing Date: 21 June 2024 @ 14:30 AM

Terms of references are available at:

<https://www.mtc.com.na/procurement/tenders>



mtc.com.na

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EXTERNAL VACANCY JOB TITLE: LEGAL ASSISTANT

| DUTY STATION: HEAD OFFICE |

PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THE POSITION: The purpose of this job is to provide assistance to the Company Secretary/Legal Advisor, with regards to legal and related services. This job falls within the legal department and reports directly to the Company Secretary/Legal Advisor.

REQUIREMENTS: Bachelor of Laws (LL.B). | Prior experience in a similar role will be advantageous. | Good interpersonal skills. | Knowledge of relevant Acts and regulations. | High level of confidentiality, accountability and integrity. | High level of professionalism and attention to detail. | Excellent administrative and presentation skills. | Above average research and writing skills. | 2 years of working experience, within a legal environment.

All applications must be accompanied by a comprehensive curriculum vitae, certified copies of educational qualifications and other supporting documentation, i.e academic transcripts. All foreign qualifications must be evaluated by the Namibia Qualifications Authority (NQA).

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and shall be subjected to further assessment and screening. Namibians who meet the requirements of the advertised position should submit their applications, to the following email address; eporfirio@nwr.com.na, not later than **14 June 2024 at 17:00**. No hand delivered documents will be accepted.

NATIONAL

Parliament to discuss creation of Unemployment Fund with Amushelelo

ERASMUS SHAILHAXWE

Staff Writer

National Assembly secretary, Lydia Kandetu has extended an invitation to social justice activist Michael Amushelelo to attend a meeting with the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs to discuss a petition demanding the creation of the Unemployment Fund.

On Monday, Kandetu wrote to Amushelelo to inform him that the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs had taken his petition into consideration during its meeting on 13 June. The committee decided to invite him to a consultative meeting to learn more.

According to Kandetu, the meeting, which is scheduled for 20 June at the Parliament Building, wishes to clarify the requirements and expectations of the petition through a 5-10-minute presentation to the committee.

In his response, Amushelelo stated that he is pushing for the creation of an Unemployment Fund, similar to the Veterans Act No. 2 of 2008, which would give money to unemployed Namibians monthly.

"Every unemployed Namibian should be given money on a monthly basis; this is your constitutional right

“

Every unemployed Namibian should be given money on a monthly basis; this is your constitutional right as per Article 95 of the Namibian Constitution. We will continue to advocate for all Namibians, especially those who are economically subjugated. - Amushelelo

as per Article 95 of the Namibian Constitution. We will continue to advocate for all Namibians, especially those who are economically subjugated. Members of the public are hereby invited to come and watch as we advocate for the unemployed," said Amushelelo.

In 2023, Amushelelo led a protest against high unemployment in Windhoek, which led to his arrest alongside Member of Parliament Inna Hengari and another social activist, Dimbulukweni Nauyoma.



Lydia Kandetu



Michael Amushelelo

TASTE

RESTAURANT & BAR



SCAN TO VIEW OUR MENU



RELISH THE TASTE OF
OPULENCE AS YOU AWAIT
YOUR FLIGHT AT TASTE HKIA.

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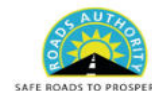
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SAFE ROADS TO PROSPERITY

CONSULTANTS



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Call for Namibia to champion local content

STEFANUS NASHAMA
Staff Writer

Member of Parliament, Inna Hengari has proposed a motion for Namibia to boost local media and music content.

Speaking in the National Assembly on Wednesday, Hengari expressed that the underutilization of local content deprives Namibia of opportunities for job creation within the creative industry.

“The current data reveals that a staggering 80 percent of the music played on local radio stations originates from foreign sources, contributing to a homogenous and limited musical environment.

This reliance on foreign content not only leads to a significant outflow of royalties, thereby economically marginalising Namibian artists but also hampers the growth and sustainability of our vibrant creative industry,” she stressed.

Hengari further said that the prevalence of foreign content dilutes Namibia’s unique cultural identity, stifling the representation of local narratives in our media landscape. According to her, promoting more local content on Namibia’s radio and television platforms holds significant potential benefits for the creative industry and artists.

She emphasised that by increasing the broadcast of local content, Namibia can create a more diverse and vibrant

cultural landscape.

“Artists, particularly Namibian musicians, some of my personal favourites (Jackson Wahengo, Shishani, Big Ben Kandukira, Gazza, King TeeDee, Top Cheri, Young T, D-Jay, Josie Kauandenge, etc.), and hundreds of content creators stand to gain significantly from this initiative,” she said.

Hengari believes that increasing airtime for local music and programming not only exposes local talent but also boosts their chances of earning royalties and expanding their fan base.

This supports economic empowerment within the creative sector by keeping revenue generated from broadcasts in the country rather

than flowing out to foreign entities, she added.

Hengari highlighted that local content fosters cultural enrichment by promoting Namibian stories, traditions, and values through the media.

“By showcasing diverse local narratives, Namibia can preserve and celebrate its unique cultural identity, enriching the overall cultural fabric of society. This not only enhances national pride but also strengthens social cohesion by allowing Namibians to see themselves reflected positively in the media that they consume,” she emphasised.

Hengari wants the house to discuss the motion and refer it to a relevant parliamentary standing committee.



Inna Hengari

Eskom secures court order against City of Joburg, demands payment of over R3.4 billion

Eskom stated that it obtained a court order on Thursday against the City of Joburg, demanding that the municipality settle its debt of over R1 billion, which has escalated to R3.4 billion due to interest.

“Eskom has written a letter to City of Joburg and City Power demanding payment of the full amount of R3.4 billion by June 21, 2024 and we hope they will respect the court decision and settle all outstanding debts to Eskom,” the utility said in a statement.

When the matter was heard, the municipality brought a counterclaim against the power utility for R3.4 billion, alleging potential over-billing. As a result, it applied for an automatic set-off against Eskom’s electricity account.

However, the court dismissed the municipality’s counterclaim with costs.

Eskom said the Joburg City Power started to default on their payments in October 2023 and the utility has received no payments since March 2024.

“The debt owed by City Power has reached unprecedented levels, exacerbating Eskom’s already strained financial situation.



Eskom has written a letter to City of Joburg and City Power demanding payment of the full amount of R3.4 billion by June 21, 2024 and we hope they will respect the court decision and settle all outstanding debts to Eskom

“This dire situation not only undermines Eskom’s financial sustainability but also threatens its ability to maintain essential infrastructure, invest in new technologies and meet the growing energy demands of the province,” Eskom said. Since last year, Joburg City Power officials have been on a debt collection drive, disconnecting electricity at businesses and residences that owe billions in unpaid electricity bills. sinenhlanhla.masilela@iol.co.za IOL News

Attack on army base fuels Burkina Faso mutiny rumours

An attack that reportedly killed over 100 soldiers on an army base in Burkina Faso has snowballed into speculation about unrest in the security forces, in a country where the military has been in power since 2022.

The leader of the military junta has since appeared on state TV in an attempt to debunk the rumours. Burkina Faso has been battling Islamist insurgents for several years and about half the country is outside government control. Jihadist group Jamaat Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin (JNIM) has said it was behind last Tuesday’s attack in the northern town of Mansila.

The following day, there was an explosion near the headquarters of the state television.

What happened in Mansila? According to several reports, armed men attacked the military base, located near the border with Niger, on 11 June.

Around 100 soldiers were killed and many others were missing, reports say, adding that several hundred civilians fled Mansila for neighbouring towns in search of safety.

Five days after the attack, JNIM, an al-Qaeda affiliate, said it was behind the attack, and that dozens of soldiers were killed.

The group shared a video showing a large amount of weapons and ammunition that it says were captured during the assault.

There are also videos of JNIM fighters riding motorbikes and shooting relentlessly in a remote village of mud-walled buildings.

The BBC has not been able to verify the video.

The armed forces have since blockaded Mansila and it is not possible to enter the city without a military convoy.

Commenting for the first time since the attack, Capt Ibrahim Traoré said the military had launched an operation after the attack, and sent reinforcement troops.

But he did not address a claim by JNIM that it carried out the attack. What about the explosion at the state broadcaster?

A day after the Mansila attack, a rocket hit the parking area of state TV



Capt Ibrahim Traoré

Radiotélévision Burkinabé (RTB) in the capital, Ouagadougou.

On its Facebook page, RTB described the event as a “shooting incident” that resulted in “two minor injuries, quickly taken care of by the presidential health service”. Was the RTB incident part of a mutiny?

Even before the Mansila and RTB attacks, there was already speculation about internal tensions within the military.

Along with the public, soldiers had expressed frustration at the government’s failure to contain the security crisis after a series of high-profile attacks.

Like its counterparts in Mali and Niger, Burkina Faso’s junta came to power promising to end the jihadist insurgency.

But insecurity in Burkina Faso has increased dramatically since the army took power in 2022, kicking out French troops, saying they had not done enough to tackle the jihadist groups linked to al-Qaeda and the Islamic State. The junta has meanwhile deepened military ties with Russia.

Military sources told French broadcaster RFI that the 12 June state TV attack was linked to the army’s

“internal situation” and that “things are not good”.

Jeune Afrique, another French outlet, reported that the rocket was fired from the nearby presidential palace by unidentified individuals while military leader Capt Ibrahim Traoré was chairing a cabinet meeting. Consequently, Capt Traoré’s security had to “exfiltrate” him, Jeune Afrique said.

But Capt Traoré denied reports of mutiny within the army.

“It’s absolutely not the case. We are here,” he said, in an address from outside the RTB office on Thursday. He claimed that a rocket was launched into RTB’s courtyard by mistake by those who were guarding the television station. He said nobody died although some people were injured.

Local media outlets in Burkina Faso have downplayed the RTB incident and the Mansila attack, perhaps over fears of a crackdown.

The junta has suspended several local and international media outlets accused of bias in their coverage of military operations, jihadist attacks and alleged human rights abuses by security forces.

Why have the authorities stayed quiet about the attacks?

-bbc

PUBLIC NOTICE: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY - FOUR EXISTING AND THREE NEW PROPOSED BORROW PITS FOR THE UPGRADING OF DR3645 (16.3KM: ENGOYI-OMUNTELE) TO LOW VOLUME SEAL STANDARDS IN THE OSHIKOTO REGION

The public is hereby notified that an application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner as required under the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. The proposed project is a listed activity in the EIA Regulations that cannot be undertaken without an ECC, which is issued upon approval of an EIA Study.

The Proponent: Roads Authority of Namibia

Appointed Environmental Consultant: Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC

Project Description: Through the appointed contractor (Roads Contractor Company), Roads Authority is upgrading the existing 16.3km District Road 3645 (DR3645): Engoyi-Omuntele to low volume seal (LVS) standards in the Oshikoto Region. The road was constructed in 2007 using labour-based methods and now being upgrading from gravel to tarred road (LVS). As part of the road upgrading works, the contractor requires construction materials sourced from borrow pits located along the road route. There are currently four existing borrow pits from 2007/2008 that require extension to continue providing materials for the road upgrade and an additional of three new borrow pits.

The public is therefore invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and submit comments, concerns (in writing) and or receive further information on the EIA Study. The deadline for registration as I&APs and submission of comments, issues or concerns is **Friday, 12 July 2024**.

The community consultation and engagement meetings are scheduled in the area as follows:

Date: Wed, 03 July 2024 (1 st Meeting)	Date: Wed, 03 July 2024 (2 nd Meeting)	Date: Thu, 04 July 2024 (3 rd Meeting)	Date: Thu, 04 July 2024 (4 th Meeting)
Time: 10h00	Time: 14h00	Time: 10h00	Time: 14h00
Venue: Onamutenya	Venue: Omuntele	Venue: Ondjamba	Venue: Engoyi

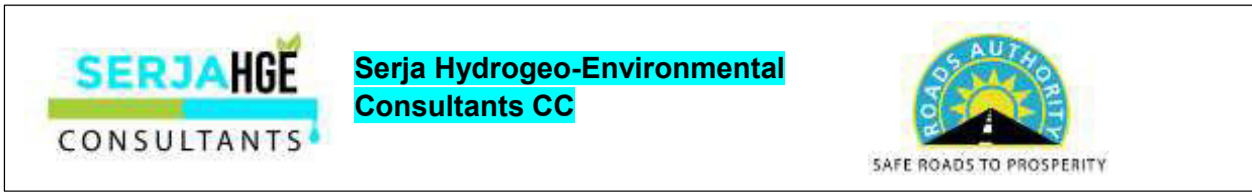
Contact Person: Ms. Fredrika Shagama

Mobile No.: +264 (0) 81 749 9223 (SMS or WhatsApp)

Email: eias_public@serjaconsultants.com



PUBLIC NOTICE



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY - FOUR EXISTING AND THREE NEW PROPOSED BORROW PITS FOR THE UPGRADING OF DR3645 (16.3KM: ENGOYI-OMUNTELE) TO LOW VOLUME SEAL (LVS) ROAD STANDARDS IN THE OSHIKOTO REGION: AN APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC)

The public is hereby notified that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner at the Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism (MEFT) as required under the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. The proposed activities (borrow pits and associated road upgrading activities) are listed activity that cannot be undertaken without an ECC from the MEFT, and the ECC is subject to an EIA Study which is currently carried out to obtain the ECC for the seven (7) borrow pits, i.e., four existing to be extended and proposed three new borrow pits to be created (*the Project*).

Project Proponent: Roads Authority of Namibia

Appointed Environmental Consultant: Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC (*SERJA HGE Consultants*)

Project Description: Through the appointed contractor (Roads Contractor Company), Roads Authority is upgrading the existing 16.3km District Road 3645 (DR3645): Engoyi-Omuntele to low volume seal (LVS) standards in the Oshikoto Region. The road was constructed in 2007 using labour-based methods and it is now being upgrading from gravel to tarred road (LVS). As part of the road upgrading works, the contractor requires construction materials sourced from borrow pits located along the road route. There are currently 4 existing borrow pits from 2007/2008 that require extension to continue providing materials for the road upgrade and an additional of 3 new borrow pits – please refer to the locality map below with the 7 borrow pits marked as BP6, BP 8B, BP 8A, BP 12, BP 15 RHS, BP LHS and BP 31.

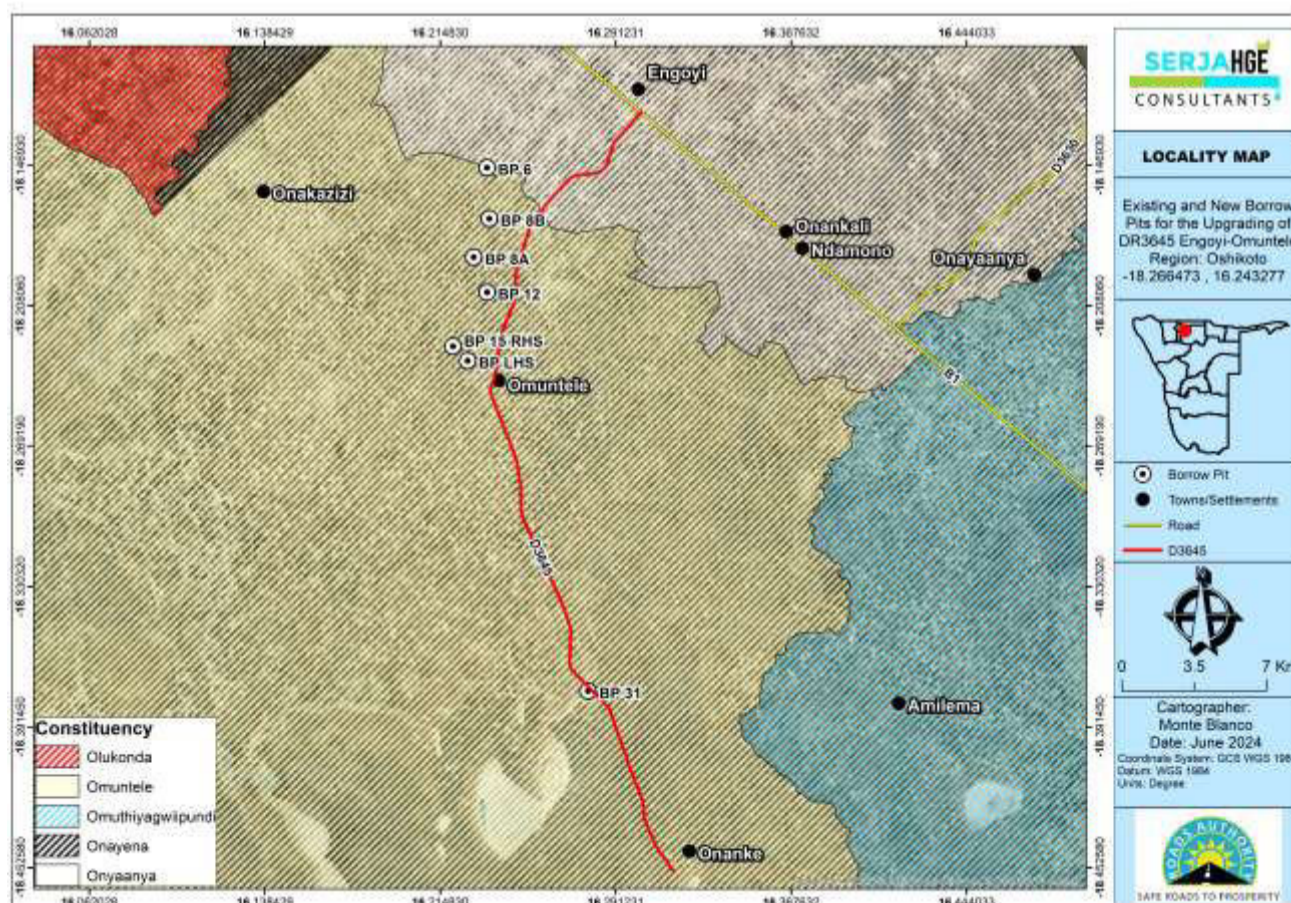
Public Participation: The public is therefore invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and submit comment, issues, and concerns or receive further information on the EIA Study. Registration or submission of comments should **be done in writing** to the contact details below **before or on Friday, 12 July 2024.**

Please note that 4 Community Consultation and Engagement Meetings will be held in area as per the following details:

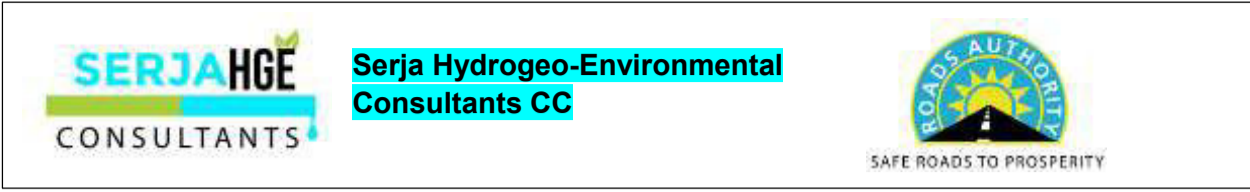
Meeting 1	Meeting 2	Meeting 3	Meeting 4
Date: Wednesday, 03 July 2024	Date: Wednesday, 03 July 2024	Date: Thursday, 04 July 2024	Date: Thursday, 04 July 2024
Time: 10h00	Time: 14h00	Time: 10h00	Time: 14h00
Venue: Onamutenya	Venue: Omuntele	Venue: Ondjamba	Venue: Engoyi

Contact Person: Ms. Fredrika Shagama (Lead Environmental Assessment Practitioner / Consultant)

Mobile No.: +264 81 749 9223 (SMS or WhatsApp), **E-mail:** eias.public@serjaconsultants.com



ETSEYITHO KOSHIGWANA



**EKONAAKONO LYUUKALINAWA WOMUDHINGOLOKO, EKUTHOMBINGA NOSHO WO OMAYELE OMAGWEDHELOPO
GAAKWASHIGWANA SHINA SHA NIILAMBO YILI 7 MOKA TAMU KUTHWA EVI LYOKU LONGULULA ONDJILA YO DR3645
NDJOKA YAZA MEENGOYI OKUYA KOMUNTELE (YUULE WO 16.3KM) NOKU YI ETA POMUTHIKA OMUHWEPWO MOSHITOPOLWA
SHASHIKOTO: EINDILO LYEPITIKILO LYIILAMBO YEVI LYOKULONGA ONDJILA**

Aakwashigwana otaya tseyithilwa ngaashi sha uthwa paveta nopakatendo taka gamene ukalinawa netonatelolo lyomudhingoloko (okatendo oka7 ka pitithilwe momumvo 2007 noompango dhako dha pitithilwe muFebruali 2012) kutya otaku ningwa eindilo kOmukuluntu gwOmudhingoloko muuMinisteli wOmudhingoloko, Omakuti nOmatalelopo. Eindilo ndika olyepitikilo lyiilambo yili iheyali moka tamu kuthwa evi lyoProjeka yelongululo lyondjila yo DR3645 ndjoka yaza mEngoyi sigo okOmuntele. Uukwatya woProjeka paufupi ongaashi tau landula:

Omukwatelikomeho/Mwene gwoProjeka: Roads Authority of Namibia (Omutungi nOmutonateli goondjila/goopate)

Omukonaakoni gwOmudhingoloko peha lyoRoads Authority: Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC (*SERJA HGE Consultants*)

Uukwatya woProjeka: Roads Authority oyili metifa lyoku longulula ondjila ndjoka yaza mEngoyi okuya kOmuntele (yoshinano 16.3km) noku yi eta pomuthika guli hwepo. Iilonga mbika otayi longwa kuRoads Contractor Company (RCC) noya kwatelwa komeho koBurmeister & Partners (Consulting Engineers). Ondjila oya longelwe ngaa tango mo2007 no paife otayi longululwa yi ninge oteya nenge yi etwe pamuthika guli nawa. Opo iilonga yi gwanithwe po, oRCC okwa pumbwa evi lyoku longitha okuza miilambo mbyoka iikulu yili 4 tayi gwedhelwa noku tha po iilambo iipe yili 3 pomahala ga yooloka ngaashi sha ulikwa mokaalita (BP 6, BP 8B, BP 8A, BP 12, BP 15 RHS, BP LHS noBP 31).

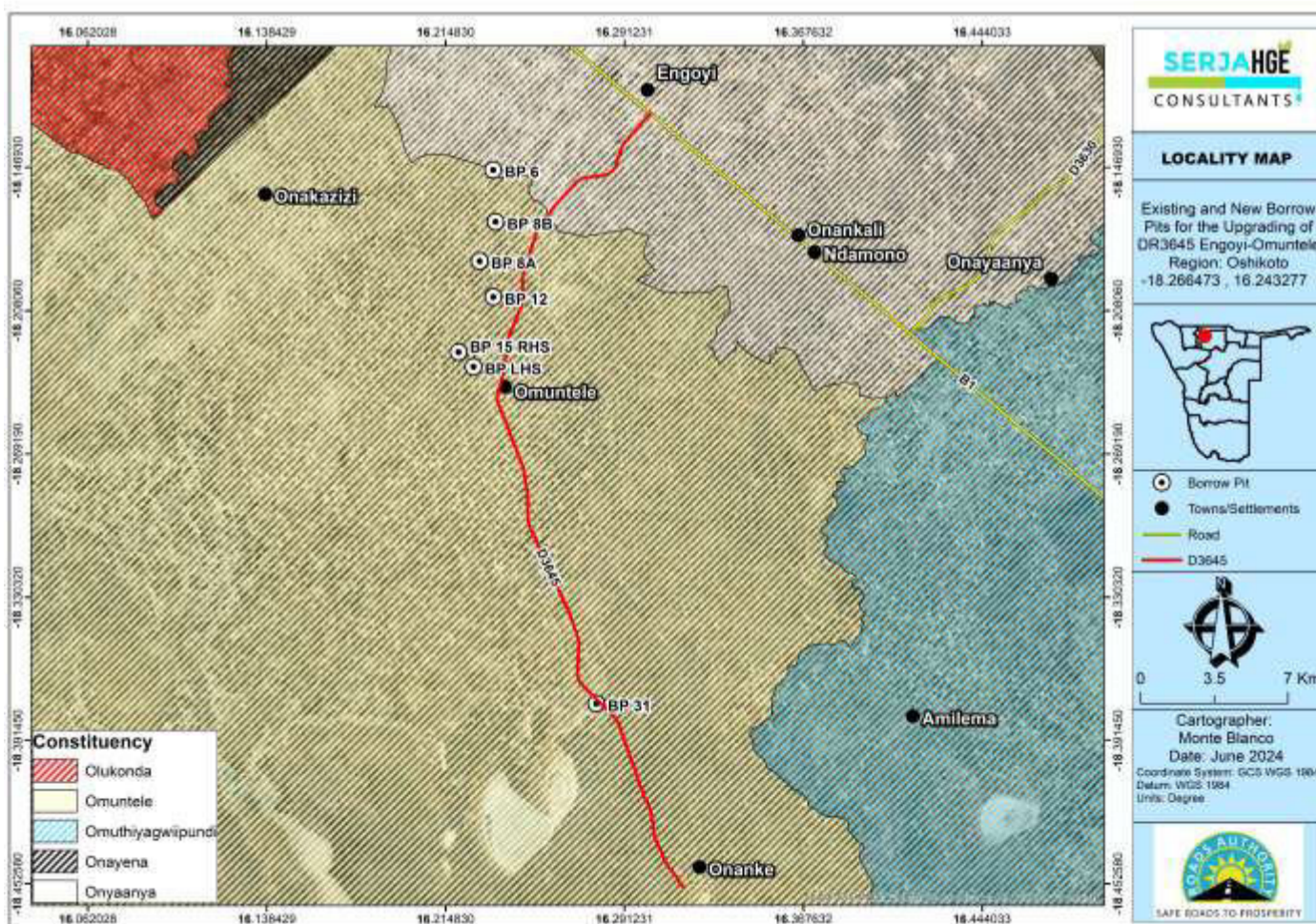
Ekuthombinga nomayeke gaakwashigwana shina sha noProjeka: Opo wu shangwe nenge wu pule uyelele wa gwedhwapo shina sha nomakonaakono gomudhingoloko, oto indilwa opo wu gandje uukwatya (uyelele) woye kOmukonaakoni gwOmudhingoloko komakwatathano ga gandjwa mpaka. Esiku lya hugunina lyoku tuma omaiyuvo nomagwedhelepo **ometitano, momasiku 12 gaJuli 2024**.

Aakwashigwana otamu hiwa nesimaneko enene kiigongi ngaashi tashi landula (opo mu gongale pehala lili popepi na ne):

Oshigongi shotango (1)	Oshigongi oshitiyali (2)	Oshigongi oshititatu (3)	Oshigongi oshitine (4)
Esiku: Etitatu, 03 Juli 2024	Esiku: Etitatu, 03 Juli 2024	Esiku: Etine, 04 Juli 2024	Esiku: Etine, 04 Juli 2024
Ethimbo: 10h00 gongula	Ethimbo: 14h00 (o2 yomutenya)	Ethimbo: 10h00 gongula	Ethimbo: 14h00 (o2 yomutenya)
Ehala: Onamutenya	Ehala: Omuntele	Ehala: Ondjamba	Ehala: Engoyi

Kwatathana na: Ms. Fredrika Shagama (Omukwateli komeho mekonaakono lyomudhingoloko shina sha niilambo yoProjeka yondjila)

Onomola yongodhi +264 81 749 9223 (oSMS nenge WhatsApp), **E-mail:** eias.public@serjaconsultants.com



Meeting Minutes

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study - Existing and New Proposed Borrow Pits for the Upgrading of DR3645 (16.3km: Engoyi to Omuntele) to Low Volume Seal (LVS) standards in the Oshikoto Region

Date: Wednesday, 03 July 2024

Time: 10h40 to 12h00

Venue: Onamutenya Pension Pay-out shaded structure area, Ompito Village (next to Borrow Pit (BP31))

Project Proponent: Roads Authority of Namibia

1. MEETING ATTENDANCE

The attendance comprised of 3 Environmental consultants from Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC (Serja HGE Consultants), one representative from the road construction contractor (RCC Safety Officer), and forty-four (44) community members - as shown in Figure 1 and the signed attendance register attached hereto.



Figure 1: Consultation meeting with the Community in Ompito on the 03rd of July 2024

2. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING

Ms. Fredrika Shagama (Environmental Assessment Practitioner / Consultant) from Serja HGE Consultants opened the meeting, thanked the meeting attendees for making time for the meeting, and introduced herself, and the team (Serja Consultants and RCC Representative).

The meeting attendees were welcomed by Mr. Pinehas Shikongo (the Headman of Ompito Village under which Omanutenya area falls) and the meeting was opened with a prayer by Mr. Titus Angombe. Ms. Shagama was given the floor to present the meeting agenda which is based on the requirements of the 2012 EIA Regulations: Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 on Public Consultation's Section 21 to 24.

Printed copies of the Background Information Document (BID) was circulated to attendees for self-reading and follow throughout the meeting proceedings. Ms. Shagama further informed the meeting attendees that as part of the consultation meetings, there is an attendance register that needs to be signed for further information circulation and as proof of consultation, alongside photos to be provided to the Environmental Commissioner in the EIA Scoping Report. The consulting team circulated the register to the attendees to sign and assisted the elderly with registering their names.

Moreover, given the fact that the meeting was held in the rural northern Namibia where people speak Oshiwambo, Ms. Shagama conducted the meeting proceedings in Oshiwambo because she is also a native Oshiwambo speaker. This was also done to ensure that the message conveyed is well understood by everyone in attendance.

3. MEETING AGENDA AND PRESENTATION

Ms. Shagama presented the agenda of the meeting which included the following main points:

3.1 Explanation of what an EIA is, its Process and the Public Role in the Process

Ms. Shagama explained that the EIA process is done in compliance with the EMA, as the borrow pits (BPs) are one of the listed activities that need to be issued an ECC from the Environmental Commissioner, which is subject to an EIA process and EIA Report as well as EMP. The EIA process requires that the consultation meeting is held with the affected and or interested community members where the project activities is/would be undertaken. She also emphasized that there are 4 existing BPs of interest (including the old BP at Onamutenya cuca shops just behind the meeting venue) that were created around 2006/2007 when the DR3645 gravel road was constructed. However, the EMA was still new and there were no EIA Regulations to guide the process as today.

3.2 Brief Description of the Project

The Environmental Consultant (Ms. Shagama) explained that the road construction contractor (RCC) (under the supervision of Burmeister & Partners (Pty) Ltd Consulting Engineers as appointed by the Roads Authority of Namibia constantly explore for sites to source construction materials for the road. This requires either re-working (expansion/extension of) old BPs and or creating new ones that are needed for the upgrading of the DR3645 from gravel to low volume seal (LVS) standard. The work has been ongoing since 01 October 2023 and completion of works is anticipated for 26 October 2024.

To complete the road upgrading works, currently there is a need to expand existing four borrow pits and open up three more borrow pits to supply the project with construction materials (sand and gravel). Therefore, the consultation meeting is aimed at informing about these ongoing activities and engaging the communities along the road and areas near or around the BPs.

3.3 Presentation of Potential Project Impacts

To ensure transparency and that the attendees understand both sides of the project activities, Ms. Shagama also presented the potential pre-identified potential positive and negative environmental impacts of the BPs in the environment.

3.4 Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session)

Ms. Shagama concluded her presentation (project briefing) and opened the floor for meeting attendees to ask questions and/or raise concerns with regards to the project activities so that these can be incorporated into the meeting minutes and used as basis for the compilation of the EIA Scoping Report and EMP. The key comments and issues made in the meeting were recorded and noted for consideration and inclusion in the EIA Report. These issues and comments are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Issues, suggestions and comments received during the Consultation Meeting on 03 July 2024 in Ompito

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Village/Area Name	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
1.	Ms. Leena Nepembe (Ompito / Onamutenya)	Have the headmen been consulted for permission to create borrow pits in the villages including the planned borrow pit at Onamutenya?	Ms. Rut Uusiku (RCC): Yes, they have been consulted, some agreed and some did not. Moreover, some headmen were the ones who came to our office to request if a borrow pit or borrow pits can be created in their village and rehabilitated to hold water for community livestock after use, such as Okanyowa Village where BP6 is.
		Are there any compensation for borrow pits in the area where they are established?	Fredrika Shagama (Serja Consultants): yes, there are depending on whether they are on someone's land or communal.
		We know there are benefits to the road, but we do not get consulted when they are constructed such as this DR3645.	Fredrika Shagama (Serja Consultants): As I mentioned earlier, this DR3645 was constructed around 2006/2007 when the EMA just came into force but without EIA Regulations that we have today (promulgated in 2012 only). Therefore, due to the existing of these Regulations, project owners or developers are now required to appoint environmental consultants to conduct community consultation and engagement meetings such as this.
		The borrow pits need to be rehabilitated after use or converted into earth dams to hold water for livestock.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted.
		If there are compensations made to property owners for damage done on the land or their fences owing to road construction activities then these should be better or revised and not like what we got in 2007 when the gravel road was constructed. I received like N\$32 back then and the gate that was installed on my fence did not last long. A Marula tree was also removed and it was not properly paid for.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted. Things have also changed since 2007 when it comes to compensation for affected property (loss or displacement) using the national compensation policy.
		This old borrow behind us here at Onamutenya (next to the new site for BP31) does not hold rain water. Therefore, it should be just backfilled/rehabilitated.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted.

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Village/Area Name	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
2.	Ms. Selma Mateus (Ompito)	The road is ending at Omuntele but back then we were informed that there would be a road from Omuntele to Omuthiya. What happened to that?	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: We are not sure about this to provide you with a clear or informed response, but we will convey the question Roads Authority which they can also address through the Constituency office.
		The people employed are very few and some of our children did not get an opportunity or how were the jobs given?	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: Usually people are working on road projects are employed based on the road section areas, for instance, Engoyi-ondjamba section would consider people between these two areas, then Ondjamba-Omuntele and so on. This is to ensure that everyone along the road benefits for that time. However, in this case, since you are in Ompito area and the road works currently only end in Omuntele, the young people in the area would have to wait for when the road works continue to Onanke via Ompito (we cannot confirm when this would be but maybe in the future). Furthermore, since, the BP31 is just at Onamutenya side of Ompito, maybe few young people will be helping out at the borrow pit during site preparation, excavation and operations.
		There is a lot of dust on this road. This needs to be addressed to suppress the dust because it gets dusty and thus, unsafe for road users and the communities.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted
3.	Mr. Johannes Amukugo (Ompito)	The excavation or expansion of roads and borrow pits, do people get compensated?	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: Yes, they do when the borrow pits fall on someone's land or the road affects someone's land or fence.
		I was affected by the construction of the DR3645 in 2007 but they did not compensate me. I heard other people got gates and fences	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted. Things have also changed since 2007 when it comes to compensation for affected property (loss or displacement) using the national compensation policy. Therefore, they are definitely doing better with compensation going forwards and things are different nowadays.
		If this old borrow pit at Onamutenya would be rehabilitated, what will happen to these electricity poles and cuca shops erected on the edge of the borrow pit?	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: If and when Roads Authority or a dedicated contractor will need to source resources to rehabilitate the borrow pit, they will need to engage NORED (for their electricity lines) and cuca shop owners on amicably relocation of the structures.
		The road grader from Onanke side only work on the road during pension grant days and not	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted, Sir.

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Village/Area Name	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
		frequently. This is damaging our vehicles a lot.	
4.	Mr. Pinehas Shikongo (Ompito: Headman)	The community raised concerns to me as their headman about this existing borrow pit at Onamutenya. The borrow pit is dangerous because it is too close to the road, and 2 cars had already fallen in the pit in 2022 and recently a donkey cart fell in. Therefore, it needs to be backfilled or levelled.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted, Sir.
5.	Mr. Juso Nakanyala (Onamutayi)	The road should be extended to Onanke because the road is currently very bad. Even if it waiting to be upgraded/extended, it should be graded at least 3 times a month.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted, Sir
6.	Mr. Paulus Shituna (Ompito)	My comment is as the previous speakers that this old borrow pit should be backfilled.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted, Sir
7.	Mr. Andreas Haimbodi (Onamutenya)	I think our leaders and officials should not promise things that are not finalized or cannot do. Or rather they should learn to clarify that the project is under planning or feasibility study and not sell communities dreams as if the project or development is certain. This way they can gain community trust.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted, Sir
8.	Mr. Simon Klistoph (Ompito)	My comment is similar to Ms. Selma Mateus and Mr. Andreas Haimbodi. I also wanted to ask if it is a lack of money for projects to start or people to work on them. We are here to work.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted, Sir. And yes, speaking under correction, sometimes, it is lack of money (funds) to start or complete projects as intended.
9.	Mr. Tomas Elifas (Onamavo)	There are borrow pits at Onamavo from the DR3645 road works in 2007 and it seems they are also being used now. They look risky that livestock and people might fall in them. Therefore, the contractor should	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted.

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Village/Area Name	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
		either backfill them or level it to safety.	
10	Mr. Johannes Paulus (Onamavo)	The small salt pan next to this old pit (between the old borrow pit and the planned BP31 site) captures all the rain water from under the bridge but it is too salty for livestock. Can the contractor revise or upgrade the stormwater/rainwater flow to channel it towards the new borrow pit once they are done?	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted. Ms. Uusiku will also convey the message to their office for consideration.
11	Mr. David lipinge (Ompito)	Please convey the message to Roads Authority to upgrade the DR3645 until Onanke because the community is suffering and our cars are getting damaged by the road due to its bad state. I even remember helping one expecting lady to the hospital on that road and she almost did not make it to the hospital on time for proper delivery of her baby.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted.

There were no further questions or comments/concerns.

Ms. Shagama thanked the community for making time to meet and comments provided. She informed the attendees that the meeting minutes will be shared with those with email address and they would be available at Omuntele Constituency office too for viewing. The draft EIA Scoping report and EMP will be shared for review and comments. After review and comments, the Report and EMP (with associated appendices, including the meeting minutes) will be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism (MEFT) for evaluation and consideration of the ECC.

The meeting was closed and was adjourned at 12h00.

CONSULTATION MEETING ATTENDANCE REGISTER

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY - FOUR EXISTING AND THREE NEW PROPOSED BORROW PITS FOR THE UPGRADING OF DR3645 (16.3KM: ENGOYI-OMUNTELE) TO LOW VOLUME SEAL ROAD STANDARDS IN THE OSHIKOTO REGION

Project Proponent: Roads Authority of Namibia
 Date & Time: Wednesday, 03 July 2024, 10h00
 Venue: Onamutenya Village, Community Shade structure (near BP 31)

No.	Full Name and Surname	Name of Institution/Village	Contact number	Email address (if any)	Signature
1.	Pinehas Jonkanga	Ompito	0814210572	—	P. Jonkanga
2	Angombe Tutis	Onamutenya	0813404401	—	E. Tutis
3	Michael Josephat	Ompito	0817696799	—	[Signature]
4.	Vaino Nehale	Onamutenya	0814016859	—	VAINO



No.	Full Name and Surname	Name of Institution/Village	Contact number	Email address (if any)	Signature
5.					
6.	Erastus Vase Dawid K Frost	Onamitenya Ompito	0816017795 0818639356	—	Erastus D. Frost
7.					
8.	Fredrick Shiganga	Onamitenya	0814397760	—	F. Shiganga
9.	Lasarus Kambande	Onamitenya	0816407807	—	L. Kambande
10.	Juso Nakanyala	Onamitenya	0812968662	—	J. Nakanyala
11.	Andreas Haimbodi	Onamitenya	0812624820	—	A. Haimbodi
12.	Leonard Ndilimeke	Ompito	0813211021	—	L. Ndilimeke
13.	Selma Ndeus Mara Ninkusa	Ompito Ompito	0813447921 0816796151	—	S. Ndeus M. Ninkusa

No.	Full Name and Surname	Name of Institution/Village	Contact number	Email address (if any)	Signature
14.	Lee Ng. M. Nepembe	Namutenya	0812917867	—	L. Nepembe
15.	Victoria Shaleme	Ompito	0813452831	—	V. Shaleme
16.	Anna Amungela	Ompito	0814708699	—	A. Amungela
17.	Lusia W. Smdwa	Ompito	0816205053	—	L. Smdwa
18.	Lusia Shitena	Ompito	08120390003	—	L. Shitena
19.	Simon Klistoph	Ompito	0813115775	—	S.K
20.	Jacob Amwinda	Ompito	0812539584	—	J. Amwinda
21.	Amukigo Johanna	Ompito	081 —	—	A.J
22.	Thomas Engembe	Namutenya	0812623918	—	T. Engembe
23.	Matew Ananias	Namutenya	081 —	—	M.A



No.	Full Name and Surname	Name of Institution/Village	Contact number	Email address (if any)	Signature
24.	Paulus Silvanus	Ompito	0816760713	—	P. Silvanus
25.	Phillipus Kartene	Ompito	0814021397	—	P.K
26.	Julia simon	Ompito	0814016892	—	JS
27.	HARAWA M	Ompito	—	—	ALFino
28.	Ndaafita Ipinge	Ompito	081727896	—	N.I
29.	PENDA Amukusa	Ompito	N/A	—	P.A
30.	Engambe Tomas	Ompito	0814418603	—	E.T
31.	Ainos Alekenyo	Ompito	0813288068	—	A.N
32.	Ruben Montie	Ompito	081675305	—	R. Ruben
33.	Rosalina Pinchas	Ompito	081323251	—	PROS



No.	Full Name and Surname	Name of Institution/Village	Contact number	Email address (if any)	Signature
34.	Elifas Tomas	Onamavo	0812337326	—	<i>Elifas</i>
35.	Elifas Tomas	Onamavo	0812262851	—	<i>Elifas</i>
36.	Akuinda Gebhad	Onamavo	0817117073	—	<i>Akuinda</i>
37.	Eliphaz Thomas	Onamavo	0812284854	—	<i>Eliphaz</i>
38.	Esther Naipaya	Onamutaji	0814203775	—	<i>Esther</i>
39.	Johannes Paulus	Onamavo	0812260951	—	<i>Paulus</i>
40.	Gideon Shipanda	Ompito	0812260951	—	<i>Gideon</i>
41.	Anna michael	Ompito	0816967622	—	<i>M. Fine</i>
42.	Jakobina Akweenda	Ompito	0816511592	—	<i>Jakweenda</i>
43.	Magreth Amushela	Onamavo	0813105631	—	<i>M. Amushela</i>
	Shadeen Killeh	Ompito		—	<i>Shadeen</i>

No.	Full Name and Surname	Name of Institution/Village	Contact number	Email address (if any)	Signature
44.	Kapembe Elifas	Onamutenya			
45.	Elifas Kapembe Rut Uusiku	Onamutenya RCC	0814068372 0814333819		
46.				Rut. Uusiku@rcc.com.na	
47.	Fredrika Shagama	SerjAHGE Consultants	0817499223	elias-public@serjaconsultants.com	
48.	Helena Wilford	-/-	081 393 9288	-/-	
49.	Wilma Mwanjale	-/-	081 602 3266	-/-	
50.					
51.					
52.					
53.					

Meeting Minutes

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study - Existing and New Proposed Borrow Pits for the Upgrading of DR3645 (16.3km: Engoyi to Omuntele) to Low Volume Seal (LVS) standards in the Oshikoto Region

Date: Wednesday, 03 July 2024

Time: 14h30 to 15h15

Venue: Omuntele Community Hall, Omuntele

Project Proponent: Roads Authority of Namibia

1. MEETING ATTENDANCE

The attendance comprised of 3 Environmental consultants from Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC (Serja HGE Consultants), one representative from the road construction contractor (RCC Safety Officer), and twelve (12) community members - as shown in Figure 1 and the signed attendance register attached hereto.



Figure 1: Consultation meeting with the Community in Omuntele on the 03rd of July 2024

2. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING

Ms. Fredrika Shagama (Environmental Assessment Practitioner / Consultant) from Serja HGE Consultants opened the meeting, welcomed everyone, thanked the meeting attendees for making time for the meeting, and introduced herself, and the team (Serja Consultants and RCC Representative).

Ms. Shagama presented the meeting agenda which is based on the requirements of the 2012 EIA Regulations: Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 on Public Consultation's Section 21 to 24.

Printed copies of the Background Information Document (BID) was circulated to attendees for self-reading and follow throughout the meeting proceedings. Ms. Shagama further informed the meeting attendees that as part of the consultation meetings, there is an attendance register that needs to be signed for further information circulation and as proof of consultation, alongside photos to be provided to the Environmental Commissioner in the EIA Scoping Report. The consulting team circulated the register to the attendees to sign and assisted the elderly with registering their names.

Moreover, given the fact that the meeting was held in the rural northern Namibia where people speak Oshiwambo, Ms. Shagama conducted the meeting proceedings in Oshiwambo because she is also a native Oshiwambo speaker. This was also done to ensure that the message conveyed is well understood by everyone in attendance.

3. MEETING AGENDA AND PRESENTATION

Ms. Shagama presented the agenda of the meeting which included the following main points:

3.1 Explanation of what an EIA is, its Process and the Public Role in the Process

Ms. Shagama explained that the EIA process is done in compliance with the EMA, as the borrow pits (BPs) are one of the listed activities that need to be issued an ECC from the Environmental Commissioner, which is subject to an EIA process and EIA Report as well as EMP. The EIA process requires that the consultation meeting is held with the affected and or interested community members where the project activities is/would be undertaken. She also emphasized that there are 4 existing BPs of interest along the road (including the old BP at Onamutenya cuca shops) that were created around 2006/2007 when the DR3645 gravel road was constructed. However, the EMA was still new and there were no EIA Regulations to guide the process as today.

3.2 Brief Description of the Project

The Environmental Consultant (Ms. Shagama) explained that the road construction contractor (RCC) (under the supervision of Burmeister & Partners (Pty) Ltd Consulting Engineers as appointed by the Roads Authority of Namibia constantly explore for sites to source construction materials for the road. This requires either re-working (expansion/extension of) old BPs and or creating new ones that are needed for the upgrading of the DR3645 from gravel to low volume seal (LVS) standard. The work has been ongoing since 01 October 2023 and completion of works is anticipated for 26 October 2024.

To complete the road upgrading works, currently there is a need to expand existing four borrow pits and open up three more borrow pits to supply the project with construction materials (sand and gravel). Therefore, the consultation meeting is aimed at informing about these ongoing activities and engaging the communities along the road and areas near or around the BPs.

3.3 Presentation of Potential Project Impacts

To ensure transparency and that the attendees understand both sides of the project activities, Ms. Shagama also presented the potential pre-identified potential positive and negative environmental impacts of the BPs in the environment.

3.4 Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session)

Ms. Shagama concluded her presentation (project briefing) and opened the floor for meeting attendees to ask questions and/or raise concerns with regards to the project activities so that these can be incorporated into the meeting minutes and used as basis for the compilation of the EIA Scoping Report and EMP. The key comments and issues made in the meeting were recorded and noted for consideration and inclusion in the EIA Report. These issues and comments are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Issues, suggestions and comments received during the Consultation Meeting on 03 July 2024 in Omuntele

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Village/Area Name	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
1.	Ms. Ester Mupetami (Okaputa)	I was on the phone now with some of my fellow village development committee members and people on our WhatsApp group to confirm existing borrow pits in the area. There is a borrow pit in Okaputa Village and it poses a risk to people especially children and livestock. It is inside a homestead fence and it is deep and cannot even be used for anything. Therefore, it should be backfilled and levelled.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted for consideration.
2.	Mr. Simeon Alweendo (Okaluwa)	The old borrow pits that have no use should be backfilled.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted
3.	Ms. Fenni Ndengu (Okaluwa)	There is an old borrow pit that is deep and an open narrow structure (gorge) of water flowing into the borrow pit. I think this borrow pit needs to be partially backfilled because the health and safety of the children and livestock in our community is compromised.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted
4.	Ms. Aina Andreas (Omuntele)	Since the current road works are only for Engoyi-Omuntele, what about Omuntele-Onamutenya to Onanke? We also need a tarred road there.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted for Roads Authority to consider as we cannot confirm this nor promise what we do not know.
5.	Ms. Martha Nekongo (Okaluwa)	The old borrow pits really need to be backfilled, especially these ones without any further use in the communities.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted.
6.	Mr. Isak Nekongo (Omuntele)	Can the old borrow pits not be backfilled? I am saying this because some of these borrow pits are too deep that when livestock go in to drink, they are not able to climb back up/come out.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted, Sir.
7.	Mr. Stefanus Kaholo (Oshilunga)	Same comment as above by Mr. Nekongo. How do we apply for job opportunities for the road works? Noted. Thank you.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted. Ms. Rut Uusiku (RCC): One has to submit their Curricula vitae (CV's) and documents to our office in Ondangwa for available opportunities.
8.	Mr. George Imalwa (Okaluwa)	The borrow pits should be established with levelled entry to allow people and livestock to enter the borrow pits with ease.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Village/Area Name	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
<p>There were no further questions or comments/concerns.</p> <p>Ms. Shagama thanked the community for making time to meet and comments provided. She informed the attendees that the meeting minutes will be shared with those with email address and they would be available at Omuntele Constituency office too for viewing. The draft EIA Scoping report and EMP will be shared for review and comments. After review and comments, the Report and EMP (with associated appendices, including the meeting minutes) will be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism (MEFT) for evaluation and consideration of the ECC.</p> <p>The meeting was closed and was adjourned at 15h15.</p>			

CONSULTATION MEETING ATTENDANCE REGISTER

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY - FOUR EXISTING AND THREE NEW PROPOSED BORROW PITS FOR THE UPGRADING OF DR3645 (16.3KM: ENGOYI-OMUNTELE) TO LOW VOLUME SEAL ROAD STANDARDS IN THE OSHIKOTO REGION

Project Proponent: Roads Authority of Namibia
Date & Time: Wednesday, 03 July 2024, 14h00
Venue: Omuntele Community Hall (near BPS R15 & BPS L15)

No.	Full Name and Surname	Name of Institution/Village	Contact number	Email address (if any)	Signature
1.	FENUSI N. NUNENGA	OKATLUSA	081 2999596	Fenindape wena Ndenge wena@gmail.com	
2	INNAKWA GEORGE	OKATLUSA	389355 081309	_____	
3	Inna kwa George	OKATLUSA	081389364	_____	
4.	Inna kwa Paulina	Omuntele	0816147723	Paulina Ndenge@gmail.com	



No.	Full Name and Surname	Name of Institution/Village	Contact number	Email address (if any)	Signature
5.	Tresia Ngumondo	Dandobo	0812896239	—	
6.	Simeon Alexander	Okaluma	0813945061	—	
7.	Isale Mchongi	ilchake	0817922066	—	
8.	Ester Mupfemi	Okapufa	0812871190	—	
9.	Aina Andreais	Omntete	0812377059	—	
10.	Mateus Aina	Omntete	0818200444	—	
11.	Martha Nelongo	Okaluma	0812328148	—	
12.	Kahalo Stefans	Oshilunga	0812168302	—	
13.	Rut Lusiku	RCC	0814333819	Rut.Lusiku@rcc.com.na	



No.	Full Name and Surname	Name of Institution/Village	Contact number	Email address (if any)	Signature
14.	Frederika Shagana	Serpa H&E consultants	081 749 9223	e193-public@serpagiconsultants.com	<i>Frederika Shagana</i>
15.	Nilma Mucyanale	-/-	081 662 3266	-/-	-
16.	Heleno Wiparel	-/-	0813939255	-/-	-
17.					
18.					
19.					
20.					
21.					
22.					
23.					

Meeting Minutes

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study - Existing and New Proposed Borrow Pits for the Upgrading of DR3645 (16.3km: Engoyi to Omuntele) to Low Volume Seal (LVS) standards in the Oshikoto Region

Date: Thursday, 04 July 2024

Time: 10h45 to 12h00

Venue: Ondjamba Pension Pay-out shaded structure, Ondjamba

Project Proponent: Roads Authority of Namibia

1. MEETING ATTENDANCE

The attendance comprised of 3 Environmental consultants from Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC (Serja HGE Consultants), one representative from the road construction contractor (RCC Safety Officer), and nine (9) community members - as shown in Figure 1 and the signed attendance register attached hereto.



Figure 1: Consultation meeting with the Community in Ondjamba on the 04th of July 2024

2. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING

Ms. Fredrika Shagama (Environmental Assessment Practitioner / Consultant) from Serja HGE Consultants opened the meeting, welcomed everyone, thanked the meeting attendees for making time for the meeting, and introduced herself, and the team (Serja Consultants and RCC Representative).

The meeting attendees were welcomed by Mr. Andreas Nakanyala (the Headman of Ondjamba) and the meeting was opened with a prayer by Mr. Erikkie Shivute. Ms. Shagama was given the floor to present the meeting agenda which is based on the requirements of the 2012 EIA Regulations: Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 on Public Consultation's Section 21 to 24.

Printed copies of the Background Information Document (BID) was circulated to attendees for self-reading and follow throughout the meeting proceedings. Ms. Shagama further informed the meeting attendees that as part of the consultation meetings, there is an attendance register that needs to be signed for further information circulation and as proof of consultation, alongside photos to be provided to the Environmental Commissioner in the EIA Scoping Report. The consulting team circulated the register to the attendees to sign and assisted the elderly with registering their names.

Moreover, given the fact that the meeting was held in the rural northern Namibia where people speak Oshiwambo, Ms. Shagama conducted the meeting proceedings in Oshiwambo because she is also a native Oshiwambo speaker. This was also done to ensure that the message conveyed is well understood by everyone in attendance.

3. MEETING AGENDA AND PRESENTATION

Ms. Shagama presented the agenda of the meeting which included the following main points:

3.1 Explanation of what an EIA is, its Process and the Public Role in the Process

Ms. Shagama explained that the EIA process is done in compliance with the EMA, as the borrow pits (BPs) are one of the listed activities that need to be issued an ECC from the Environmental Commissioner, which is subject to an EIA process and EIA Report as well as EMP. The EIA process requires that the consultation meeting is held with the affected and or interested community members where the project activities is/would be undertaken. She also emphasized that there are 4 existing BPs of interest along the road that were created around 2006/2007 when the DR3645 gravel road was constructed. However, the EMA was still new and there were no EIA Regulations to guide the process as today.

3.2 Brief Description of the Project

The Environmental Consultant (Ms. Shagama) explained that the road construction contractor (RCC) (under the supervision of Burmeister & Partners (Pty) Ltd Consulting Engineers as appointed by the Roads Authority of Namibia constantly explore for sites to source construction materials for the road. This requires either re-working (expansion/extension of) old BPs and or creating new ones that are needed for the upgrading of the DR3645 from gravel to low volume seal (LVS) standard. The work has been ongoing since 01 October 2023 and completion of works is anticipated for 26 October 2024.

To complete the road upgrading works, currently there is a need to expand existing four borrow pits and open up three more borrow pits to supply the project with construction materials (sand and gravel). Therefore, the consultation meeting is aimed at informing about these ongoing activities and engaging the communities along the road and areas near or around the BPs.

3.3 Presentation of Potential Project Impacts

To ensure transparency and that the attendees understand both sides of the project activities, Ms. Shagama also presented the potential pre-identified potential positive and negative environmental impacts of the BPs in the environment.

3.4 Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session)

Ms. Shagama concluded her presentation (project briefing) and opened the floor for meeting attendees to ask questions and/or raise concerns with regards to the project activities so that these can be incorporated into the meeting minutes and used as basis for the compilation of the EIA Scoping Report and EMP. The key comments and issues made in the meeting were recorded and noted for consideration and inclusion in the EIA Report. These issues and comments are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Issues, suggestions and comments received during the Consultation Meeting on 04 July 2024 in Ondjamba

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Village/Area Name	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
1.	Hon. Gideon Shikomba (Onyaanya Constituency Councillor)	<p>The old borrow pits that are not part of this road but posing a risk to the communities, can they also be considered for rehabilitation?</p> <p>Can the community request for a new borrow pit to be excavated for them to use for livestock or how far from the road does a borrow pit need to be?</p>	<p>Ms. Fredrika Shagama: We are not sure but they can be considered for rehabilitation because they are posing a threat to the environment and social safety. Some of these borrow pits were created when the EMA and the EIA regulations were not yet in place and there was no clear guidelines on the rehabilitation of abandoned borrow pits. However, we will convey the message to Roads Authority to look into this and let them know to revert back to your office with feedback.</p> <p>Ms. Fredrika Shagama: Borrow pits are strategically established based on the material needed, and they need to be as closer to the road working sites as possible. This is done to reduce the truck cycles, i.e., time spent by trucks travelling between the borrow pits (for materials) and the working sites at the road. However, Roads Authority through the contractor may consider excavating a borrow pit in an area for water holding purposes, although it may not be used for construction, but we cannot speak for them nor confirm with certainty.</p>
2.	Mr. Banson Ndengu (Oshikulu - Ondjamba)	<p>Where the borrow pit sites measured already or how do the contractor or Roads Authority determine where to create borrow pits?</p> <p>There is an issue of dust generation in the area along the road, especially places like Ondjamba. Dust suppression efforts should be implemented and done regularly for growth centres such as Ondjamba because it gets dusty that I am sure even school children are affected by this while in classrooms. This is an issue of air quality and visual.</p> <p>If we need RCC for corporate social responsibility (CSR), who do we approach? RCC or the Environmental Consultant?</p>	<p>Ms. Fredrika Shagama: Borrow pits locations are determined by the type and nature of material samples collected from different potential sites and sent to the materials testing laboratory. The area with the desired/good materials suitable for the road construction will be selected for excavation.</p> <p>Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is noted for incorporation into the Scoping report and EMP.</p> <p>Ms. Rut Uusiku (RCC): This is noted. We do suppress the dust twice day as you might have seen water trucks along the road, but sometime we face water challenges from the main line. However, we will do our best to improve and use the available resources.</p> <p>Ms. Rut Uusiku (RCC): The best way is to write a letter a community and submit it to the Constituency Councillor's office who will then submit it to the RCC management for consideration.</p>

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Village/Area Name	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
3.	Mr. Lazarus Kamati (Oshikulu - Ondjamba)	The project trucks leave open holes and stockpiled material next to the road that small vehicles and community members cannot cross over to the other side of the road. Therefore, provisions should be made to allow free car and people movements.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted. Ms. Uusiku here is from RCC and she is taking notes for them to make provision for vehicles and people at crossings located at growth centres to cross over the road and where visible crossing of access roads are in villages.
4.	Mr. Leopold Moongela (Onakamwandi)	The community access roads are damaged by heavy trucks that transport construction materials from borrow pits, especially from the BP6 area. This has become difficult for small vehicles and non-4x4 to use these roads.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted. RCC should consider using haul roads for trucks only or mitigate this by upgrading these roads/levelling roads to accommodate both light and heavy vehicles in the area.

NOTE: The meeting attendees from the area took the RCC representative and Serja Consultants to the borrow pit currently used by the surrounding and far villages for livestock water located northeast of Ondjamba Settlement. The borrow pit serves many communities but it is naturally filling up with sand and cannot keep water for long, thus it requires deepening to continue supplying the communities with livestock water. It is important to note that some goats were found at the borrow pit looking for water but they were met by the muddy water. **This borrow pit is at these coordinates -18.16864 16.25619.**

There is another borrow pit (near km5 from Ondjamba towards Engoyi to the right) that the community is requesting for a minor side re-excavation to allow rainwater to flow in and settle in the pit – Figure 2. The coordinates were also taken (-18.15823 16.26719- Figure 3).

There were no further questions or comments/concerns.

Ms. Shagama thanked the community for making time to meet and comments provided. She informed the attendees that the meeting minutes will be shared with those with email address and they would be available at Constituency office too for viewing. The draft EIA Scoping report and EMP will be shared for review and comments. After review and comments, the Report and EMP (with associated appendices, including the meeting minutes) will be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism (MEFT) for evaluation and consideration of the ECC.

The meeting was closed and was adjourned at 12h00.



Figure 2: The muddy shallow community water holding site (old borrow pit) for livestock near Ondjamba Settlement



Figure 3: The shallow community water holding site (old borrow pit) for livestock near Ondjamba Settlement minor that requires minor re-excavation on one side to allow rainwater to flow in and settle in the pit for livestock





CONSULTATION MEETING ATTENDANCE REGISTER

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY - FOUR EXISTING AND THREE NEW PROPOSED BORROW PITS FOR THE UPGRADING OF DR3645 (16.3KM: ENGOYI-OMUNTELE) TO LOW VOLUME SEAL ROAD STANDARDS IN THE OSHIKOTO REGION

Project Proponent: Roads Authority of Namibia

Date & Time: Thursday, 04 July 2024, 10h00 for 1h00

Venue: Dindjamba Pension Grant distribution point (shaded structure)

No.	Full Name and Surname	Name of Institution/Village	Contact number	Email address (if any)	Signature
1.	Mehemica Nambili	Oshikulu-nandjamba	0816386845	—	
2	GIBSON SHIKWA	R/C ONYANYA	0612803714	shikwa@iow71@gmail.com	
3	Andrews Makanya	Dindjamba	0812398971	—	
4.	Leopold Mwangi	Dindjamba	0413509375	leopold1280@gmail.com	



No.	Full Name and Surname	Name of Institution/Village	Contact number	Email address (if any)	Signature
5	Bansen P. Ndagu	Dshikuku	0812276477	bansendeng@gmail	<i>[Signature]</i>
6.	Kashice Shice ^{Kal}	Dnakamwandi	0813096696	_____	<i>[Signature]</i>
7.	Erkie Shirwe	Dnakanganyi	081 270 1121	erkiेशirwe@gmail.c	<i>[Signature]</i>
8.	Lazamus Kamati	Dshikuku	0814432116	_____	LS
9.	Naemi Kanga	Ondjamba	0814295703	_____	Mh ayofa
10.	Rut Usiku	RCC	08143 33819	Rut. Usiku@rcc.com.na	<i>[Signature]</i>
11.	Fredrick Shyema	Serg's HGE Consultants	081 749 9223	ers public @sergconsultants.com	<i>[Signature]</i>
12.	Helena Wilbard	-/-	081 393 9255	-/-	-
13.	Wilma Mueyrate	-/-	081402 3266	-/-	-

Meeting Minutes

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study - Existing and New Proposed Borrow Pits for the Upgrading of DR3645 (16.3km: Engoyi to Omuntele) to Low Volume Seal (LVS) standards in the Oshikoto Region

Date: Thursday, 04 July 2024

Time: 14h30 15h40

Venue: Engoyi Community Gathering Tree, Engoyi Settlement

Project Proponent: Roads Authority of Namibia

1. MEETING ATTENDANCE

The attendance comprised of 3 Environmental consultants from Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC (Serja HGE Consultants), 1 representative from the road construction contractor (RCC Safety Officer), two representatives from Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism (MEFT)'s Oshikoto Forestry Directorate, and eight (8) community members - as shown in Figure 1 and the signed attendance register attached hereto.



Figure 1: Consultation meeting with the Community in Engoyi B on the 04th of July 2024

2. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING

Ms. Fredrika Shagama (Environmental Assessment Practitioner / Consultant) from Serja HGE Consultants opened the meeting, welcomed everyone, thanked the meeting attendees for making time for the meeting, and introduced herself, and the team (Serja Consultants and RCC Representative).

The meeting attendees were welcomed by Mr. Lisias Kamenye (a representative from Oshikulo Village). Ms. Shagama was given the floor to present the meeting agenda which is based on the requirements of the 2012 EIA Regulations: Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 on Public Consultation's Section 21 to 24.

Printed copies of the Background Information Document (BID) was circulated to attendees for self-reading and follow throughout the meeting proceedings. Ms. Shagama further informed the meeting attendees that as part of the consultation meetings, there is an attendance register that needs to be signed for further information circulation and as proof of consultation, alongside photos to be provided to the Environmental Commissioner in the EIA Scoping Report. The consulting team circulated the register to the attendees to sign and assisted the elderly with registering their names.

Moreover, given the fact that the meeting was held in the rural northern Namibia where people speak Oshiwambo, Ms. Shagama conducted the meeting proceedings in Oshiwambo because she is also a native Oshiwambo speaker. This was also done to ensure that the message conveyed is well understood by everyone in attendance.

3. MEETING AGENDA AND PRESENTATION

Ms. Shagama presented the agenda of the meeting which included the following main points:

3.1 Explanation of what an EIA is, its Process and the Public Role in the Process

Ms. Shagama explained that the EIA process is done in compliance with the EMA, as the borrow pits (BPs) are one of the listed activities that need to be issued an ECC from the Environmental Commissioner, which is subject to an EIA process and EIA Report as well as EMP. The EIA process requires that the consultation meeting is held with the affected and or interested community members where the project activities is/would be undertaken. She also emphasized that there are 4 existing BPs of interest along the road (including the old BP at Onamutenya cuca shops) that were created around 2006/2007 when the DR3645 gravel road was constructed. However, the EMA was still new and there were no EIA Regulations to guide the process as today.

3.2 Brief Description of the Project

The Environmental Consultant (Ms. Shagama) explained that the road construction contractor (RCC) (under the supervision of Burmeister & Partners (Pty) Ltd Consulting Engineers as appointed by the Roads Authority of Namibia constantly explore for sites to source construction materials for the road. This requires either re-working (expansion/extension of) old BPs and or creating new ones that are needed for the upgrading of the DR3645 from gravel to low volume seal (LVS) standard. The work has been ongoing since 01 October 2023 and completion of works is anticipated for 26 October 2024.

To complete the road upgrading works, currently there is a need to expand existing four borrow pits and open up three more borrow pits to supply the project with construction materials (sand and gravel). Therefore, the consultation meeting is aimed at informing about these ongoing activities and engaging the communities along the road and areas near or around the BPs.

3.3 Presentation of Potential Project Impacts

To ensure transparency and that the attendees understand both sides of the project activities, Ms. Shagama also presented the potential pre-identified potential positive and negative environmental impacts of the BPs in the environment.

3.4 Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session)

Ms. Shagama concluded her presentation (project briefing) and opened the floor for meeting attendees to ask questions and/or raise concerns with regards to the project activities so that these can be incorporated into the meeting minutes and used as basis for the compilation of the EIA Scoping Report and EMP. The key comments and issues made in the meeting were recorded and noted for consideration and inclusion in the EIA Report. These issues and comments are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Issues, suggestions and comments received during the Consultation Meeting on 04 July 2024 in Engoyi B

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Village/Area Name	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
1.	Mr. Fillemon Ndjimba (Engoyi B)	There is an old borrow pit inside Mr. Sakaria Shonena's fence which poses a great threat to the community because I lost my child in that dangerous. Therefore, Roads Authority or whoever is responsible should find a way to rehabilitate it.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: We are very sorry to hear that, Sir, and have taken note of this.
		There has been a meeting among the Village Development Committee (VDC) for one borrow pit to be deepened so that it can be used for the community (livestock drinking point).	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted. I think it would be better for the VDC to approach the RCC office and present this request to see if they can help the community.
2.		There is a practice of unfair employment of people on the road. The young people in the villages next to Engoyi are overlooked and only Omuntele or Ontananga people are employed. What should be done to mitigate this? There are also tender opportunities such as clearing the bushes but we do not get these.	Ms. Ruth Uusiku (RCC): The recruitment process is usually done through the Constituency office and this is what we followed.
3.		Is there compensation for borrow pits on private land/inside someone homestead fence?	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: yes, this is usually done under the national compensation policy based on the lost or damaged land. However, the borrow pits of interest currently in existence and new ones are not inside people's fences.
4.	Mr. Kleopas Nangombe (Oshikulo)	Does RCC make an effort to reach out to headmen for opportunities or just the constituency offices? I think it is important for the contractors to involve the VDCs in employing people because they know the reality on the ground and their local people, rather than relying on councillors.	Ms. Ruth Uusiku (RCC): We usually approach the constituency councillors, but thank you raising this. It will help us improve going forward.
5.		There are truck drivers who are out of the area when there are local people with the same skills and capabilities. How is this right to the local able people? I am also suggesting that the work should be given based on age because most young people do not	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: Your comments have been well noted for consideration.

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Village/Area Name	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
		use money wisely or take care of families. They get paid and disappear to go to town to enjoy their money and come back empty-handed. Therefore, opportunities should be given to able homeowners who take care of families.	
6.		The current system of employing people should be improved so that it is fair to local and given to people who are able to do the work. furthermore, the work should be give fairly to everyone and not just based on age, but consider human rights and not just money or age	
7.		Officials and contractors are really humble when they start projects but they do not close off projects properly such as notifying the headmen to gather his people to help sign off projects, in this case these borrow pits. The headmen can hold meetings with their communities for a consensus agreement on the closing of projects or borrow pits.	
8.		Is it possible for RCC to help communities with deepening some borrow pits to be used for livestock watering?	Ms. Ruth Uusiku (RCC): This can be considered but as community you need to collectively write a letter to the RCC management so that they can discuss further with Roads Authority, if necessary and see if they can help.
9.	Ms. Aina Ndashe (Oshikondiilongo, neighbouring Village to Engoyi A, across the B1 road)	There is a borrow pit that needs to be rehabilitated so that it can be used to hold water for the community. The community has ganged up against the headman because of the borrow pit. In addition to that, there is path near the borrow pit where one blind community member passes by and this always worries me if one he shifts just a little bit off route and end up in that borrow pit, given its current state. It is risky.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted.

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Village/Area Name	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
		I applaud RCC's efforts in curbing dust in the area by suppressing it especially around the Engoyi Settlement where people are gathered for their businesses. Well done and keep it up.	Ms. Ruth Uusiku (RCC): We are glad to hear that. We are trying our best despite running out of water at times due to shortfalls from the main supply line in the area.
10	Ms. Elizabeth lipinge (Oshakondwa: Village Secretary / Amushanga)	There is a borrow pit that was created manually by the community some time back. Can RCC see if they can take a machinery there and level it for the community livestock? This borrow pit serves and helps a larger community and needs a bit of work to maintain it.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted. Ms. Uusiku here is from RCC and she is taking notes for consideration. Ms. Ruth Uusiku (RCC): The community needs to collectively write a letter to the RCC management so that they can discuss and see if/where they can help.
11		The campsite is erected on an open land that was meant for the community use. The community sent me as a village secretary to request for them if RCC can leave something for the youth and notify the leaders.	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted and RCC may consider leaving what can be safely donated to the community at the end of the project, such as fencing maybe. Ms. Ruth Uusiku (RCC): Yes, this will need to be taken up to RCC management to consider what can be safely donated or left onsite and what cannot be donated (due to safety reasons) and management decision on infrastructure and structures post-project activities.
12	Mr. Lisias Kamenye (Oshikulo)	The age limit should be revised and not just consider young people because most of them do not even provide anything at home, and most of the unfairly employed people do not support at their homes at all.	Ms. Ruth Uusiku (RCC): This is noted.
13	Ms. Monika Amutenya (MEFT: Forestry Oshikoto)	We will need to visit all the project borrow pit sites to count the trees around there and record the ones that would be potentially affected by the excavations for them to be compensated. Will RCC take us there or Serja Consultants?	Ms. Fredrika Shagama: This is well noted. We have also taken noted of the vegetation we found at the borrow pits when we conducted site visits on Tuesday, 02 July and we will include these in the Scoping Report. Given the fact, it is now late afternoon today to undertake the visits with your office, it would be best to schedule another date with RCC. Ms. Uusiku can arrange to take you there when you are ready.

There were no further questions or comments/concerns.

Ms. Shagama thanked the community for making time to meet and comments provided. She informed the attendees that the meeting minutes will be shared with those with email address and they would be available at Constituency office too for

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Village/Area Name	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
<p>viewing. The draft EIA Scoping report and EMP will be shared for review and comments. After review and comments, the Report and EMP (with associated appendices, including the meeting minutes) will be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism (MEFT) for evaluation and consideration of the ECC.</p> <p>The meeting was closed and was adjourned at 15h40.</p>			

CONSULTATION MEETING ATTENDANCE REGISTER

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY - FOUR EXISTING AND THREE NEW PROPOSED BORROW PITS FOR THE UPGRADING OF DR3645 (16.3KM: ENGOYI-OMUNTELE) TO LOW VOLUME SEAL ROAD STANDARDS IN THE OSHIKOTO REGION

Project Proponent: *Roads Authority of Namibia*

Date & Time: *Thursday 04 July 2024*

Venue: *Engoyi, Gathemins tree, Engoyi Settlement*

No.	Full Name and Surname	Name of Institution/Village	Contact number	Email address (if any)	Signature
1.	<i>K. MORFII</i>	<i>ENGOYI</i>	<i>0812740795</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>MORFII</i>
2	<i>Elizabeth Iping</i>	<i>(Annus kangwa) Shikandwa</i>	<i>0812201623</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>EPINGE</i>
3	<i>Hillemon Ndjimbis</i>	<i>Engoyi -B</i>	<i>0812799948</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>Hillemon Ndjimbis</i>
4.	<i>Kleopas Nangop</i>	<i>Oshikoto</i>	<i>0814944384</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>Kleopas Nangop</i>



No.	Full Name and Surname	Name of Institution/Village	Contact number	Email address (if any)	Signature
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11.	Wilma Mueyande	Seyisi HGE Consultants	0816023266	-/-	-
12.	Helena Wilberd	-/-	0813939288	-/-	-
13.					

REGISTERED STAKEHOLDERS / INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES (I&APS)

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY - EXISTING AND NEW PROPOSED BORROW PITS FOR THE UPGRADING OF DR3645 (16.3KM: ENGOYI-OMUNTELE) TO LOW VOLUME SEAL ROAD STANDARDS IN THE OSHIKOTO REGION

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Project Consulting Engineer (Supervision) – Burmeister & Partners (Pty) Ltd				
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35.	Mr. Kornelius Phillipus	Control Admin Officer: Onyaanya Constituency		
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44.	Ms. Paulina Hango	Headwoman: Omuntele Village	+264 (0) 81	
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46.	Mr. Job Namupala	Headman: Okanyowa Village (BP6 potential site)	+264 (0) 81	
47.	Mr. Nangombe Amukwiyu	Headman: Okwandja (BP15 RHS: old BP/existing site & BP12 New site)	+264 (0) 81	
48.	Mr. Pinehas Shikongo	Ompito Village (Onamutenya): Headman (BP31)	+264 (0) 81	
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51.	Mr. Juuso Pinehas Endjala	Elonga (BP8A: old pit/existing site)	+ [Redacted]	
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81.	Mr. Josephat Michael	I&AP: Ompito Village	264 (0) 81 7	
82.	Mr. Vaino Nehale	I&AP: Ompito / Onamtenya Village	264 (0) 81 4	
83.	Mr. Erastus Vaino	I&AP: Onamtenya Village	264 (0) 81 6	
84.	Mr. David Erastus	I&AP: Ompito Village	264 (0) 81 8	
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86.	Mr. Lasarus Kambonde	I&AP: Ompito / Onamtenya Village	264 (0) 81 6	
87.	Mr. Juso Nanyala	I&AP: Onamtayi Village	264 (0) 81 2	
88.	Mr. Andreas Haimbondi	I&AP: Ompito / Onamtenya Village	264 (0) 81 2	
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90.	Ms. Selma Mateus	I&AP: Ompito Village	264 (0) 81 3	

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94.	Ms. Anna Amunyela	I&AP: Ompito Village	264 (0) 81 47	
95.	Ms. Lusia Imaliwa	I&AP: Ompito Village	264 (0) 81 62	
96.	Ms. Lusia Shipena	I&AP: Ompito Village	264 (0) 81 23	
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98.	Mr. Jacob Amwiigidha	I&AP: Ompito Village	264 (0) 81 25	
99.	Mr. Johannes Amukugo	I&AP: Ompito Village	264 (0) 81	
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101.	Mr. Ananias Mateus	I&AP: Onamtenya Village	264 (0) 81	
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No	Name	Position & Organization/Institution	Telephone / Mobile No.:	Email Address, if any
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109.	Mr. Amos Nekongo	I&AP: Ompito Village	264 (0) 81 32	
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113.	Mr. Akuunda Gebhard	I&AP :Onamavo Village	264 (0) 81 22	
114.	Mr. Elifas Thomas	I&AP: Onamavo Village	264 (0) 81 71	
115.	Ms. Ester Naipaya	I&AP: Onmutayi Village	264 (0) 81 22	
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117.	Mr. Gideon Shipandu	I&AP: Ompito Village	264 (0) 81 22	
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