

**Okavango Delta Management Plan
Introductory Kgotla Meetings**

**Hot Spots Identified by the Traditional Land Users
to be Addressed by the ODMP**

Hannelore Bendsen

Research Fellow
Participatory Planning

University of Botswana
Harry Oppenheimer Okavango Research Centre
April 2004

Table of Contents

✓ Problem Area: Flow Reduction, Channel Blockage and Salvinia	Researcher info on gov't	3 ✗
Problem Area: Livestock and Veterinary Fences		7
Problem Area: Tsetse Fly Eradication		10
✗ Problem Area: Problem Animals; Elephants, Hippos, etc.		11
Problem Area: Problem Animals; Predators		15
Problem Area: Hunting		17
Problem Area: Fishing		18
Problem Area: <u>Tourism and CBNRM</u>		21
Problem Area: Land Allocation		24
Problem Area: Floodplain (Molapo) Farming		26
Problem Area: Veld Fires		27
Problem Area: Veld Products		29
Problem Area: Village Status and Service Provision		32
Problem Area: Sanitation, Waste Management and Pollution		33
Problem Area: ODMP		35
Problem Area: Consultation Process and Participation		36

✗ Access to resources / open access.

Citizen empowerment in tourism
(HATAB)

doesn't me.
envial realities
aspirational.

Tourism conflicts.

CBNRM.

community issues / approach?

lack of certification
research / knowledge

Hot Spots Identified by the Traditional Land Users during Kgotla Meetings to be Addressed by the ODMP

Problem Area: Flow Reduction, Channel Blockage and Salvinia
Institution responsible for action: DWA

Issues; Flow Reduction, Channel Blockage and Salvinia	Village	Frequency
<p>Our water resources are diminishing.</p> <p>Floods are lower, the river and channels are getting smaller and are drying up.</p> <p>The river and the floodplains in our area (Nokaneng) have dried up.</p> <p>The bible says that the rivers will dry up. We need to prepare ourselves for these changes.</p> <p>The Delta is no longer a huge wetland. Many rivers have dried up.</p>	<p>Maun Gunutsoga Ngarange Seronga Beetsha Kaukwi Sepopa Mohembo West Etsha 6 Mababe Khwai Sankuyu Mogotho Ditshiping Matlapaneng Shorobe</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">31x</p>
<p>Our livelihoods depend on water. We drink the water, we fish, and we use river vegetation for building and for the production of crafts. Also our stock depends on the water from the river. We are poor and do not have resources to drill more boreholes.</p> <p>We Bayei are children of the water and our cultivation system depends on the floods.</p> <p>We use the river reeds as house building material.</p> <p>Water is life for people and animals.</p> <p>Fishing in <u>Lake Ngami</u> is no longer a livelihood activity as the lake dried up.</p> <p>Our incomes from the tourism sector are negatively affected by the drying of the Santantadibe river.</p> <p>We could make a better living from poling tourists and fishing if the channel blockages would be removed.</p> <p>It is difficult to use motorboats for fishing as the engines are getting entangled in the vegetation.</p> <p>The rivers in our grazing areas have dried up. We cannot use our traditional water sources as they are on the other side of the Buffalo Fence.</p>	<p>Maun Gunutsoga Seronga Sepopa Nxamaseri Samochima Ditshiping Matlapaneng Shorobe</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">15x</p>
<p>Lack of rainfall (in Angola) is the main factor that has reduced the flow in the river.</p> <p>Rain is the mother of the natural resources.</p> <p>We had more rain in the colonial days.</p> <p>Drought has affected the ecosystem negatively.</p>	<p>Maun Seronga Nxamaseri Ikoga Etsha 6 Nokaneng Khwai Mogotho</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">9x</p>
<p>River blockages by papyrus, reeds and water figs have affected the water flow and our livelihoods negatively.</p> <p>Vegetation (Elephant grass, reeds) blocks the channels.</p> <p>Trees pushed over by elephants form barriers behind which sediments collect and cause river blockages.</p>	<p>Seronga Sepopa Sankuyu Shakawe Ditshiping Shorobe Matlapaneng Kaukwi</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">19x</p>

Issues; Flow Reduction, Channel Blockage and Salvinia	Village	Frequency
<p>Salvinia is blocking some channels.</p> <p>The river blockages affect tourism activities negatively. Tourists interested in bird watching do not get a good view.</p>	Khwai Mababe	
<p>There is increasing pressure on the use of water from people, livestock and wildlife. Especially elephants drink a lot of water.</p> <p>The communities are using very little water. They fetch it by hand.</p> <p>Sand pits dug along the waterfront in an uncontrolled manner affect the water flow and are a danger to livestock and people. Sand excavated in an uncontrolled manner near the river creates uncontrolled lagoons.</p> <p>The people who are building the water purification plant in Sepopa have dug deep sandpits along the river.</p> <p>Changes of sediment load in the river that might have caused the flow changes?</p> <p>The tour operator at Guma Lagoon Lodge blocked the channel and deviated water to his camp.</p> <p>A tour operator has altered the flow of the river and obstructed the natural flow to channel more water to his area.</p>	Etsha 13 Sepopa Gudigwa Seronga Shakawe Nxamaseri	9x
<p>Government activities have a much bigger impact on the Delta than the traditional land use.</p> <p>Government activities like dredging, bunding, changing river courses and pumping have negatively affected the flow pattern.</p> <p>Others are piping water in large pipes and are building dams.</p> <p>The drilling of boreholes in the Gomoti area destroys the well being of the river. There will be less water in the river if the groundwater is pumped out. The vegetation is destroyed by the construction of access tracks. Litter and noise pollute the landscape. Government should also protect the ecosystem and not destroy it.</p> <p>Government is destroying the Delta by dredging rivers, planning to deviate water, and pumping water.</p> <p>It is not good that Government dredged the Boro river to improve the water situation in Maun. It has caused the drying of the adjacent floodplains.</p> <p>The dredging of the Thaoge bypass channel interfered with the natural flow regime and disturbed the ecosystem. Dredging might have led to the drying up of some channels and floodplains.</p> <p>There are artificial blockages introduced by Government, like cement sacks in the Khwai and at Xaxanaxa, that were put into the river to stop the spreading of Salvinia.</p> <p>Government has not managed to clear the Santantadibe and Gomoti rivers to restore the flow.</p>	Ikoga Etsha 6 Nokaneng Mababe Sankuyu Shakawe Gumare Tubu Ditshiping Shorobe	18x
<p>We need to check if there are dams upstream in neighbouring countries (Namibia and Angola) that obstruct flow.</p> <p>The Namibians might have built a hydropower plant that obstructs the flow.</p> <p>The Namibians might be using a lot of water for irrigation on big farms.</p> <p>The kgotla has been addressed about the hydropower project in Popa Falls but we received no feedback on the outcomes of the study.</p>	Maun Ngarange Mogotho Tsao	12x

Issues; Flow Reduction, Channel Blockage and Salvinia	Village	Frequency
If the Angolans want to abstract water from the Okavango, do communities in Botswana have the possibility to object to it?		
<p>There are too many boats on the water, destroying the banks, splashing water out of the river and are causing a traffic hazard.</p> <p>The movement of boats is not monitored and controlled. Foreign registered boats are introducing aquatic weeds that block our rivers system.</p> <p>The <u>ferry</u> causes pollution and destruction of the river banks.</p>	Seronga Sepopa Nxamaseri Gudigwa Shakawe	8x
<p><i>Hoops 1.16?</i></p> <p>We appreciate the effort of the DWA to <u>control Salvinia and clear channel blockages</u>.</p> <p><u>Pete Smith</u> identified blockages and managed with the help of the communities to open up some of the channels.</p> <p>The DWA has introduced the <u>Salvinia weevils</u>. We do <u>not believe</u> that the weevils are effective. Salvinia turns brown and still blocks the river as floating mats.</p> <p>To clear Salvinia the DWA is hiring people from Maun instead of providing jobs for people from the village.</p>	Maun Shorobe Khwai	5x
We visited Lake Victoria to get some ideas how a harvester can remove river blockages.	Maun	1x
<p>It was agreed in a seminar that blockages in the river need to be removed. But no action has been taken so far.</p> <p>Why has the DWA not managed to clear the blockages and restore the flow of the river?</p> <p>We need Government (DWA) to help to control Salvinia and Hippo grass that block the channels.</p> <p>Papyrus (Koma) needs to be cleared on a regular basis to restore the water flow.</p> <p>Channels need to be cleared with machinery to restore the flow in the river.</p> <p>Why are communities not allowed to clear blockages themselves?</p>	Maun Seronga Shakawe Mogotho Xakao Shakawe Ditshiping Shorobe	17x
In the past rainmakers assisted us to get good rains that fed the rivers.	Nokaneng	1x
We have always been told that it is healthier to drink water from a standpipe than from the river. Why is DWA pumping river water from Sepopa to Gumare for drinking now?	Ikoga	1x
<p>People who wash cars in the river pollute the water.</p> <p>It might not be very hygienic to use the river water for so many purposes like washing, fishing, livestock watering and human consumption.</p> <p>Litter pollutes the river water.</p> <p>Houseboats pollute the river with fluid waste.</p> <p>Salvinia weevils pollute the water.</p>	Khwai Xakao	5x

Requests and Suggested Solutions

Problem Area: Flow Reduction, Channel Blockage and Salvinia

- We do not understand why there is a change in the water flow. Couldn't the ODMP investigate the reasons for flow reduction (6x)?
- We would like to be informed regularly about the inflow at Mohembo, rainfall in Angola and in Ngamiland (Xakao).
- We would like to know where Salvinia comes from and how it has come into our area?

- **Regulations to use water more economically and rationally are needed.**

In times of scarcity we have to set priorities for water utilisation.

- The DWA should **open up the blocked channels** (6x).

Water figs, reeds and papyrus that block the river at Pompom should be removed.

The Gomoti should be unblocked so that it reaches our area again. (Shorobe3x)

The DWA should open up the closed channel, which links Ikoga with the main stream. This channel could then act as a firebreak.

The DWA should remove the blockages at Xau Lagoon.

The DWA should remove blockages at Qugana Lagoon (Ditshiping).

DWA should open up the channel that connects our boat station with the main river.

Man-made introduced river blockages (cement sacks) in the Khwai river should be removed (3x).

- **The DWA should employ people from the affected villages** (can work in groups) **to clear channel blockages** and Salvinia. Pete Smith was successfully clearing the channels with community assistance. The use of human labour (4km of river /day) is much more effective to clear Salvinia than the use of weevils (12x).

The members of the local communities (like polers and fishermen or members of the trusts) can help the DWA to identify river blockages (5x).

We should form village based Okavango watch groups to report and to remove blockages. All channels should be permanently monitored and blockages removed as they build up.

Communities should be allowed to open up blockages in the Gomoti and Santatadibe river (2x).

- Dredging of river channels in the Delta should be stopped as it has a negative impact on the ecosystem (2x Tubu, Gumare)
- We should **negotiate with upstream countries** (like Namibia and Angola) not to block the river and to give us more water (4x).

Water could be channelled from the Congo system.

- Since the Buffalo Fence has been built we have no longer access to the water in the Delta. At the same time the rivers (Thaoge, Karongana) on our side of the Buffalo Fence have dried up. **Government should provide us with boreholes for our livestock.**

The DWA has to find means to provide us with water.

If the ODMP wants to reserve the riverfront for conservation and tourism, water for communal needs has to be provided away from the river. We cannot afford to drill boreholes ourselves.

- We need a dam in Maun to store water for years of low flood. We should not have refused the proposal that was made in the 1980s (3x).
- The speed of powerboats in the river needs to be controlled.
- The ferry route should be redefined to cause less destruction to the river banks.
- The Government should employ villagers to remove litter from the river.
- *Molapo* fields located in channels might block the flow and should be relocated.
- Areas of traditional importance (floating vegetation mats where supernatural creatures live) should not be accessible by outsiders in motorboats.

Problem Area: Livestock and Veterinary Fences
Institution responsible for action: DAHP

Issues; Livestock and Veterinary Fences	Village	Frequency
<p>Our main livelihood activity is livestock rearing.</p> <p>Conservation, tourism and wildlife are national assets but livestock is important to individual households. We cannot survive and we cannot plough without cattle.</p>	Etsha 6 Beetsha Gudigwa Tsao	7x
<p>More people benefit from tourism than from cattle.</p>	Beetsha	1x
<p>If the carrying capacity is exceeded we have to sell some cattle to conserve the veld.</p> <p>Is there a restriction on how many cattle a person can keep in the communal areas?</p> <p>In times of low rainfall our livestock contributes to the degradation of the rangeland.</p> <p>The number of cattle kept in the district is increasing, as we have no marketing outlet.</p> <p>Livestock numbers are not exceeding the carrying capacity of the rangeland. Since the CBPP eradication we do not have many cattle.</p>	Etsha 6 Ngarange	7x
<p>Livestock and wildlife need to be separated by opening up the dryland grazing areas through the development of boreholes.</p> <p>Our lives depend on the natural resources of the Delta. If livestock keeping, one of our most important activities, causes conflicts with other forms of land use Government should assist us with boreholes in the dryland far away from tourism and wildlife.</p> <p>We can benefit from tourism more than from cattle but those of us who have cattle should be assisted with boreholes to move away from the floodplains.</p> <p>Water could be pumped and piped to the dryland from existing boreholes for livestock watering.</p> <p>It is not easy to separate livestock from wildlife. In the remote dryland areas predators could kill cattle.</p> <p>We would like to have boreholes in NG 11 but we cannot afford to drill them. That is the only reason why we keep cattle close to the water edge, where liver fluke affects their health.</p>	Beetsha Gudigwa Mogotho Samochima Gumare	9x
<p>We try to control the movement of our livestock but they stray into wildlife areas in search of water and grazing. This fact should not be used to keep us from having cattle at all.</p> <p>We hope that the ODMP will come up with solutions to help us control livestock movements.</p>	Gudigwa Xakao	2x
<p>There are land use conflicts between livestock and arable farmers. Cattle are getting into peoples fields damaging their crops. Will the ODMP do something about this?</p>	Mogotho	1x
<p>In our area we do not benefit from livestock development programs like artificial insemination.</p>	Ngarange	1x
<p>The Buffalo Fence does not serve its purpose to separate wildlife from livestock as elephants push it down constantly. The DAHP is not maintaining the fence. Livestock gets in contact with wildlife and is exposed to the spreading of FMD.</p> <p>The effect of the Buffalo Fence is not monitored. It does not separate livestock from wildlife effectively.</p> <p>In the Xhurunxaraga area the Buffalo Fence is damaged and cattle are intermixing with wildlife and are shot.</p> <p>Elephants are breaking the Buffalo Fence. As the fence is not repaired cattle cross into the</p>	Beetsha Gudigwa Nokaneng Gumare Dithiping Habu Shorobe Tsao Matlapaneng Boro II	36x

Issues; Livestock and Veterinary Fences	Village	Frequency
<p>Delta, get in contact with buffalo, are exposed to FMD and are shot by the DWNP. Compensation rates are far below market value (P400). When buffaloes cross the broken fence into communal grazing areas, they are not killed but driven back.</p> <p>Cattle owners are sometimes not even consulted before their cattle are killed by the DAHP for crossing the Buffalo Fence. The DAHP has a brand register that should enable the identification of owners.</p> <p>During the colonial period, buffaloes that mixed with livestock were killed. Today the contrary is done. The new policies are not in our favour.</p> <p>Why can the DWNP not allow us to use the meat of cattle that are killed inside the fence or bring the meat across the fence as biltong?</p> <p>When the DAHP burns the meat of buffaloes that have crossed far into the communal area is that not destruction of national property?</p> <p>Why can game wardens cross the Buffalo Fence with carcasses as evidence of poaching while the communities are not allowed to take meat across the fence.</p> <p>Despite of all the fences livestock diseases spread. How come that CBPP did not affect other districts?</p> <p>The Buffalo Fence is destructive to game and not well aligned. What assessments were made prior to its construction?</p> <p>The Buffalo Fence is too close to our communal grazing area (Boro II)</p> <p>We are faced with a severe water shortage in the communal grazing area. The floods no longer reach our floodplains and the Buffalo Fence fences off the only water sources for communal use. We need Government assistance to drill watering points for our livestock in the dryland.</p> <p>In the past we used to keep cattle and smallstock. Now, our village is located in the cattle free zone and we are not allowed to keep domestic stock (Ditshipping).</p> <p>Wildlife migration is obstructed and game gets killed in veterinary fences. DWNP is accountable for the death of wildlife. Some animals, like giraffe, die in the Buffalo Fence.</p> <p>The Setata fence has been taken down as it obstructs wildlife movements. Will the electrification of the Buffalo Fence not have the same negative impact?</p> <p>Why is the Buffalo Fence not taken down as well or realigned?</p>		
<p>The border fence between Namibia should be strengthened and maintained to stop our cattle from crossing the border and being killed by the DWNP.</p> <p>Will the Samochima fence that is a constraint to local livestock movements be realigned as promised?</p>	Xakao Samochima	3x
<p>We should sell cattle to Namibia and South Africa to get higher economic returns.</p>	Toteng	1x
<p>Will the ODMP affect livestock management?</p>	Samochima	1x

Requests and Suggested Solutions

Problem Area: Livestock and Veterinary Fences

The **Buffalo Fence should be constantly maintained, strengthened and electrified** to make it more effective in separating livestock from wildlife and minimising conflicts.

The **Buffalo Fence** should be **electrified** and brought up to Nxainxai at the Namibian border to open up large parts of Ngamiland for beef exports to the lucrative EU market and to alleviate land use conflicts. (14x Tubu, Habu, Ditshiping, Shorobe, Sehithwa, Matlapaneng, Boro II)

Ditshiping is located in a **cattle free zone** but we should at least be allowed to keep goats.

The **Buffalo Fence should be removed** as game gets killed in it. (Gudigwa)

The Buffalo Fence should be **realigned** and exclude the village of Ditshiping from the WMA. (3x)

The Buffalo Fence should be **realigned** further away from communal grazing areas (3x Matlapaneng, Boro II)

The effect of the Buffalo Fence on wildlife should be monitored by the DWNP.

When cattle are killed inside the Buffalo Fence the meat should not be destroyed but given to the owner.

The compensation for cattle that have to be killed should be raised to enable the farmer to replace the stock.

The Government should assist us with **boreholes in the dryland** away from the river and the wildlife to avoid conflicts. (Seronga, Gumare, Habu). We cannot afford water point development ourselves as the likelihood of striking salty water is great. The grazing areas in the dryland are good and under-utilised.

Government should **compensate us with boreholes** for the loss of our traditional watering and grazing areas which have become out of bounds for communal use by the erection of the Buffalo Fence.

Cattle should be moved out of the floodplain areas close to the Buffalo Fence. These areas should be **developed for tourism** instead. (Gumare 2x)

Communal **drift fences** should be constructed around the cultivated area to effectively separate livestock from crops to avoid crop damage.

The **Maun abattoir should be re-opened** to facilitate cattle marketing to avoid degradation of the rangeland. Transport costs would be lower and farmers would get better returns for their cattle.

We would like to see the **smallstock programs** reintroduced which were affordable to people.

The DAHP should inform us **how FMD is transmitted** in order to enable

Branding of cattle is cruel and should be replaced by painted marks or eartags.

Problem Area: Tsetse Fly Eradication
Institution responsible for action: DAHP-TFC

Issues; Tsetse Fly Eradication	Village	Frequency
<p>We would like to congratulate the TFC department for the successful eradication of tsetse flies.</p> <p>Government departments are not always sensitive to the needs of communities. An exception is the TFC department that acted promptly on the pressure of communities to eradicate tsetse.</p> <p>In the Gabamukuni area, where I used to live, people were killed by tsetse flies and had to move out. Nowadays this area is free of tsetse again. Our lifespan will be prolonged as the danger of tsetse has been removed.</p>	Gumare Tubu Shorobe	10x

Requests and Suggested Solutions

Problem Area: Tsetse Fly Eradication

The TFC department should be alert and react to warnings of communities if flies are found again in the Delta.

Aerial spraying should be repeated if a re-infestation is discovered (3x).

The TFC department should not only aim at tsetse control, like the name of the department suggests, but at the total eradication of the fly.

The use of odour baits has not been effective and should not be relied upon.

The TFC department should introduce sterile male insects as suggested when the eradication campaign started.

Problem Area: Problem Animals; Elephants, Hippos, etc.
Institution responsible for action: DWNP

Issues; Problem Animals - Elephants, Hippos, etc.	Village	Frequency
<p>Elephants are degrading the natural vegetation and good stands of trees.</p> <p>Elephants are destroying the natural environment of the Delta in general much more than livestock or humans.</p> <p>The degradation has an adverse effect on other wildlife species.</p> <p>Elephants destroy fruit trees and mokola palms used for subsistence.</p>	<p>Beetsha, Eretsha Sankuyo Nokaneng Mababe Khwai Toteng Ngarange Gunotuga Maun Sepopa Mohembo West Ikoga, Etsha 6 Nxamaseri Kaoxhwi Seronga Mogotho Sekondomboro Shorobe Boro II</p>	29x
<p>Elephants destroy fields (even fenced), gardens and fruit plantations.</p> <p>We are not educated and have no other source of income than arable agriculture, but elephants are destroying our crops.</p> <p>We work in vain.</p> <p>We are not rich and can afford to protect our crops with electric fences.</p> <p>We have stopped farming the floodplains as fields get constantly destroyed.</p> <p>Elephants destroy vegetation used by herbalists.</p> <p>Conservation is important but we cannot conserve animals that destroy the basis of our livelihoods and threaten our lives.</p> <p>Elephants have destroyed the local wells.</p> <p>Government gives us seeds to plant and the elephants are harvesting the fields.</p>	<p>Sepopa Nxamaseri Mohembo West Ikoga Nokaneng Seronga Gudigwa Ngarange Gunotsuga Maun Samochima Gumare Sehithwa Habu Shorobe Boro II Matlapaneng Ditshiping</p>	37x
<p>Compensation for crop damage is either not paid or is inadequate.</p> <p>At present people spent a lot of time and money to travel to Maun or to Gumare in order to get their cheques for compensation of crop damage by wildlife. The cheques for compensation of wildlife damage should be paid closer to the area where the damage occurred not only in Maun and Gumare.</p> <p>Compensation payments are delayed and take up to a year.</p> <p>I paid more for hiring a tractor for ploughing than I got as compensation for the destruction of the entire field.</p>	<p>Sepopa, Beetsha Gunotsuga Sekandomboro Samochima Sehithwa Habu Matlapaneng</p>	15x
<p>Inadequate Government protection and assistance.</p> <p>DWNP cares more about animals than about humans and their property.</p> <p>Government protects wildlife without considering other forms of land use essential for our survival.</p>	<p>Sepopa Ikoga Kaoxwi Eretsha Toteng Gunotsuga</p>	24x

Issues; Problem Animals - Elephants, Hippos, etc.	Village	Frequency
<p>Government does not take our problem with elephants seriously.</p> <p>Government signed the <u>CITES</u> agreement so we are no longer allowed to control the elephant population that destroys our vegetation. <u>What advice did the CITES office give to the DWNP on how to solve the problems these animals cause?</u></p> <p>You tell us that elephants are an international asset and cannot be killed without the consensus of other countries but the local communities are suffering from their presence.</p> <p>Community members are not allowed to protect themselves against problem animals.</p> <p>The Buffalo Fence is not effectively separating wildlife from domestic stock as it is not monitored and maintained properly by DAHP.</p> <p>Elephants are protected but our fate is not considered.</p> <p>Government protects elephants because it can raise funds from them but we live in poverty and bear the consequences. Only few educated people benefit from tourism while the poor who have to make a living from agriculture suffer.</p> <p>Elephants are treated like diamonds.</p> <p>Why is Government protecting elephants that destroy the vegetation?</p> <p>We have requested Government to reduce the elephant population but our request was refused. What are the alternatives?</p> <p>The employees of the DWNP do not do their work. The department never responds to queries and attends to our problems.</p> <p>Government does not react to reports of damage. The DWNP undermines our attitude to conservation.</p> <p>Government cares more about wildlife than about people.</p>	<p>Sekondomboro Samochima Gumare Shorobe Boro II Matlapaneng</p>	
<p>Who is responsible for relocating elephants?</p> <p>When will the DWNP help us with the elephant problem? You tell us that we can live with these animals.</p>	<p>Nxamaseri</p>	<p>1x</p>
<p>Officers of the DWNP attend to damage reports with great delay so the evidence (tracks) can often not be traced any more. The DWNP staff always has excuses not to come to attend to our problems (no transport, not enough staff) while when incidents of poaching are reported the DWNP is always able to attend to these rapidly. Farmers are given only seven days to report crop damage but DWNP takes much longer to attend to the case.</p> <p>The game scouts are never available when we want to report cases of crop damage by elephants.</p>	<p>Gumare Tubu Matlapaneng Ditshiping Boro II Shorobe</p>	<p>12x</p>
<p>Elephants are threatening human lives.</p> <p>We are not safe in our homes.</p> <p>People are loosing their lives because of elephants. Government does not care that elephants kill people.</p> <p>We cannot use our traditional gathering areas as elephants attack us.</p> <p>The ODMP is protecting elephants hence they are coming close to the villages.</p>	<p>Ikoga Mababe Ngarange Sekondomboro Shorobe</p>	<p>10x</p>

<p>Elephants are breaking the Buffalo Fence. As the fence is not repaired cattle cross into the Delta, get in contact with buffalo and are exposed to FMD and are shot by the DWNP. Compensation rates are far below marked value (P400).</p> <p>When buffaloes cross the broken fence into communal grazing areas, they are not killed but driven back.</p> <p>The Buffalo Fence is not effectively separating livestock and wildlife as elephants constantly push it down. Hence elephants cross into communal areas and damage our fields.</p>	Etsha 6 Maun Gumare Shorobe Matlapaneng	11x
<p>Change of behaviour: Many years back, we had no problems when we shot some elephants for their ivory. Elephants used to be scared of humans.</p> <p>The Delta was better managed under traditional regulations. Since the introduction of modern conservation agreements the control of the elephant population has become problematic.</p>	Ikoga Boro II	2x
<p>Elephants cannot be relocated easily. They instinctively return to their old feeding grounds.</p>	Ikoga	1x
<p>The elephant population (near the settlements) has increased and has reached an unacceptable level.</p>	Beetsha Khwai Gudigwa Ngarange Gumare Habu Shorobe Boro II	11x
<p>Especially when there is no or low rainfall and there are no pools in the dryland elephants are coming close to villages and are causing problems.</p>	Mogotho	1x
<p>We like elephants as they attract tourists. Our forefathers and us have protected wildlife and tourists enjoy elephants.</p>	Ngarange Gunotsuga	2x
<p>Hippos and crocodiles are dangerous to fishermen and other people using the river. It is difficult to obtain compensation for livestock taken by crocodiles. When hippos destroy a mokoro the compensation rate is far below the value of the canoe.</p>	Xakao Samochema Boro II	5x
<p>Monkeys and baboons destroy our crops regularly. These animals are difficult to control.</p>	Ditshiping	1x

Requests and Suggested Solutions

Problem Area: Problem Animals; Elephants, Hippos, etc.

Human land use and wildlife should be separated.

The Buffalo Fence should be electrified.

Elephants need to be chased away from human settlements.

Traditional control measures like open fires and scarecrows should be reintroduced.

Government should assist us to build electrified drift fences (fencing groups) to protect our arable land against elephants (2x).

Government should move elephants (especially during the ploughing season) to game reserves (2x).

Government should provide water for elephants in the wilderness, in the dryland (like in Chobe), away from the river and the communities. (7x)

Water for elephants could be pumped with wind energy. Elephants will follow the water and tourists will move with the wildlife.

Boreholes should be sunk for the communities to utilise the good dryland grazing areas and separate human land use and wildlife.

Elephants should be driven back to Namibia where they come from (2x Sekondomboro).

The excess number of elephants should be given to neighbouring countries.

Despite the development of boreholes elephants might still come back to the river and the floodplains.

Elephants cannot be relocated easily. Females remember good feeding areas and return.

The elephant population needs to be reduced (17x).

Government has to explain to the conservation organizations (and CITES) that the elephant population has to be reduced.

The Problem Animal Control Unit should kill elephants (culling) (3x).

The communities should be allowed to kill (old) elephants and given quotas to reduce the elephant population (3x).

Wild animals that trespass into communal areas and destroy the property of farmers should be killed. (5x)

If Government chooses to protect the elephants we should be paid **compensation** for loosing our property so that we can make a living.

Compensation for crop losses should be increased. (5x)

Compensation should also be paid to farmers who loose crops to baboons and monkeys.

The **cheques for compensation** of wildlife damage should be paid closer to the to the area where the damage occurred not only in Maun and Gumare. (2x)

The **DWNP** should be given **more resources (funds, transport, staff)** to settle damage claims and do their duty.

More staff from the DWNP should be posted to the eastern Panhandle to attend to the numerous incidents of problem animal issues there.

Government officers and **scientists should assess the situation** and come up with solutions (Seronga).

Elephants should be **tamed** and used for draft power.

Government **funds from CITES** should be reinvested in conservation projects that benefit the communities (Mababe).

The **meat from hunted elephants** should be distributed to communities. (Habu)

The DWNP should **advise communities how to protect their crops** against elephants.

Problem Area: Problem Animals; Predators
Institution responsible for action: DWNP

Issues; Problem Animals - Predators	Village	Frequency
<p>There are too many lions in the communal areas.</p> <p>We are told that lions have decreased in number but we see that there are more lions in the communal area than in the past.</p>	Seronga Boro II	2x
<p>Predators like lions are threatening the lives of people especially of herdsmen.</p> <p>Predators have changed their behaviour pattern. They used to be scared of people and did not come into villages. Because of tourism they have got used to people and lost their fear.</p>	Seronga Gunotsuga Beetsha	4x
<p>Lions are killing our livestock, which we need as a source of livelihood.</p> <p>We depend on cattle. They are the banks of the people of Botswana. When they get killed, we cannot make a living.</p> <p>We are not compensated adequately for livestock losses.</p>	Beetsha Eretsha Gunotsoga Ikoga Maun Mogotho Sankuyu Toteng Tubu Sehithwa Boro II Matlapaneng Shorobe Habu	21x
<p>If small predators like jackals and hyena kill domestic stock, we are not compensated by the DWNP.</p>	Boro II Sehithwa Matlapaneng Habu	6x
<p>We are not allowed to defend our domestic stock against predators like lions, leopards, and hyenas.</p> <p>It is hard to live with a law that prevents us from killing wild animals that are harmful to us.</p> <p>Lions are more protected by the law than people.</p> <p>The ban on killing lions was supposed to prevail for one year but now it has been prolonged for an indefinite period.</p> <p>Since the ban on killing lions has been imposed lions are no longer scared of people and come closer to the villages.</p> <p>Even if we could kill predators that attack our stock or threaten our lives, we would not reduce the predator population significantly.</p> <p>Some laws are unenforceable. They trap people into law breaking as if the objective is to fill the prisons.</p> <p>The law should allow the killing of predators that attack livestock otherwise lions will be killed by indirect methods like poisoning.</p>	Ikoga Sankuyu Beetsha Eretsha Shakawe Gumarc Matlapaneng Habu	15x
<p>The DWNP does not take the problems of people seriously.</p> <p>The DWNP is not taking action to solve the conflict.</p> <p>The DWNP does not attend to damage claims in time so that the evidence (tracks) cannot be traced any longer. The DWNP deliberately delays in attending to claims in time. The excuses of no staff or no transport are not always valid. When poaching is reported the DWNP officers are able to come immediately.</p>	Gunotsuga Maun Tubu Sehithwa Shorobe Habu	7x

Issues; Problem Animals - Predators	Village	Frequency
Lions generate income for the tourism sector and Government but they destroy our livelihood assets.		
Compensation for cattle killed by predators is inadequate (BWP 400).	Tubu Gumare Schithwa Matlapaneng	4x

Requests and Suggested Solutions

Problem Area: Problem Animals;Predators

Predators should be moved to the national parks. (2x)

The **number of predators** that live close to settlements should be **reduced**.

The ban on lion killing should be lifted.

The ODMP should not come up with **laws** that are unenforceable.

The **Buffalo Fence** should be improved to keep predators out of communal grazing areas.

The **compensation** for cattle killed by livestock should be raised to an amount that allows the farmer to replace the stock. (4x)

Compensation should also be paid to livestock killed by **hyenas**. (3x)

Lions and hyenas that attack domestic stock in communal areas **should be killed** not to cause further damage. Only those predators in the Delta should be protected. (4x)

Problem Area: Hunting
Institution responsible for action: DWNP

Issues; Hunting	Village	Frequency
Government says we own the natural resources but in actual fact we have no right to use them. While foreigners enjoy hunting rights we are given permits in places far away from our village (like in Ghanzi).	Eretsha	1x
The old system of free game licenses for remote area dwellers was good. The new system is discriminating as licenses are mainly issued to educated people who can speak English. We Basarwa and Bayei have conserved the Delta well for a long time, but now we are restricted in using this resources. Wildlife can only be utilised after purchasing a licence.	Gudigwa Boro II	2x
We have been hunting all our lives without depleting the wildlife resources in our area. Who can be held responsible for the decline of wildlife? Still we are constantly blamed for poaching. But when you compare the situation in Khwai with other places in the Delta you will have to agree that we have preserved our resources well.	Gudigwa Khwai	2x
Bad hunting practices are a problem.	Gudigwa	1x
Game wardens maltreat and beat up suspected poachers. When we are caught or suspected of poaching the officers of the DWNP treat us very cruelly. When the DWNP meets us walking with a gun we are accused of poaching. It is not forbidden to carry a gun to protect your own life.	Boro II Shorobe	4x

Problem Area: Fishing
Institution responsible for action: Fisheries Department

Issues; Fishing	Village	Frequency
The fish population in the river has decreased.	Kaukwi Mohembo West Shakawe Sekondomboro Boro II	5x
<p>There are several bad fishing practices (e.g. small net size, poisoning) used in the panhandle.</p> <p>People take out fish regardless of its size.</p> <p>Some people catch very small fish and leave them to rot. This might pollute the river and deplete the fish population.</p> <p>Because of hunger we are forced to use also small fish.</p> <p>Poor fishermen are tempted to use small mesh nets to maximise their catches.</p> <p>There might be over fishing in our area. I am against the fish fences which are built out of reed across the floodplains and into which fish are driven.</p> <p>Some of the traditional fishing methods might have to be discontinued.</p>	Gudigwa Sepopa Mohembo West Nokaneng Ikoga Sekondomboro Tubu	8x
<p>The number of people who use fishing nets has increased. To preserve the fish resource the net size should be regulated. Nets smaller than size 3 should not be used.</p> <p>You say that fishing with nets of a too small net size causes over utilization. Are these nets not sold or distributed by the Fisheries Department or are they self-made?</p> <p>The Fisheries Department told us to use size 4 and 4.5 nets instead of size 3 and smaller so as not to decimate the fish population.</p>	Etsha 6 Ikoga Mogotho Sekondomboro Shakawe	7x
<p>When using traditional fishing methods with baskets, spears, hooks and lines there is no waste of fish and no overexploitation. These methods are not destructive to the fish population.</p> <p>Most of us don't have gill nets.</p> <p>We used to eat as much fish as we wanted without depleting it. Why should it be different now?</p> <p>Most of us do not fish in the river but mainly in stagnant ponds and lagoons. One can take all the fish out of drying lagoons, as it would die anyhow or would be eaten by birds.</p> <p>We are poor and have no alternative sources of income. We fish mainly for subsistence purposes and sell only a small amount.</p> <p>The traditional way of fishing is not destructive to the fish population. We do not fish in the shallow waters during the fish-breeding season.</p> <p>We have a lot of traditional knowledge of fishing grounds and fish behaviour.</p>	Beetsha Etsha 13 Nokaneng Ikoga Mogotho Shakawe Tubu Ditshiping	11x
<p>Fish need water and as the floods have declined so has the fish population.</p> <p>Birds like the fish eagle contribute to the decline of the fish population.</p>	Mogotho Sehithwa Boro II	4x
<p>The size of Moremi Game Reserve has been increased and we cannot use some of our traditional fishing areas any longer.</p> <p>We can no longer fish in our traditional fishing areas but people from outside the community can utilise the resources of the Delta.</p>	Boro II	4x

Issues; Fishing	Village	Fre- quen- cy
The new boundaries of the Moremi Game Reserve are unclear to us and to the game wardens. I was once prevented from fishing in a lagoon and when I appealed I won the case.		
The Fisheries Department has worked closely with the communities. We have shared ideas and <u>learned a lot about conservation</u> in seminars. *	Samochima Shakawe	2x
Conflict with sport fishermen We fishermen would like to have access to the private concession areas for fishing. We traditional fishermen would like to market our fish to the tourist camps. We do not want the tourists to fish themselves and compete with us in the same waters. Perhaps big houseboats destroy the fish breeding areas.	Mogotho Kaukwi Shakawe	4x
There is no control of fishing . Fishing by tourists and also by local fishermen should be controlled through permits issued at a fee. That is what the fishery department has already agreed upon. There should be a 2 months fishing freeze (moratorium) applied to commercial and sport fishermen (tourists) to allow the population to recover during the breeding season. The traditional fishermen and the women should be exempted from that freeze. There is a recommendation not to use small size nets, but fishermen do not comply with this rule. There should be clear regulations and law enforcement. The distribution of fishing nets should be controlled. The proper size of nets has been recommended but the recommendation is not enforced.	Shakawe Matlapaneng	6x
Now that the Fisheries Department is under DWNP fishing seasons (just like hunting seasons) might be introduced soon. Why is the Department of Fisheries now under DWNP?	Tubu Habu	2x
We cannot fish in channels overgrown with grass. Fire would help to remove the grass. Fish moves into those cleared areas.	Sekondomboro	1x
The FAP assistance to fishermen by Government has been discontinued. The present loan system is not affordable to subsistence fishermen. Cooling facilities and nets should be supplied to fishermen by Government assistance.	Ditshiping	2x
Government does not buy fish any longer to be distributed to destitutes and in the schools. Since the program has stopped we have problems with the marketing of fish.	Ditshiping	1x

Requests and Suggested Solutions

Problem Area: Fishing

We need training in better fishing techniques.

We should be taught about fish breeding and reproduction rates if we are supposed to protect fish. (3x)

Fish farming should be encouraged.

We need to manage our natural resources like the fish and the river more sustainably.

The fishery sector is difficult to control. We need a fishery policy and legally binding Acts.

Over fishing should not be permitted.

no policy

The size of fishing nets needs to be controlled to avoid over fishing.

The distribution of nets with a fine mesh size (three and below) should be stopped as the fish population is going down and juvenile fish need to mature first (4x).

The problem of over fishing may be addressed by introducing a fishing permit system.

The permit system should not be applied to traditional fishermen (2x).

It might be worthwhile to consider a regulation that does not allow fishing during the fish-breeding season like in lake Malawi.

The introduction of a fishing season would not be acceptable to traditional fishermen as they depend on fish all year round. (2x)

Problem Area: Tourism and CBNRM

Institutions responsible for action: TLB, DLUPU, NWDC Tourism Office, Department of Tourism

Issues; Tourism and CBNRM	Village	Frequency
<p>People would like to get involved in tourism activities to earn money (like Khwai).</p> <p>Communities should benefit more from tourism in the Delta.</p> <p>We would also like to be given a chance to benefit from CBNRM. Some other communities in the Delta make an income from the conservation of their resources through tourism.</p> <p>We would like to start our own tourism projects.</p> <p>How can we develop a trust to benefit from tourism?</p> <p>How can we get the necessary funds to start a tourism business?</p> <p>The formation of syndicates to start tourism projects is a good idea. How much money per member of a syndicate is required to start up a tourism project?</p> <p>The Shorobe community would like to be allocated some of the areas which traditionally belonged to Shorobe like Santawane to start a communal tourism project.</p>	Maun Sepopa Nokaneng Khwai Toteng Xakao Sekondomboro Gumare Habu Shorobe Matlapaneng Sehithwa Tsao	19x
<p>Government is not supporting CBNRM. Government has given the communities a chance to enter into tourism without supporting them adequately.</p> <p>Government tourism programs are mainly accessible to well educated citizens but not to illiterate people like many of us.</p> <p>The present system that is trying to involve Batswana more in the tourism sector does not work.</p> <p>Tourism is beyond our scope.</p> <p>The funding programs to start economic enterprises are very bureaucratic and too difficult to access. That is why most of us cannot make use of these funds. The repayment period is too short.</p> <p>CEDA is unaffordable to most of us.</p> <p>Will the ODMP assist us to form trusts so that our children will have employment? We do not have enough experience.</p> <p>We need help to form a trust.</p> <p>It is difficult for communities to run a tourism business. Up to now we depend on joint venture partner agreements. We fail to work together as a trust.</p> <p>We need training to manage a tourism business on our own.</p> <p>Tourism enterprises are difficult to operate for communities, but joint venture partnerships might work.</p>	Mohembo West Nokaneng Ikoga Nxamaseri Khwai Shorobe Sehithwa Ditshiping Maun Seronga Sepopa Toteng Sankuyu Habu	19x
<p>TLB is delaying the allocation of a tourist camping site and a tourism training school.</p> <p>What are the allocation criteria for CHAs?</p> <p>Other communities are allocated CHAs and are benefiting from tourism. Why are we not given the same chance?</p> <p>Licensing of joint venture partnerships are very slow. Some tour operators are excluded by the Technical Committee.</p>	Ngarange Mohembo West Mababe Gudigwa Nxamaseri Ikoga Gumare Habu Tsao Shorobe	16x

Issues; Tourism and CBNRM	Village	Frequency
<p>How long does it take for a community to be granted a lease and be granted a CHA for tourism activities?</p> <p>We have been advised to form a trust, but there is no CHA left where we could start a tourism business.</p> <p>We have formed a trust, but we cannot enter into the tourism business as long as our application for a concession area (NG 10 or NG 13) has not been approved by TLB. We are not considered while others are given preference. We do not want to kill wild animals but use them in a profitable way.</p> <p>The Habu community applied for a license to start up a photographic tourism enterprise but the application was turned down.</p> <p>We have formed the Jakotsha Okavango Community Trust (JOCT) and made a management plan for CHA NG 24. However, the Technical Committee and DLUPU refused the management plan and the lease has never been signed by TLB. Agreements with the tour operator could not be reached. We have not made progress in utilising the area.</p> <p>Shorobe was not allocated a CHA even though some of the areas traditionally fall under Shorobe and have always been used by the community.</p> <p>TLB has allocated land for conflicting uses like our communal tourism camp and the main borehole for Maun water supply being next to each other.</p> <p>Land Board is allocating CHAs and issuing licenses without consulting the communities.</p> <p>Will traditional land overseers still be consulted when CHAs are allocated?</p>		
<p>There are too many camps and lodges in the Delta. Game gets displaced and wanders off into communal grazing areas.</p> <p>There are too many applications for camps in NG 12. This should be regulated taking the size of the area into consideration (3-4 lodges).</p> <p>There are too many domestic animals and roads intermixed with wildlife in NG 12 which reduce the natural habitat and spoil the wilderness character.</p> <p>NG 12 is only used for livestock grazing due to lack of better alternative income generating options.</p>	Seronga Gudigwa Gumare	6x
<p>Our forefathers have protected the natural resources of the Delta and now we are not benefiting adequately from the money generated by tourism.</p> <p>Government gets revenue from the tourism activities in the Delta, but most communities do not have any direct benefit.</p> <p>Local communities do not benefit optimally from joint venture partnerships.</p> <p>There are not enough employment opportunities in camps and lodges.</p> <p>Some concession areas have long leases without benefiting the neighbouring communities.</p> <p>We observe that a lot of tourists drive into the Delta, but we do not know what is happening in the camps.</p>	Gudigwa Mababe Nokaneng Habu Matlapaneng Tsao	7x
<p>White safari operators occupy the Delta. We are confined to operate in the areas outside the Buffalo Fence that are less suitable for tourism. If we could have access to the Delta we could make a better living.</p> <p>TLB has allocated most of the CHAs to foreigners without consulting the communities.</p>	Nokaneng Habu	3x

Issues; Tourism and CBNRM	Village	Frequency
Bayei are like fish. We need water. Government has forced us out of the Delta. Perhaps the countries that are contributing money to the ODMP are buying us out to use the Delta themselves.		
Some Hatab camps are too far away from the game scout camps to be controlled effectively.	Mababe	1x
<p>The Delta has to be managed properly. It has created many jobs for people in the tourism sector.</p> <p>Some communities benefit from the tourism activities in the Delta.</p> <p>As a poler I benefit from tourism.</p> <p>Tourism is an important activity for us. It enables us to send our kids to school.</p> <p>For six years the rains were too poor for crop production. Tourism has become the main source of income in Ditshiping.</p> <p>We have started our cultural village project and will monitor its effects on us.</p>	Gunotsuga Seronga Beetsha Gudigwa Tsao Ditshiping	7x

Requests and Suggested Solutions

Problem Area: Tourism and CBNRM

The **number of tourism facilities** in the Delta should be strictly **controlled** to avoid over utilisation. (Gumare)

Tourism **camp and lodges** should be located **at the fringes of the Delta** in communal areas to create direct employment and stimulate other small business activities. (2x, Tubu, Tsao)

Domestic stock should be removed from **NG12**. It should be turned into an **eco-tourism area**. Government should assist us to drill boreholes so that livestock can be moved away from the river (area NG12) to NG 11.

We need to be **trained in tourism** to be able to venture into this business successfully.

We need more Government institutions to be based in Seronga (apart from DWNP, TLB) to assist and train us to work in trusts successfully.

Communities need **assistance in forming trusts** and in identifying areas (CHAs) that they can apply for to start a tourism enterprise.(2x)

We need to be informed in a workshop on how to access other income generating activities like tourism and the formation of trusts.

DWNP should train more people in communities to become professional guides. The skills of the professional guides should be continuously updated.

Government should allocate CHAs to individual communities to start tourism enterprises.

The **procedures for applications** of joint venture partnerships to set up tourism enterprises should be made more transparent and easier.

We need **financial support** to enter into the tourism industry.

NG 35 that includes all major cattle posts and villages near Maun should be taken out of the CHA list or be **subdivided**.

Santawane should be **allocated to Shorobe** and when the concession period for NG 32 ends Shorobe should be included in the CBNRM trust.

The Kori Safari Camp in Sexaxa should be reopened to provide jobs for the community.

Problem Area: Land Allocation
Institution responsible for action: TLB

Issues; Land Allocation	Village	Frequency
<p>In former times the traditional land overseers controlled the use of land and resources well. Since TLB has been established, there is no control in resource use.</p> <p>TLB is allocating plots without consulting with the traditional overseers of the land (Headmen). Hence disturbing allocations take place.</p> <p>TLB does not respect the local institutions like farmers committees.</p> <p>The TLB is handling allocations in a corrupt way as it has politicians as members.</p> <p>The allocation process by TLB is discriminative against Bayei and Hambukushu.</p> <p>The land allocation by TLB is highly selective. Whites people are given preference and are allocated big plots of pristine land along the river.</p>	<p>Seronga Kaukwi Gunotsuga Tsao</p>	<p>6x</p>
<p>Has the Panhandle Management Plan been finalised and is it enforced now?</p> <p>Since planning started, no allocations, not even for arable plots, were considered, near the river. Our gardens are near the river as this is the most fertile land. What will TLB do about land allocations in future?</p> <p>TLB is no longer allocating us land for ploughing near the river and near the floodplains. We need to use the residual moisture in the <i>melapo</i> and water to irrigate our gardens. Will we get assistance to get water for watering the crops? There is not enough rain for crop growing without watering.</p> <p>The dryland is not fertile for growing crops and the rainfall is insufficient. We are starving and need to cultivate crops on fertile land near the melapo. We are not using fertilizers that could pollute the water.</p> <p>Traditionally our fields were located in and along the floodplains but we have no official titles for our lands.</p> <p>The new allocation guideline, which says that fields and gardens have to be at least 500m from the river, affects our livelihoods severely. We depend on growing grain crops and vegetables in these fertile areas. What is the reason for this regulation?</p> <p>We agree that fertilizer and pesticides should not be used near the river. We are not polluting the river with our gardens.</p> <p>Different officers of TLB give us different information on the new allocation guidelines.</p>	<p>Gunotsuga Etsha 6 Eretsha Kaukwi Sepopa Ikoga Maun</p>	<p>12 x</p>
<p>The Department of Agricultural Research has been allocated a big plot of fertile land that is not used. The size of the field should be reduced and the land given to farmers.</p>	<p>Habu</p>	<p>1x</p>
<p>What is the reason for such long delays in land allocations?</p> <p>The allocation process for businesses that would bring income to us is not transparent. Perhaps land for such enterprises has been allocated to others already.</p> <p>We want to start development projects but Land Board (especially the main TLB) is delaying the allocations for a very long time and we are losing these opportunities.</p> <p>We have applied for land for a business training school but the application has been pending for a long time.</p> <p>The Habu community applied for a concession area in the Delta four years ago but never got a reply from TLB.</p>	<p>Gunotsuga Ngarange Gudigwa Eretsha Kaukwi Mababe Samochima Tubu Gumare Habu Shorobe</p>	<p>18x</p>

Issues; Land Allocation	Village	Frequency
<p>We formed a trust as far back as 1999 and have still not been allocated a Controlled Hunting Area. The responsible officers send us back and forth to Seronga, Maun and even to Gaborone but nothing happens.</p> <p>Land Board has delayed the allocation for a communal tourism campsite and is holding up development.</p> <p>Land Board has delayed the licensing of joint venture partnerships and holds up progress and the creation of new job opportunities. The tender process lacks transparency.</p> <p>Land Board is a completely useless institution and fails to provide people with services.</p> <p>Land Board is neglecting our cases and gives speedy services only to major villages.</p> <p>Land Board is allocating in a biased way. They consider applications by white people faster.</p> <p>For three years, the Shorobe community has been waiting for a reply from TLB regarding their application for a concession area.</p>		
<p>A certain Mr. Potter has been allocated a campsite at the riverfront blocking the shortest access road to our boat station.</p> <p>We suspect that some people have illegally occupied huge areas in the Delta.</p>	Sepopa Gumare	2x

Requests and Suggested Solutions

Problem Area: Land Allocation

An integrated land use plan has to be the basis for all land allocations so that incompatible enterprises do not disturb each other (like Maun water development and community tourism project next to each other on the Gomoti).

If land is allocated at the river the traditional land rights, like access to a boat station, should be taken into consideration.

The allocation guideline not to allocate arable land and gardens near the river and the floodplains needs to be reconsidered. We need water and the fertile *molapo* soil for cultivation. We are not using fertilizers and pesticides that contaminate the river water.

Land Board needs to make its allocation process simpler, more transparent and speed up their allocation procedures. (3x)

There should be clear guidelines on the size of plots for different purposes.

If Government wants to reserve the riverfront for tourism and wildlife they have to supply us with water (piped or boreholes) away from the river (Maun).

Allocation of camps and lodges should be done by the Sub Land Boards rather than the TLB so that consideration of the concerns and land rights of the adjacent communities can be improved.

Problem Area: Floodplain (*Molapo*) Farming
Institutions responsible for action: TLB, MoA Crop Production Division

Issues; Floodplain (<i>Molapo</i>) Farming	Village	Frequency
<p>Our <i>molapo</i> fields are our main source of livelihood. With the income from <i>molapo</i> farming we can send our children to school. If we are not allowed to plough these areas any longer, we do not know how we will make a living.</p> <p>We are traditionally practising floodplain farming as the soils are better (heavier) than in the dryland and yields are much higher.</p> <p>We have farmed in the <i>molapo</i> for many generations since there is more moisture for the crops.</p> <p>Especially when the rains are poor we use <i>molapo</i> fields that hold the moisture better.</p> <p><i>Molapo</i> farming neither affects the flow of the river nor the environment.</p>	Shorobe Matlapaneng Tubu	7x

Suggested Solution

Problem Area: Floodplain (*Molapo*) Farming

Government should start big commercial arable farms in the fertile Nokaneng flats to provide employment to Tubu residents.

Problem Area: Veld Fires

Institutions responsible for action: ARB, Forestry Division

Issues; Veld Fires	Village	Frequency
Most veld fires are induced by humans.	Ikoga Ngarange Mababe Sepopa	4x
<p>Burning is a traditional method of clearing the veld and enhances the growth of fresh grass for livestock.</p> <p>In the past we used fire to clear channels. This method has proved to be effective. According to the law this is not permitted any longer.</p> <p>Fires are needed to clear fields before ploughing.</p> <p>Veld fires can clear blocked waterways.</p> <p>Veld fires are set out of jealousy to burn lodges.</p> <p>Hunters use veld fires as a management tool.</p>	Maun Ikoga Etsha 13 Gudigwa Shorobe	7x
<p>Tour operators or even tourists might start fires in the Delta as this area is not accessible to us.</p> <p>Either safari operators or government workers of the DWNP, DWA who have access to the Delta, set fires in the Delta.</p>	Beetsha Nokaneng Mogotho	4x
<p>Frequent uncontrolled veld fires destroy the vegetation and kill small animals and birds.</p> <p>Veld fires destroy the grazing areas.</p> <p>Fires destroy veld products like reeds and thatching grass.</p>	Gudigwa Etsha 13 Etsha 6 Ikoga Mohembo West Beetsha Maun Kaukwi Mogotho Samochima	12x
<p>There are also natural fires.</p> <p>Fires are caused and spread because of low water levels.</p>	Mababe Mogotho	3x
It is difficult to report culprits.		1x
We look for fire culprits and punish them.	Shakawe	1x
<p>We are willing to learn from you and work with the ODMP on fire control.</p> <p>We are interested to participate in fire control and attend seminars and workshops.</p>	Samochima	2x

Requests and Suggested Solutions

Problem Area: Veld Fires

Government should allow communities to use fire as a traditional management practice.

Veld fires should not be set without controlling them.

Advice should be accepted from the elders when and where to set fires.

We should form fire watch groups to control the fires.

People need education on the impacts of fire.

We need more firebreaks in CHAs administered by communities. (2x)

Government should find culprits.

Problem Area: Veld Products
Institution responsible for action: ARB

Issues; Veld Products	Village	Frequency
<p>We need to use natural resources for our livelihoods. We have to use thatching grass and reeds, as we cannot afford commercial building materials.</p> <p>We would like to sell some of our resources like grass to get some income.</p> <p>Could we do something with our natural resources that is more economic than using them ourselves?</p> <p>We have to market our thatching grass through intermediate buyers who make most of the profit.</p>	<p>Etsha 6 Etsha 13 Eretsha Kaukwi Ikoga Kaukwi Boro II Habu Ditshiping</p>	13x
<p>Over utilisation: More thatching grass is harvested than utilised.</p> <p>It is difficult to estimate the exact amount of thatching grass needed that is why grass is left over.</p> <p>Because of rapid population growth the demand for local building materials has increased.</p> <p>Sometimes thatching grass is harvested prematurely.</p> <p>The traditional doctors are not always harvesting plants in a sustainable way.</p> <p>In Ikoga someone cut a lot of trees in a wasteful manner.</p> <p>Cutting of fruit trees is a problem.</p> <p>Living trees are still used for firewood.</p>	<p>Gunotsuga Etsha 6 Seronga Nxamaseri Sepopa Ikoga Etsha 13 Maun Gudigwa</p>	18x
<p>There is pressure on our resources from outsiders. We cannot control outsiders that harvest natural resources (prematurely) in our area.</p>	<p>Etsha 6 Beetsha Khwai Ikoga Shakawe</p>	8x
<p>The environment around us is not destroyed as we use natural resources only for subsistence purposes. We are not harvesting destructively.</p> <p>We always have conserved our natural resources well.</p> <p>We Basarwa are conservationists. In comparison to other communities we have conserved our wildlife well.</p> <p>We are conservationists and use only selected trees to make mekoro.</p> <p>Traditional doctors are harvesting plants in a sustainable manner.</p> <p>We found in an inventory that we still have a lot of natural resources in our area.</p> <p>We have conserved our trees. We are using the fruit of some trees but we harvest them only when they are ripe.</p>	<p>Gunotsuga Khwai Kaukwi Ikoga Etsha 6 Beetsha Shakawe Gumare Boro II Shorobe Ditshiping</p>	18x
<p>How can we ensure adherence if rules, regulations and quotas are set by Government?</p> <p>It is difficult to report people as they might bewitch us.</p> <p>Too many people are using the Delta and it is difficult to control resource use and enforce regulations.</p>	<p>Beetsha Nxamaseri Shakawe</p>	3x

Issues; Veld Products	Village	Frequency
<p>Government wants to move us from the natural resources that we have conserved well.</p> <p>Will the ODMP come up with restrictions on natural resource use?</p> <p>Certain concessionaires restrict access to their area for grass cutting and fishing. We were not consulted before the CHAs were gazetted that restrict traditional land use.</p> <p>The expansion of the Moremi Game Reserve restricts us from accessing our traditional grass and reed collection areas. We have never been shown the new boundaries and get in conflict with the DWNP.</p>	Khwai Xakao Shorobe Ditshiping Boro II	6x
<p>Traditional rules and regulations: The use of natural resources is regulated by the chiefs (headmen) who allow harvesting only at the right time.</p> <p>The community is monitoring the off take of veld products like grass. (Tubu)</p> <p>We have a set period when to harvest water lily bulbs, reeds, wild fruit and other veld products.</p> <p>We are very interested in the conservation of our natural resources for the use of future generations.</p> <p>Our land and natural resources used to be managed by the Chief and Headmen. Nowadays traditional users are no longer in control of there resources but educated people from outside.</p>	Shakawe Sekondomboro Tubu Boro II Shorobe	8x
<p>Natural factors: Does Government blame the people for destroying the Delta? Not only people have an effect on the Delta and its resources. Birds eat fish, carnivores eat other animals and elephants destroy the vegetation.</p>	Eretsha	1x
<p>How is the ODMP planning to conserve thatching grass, papyrus and reeds?</p> <p>Which conservation measures is the ODMP planning to introduce to preserve trees? Will these measures restrict traditional use?</p>	Boro II Habu	2x
<p>Which types of invasive plant species have a negative impact on the environment?</p> <p>There is a new type of grass (locally called tlolela kakwano), which has invaded our area. It sticks to the skin of livestock and causes serious discomfort. This might be an invasive plant that should be eradicated.</p> <p>I do not understand why plants that grow naturally should be controlled or eradicated.</p>	Habu Tsao Habu	3x
<p>We were consulted on grass collection regulations, however, our suggestions were not followed up and there was no feedback.</p>	Ditshiping	1x
<p>In Habu it is difficult to plant trees as termites eat the plants.</p>	Habu	1x

Requests and Suggested Solutions

Problem Area: Veld Products

We have to prevent and control the limitless unsustainable use of natural resources by outsiders. (3x)

Regulations for natural resource utilisation like the commercial harvesting of thatching grass are needed. (5x)

We should collect thatching grass only for subsistence purposes.

We need to sit together as community (committees) and set regulations. The resource users themselves need to draw up regulations on the use of veld products. (3x)

We should revitalise traditional rules that regulated the time, location and amount of veld products to be harvested.

We should prevent veld fires from burning thatching grass.

The ODMP should give advice on sustainable harvesting methods of plants and medicinal herbs.

We need to protect the mokola palm that we use for basket making. Leaves have to be cut selectively with a knife.

For firewood we should cut dead trees not living ones.

The cutting of fruit trees should not be allowed.

We should substitute the use of local hardwood in traditional buildings with other materials.

Indigenous fruit trees should be planted and sold by the Government tree nurseries.

Women should form groups to market baskets to sell to tourists. We want to participate in eco-tourism in this way (Ngarange).

We need improved marketing facilities for our traditional products like baskets and pots.

Government should assist us to establish a central market with storage facilities for thatching grass and reeds.

The ODMP should look into the sustainability of using hardwood trees like *mukwa* and *mukusi*. (2x)

In the ODMP the traditional authorities (chiefs, headmen) should be given authority to control and monitor the use of natural resources. (Shakawe, Boro II 3x)

People who harvest veld products prematurely before the chief gives permission should be punished. (1x)

The Forestry Department should assist us to obtain boats made of fibreglass to reduce the pressure on the riparian trees.

Mogau, a plant poisonous to cattle, should be eradicated.

The formation of conservation clubs in schools and in the communities to educate people about wildlife and plants should be encouraged.

Problem Area: Village Status and Service Provision
Institution responsible for action: NWDC, Project Management Group

Issues; Village Status and Service Provision	Village	Frequency
<p>Our village has not been recognized that is why we do not qualify to have services like a school, a clinic, and enough stand pipes.</p> <p>Government has moved us to this place from other remote settlements like Xumo.</p> <p>Government promised us services that we never got. Government does not care for us.</p> <p>We have not decimated the wildlife around us like other villages in Ngamiland. We are still not overexploiting any of the resources.</p> <p>Government did not provide us with standpipes as it wants to move us away from here again.</p>	Khwai	5x
<p>Why have we not been provided with the services like clinics, veterinary services and schools that were promised to us.</p> <p>Every day, our children, even the young ones, have to walk a very long distance to school (15km) from Sexaxa to Matlapaneng.</p> <p>The condition of the feeder road that connects the main road with the clinic in the centre of our village is severely degraded (Tsao).</p> <p>The DC in Gumare is never available to discuss issues that affect our villages (Habu).</p> <p>Ditshiping needs basic education and health services and a water reticulation system. We still get our drinking water from the river.</p> <p>We have not been provided with mosquito nets. As this year rains are good and the flood is promising there is a danger of a malaria outbreak.</p>	Nokaneng Matlapaneng Habu Tsao Ditshiping	6

Requests and Suggested Solutions

Problem Area: Village Status and Service Provision

Our village needs to be recognized as a village so that we get health and education services (Khwai).

We request that a school should be build at Sexaxa for standards one to three.

Ikoga should be connected to the telephone service like other villages to ease communication.

Problem Area: Sanitation, Waste Management and Pollution
Institution responsible for action: NWDC, Tourism Department

Issues; Sanitation and Waste Management and Pollution	Village	Frequency
In 2000, the building of pit latrines was initiated in our village but they were never completed to become operational. The construction of pit latrines, which are located close to boreholes, might pollute the groundwater.	Ikoga Mababe	2x
Litter in our village has a negative impact on tourism. Game-Trackers donated rubbish bins to the village but they are not emptied by NWDC. Rubbish collected by villagers is not removed on a regular basis by NWDC. In most villages there is litter everywhere. Waste disposal is a problem.	Mababe Khwai Mohembo West Xakao Shakawe Dishiping	7x
We are polluting the river by washing cars and clothes in the water. Certain cultural practices like the performance of cleaning ceremonies in the river might pollute the water.	Khwai Gudigwa Xakao	3x
Dumping of rubbish in the forest is very disturbing.	Nxamaseri	1x
The big houseboats are draining their sewage into the river. Tour operators who are using motorboats are polluting the river with oil and petrol. Sewage systems in the tourism camps might pollute the groundwater.	Ikoga Nxamaseri Gudigwa Nokaneng Xakao	8x
Waste management at tourist camps is not monitored and controlled yet it might cause pollution of the Delta. What plans are there for waste management in the ODMP? Tour operators may pollute the Delta more than traditional farmers.	Nokaneng Shakawe Tubu Gumare Matlapaneng	10x
We are not using herbicides and pesticides that could pollute the water but Government is distributing seeds that are treated with chemicals. We should be careful and not use chemicals and fertilizers that could pollute the water.	Ikoga Sepopa	3x

Requests and Suggested Solutions

Problem Area: Sanitation and Waste Management and Pollution

If there are fertilizers that can pollute the water their use should be forbidden or should not be used close to the water (2x).

Dumping of rubbish in the forest should be discontinued.

Government should provide enough standpipes so that people do not have to wash their clothes in the river (Khwai).

Solid waste needs to be properly disposed of. NWDC should collect rubbish on a regular basis (5x).

Government should employ people to pick up litter and clean the river.

Waste collection should be privatised.

We need to be told how to build proper ablution facilities in our community campsite (Sankuyo).

Sanitation facilities need to be provided at Mohembo.

Disposal of sewage from tourism facilities in the Delta needs to be constantly monitored and controlled.

NWDC could provide waste collection services to camps in the Delta.

Garbage from camps and lodges should be deposited outside the Delta.

The ODMP should come up with solutions on waste management. (Gumare)

Problem Area: ODMP**Institution responsible for action: Project Management Group**

Issues; ODMP	Village	Frequency
What does the Ramsar convention consist of?	Nokaneng	1x
<p>Where is the boundary of the Ramsar site? Is it confined to the Delta or does it include the communal areas outside the Buffalo Fence?</p> <p>Planning area: What is the exact boundary of the ODMP planning area (Ramsar site)? Are only the wetland areas included? Will the plan cover mainly the area inside the Buffalo Fence?</p> <p>We live quite far from the Delta and cannot contribute to its management (Sehithwa).</p>	Maun Sehithwa Sankuyu	3x
What prompted the development of the ODMP?	Eretsha Shakawe	2x
Even if we make an effort to conserve the Delta, what guarantees are there that Namibia and Angola appreciate our conservation efforts and do not counteract them?	Eretsha	1x
We learned from you about international cooperation on the management of the Okavango Basin. How are members of OCACOM elected?	Mogotho	1x
<p>The socio-economic conditions of the communities in the Delta should also be considered in the ODMP as poverty can force people to over utilise certain natural resources.</p> <p>Human beings are part of the ecosystem. The culture of the people living in the Delta should be considered since our traditional land use practices have protected the Delta.</p>	Gumare Boro II	2x
<p>The ODMP will not be clearly understood without education.</p> <p>Communities in and around the Delta should be educated about conservation practices.</p>	Gumare	2x
The land use plan of 1992 that came up with the subdivision of the district into CHAs was rejected by Council as the traditional land rights of some communities were disregarded. Despite the reservations of Council the plan was implemented and the CHAs were gazetted.	Shorobe	1x
<p>We do not know what is happening in the Delta as we do not use the area inside the Buffalo Fence.</p> <p>We have not observed any problems in the Delta, but there are a number of issues in communal areas that need to be addressed.</p>	Tsao	2x

Problem Area: Consultation Process and Participation**Institutions responsible for action: HOORC, Project Management Group and all ODMP Institutions**

Issues; Consultation Process and Participation	Village	Frequency
<p>No tangible results have been obtained from all the consultations in the past.</p> <p>We are tired of all the meetings, as solutions are not implemented.</p> <p>We have experienced that no action is taken.</p> <p>Issues raised are not followed up.</p> <p>You are just pouring salt into our wounds. We are reminded of our problems, but nothing is done to solve them.</p> <p>People come, address us and disappear. We will die before something happens.</p> <p>These are empty promises, as usual nothing will happen. Before the three-year planning period is over we will have died of HIV-Aids.</p> <p>Consultation has taken place in other instances but what is lacking is that we work together and co-operate. We will only believe that we are given a true chance to participate when our concerns, aspirations and needs are taken into consideration and are addressed.</p> <p>During the next 39 months, will we see activities that remedy the problems we mentioned?</p>	<p>Mohembo West Ikoga Kaukwi Samochima Shorobe Ikoga</p>	<p>13x</p>
<p>Different people who consult us never report back to us.</p> <p>We are sceptical that you will report back to us on a regular basis.</p> <p>We do not get any feedback.</p> <p>We know that we will not see you again.</p> <p>A team from the DWA (with a white man) addressed us. They were going to look at water issues. What were the findings of this study?</p> <p>The issues mentioned in the ODMP have been brought up many times before.</p> <p>Why are the results of other consultation exercises not used?</p>	<p>Ikoga Kaukwi Nokaneng Mohembo West Maun Boro II Tsao Shorobe</p>	<p>10x</p>
<p>Mistrust: The communities do not trust the Government as promises that were made have been breached. The Jao community was promised that the livestock killed during the CBPP campaign would be replaced, but re-stocking was not done and the stock free zone regulations were applied strictly.</p> <p>Government has a hidden agenda. Government wants to kill our livestock and move us from here.</p> <p>Tell us upfront what the plans of Government are.</p>	<p>Gumare Beetsha Mababe Boro II</p>	<p>5x</p>
<p>The integrated approach of many departments is helpful to avoid contradictory messages and duplication of efforts.</p> <p>The three departments based in our community (TLB, DAHP, DWNP) neither cooperate with each other nor do they consult the community.</p> <p>To integrate the work of different departments is a good approach. In the past we got contradictory information from officers of different departments.</p>	<p>Gumare Ikoga Nokaneng</p>	<p>5x</p>
<p>Plans for resource management in the Delta should include consultation with communities on traditional conservation strategies rather than coming in with preconceived concepts.</p>	<p>Nxamaseri Boro II</p>	<p>2x</p>

Issues; Consultation Process and Participation	Village	Frequency
<p>You have already progressed so far with the ODMP project without consulting the communities. We doubt that our comments will be incorporated now.</p> <p>We are tired of being confronted with regulations and policies developed without consulting communities.</p>		
<p>Our opinions are not taken seriously. You are only doing your job without social commitment.</p> <p>Government officers come only to claim subsistence allowances.</p> <p>Government workers do not do any practical work that results in positive changes.</p> <p>Government workers address us at this point in time to make us believe they care for our needs. It is for political reasons (elections are near). This consultation is part of the election campaign.</p> <p>Why do you ask us for our opinion when all the decisions have been made already? You have not come to discuss openly. You have got preconceived plans.</p> <p>Government workers look down on us. With this attitude development cannot be achieved.</p>	Etsha 6 Mohembo West Mababe Shorobe	12x
<p>The Government is more interested in the protection of the Delta than in the well-being and the livelihoods of its people.</p>	Etsha 6 Boro II	2x
<p>The colonial Government consulted chiefs on land use issues (boundary of the district and Moremi). Currently chiefs are puppets, they have no power and are not consulted.</p> <p>President Seretse Khama listened to our ideas and did not implement policies if we objected to them.</p>	Boro II Shorobe	2x
<p>Important departments like NWDC and DWA are not represented in the ODMP consultation team to answer our questions.</p>	Mohembo West Sankuyu	2x
<p>Kgotla meetings are not well attended.</p> <p>Kgotla meetings are only well attended during drought relief employment. Perhaps only those should be recruited who regularly attend kgotla meetings.</p>	Habu Matlapaneng	3x
<p>To consult with the communities is a good decision. We appreciate that people are consulted. This is the right thing to do in a democracy.</p> <p>Conservation starts with the communities that use the land.</p> <p>This is an opportunity to have our concerns and suggestions included in the plan. We are thankful that Government has changed its approach and is acknowledging our expertise and gives us a chance to have an input before decisions are made.</p> <p>We are happy to have a role in this plan.</p> <p>We are happy to see representatives of the University of Botswana here. They do not visit us often.</p> <p>We appreciate that the ODMP office is based in Maun. This will facilitate consultation.</p>	Maun Sankuyu Beetsha Mogotho Sekondomboro Xakao Samochima Shakawe Gumare Ditshiping Habu Shorobe Sehithwa Tsao	26x
<p>Traditional knowledge: We know better than all the educated people what is happening in the Delta as we have lived here all our lives. We have a lot of traditional knowledge of resource use and conservation that we can share with you. We can advise you on the plan.</p> <p>We have lived from the natural resources of the Delta for many generations. We humans are part of the Delta ecosystem and have preserved it well.</p>	Sekondomboro Xakao Boro II Shorobe	4x

Issues; Consultation Process and Participation	Village	Frequency
We had rules and regulations that were enforced locally.		
Will communities be given copies of the ODMP to help us to make better inputs? How far has the ODMP progressed in its planning process?	Toteng	2x
We would like to participate in planning and organising the development in our area, but we would need a social and community development officer to assist us. You can communicate with us through the farmer's committee.	Xakao	2x
We are suspicious that the ODMP will restrict access to our natural resources and later claim that we agreed to this. Conservation regulations, introduced from outside without consultation, are often not supported by the communities. Conservation practices introduced by Government oppress traditional land users. You tell us that we are responsible for conserving our natural resources but at the same time restrictions are imposed on resource use from outside. That is oppressive.	Eretsha Beetsha Shorobe	6x
Why is there a need for the plan? Are there problems with how we manage the natural resources? Which problems have you identified?	Shakawe	2x
You claim that you want to learn from our knowledge and experience, but you do most of the talking. You are imposing your culture on us . Most of what has been said is for educated people , but many of us are illiterate. The large number of presentations by the different departments is confusing for us. We are not sure what type of issues we should come up with. Apart from the natural resources in the Delta also the culture of people should be conserved.	Beetsha Gumare Habu Shorobe	5x
Have stakeholders like other communities and the tour operators been consulted about the ODMP as well?	Matlapaneng Sehithwa	2x

Requests and Suggested Solutions

Problem Area: Consultation Process and Participation

The results of the consultation processes carried out by other projects should be used.

The consultation process should be continuous throughout the ODMP project.

The suggestions of the communities should be an integral part of the plan. Suggestions should be followed up and action should be taken (5x).

The communities require feed back of findings or recommendations (6x).

People should be given a chance to have an input in the decision-making process as laws and regulations set by the people themselves are more likely to be enforced (2x).

More consistency is needed in the personnel that are communicating with communities.

Workshops and seminars should be held with particular user groups like fishermen, reed cutters, basket weavers and grass collectors (Maun) who are affected by the ODMP (2x).

We would like to be given time to better prepare our input into the ODMP. Please come back after we have had the opportunity to discuss our input internally (Ngarange, Nokaneng 2x).

We have a lot of traditional knowledge of resource conservation in the Delta, which should be used more. The chiefs could select the right people to guide the ODMP teams. Local people would be prepared to actively assist the responsible departments to identify issues (4x).

We should learn from the history when we make development suggestions (Seronga).

The culture of people living in the Delta should be considered in the ODMP since our traditional land use practices have conserved the Delta.

We need educational workshops to improve our participation and understanding and benefit from the project (2x). We need education so that after three years of planning we become part of the management process.

Can we be taken to the University of Botswana to learn how to manage and conserve our resources?

Environmental laws should be translated into Setswana so that we can understand them.

Working committees should be formed in each village to mobilize the communities (Seronga).

The individual Departments should come back and give us feedback.

After the introductory meeting more in-depth discussions or workshops should be held with the individual departments responsible for implementation to give us a chance to have a meaningful input (Mababe, Sehitwa).

Government workers should not look down on us but believe in our strength and support us and help us to build capacity (Mababe).

The ODMP should work with and through the local CBOs like VDCs, VTCs or through farmers committees. This would be a step forward to implement Vision 2016 (Seronga, Xakao, Gumare).

It would be better if each department consulted communities individually.

Legislators and planners should get our views before new laws, programs and plans are made (2x).

Government workers are paid and should be more committed to doing their job.

Young educated villagers should participate more actively in these kgotla meetings to advise us to take decisions on developments which affect the community.

When chiefs are selected to participate in the identification of problem areas the chiefs of small communities should be consulted as well (Sankuyu).

Could we be taken to other countries to learn how they conserve their resources?

It would be good if the individual departments could highlight their current policies and programmes so that we can point out the problems we have with their implementation.

