

ANNUAL REPORT

2011/2012



Ministry of Agriculture, Water & Forestry



Vision

“ To be recognized as the leading contributor to food security, agro-production competitiveness, increased and equitable access to our natural resources for improved livelihood, wellbeing and wealth for all.”

Mission

“ To promote and manage the sustainable utilization and development of agricultural, water and forestry resources for a prosperous Namibia through stakeholder partnerships.”

Mandate

“ To promote, develop, manage and utilize agriculture, water and forestry.”

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ACRONYMS/ ABBREVIATIONS

ADCs	Agricultural Development Centres
AMESD	African Monitoring of the Environment for Sustainable Development
BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
BMCs	Basin Management Committees
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CBPP	Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia
CEB	Cuvelai- Etosha Basin
CVL	Central Veterinary Laboratory
DAT	Division of Agricultural Training
DEES	Directorate of Extensions and Engineering Services
DVS	Directorate of Veterinary Services
DWSSC	Directorate of Water Supply and Sanitation Coordination
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ELISA	Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay
EU	European Union
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICEIDA	Iceland International Development Agency
IPP	Indigenous Plants Products
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
MADI	Mashare Agricultural Development Institute
MCA-N	Millennium Challenge Account –Namibia
MESA	Monitoring of Environment and Security in Africa.
MLR	Ministry of Lands and Resettlement
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAB	Namibian Agronomic Board
NamWater	Namibia Water Corporation
NBRI	National Botanical Research Institute
NCAs	Northern Communal Areas
NCS	Namibia Custom Smelter
NRA	Natural Resources Accounts
NRSC	National Remote Sensing Centre
NYS	National Youth Service
OBSC	Okavango River Basin Steering Committee
OKACOM	Okavango River Basin Commission
ORASECOM	Orange-Senqu River Basin Commission

ACRONYMS/ ABBREVIATIONS

PJTC	Permanent Joint Technical Committee
PPR	Peste Des Petites Ruminantes
PWC	Permanent Water Commission
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SADCAS	Southern African Development Community Accreditation Services
SASSCAL	Southern African Science Service Centre for Climate Change and Adaptive Land Management
SAT	Southern African Territories
SSBPSP	Small Stock Bee Production Support Project
TAZAC	Tsumis Arid Zone Agricultural Centre
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNAM	University of Namibia
VCF	Veterinary Cordon Fence
WAQIS	Water Quality Information System
WARSCO	Windhoek Artificial Recharge Steering Committee
WATSAN	Water Supply and Sanitation Forum
WCA	Water Controlled Areas
ZAMCOM	Zambezi River Basin Commission

FUNCTIONS OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY

POLICY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

To create an enabling environment, develop, manage and sustainably utilise agricultural, water and forest resources for socio-economic development.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

To develop, promote and facilitate management of the agriculture sector through the application of modern techniques, science and appropriate technology.

EXTENSION SERVICES

To provide extension services in the form of information, advice and training to farmers, agro-based industries and other stakeholders and to promote technology development, adaptation and adoption.

INSPECTION/CONFORMITY SERVICES

To formulate regulations and policies, create awareness and ensure conformity to regulations and policies on plant-animal health and agrochemical quality and safety.

ENGINEERING SERVICES

To plan, design and develop agricultural, water and forestry infrastructure and equipment for the implementation of programmes and projects on irrigation, livestock, agro-industry, dry land production, horticulture, marketing, and storage of agricultural products.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

To undertake research and development in all Ministerial sectors in order to enhance growth and increase productivity in a sustainable manner.

ECONOMIC PLANNING AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

To undertake feasibility studies on potential and economically viable projects and products; and

to also undertake market research for drafting policy papers on agriculture, water and forestry for decision-makers and other role-players in the private and public sectors.

RURAL WATER SUPPLY

To ensure the development of rural water supply infrastructure and access to portable water by rural communities for human consumption, livestock and income generating activities, on a cost recovery basis.

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

To assess and evaluate the national water resources and ensure sustainable management and utilization thereof.

BULK WATER INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

To ensure the sustainable development of bulk water supply infrastructure for urban domestic use, as well as for industrial, mining and irrigation development.

FORESTRY MANAGEMENT

To develop, manage and facilitate the economic and sustainable utilization of forest resources.

CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT

To promote and support the establishment and growth of co-operatives for socio-economic development.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

To establish and maintain an effective and efficient administrative system to manage human and financial resources, assets and Information Technology in support of the mandate of MAWF.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

To ensure participation in meetings of the organizations and institutions of which Namibia is a member; to adhere to the bilateral, regional

and multilateral cooperation agreements and international treaties that promote the advancement of knowledge, skills and technologies for the agriculture, water and forestry sectors; as well as for regional and international integration and benefit-sharing.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

To develop an appropriate institutional framework, to undertake specialized functions for agriculture, water and forestry, and to constantly develop, review and ensure the responsiveness of such institutions and structures to the mandate of MAWF.

CO-OPERATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS AND INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

To create a conducive and enabling environment for the growth of businesses, for information exchange on issues of mutual interest, for consultation on major policy decisions and new developmental initiatives, and for implementation of programs and projects based on the principle of Public Private Partnership.

VETERINARY SERVICES

To provide veterinary services to ensure animal and public health, and to comply with requirements for national and international trade.

PLANT HEALTH AND BIO-SECURITY

To provide plant health services to ensure biosecurity for enhanced production and marketing through the establishment of policy and legal instruments, thus ensuring conformity to international phyto-sanitary standards.

CONSERVATION OF GENETIC MATERIAL

To develop and/or conserve plant and livestock genetic material for future use.

LABORATORY SERVICES

To provide analysis of water, animal, plant and soil samples for the purpose of screening, identification, diagnosis, quality assurance, documentation and advisory services.

SOIL MANAGEMENT

To develop and promote sustainable soil management practices in the agriculture, water and forestry sectors through appropriate policy and legal instruments.

FOREWORD BY THE MINISTER



With less than a year left before we come to the end of our five year Strategic Plan 2008/9 to 2012/13. The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry remains ever committed to ensuring that the targets we have set for ourself in the strategic plan are met.

During the period under review, Cabinet approved the National Sanitation Strategy Implementation Plan. This strategy is composed of six (6) Themes or Strategic focus areas namely a) WATSAN sector coordination, b) Institutional Capacity Building, c) Community Education and Participation in Hygiene and Sanitation, d) Construction of sanitation system or facilities, e) Operation and Maintenance, Performance Management and Enforcement and f) Socio-Economic Environmental outputs and outcomes. A total of 20 objectives were identified through a consultative process. The hypothesis is that if the sanitation sector follows this path of achieving

set objectives within the six themes, it will realise its set vision of “a healthy environment and improved quality of life by providing sanitation services for urban and rural household”.

The Ministry through the Directorate of Forestry finalized and launched the Forest Research Strategy in August 2011. The strategy which serves as a guiding document for forest research in Namibia calls for a deliberate formation of strategic and functional partnerships among institutions to conduct collaborative research in the forestry sector.

In line with Government’s Policy of Poverty Alleviation, the Ministry continued with the implementation and monitoring of the Small Stock and Bee Production Support Project (SSBPSP) in the Karas, Hardap and Omaheke regions. The project which began in 2008 targets poor rural household, this project provides 20 goat ewes and rams per household for livestock production. The animals are given on a five year period where after farmers are expected to have multiplied their herds with the expectation of returning back the same number of animals for distribution to the next beneficiaries. This project is doing extremely well and in some regions, is already in its 1st revolving phase and distribution to the next beneficiaries has already been done.

Food self sufficiency and National Food Security remains a priority

for the country. During the 2011/12 period, the Ministry continued with the development, expansion and management of its Green Scheme Irrigation Projects across the country.

The Ministry completed the Etunda phase 5 and 6, under these phases, 300 hectares were added. A pump station to supply water to the newly developed phase was also constructed.

The development of 830 ha at Sikondo Irrigation Project in the Kavango Region was also completed with a total area of 270 ha put under crop production during the 2011/12 cropping season.

The Ministry is also in the process of reviving the Uvhungu Vhundu Dairy Project. To that effect, the Ministry completed the debushing of the 240 ha during the period under review. Further, a consultant engineer for the project was appointed for the development of the dairy farm at the project. Other project expansions and development are planned for the next financial year.

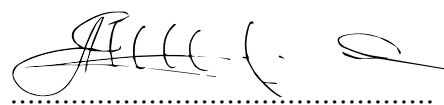
During the period under review, the ministry added a Product Development and Value Addition section to the Analytical Services establishment of the Directorate of Research and Training. The new section is responsible for adding value to local and indigenous crop and plant produce. With the establishment of this Unit, MAWF in collaboration with Namibian Agronomic Board (NAB) and a private owned company GB Mahangu Enterprises brought the first value added mahangu cookies to the Namibian Market. Collaboration research in areas of value addition on the marula oil refining as well as on instant mahangu porridge development

was embarked upon during the period under review with other research institutions.

The Agriculture, Water and Forestry sector is prone to climatic variations. The 2011/2012 period was not without its challenges. Of note was the reoccurrence of high rainfalls and heavy floods in the North Central and North Eastern part of the country which caused extensive damages to property and loss of lives.

The situation was further exacerbated by the sighting of two stray buffalos in Okakarara Constituency at Ekwenye area near Okondjatu in the Otjiwarongo State Veterinary District in August 2011. This incident put the FMD free zone at serious risk of FMD outbreaks. Fortunately, no cases were detected and the situation was quickly dealt with, resulting in minimal disruption of animal movement.

In closing, I would like to thank all the MAWF staff for their continued commitment, hard work and undeterred support towards the achievement of our organizational objectives. Going forward, I would also like to urge the staff to continue with their dedication in ensuring that the Government policies and programmes are implemented for the benefit of our nation. A big "Thank you" also to our development partners, industry players and the public for their continued support and contribution towards the achievement of our goals.



John Mutorwa, MP
Minister

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY BY THE PERMANENT SECRETARY



It is our distinct pleasure to report that the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry continued to implement and monitor its development programmes and projects during the 2011/12 financial year. The reported period was marked by laudable progress despite the challenges.

The Ministry continued to support the development of cooperatives as viable business entities. To that effect, ten (10) new co-operatives were provisionally registered whereas one (1) co-operative was fully registered.

In order to monitor the crop and food security situation as well as availability of agricultural inputs at household level, the Ministry conducted three agro-assessments in the six crop growing regions of the country. In this connection, the Ministry developed and operationalized the Agricultural Management Information System.

In case of promoting food production, the Ministry provided subsidized inputs and services to communal farmers in the crop growing regions through the Dryland Crop Production Programme. A total of sixty five tractors

(65), thirty five (35) walking tractors, sixty five (65) disc harrows, twenty (20) mould board ploughs, forty five rippers (45), sixty five (65) planters and fertilizer applicators, ten (10) mobile workshops and four (4) threshers were procured.

During the period under review, the Ministry continued to develop, manage and expand the Green Scheme Irrigation Projects to realize food production at national level. To that effect, 300ha were developed at Etunda whereas de-bushing of 240ha at Uvungu-Vhungu Diary Project has been completed.

The construction of 3,000 tonnes grain storage capacity at Tsandi in Omusati Region has been completed. The upgrading of the existing silos capacity at Okongo, in Ohangwena Region was delayed due to the unavailability of funds. The upgrading of silos at Omuthiya in Oshikoto Region from the existing 500 tonnes capacity to 3,000 tonnes is underway.

The National Strategic Food Reserves sold six hundred (600) tons of Mahangu grains to the Office of the Prime Minister while forty five (45) tons were sold to Private millers. More than six thousand (6,000) tons of maize grains were procured from the Green Scheme Projects, private farmers and the National Youth Service.

The development of two fresh

produce regional hubs at Ongwediva and Rundu were completed. For the time being, the Ministry has identified a suitable site in Windhoek to construct a central hub. Plans and designs for the agricultural technology centres at Ongwediva and Rundu were completed.

The Ministry supported the Market Share Promotion initiative of locally produced horticultural products which has increased to 37.5% as well as the formulation of the Agricultural Marketing and Trade Policy and Strategy.

One of the main aims of farming is to generate income through the marketing of livestock and livestock products. In that regard, a combined total of 25,250 goats, 10,864 sheep and 12,103 cattle were sold at livestock auctions country wide. Development of the Gellapper Sheep, a Namibian meat master continued and the number of this new sheep breed has reached 800 ewes.

A major concern in 2011 was an incident involving the sighting of two (2) stray African buffaloes in Okakarara Constituency. Both animals were successfully tracked, killed and destroyed after pathological samples were collected. An outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) occurred at Masikili Village in Kabbe Constituency of the Caprivi Region in November 2011.

Routine mass vaccinations against FMD were conducted in the Eastern Caprivi Region as well as the Mukwe and Ndiyona Constituencies in which 143,862 cattle were vaccinated. Similar vaccinations against Lungsickness were conducted in the entire Northern Communal Areas where 1,133,140

herds of cattle were inoculated.

All export abattoirs were audited internally and no serious shortcomings were encountered and therefore all of them were approved for continued exports. In the meantime, upgrading of abattoirs at Outapi and Eenhana has commenced. A total of 826,611 cattle were ear-tagged during the period under review.

With regards to crop research, 26 field experiments of different crops were conducted at research stations. In addition, an amount of 37 tones of rice from 30 ha was produced at Kalimbeza Research Station. The Ministry introduced the first value added mahangu cookies to the Market in collaboration with Namibian Agronomic Board and GB Mahangu Enterprises.

The Ministry has successfully trained farmers through courses in crop production, animal husbandry, farm mechanization and information technology at its various training centres. In its effort to capacitate its workforce both at professional and technical levels, the Ministry successfully advertised 28 bursaries in the local newspapers of which 16 were awarded for studies in the identified critical areas.

A number of water points have been rehabilitated and new ones drilled as identified by all regions. Twenty nine (29) Water points were installed, two hundred and four (204) Water Points were rehabilitated, thirty six (36) Boreholes drilled, sixteen (16) Water Points were cleaned and pump tested, fifteen (15) Extension pipelines were constructed and four hundred and thirty (430) Engines were repaired. Additionally four (4) earth dams were constructed (two each in Hardap and Karas

regions respectively) while a new standard design for earth dams was being developed for future construction. Furthermore, access roads to the Neckartal dam site, quarry; pump station and power supply to the project area have been completed.

In terms of water resource management, three replacement monitoring boreholes were drilled to replace previously defunct boreholes where as, two boreholes were drilled near the Oshivelo area. Drilling work in the Cuvelai-Etosha Project was also conducted. The investigation of the deep seated Ohangwena II Aquifer continued under the year in review.

New community forests were identified and nineteen (19) community forests' documentations for declaration were submitted for approval. A total of 330 ha of the existing woodlots and orchards were maintained through pruning, ploughing, spot weeding, watering and pest control. Some 94 ha of orchards were planted with various fruit trees.

In order to control the spreading of wild fires, 3,261 km of fire cut-lines were cleared involving 1,167 men and 317 women from Caprivi, Kavango, Otjozondjupa, Omaheke, Kunene, Omusati, Oshana, and Ohangwena Regions. Furthermore to a total of 5,895 km were de-bushed and cleared involving 1,957 youth.

The Ministry has been actively participating in the political and technical establishment of the Southern African Science Service Centre for Climate Change and Adaptive Land Management.

With regards to international cooperation,

Namibia concluded three (3) bilateral agreements with Indonesia, Czech Republic and China on Animal Health and Quarantine.

The ministry was able to achieve all these because of the untiring involvement by all stake holders. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude and appreciation to the entire staff of the Ministry, the private sector as well as development partners for their commitment in serving the Namibian people in the sectors of agriculture, water and forestry towards the realization of the Ministry's endeavors.



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Joseph S. Iita
PERMANENT SECRETARY

ORGANOGRAM

Top Management of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water & Forestry



Hon. John Mutorwa
Minister MP



Hon. Petrus Ilonga
Deputy Minister MP



Mr. Joseph Iita
Permanent Secretary



Ms. Anna Shiweda
Deputy Permanent Secretary

A photograph of a large-scale center pivot irrigation system in operation. The long metal wheels and pipes stretch across a vast, green agricultural field under a bright, hazy sky. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a strong lens flare and illuminating the scene with a warm, golden light. The foreground shows a close-up of the green grass and some dry, brown stalks.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DIRECTORATE OF EXTENSION AND ENGINEERING SERVICES

OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of Directorate of Extension and Engineering Services are to:

- Provide Agricultural Extension Services in the form of communication, advisory and training services.
- Promote technology development, adaptation, adoption and information dissemination in the agricultural sector
- Identification and implementation of technological needs and requirements in the areas of agronomy, mechanisation, irrigation, animal husbandry, soil conservation, water supply and agricultural structures.
- Contribute to the implementation of relevant national policies.
- Contribute to increased food production and household food security.
- To Plan, design and develop agricultural, water and forestry infrastructure and equipment for the implementation of programmes and projects on irrigation, livestock, agro-industry, dry-land crop production, horticulture, marketing, and storage of agricultural products.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational achievements

The Directorate of Extension and Engineering Services continued to provide services in all regions throughout the country using a more participatory approach that places responsibilities of the development process firmly in the hands of rural communities. Support to this process is done through multi-disciplinary and collaborative inputs from various Government

and non-government service providers.

Farmers' training: During the period under review, the Directorate promoted capacity building in most needed agricultural related issues in order to instill farmers with helpful practical agricultural knowledge and skills. In this respect, a total of one hundred and forty (140) training sessions were conducted in collaboration and assistance from donor funded projects, NGOs and other stakeholders. Two thousand one hundred and two (2102); (1217 male and 885 female) farmers received training in various agriculture and forestry related aspects.

To enhance and improve agricultural technology transfer, a total of two hundred and fifty five (255) trials and demonstrations were hosted by extension field staff in all thirteen (13) regions of the country with a recorded one thousand and thirty four (1034) farmers attending these trials and demonstrations. Various demonstrations and on-farm trials such as on land preparation with different implements, fertilizer applications and row planting, rice, sweet potato and sunflower production, water harvesting technics, animal husbandry, carrying capacity determination, fodder production, drip irrigation, conservation agriculture, and weed control were carried out country-wide.

Staff development: in the area of staff development, the Directorate continued to support and assist human resource development for its staff. To this end, one hundred and eighty eight (188) extension field staff were capacitated with fifty (50) in-service training sessions namely induction, pelt production, breeding value for bulls, drugs administration, organic pests and disease control, Boer goat judging, soil sampling, seeds inspection, project proposal writing, animal gathering protocol, food safety and quality management systems, stock remedies and veterinary medicine control, Agricultural Management Information System,

animal husbandry, horticulture, and Arc view GIS software for farm planning and mapping etc.

Crop Production: crop production is an important component of the agriculture sector aimed at both addressing food self sufficiency and food security. In this respect, efforts were made to strengthen farmers' capacity in the use of appropriate farming methods and practices in order to increase food productivity and improve food security in the country.

As an incentive to encourage high mahangu yields, the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry in conjunction with the Namibia Agronomic Board (NAB) held its annual Mahangu festival on the 3rd September 2011 in Omuthiya town, Oshikoto Region. As an incentive, the event rewards high producers of Mahangu in the seven (7) crop growing regions of the country.

The last cropping season was characterized by the marketing of pearl millet and cowpeas in North Central and North Eastern Regions. A sizeable number of farmers sold more than seven hundred and twenty one tons (721) of Mahangu grains to the Strategic Food Reserve facilities through Namibia Agronomic Board (NAB).

Farmers in North Central sold cowpeas through the office of the Prime Minister for drought relief purposes. The process of buying cowpeas through the Office of the Prime Minister made it possible for farmers especially elderly women to earn some income from their produce. The process has boosted the farmers' morale to produce more of this crop especially in light of the now available market for cowpeas and bambara nuts.

It is worth-noting that the country's Strategic Food Reserves sold six hundred (600) tons of Mahangu grains through the office of the Prime Minister while forty five (45) tons were sold to Private millers during the period under review. More than six thousand (6000) tons of maize

grains were procured from the Green Scheme Projects, private farmers and National Youth Service for the Strategic Food Reserve Facilities through the Namibia Agronomic Board.

Livestock Production: Livestock production plays a very crucial role to the country's economy especially through its contribution to the country's GDP. All regions through the Directorate of Extension and Engineering Services continued to improve livestock production through various promotions and facilitation of livestock improvement programs. More farmers have adopted new agricultural technologies such as early diagnoses of livestock health problems, vaccination of livestock, farm inspections and monitoring of livestock daily in order for animals to get timely and effective health attention. Supplementary feeding is also being encouraged and farmers are advised to buy licks such as phosphorus lick and others to prevent conditions like dystocia, hunger and also to increase production.

Livestock Marketing: One of the main aims of farming is to generate income through the marketing of livestock and livestock products. Therefore, many livestock auctions permit days, contract sales, Meatco and individual marketing of livestock took place during the reporting period. In that regard, a combined total of 25,250 goats, 10,864 sheep and 12,103 cattle were sold country wide.

Community Based Organizations (CBOs)

The Directorate of Extension and Engineering Services complied with its mandate that is aimed at supporting, strengthening the existing and facilitating the establishment of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) such as Conservancies, Cooperatives, Farmers' Associations and Farmers' Unions in planning, implementing and review of their organizations activities which are geared

towards community development.

A lot of success has been made in this regard. A total of thirty one (31) meetings/workshops were held throughout the country during the period under review. It included; farmer support in the formation of CBOs, projects management in gardening and poultry production, visitations and provision of technical advice and training as well as training of farmers on how to establish markets for their produce.

Visits to ADCs: The Ministry has received a significant increase in the number of farmers visiting DEES Agricultural Development Centers and regional offices in the regions. The recorded number of farmers who visited the ADCs and regional offices was seven thousand two hundred and eighty two (7282) farmers (3418 male and 3864 female). Farmers were mainly seeking for information related to amongst others; Draught Animal Power and stock branding, selling surplus, buying agricultural inputs, ploughing services,

registering dissatisfaction with service delivery, Agribank loans applications, as well as technical advice on animal health, animal husbandry and crop production etc. All farmers who visited the ADCs were assisted and referred to other relevant authorities.

Diversification: Farmers in North Central and North Western regions are gradually diversifying their crop production to tobacco, sunflower and rice. Four farmers in Omusati region harvested five hundred and ten (510) kg of rice during the reporting period. Meanwhile, the number of participating farmers in rice production has increased to one hundred and three (103) farmers during the 2011/12 financial year. In the North Western regions, the few farmers who were involved in the production of tobacco harvested ten (10) bags of 50 kg bags of tobacco from a two hectare plot.

Phytosanitary Services: As a mandate for the Plant Quarantine Section, the section has carried



out inspections on farms which are exporting crops in order to ensure that production procedures are conforming to international standards, inspections were carried out at several production sites around the country. Consequently, about 207 Fruit-fly traps that have been deployed all over the country were serviced. To date no fruit fly was spotted in the southern regions of the country.

Inspections around the borders were also carried out to control illegal livestock movements, import and export of agricultural products and to enforce compliance in line with national, regional and international standards and regulations.

A total amount of N\$ 1,108,500.00 was generated during the period under review through the issuing of Phytosanitary Certificates for registration of agricultural products, renewal of agricultural inputs, export and import permits of plant, plant products and livestock products.

DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

GREEN SCHEME PROJECT

Development of Etunda Phase 5 & 6 and 7 & 8

During the period under review, the Ministry completed the development of Etunda Phase 5 and 6 (300ha) while development of Phase 7 and 8 is expected to be completed in 2013. The canal to supply water to the newly developed Phase has been completed further to this the tender for the construction of the pump station has been advertised. Twelve plots at Phase 5 have been allocated to Medium Scale Farmers and production has commenced.

Development of Sikondo Project:

During the reporting period, the development of 830 ha at Sikondo Project in the Kavango Region



was completed. A total area of 270 ha put under crop production during the 2011/2012 cropping season. A Project Manager was appointed while an expression of interest for the medium scale farming unit has been advertised.

Development of Ndonga Linena Phase II

The Ministry intends to develop Ndonga Linena Phase II comprising of 500ha, which once developed, will bring the total area under production to 900 ha. The site engineers have been appointed and preliminary design and construction will commence soon.

Expansion of Shadikongoro Project

The Ministry intends to expand the area under

production at Shadikongoro from the existing 500 ha to approximately 900 ha. The Ministry is currently in consultation with the traditional authority in order to secure land. Five new center pivots were ordered for Shadikongoro.

Revival of Uvhungu-Vungu Dairy Project

The debushing of 240 ha at Uvhungu-Vhungu Dairy Project has been completed. The consulting engineers for the development of the dairy farm have been appointed.

Development of Tandjieskoppe Project

The Ministry has identified 1000 ha of land at Tandjieskoppe, Noordoewer, in the Karas Region, as a potential area for grape, dates and vegetable production. The Ministry is currently evaluating various proposals from private entities which are interested in the development of this area on a Built Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis.

Kalimbeza Rice Irrigation Project

During the period under review, tenders for the construction of 6 x 3 and 10 x 2 bedrooms

staff houses were evaluated. Furthermore, the upgrading of the pump station was finalized. The tender was awarded for the construction of 2 x 700 tons rice silo at Katima Mulilo.

Development and upgrading of Strategic Food Reserves/Silos

The construction of 3000 tonnes grain storage capacity at Tsandi in Omusati Region was completed. The upgrading of the existing silos capacity at Okongo, in Ohangwena Region was delayed due to the unavailability of funds and Omuthiya in Oshikoto Region from the existing 500 tonnes capacity to 3000 tonnes capacity respectively is underway.

Development of Fresh Produce Marketing Hubs

The development of two cold storage marketing facilities in Ongwediva and Rundu has been completed. The Ministry is currently in the process of identifying a suitable site either in Windhoek or Okahandja, to construct a similar storage.



Development of Agricultural Technology Centers

Plans and designs for the technology Centres at Ongwediva and Rundu were completed. The construction of the technology centre at Rundu has commenced.

Construction of Agriculture Development Centres (ADCs)

During the reporting period, construction of a complex and staff housing at King Kauluma ADC in Oshikoto region was completed. Constructions of ADC's at Oshikunde in Ohangwena region, Aussenkher in Karas region, Onawa in Omusati region, Olukupa in the Oshikoto region and Enguwantale in the Oshana region were also completed. Additionally, two ADCs at Engombe in Oshana region and Onamishu in Ohikoto Region will be completed in early 2012 / 2013 financial year.

Support to Livestock Marketing Infrastructure for Communal Farmers

During the period under review, the construction of Omuntele auction facility in Oshikoto region was completed, while the construction of the auction facility at Oshifo in Omusati region is underway. The Tender No. NDC T71/2011 was advertised and the successful tenderer recommended.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Dry land Crop Production Programme (DCPP)

This program provides subsidized inputs and services to communal farmers in the following seven (7) crop growing regions, Kavango, Caprivi, Oshikoto, Oshana, Ohangwena, Omusati and Kunene to increase food production at household level as well as surplus production.

For the successful implementation of the

DCPP, fifty four (54) contractual tractor drivers, ten (10) Government operator drivers and handyman, three (3) tractor drivers and thirteen (13) Agricultural Extension Technicians from the seven crop growing regions of the country were trained at Uvhungu Vhungu Irrigation Project on the operation and maintenance of tractors and implements as well as on deep ripping. Agricultural Extension Technicians are responsible for the coordination and monitoring of the programme in their respective regions.

To date the Ministry through the DCPP procured a total of sixty five tractors (65), thirty five (35) walking tractors, sixty five (65) disc harrows, twenty (20) mould board ploughs, forty five rippers (45), sixty five (65) planters and fertilizer applicators, ten (10) mobile workshops and four (4) threshers. The tractors and implements were dispatched to the seven crop growing regions. The non- traditional crop producing regions such as Otjondjupa and Omaheke were allocated with three walking tractors and a thresher respectively. The Ministry has taken factors such as the distance from one farm to the other, size of land to be ploughed and planted at each farm before the tractors were allocated to the two (Otjondjupa and Omaheke) regions.

Further to this during the same period, the following fertilizer types were procured and delivered to the seven crop growing regions of the country as well as Otjondjupa and Omaheke regions: one hundred (100) 50kg bags of Urea, three hundred and fifty (350) 50kg bags of LAN, three thousand seven hundred and twenty (3720) 50kg bags of NPK, two thousand four hundred and twenty three (2423) 50kg bags of MAP and one thousand nine hundred and ninety one (1991) 50kg bags of Ammonium Sulphate.

Small Stock Bee Production Support Project (SSBPSP)

During the year under review several consultative

visits were undertaken to the SSBPSP beneficiaries to monitor progress on this project. The program which was first introduced in 2008 as part of poverty alleviation, targets poor rural households in the Karas, Hardap and Omaheke regions by providing them with small stock such as rams and goat ewes. Through this project, beneficiaries receive 20 animals per household/beneficiary to start with, with the expectation of multiplying the animals over a five year period and giving back the same number of animals (20) for re-distribution to the next beneficiaries.

Omaheke Region: In 2008, the region received a total of 940 goat ewes and 47 rams which were handed-over to 30 beneficiaries and in 2009, 17 beneficiaries received their animals. Each beneficiary received 20 ewes and 1 ram to start with. Every beneficiary is expected to return the same number of animals after a period of five years. The 1st revolving phase is expected to start after the 1st four years, which is 2012 & 2013. The project is reportedly good in some areas and the first revolving phase will begin during 2012.

Karas Region: The region received a total of 920 goat ewes and 46 rams during 2008/2009 which were handed over to 46 households. The number of goats provided through this project has increased to more than 2500. Unfortunately, some beneficiaries had their animals repossessed for underperformance and re-distributed to new beneficiaries. In this regard, three (3) out of the original forty six (46) beneficiaries were removed from the project and their animals re-distributed to newly identified beneficiaries. During April 2012, twenty eight (28) new beneficiaries also received their goats from the old (2008/09) beneficiaries who handed back five hundred and ninety nine (599) goats to the project. Thus far seventy one (71) households from the Karas Region benefitted from this project.

Hardap region: The region received a total of 940 goat ewes and 47 rams during 2008/2009

which were handed over to 47 households. The project is reported to be doing well in this region. The number of goats provided through this project have increased to 2710 goats. During the reporting period, four (4) out of the forty four (47) beneficiaries had their animals repossessed for underperformance these animals were redistributed to the newly identify beneficiaries. The region also selected an additional twenty one (21) new beneficiaries who received 20 ewes and ram per household during a ceremony held in November 2011 in Gibeon. Thus far, 64 households had benefitted from this project. The biggest impact is that the SSBPSP has set the tone for future projects in the Hardap region. This is evident in the project management of these projects that uses the implementation, monitoring and evaluation strategies designed by DEES South.

Scorpion Zinc (SZ): The Directorate of Extensions and Engineering Services is involved in the monitoring, selection of beneficiaries, logistics and training of the project beneficiaries. The mine has also embarked on a similar goat project called the Boer goat project in the Karas region. The project which is aimed at alleviating poverty in the rural set-ups is intended to benefit the people of Karas through the provision of breeding goats on a revolving contract agreed through the Governor's office.

DIRECTORATE OF VETERINARY SERVICES

The mandate of the Directorate of Veterinary Services (DVS) are to maintain and promote animal health, reproduction, and to assure safe and orderly marketing of animals and animal products through animal disease control, veterinary surveillance, epidemiology, extension, diagnostic services and veterinary public health services.

The main policy objectives are as follows:

- To implement development and regulatory activities in accordance with legislation and directives related to the livestock industry.
- To maintain the integrity which the Namibia Veterinary Services has established, ensuring livestock/meat exports, as well as regional and international co-operation.
- To ensure that good co-operation with the farming community is maintained so as to benefit the health of the nation's livestock.
- To maintain and improve the diagnostic facilities of the Central Veterinary Laboratory (CVL), and enhance investigations and research with the view to control and eradicate animal diseases.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Personnel

A number of promotions were carried out in July 2011. Of note are the promotions of Dr Adrianatus Florentius Maseke who was promoted to Deputy Chief Veterinary Officer to head the Diagnostics and Research Division at the Central Veterinary Laboratory (CVL); Dr Jessey Alice Kamwi to the post of Deputy Chief Veterinary Officer; Veterinary Public Health based at Head Office; Dr Johannes Shoopala, Deputy Chief Veterinary

Officer Animal Disease Control also based at Head Office and Dr Siegfried Khaiseb, Specialist (Diagnostics) at CVL effective from 1st of July 2011.

Infrastructure

To maintain the integrity of the Veterinary Cordon Fence (VCF), two new well-equipped trucks were purchased and deployed to fence maintenance teams. De-bushing along the fence line was successfully undertaken. However, challenges remain on how to keep the fence line clear. A grader is urgently required for this purpose. The VCF was, however, in relatively good condition during the year under review. Maintenance of the Bwabwata fence that separates the Eastern Caprivi from the FMD protection zone to the west in Kavango region remains a challenge, as there is no staff complement assigned for its maintenance.

A number of capital projects were completed, planned or are at various stages of implementation. These include veterinary clinics, offices and accommodation; animal and plant health inspection centres; extension and renovation of CVL. The construction of the Ondangwa laboratory will be done together with the veterinary clinic and regional traceability office.

The construction of the New Wing at the Central Veterinary Laboratory was completed during the period under review. Further, the renovation of the old wing of the CVL has been approved and budgeted for. The contractor to carry out the work was being sought.

Infrastructure was planned to be upgraded at a total of 15 internal veterinary internal gates along the VCF. On the borders, construction of 16 border animal and plant health inspection centres will be done in phases starting with the major entry points such as Ariamsvlei, Buitepos, Noordoewer and Oshikango.

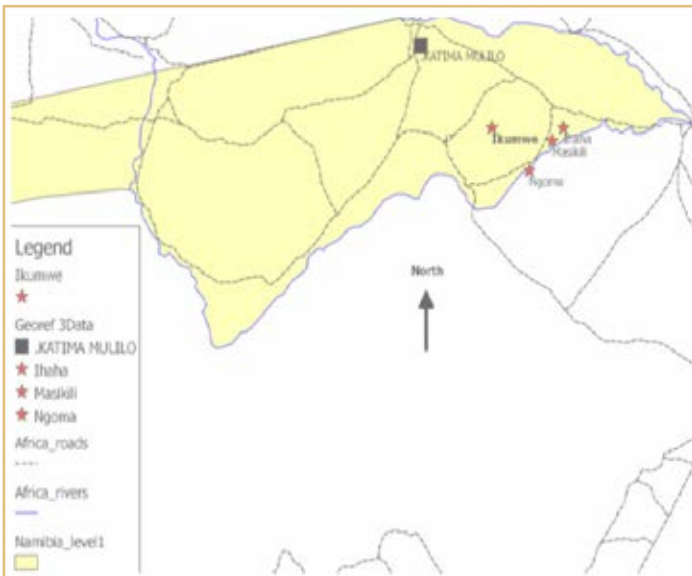


Fig 1: FMD Foci November 2011 to January 2012

Disease Surveillance and Animal Health Situation

Routine active and passive surveillance activities such as farm inspections, community visits, ante- and post-mortem inspections at abattoirs, supervision of livestock auctions, export certification and inspection of imported animals and animal products were carried out during the year. Targeted surveillance activities that were underway during 2011/12 included programs for Foot and Mouth Disease, Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, Brucella melitensis in small stock, Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis monitoring and meat residue monitoring. The testing of livestock feed for the presence of ruminant derived proteins to ensure compliance with the banning of these substances in animal feed was undertaken as part of the BSE risk management strategy and no samples tested positive. The importation of animal feeds is currently administered under a permit system.

Of major concern in 2011 was an incident involving the sighting of 2 stray African buffaloes in Okakarara Constituency at Ekwenye area near Okondjatu in Otjiwarongo State Veterinary District on 16 August 2011. This was in the FMD

free zone from which exports are extracted to high value regional and international markets.

Both animals were successfully tracked, killed and destroyed after pathological samples had been collected from them. One animal tested positive to Liquid Phase Blocking ELISA and had antibodies against SAT 2 & 3. Polymerase Chain Reaction test results were also positive. Restrictive measures were imposed in parts of Omaheke and Otjozondjupa regions. This incident was decisively, quickly and efficiently dealt with, causing minimal disruption to the livestock industry.

An outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) was diagnosed at Masikili Village (24.7500oE 17.8833oS) in Kabbe Constituency of the Caprivi Region on 26th of November 2011. Masikili village lies along the Chobe river some 75km south-east of Katima Mulilo and about 10 kilometres north east of Ngoma border post. Initially the disease was diagnosed at two kraals with a census of 67 in which 37 cattle had oral, udder and feet lesions suggestive of Foot and Mouth Disease. Some 1,510 cattle at Masikili crushpen were at risk. The

Fig 2: Lung Sickness Focus at Otjiwandjaseemo crush pen in the Kunene region



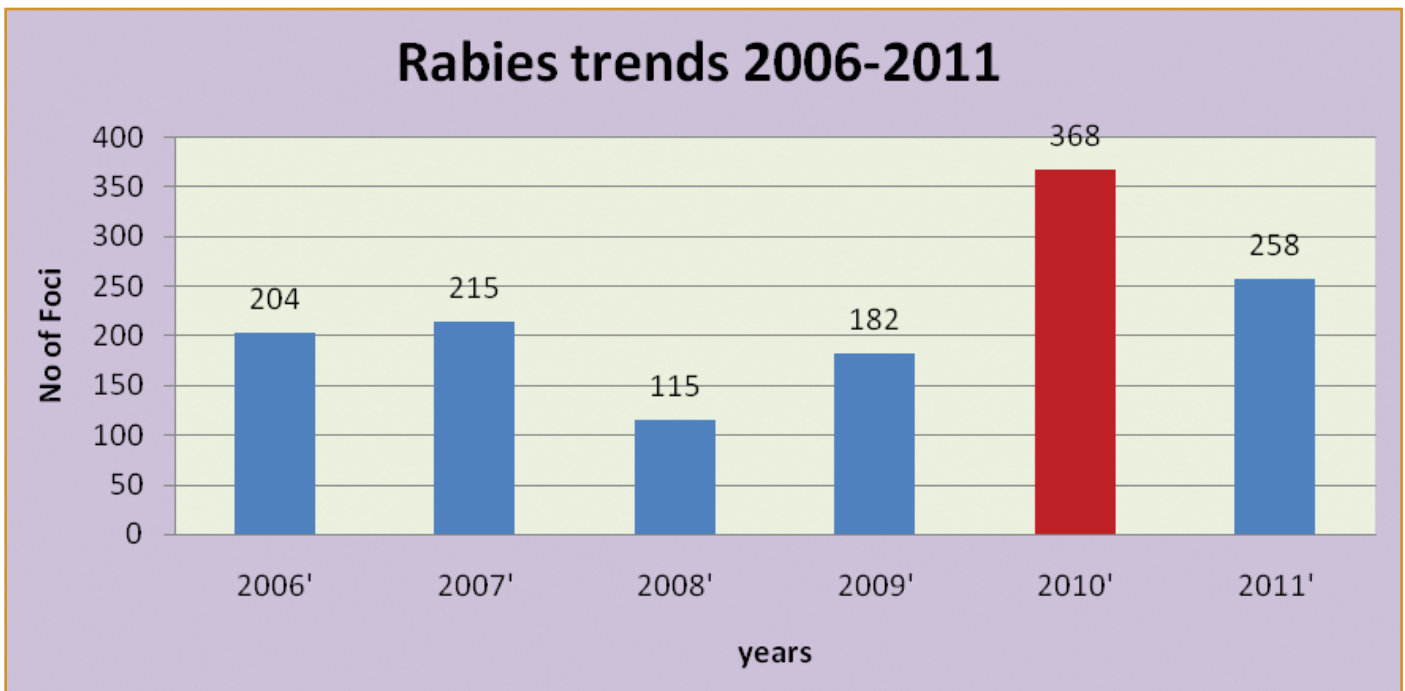


Fig 3: Rabies Trends 2006 to 2011

outbreak was confirmed by laboratory testing to be due to the SAT1 strain of the FMD virus. The disease was last detected at Ikunwe on 15 January 2012. The map in fig 1 below illustrates the foci where the disease was detected.

Following this outbreak, DVS went on to revise its vaccination strategy in the Caprivi region. In the new strategy, each Animal Health Technician will be required to vaccinate animals in his or her area of responsibility instead of carrying out area wide campaigns. This is expected to reduce overhead costs such as transport and daily subsistence allowances and allow closer supervision of staff. To improve on the cold chain for vaccines, two standby generators were purchased and installed at Katima Mulilo and Rundu State Veterinary Offices. New cold-rooms and freeze-rooms were each installed at Katima Mulilo, Bukalo, Mukwe, Nkurenkuru, Okongo, Omuthiya, Eenhana, Outapi and Sesfontein. The equipment was purchased using funds from the AU-IBAR funded VACNADA project.

In February 2012, Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia was diagnosed at Oruru

village under Otjijandjasemo crush pen in the Kunene region. This followed the importation of 130 heads of cattle from Angola into Namibia. The entire herd was subsequently slaughtered at the Meatco Abattoir at Oshakati and the owner compensated.

The increase in the incidence of Rabies has been recognized at the SADC regional level as a major animal and human health issue. In recognition of the seriousness of the rabies situation in the country, Honorable Ministers of Health and Social Services, Environment and Tourism and Agriculture, Water and Forestry officiated at the World Rabies Day ceremony at the UN Plaza in Katutura on the 28th September 2011. The rabies trend in the last 6 years is highlighted in the graph below (fig 3) and its spatial distribution in 2011 is shown in fig 4 below.

Mass Vaccinations

Routine mass vaccinations against Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) were conducted in the Eastern Caprivi Region as well as the Mukwe and Ndiyona Constituencies in which 143 862 cattle were vaccinated. Mass vaccinations against

Lungsickness were conducted in the entire Northern Communal Areas where 1 133 140 cattle were inoculated. During the campaigns 40 831 pets were vaccinated against which was below the targeted coverage. Vaccination coverage was approximately 85 % for FMD and 90 % for Lungsickness.

FMD Freedom for the Etosha National Park

As part of the strategy to demonstrate Foot and Mouth Disease freedom in the NCA, DVS in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Tourism and Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale “D. Caporale” of Italy was in the process of undertaking a sero-survey to demonstrate FMD freedom for the Etosha National Park.

Export Markets

The country continued to access export markets for animal and animal products including game in the European Union, South Africa, Angola, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Botswana. Concerning accessing the United States market, the Food Safety Inspection Service equivalence process

was in the final stages and was expected to lead to the legislative process to enable Namibia to export to the US.

Namibia received two foreign trade delegations from Iran and Egypt during the period under review. From 12 to 16 September 2011 the Iranian conducted an audit of the meat export establishments. The outcome seemed favorable and sanitary and phyto-sanitary negotiations were still underway in which exports of meat to Iran could be established. The Egyptian audit report was still awaited.

In the meantime Meatco’s Establishments NA16 and NA17 were recommended for exports of lamb and game meat to the European Union (EU). Final approval was to be given if there were no objections from EU member states and this was to be followed by the publication of the establishments on the EU website.

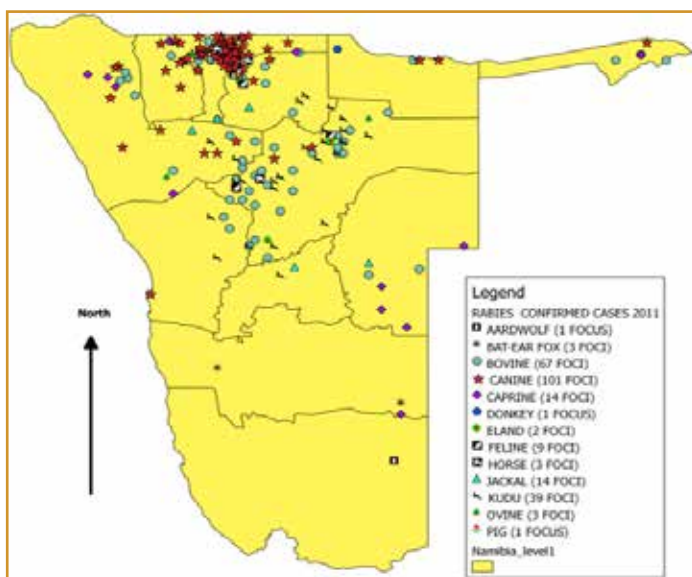
All export abattoirs were audited internally and no serious shortcomings were encountered and therefore all of them were approved for continued exports. In the meantime upgrading of abattoirs at Outapi and Eenhana is due to start soon.

Policy and Strategic Issues

Major Policy and Strategic events during the year under review included the following:

In July 2010 Cabinet of the Government of Namibia approved the implementation of the policy for the eradication of trans-boundary animal diseases in the Northern Communal areas. As part of the implementation process, DVS successfully submitted a project proposal to Millennium Challenge Account Namibia in August 2012 in which Namibia was expected to get support for the investigation and prepare other strategies, road map, implementation plans and documentation to declare selected areas of the NCA free of FMD and CBPP.

Fig 4: Foci of Rabies in 2011



A number of activities are already under implementation. Interventions in fulfillment of this policy initiative include: collaboration through a memorandum of understanding entered into with Angolan veterinary authorities to eradicate Lung sickness and Foot and Mouth disease along the common border; upgrading five (5) government owned abattoirs to facilitate marketing of meat products from the NCA; construction of nine (9) new state veterinary offices, 29 animal health technician offices, 14 border control offices and upgrading of quarantine facilities; implementing animal identification and traceability in the NCA; and the establishment of a transboundary animal disease research and vaccine production unit at Eenhana. Most of these activities are already under various stages of implementation.

Collaboration with our Angolan counterparts with regards to the control of trans-boundary animal diseases was strengthened through the drafting of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two countries. The MoU was approved by both governments and awaits ratification. Southward spread of Peste Des Petites Ruminantes (PPR) was discussed and Angola was to undertake surveillance measures aimed at the early detection of the disease.

The National Strategy for Disease Surveillance was adopted during the period under review. This document sets the standards, objectives, targets and means of verification of processes.

The Animal Health Act, Act number 1 of 2011 was promulgated in 2011 replacing the Animal Diseases and Parasites Act (Act No. 13) of 1956. Regulations supporting the new Act are now needed to ensure its smooth implementation. One of the contentious issues the new regulations are expected to address will be to deal once and for all with the keeping of the African buffalo in the country outside the Caprivi region.

The Food Safety Bill of 2007, which was developed with the assistance of the Food and Agriculture

Organization (FAO), is being reconsidered for further development to become law. Regulations to support the bill were being drafted to cover abattoir hygiene and meat inspection in Namibia.

The Lung sickness (CBPP) contingency plan was drafted during the period under review. This strategy document will guide the DVS and its stakeholders in responding to CBPP outbreaks. The Foot and Mouth Disease contingency plan was also extensively reviewed at the State Veterinary Annual meeting held at Rundu in October 2012.

Laboratory accreditation

The process of Central Veterinary Laboratory (CVL) ISO accreditation was at an advanced stage. It was hoped that the quality manual be completed in February 2012 and handed over to the Southern African Development Community Accreditation Services (SADCAS). A response on the matter is still awaited.

Twinning

CVL is actively involved in various twinning projects, namely the twinning project on Food Safety with IZSA&M, Italy and the twinning project on Chlamydia with Institute of Veterinary Pathology, University of Zurich, Switzerland. CVL staff members directly involved in the two respective twinning projects underwent training in Italy and Switzerland respectively. In addition, CVL is also actively involved in various projects on CBPP and FMD funded by IAEA and Anthrax project funded by University of Hohenheim-Germany and also ongoing collaborations with institutions such as: OVI – RSA; BVI – Botswana; BNL – Botswana; IIV – Angola; CVRI- Zambia; VLA - U.K.; IZSA&M – Italy; UPSALLA – Sweden; IAEA-Austria; University Hohenheim-Germany.

Control of Veterinary Medicines

The Control of Veterinary Medicines was placed under the Veterinary Committee of Medicines

Control Council and thus now comes under the Medicines and related Substances Control Act, Act No. 13 of 2003. The veterinary Committee was appointed. Additionally, a veterinarian was also appointed to provide oversight on the registration of veterinary medicines.

Information Management and Livestock Traceability

The CVL with the assistance of the Italians developed a Laboratory Information System (LIMS) which enabled uniformity of reporting from all sections of the laboratory, increased client confidentiality and reduced the paper trail. It will also have capacity to interlink with other information systems. DVS started reporting animal health events to SADC electronically through SADC Livestock Information Management System. An import control database was under development during the period under review. This database which is hosted on the NamLITS network will enable border control officials, state veterinary offices and the central imports control office to provide more efficient oversight on imports.

The Millennium Challenge Account MCA-Namibia also funded the establishment of livestock identification and traceability system in the Northern Communal areas with the acquisition of 1.2 million ear-tags. Following the completion of the strategic and implementation plans in March and June of 2012 respectively, a community awareness campaign was immediately carried out followed by pilot tagging of cattle in December 2010. Tagging in the NCA started in 2011 with the launch of the programme by the Minister of Agriculture Water and Forestry at Mile 10 in Kavango region. Significant progress was registered during the campaign in which nearly 55 % of the cattle were tagged. Ear tags and materials were purchased with funds from the Millennium Challenge Account of the US Government. Animal Restraining equipment

were purchased using funds from the AU-IBAR funded project called VACNADA. A total of 826,611 cattle were tagged against a total target population of 1,497,237.

In the areas south of the veterinary cordon fence, double ear-tagging and registration of all cattle above 6 months became compulsory on 1 August 2012 replacing the single ear-tagging of animals that were earmarked for movement out of a farm. The transition process was subsidized by the government. Compliance with this new dispensation was reportedly very good in the commercial farming sector where over 90% of the animals were tagged. However, in the communal sector the achievements were relatively lower but improving.

A Government Gazette announcing the implementation of double ear-tagging of cattle south of the veterinary cordon fence was issued by the Minister of agriculture Water and forestry in February 2011, setting the deadline for implementing this requirement on 31 August 2011.

DIRECTORATE OF PLANNING

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Directorate of Planning are as follow:

- To contribute to the creation of a conducive policy environment for the agricultural, water, forestry and co-operative sub-sectors through regular policy review and development.
- To acquire market access for agricultural products through negotiating favorable trade agreements and to provide market information and agricultural statistics data to the agriculture industry.
- To improve local communities livelihoods by empowering them through the development of co-operatives and to facilitate rural development through introduction of income-generating activities.
- To conduct project appraisals, monitoring and evaluation of the Ministry's programmes as well as impact assessment
- To collect and disseminate agricultural statistics.

RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

The Directorate through the Division of Agricultural Planning continued to carry out policy analysis, coordinate the strategic planning processes of the Ministry, monitor and evaluate development programmes for the Ministry, maintain agricultural information, monitor the food security situation in Namibia as well as promote domestic marketing and participate in trade negotiations. To that effect, the Directorate reviewed the National Agricultural Policy of

1995, where most of the stakeholders made inputs toward the finalization of this document. The policy review will be finalized in the 2012/13 financial year.

The Directorate compiled and submitted the Annual Capital Projects Progress Report for 2011/12, containing information on the status and expenditure of projects as well as the number of jobs created during the 2011/12 financial year. It also coordinated and compiled the development budget presentation for the 2012/13-2014/15 financial years which was submitted to the National Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance as well as the Technical paper for the Budget Motivation for discussion in Parliament.

In collaboration with the Directorate of Extension and Engineering Services, the Directorate undertook a mission to monitor and assess the implementation of the Dry Land Crop Production Programme. The programme is implemented in crop growing regions namely: Kavango, Caprivi, Kunene North, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto and Ohangwena regions. The Otjozondjupa and Omaheke regions have also benefited from the inputs services where seeds and fertilizers are supplied by Government at a subsidized price. The latter two regions were also supplied with three (3) walking tractors each, mainly for demonstration purposes to sensitize farmers on the use of this new technology. Once proper awareness has been created and farmers have shown interest on this technology, Government will then look into the best possible way to provide this service to farmers. Special attention was devoted to the monitoring of the ploughing services rendered with Government tractors and implements in the seven crop growing regions during the 2011/12 cropping season. An observation was also made of the manner in which the tractor drivers are handling the Government tractors and implements in the different crop fields and an inspection was conducted on the condition of the tractors and implements.

The Directorate continued to promote bilateral and multilateral co-operations in the field of Agriculture, Water and Forestry. To this end, the Ministry concluded three (3) bilateral agreements namely: Memorandum of Understanding between Indonesia and Namibia; Memorandum of Understanding between Namibia and Czech Republic; the Agreement between Namibia and China on Animal Health and Quarantine.

The Directorate continued to play a key supportive role in the preparation and advancement of national negotiation positions for the agriculture and processed agricultural products sectors in trade and economic cooperation negotiations at bilateral, regional and multilateral levels, under the leadership of the Ministry of Trade and Industry. The negotiations include the Economic Partnership Agreements with the European Union, Intra – regional Southern African Development Community and Southern African Customs Union, Southern African Customs Union – India trade arrangement, Free Trade Agreements with MERCOSUR, the trade block of Southern American States, as well as the World Trade Organization. These agreements are aimed at liberalizing trade between Namibia and its trading partners.

In order to improve the domestic policy environment and support the establishment and operation of domestic agricultural industries, the Directorate participated in the meetings of the Meat Board of Namibia, Karakul Board of Namibia, the National Trade Forum, Namibia Agronomic Board, National Horticulture Task Team and Silo Management Committee.

The Directorate supported an increase of the Market Share Promotion initiative of locally produced horticultural products to 37.5% and continued to implement Southern African Customs Union rebate quota facility through issuance of rebate permits to importers for the duty-free importation of wheat, cheese, butter,

skimmed and whole milk powder.

The Directorate facilitated the formulation of the Agricultural Marketing and Trade Policy and Strategy as well as the conception and formulation of the Strategy for the Agricultural Marketing and Trade Agency which were approved by Cabinet. In addition, the Directorate facilitated the conception and formulation of the concept paper for the establishment of the Agricultural Trade Bureau which was also approved by Cabinet.

The Directorate advised on Cabinet approval of regulations and measures aimed at promoting the development of the livestock and meat industry, on exports of live animals, C grade meat and meat marketing in the Northern Communal Areas.

In conjunction with cooperating partners, the Directorate conducted three agro-assessments in the six crop growing regions of the country to monitor the crop and food security situation as well as availability of agricultural inputs at household level. The first assessment was done for the end of the 2010/11 cropping season during May/June 2011. The assessment concluded that the devastating flood and heavy rainfall experienced contributed to very poor and below average harvest. A short-term food aid intervention from August 2011 to April 2012 was recommended for the affected areas. The second assessment was done in November 2011 to depict the start of the 2011/12 cropping season, preparedness of the farmers and the availability of agricultural inputs. Seed and fertilizers were delivered to Regional Agricultural Extension Offices on time. Household food security situation was reported, indicating depletion of harvested stock at household level, leaving households to depend on the retails for food. The third assessment was done in February/March 2012 and aimed at providing an overview and estimate of production and area planted. Furthermore, the Directorate served on the Technical Committee of the 2011 Population and Housing Census and ensured the

inclusion of a module on agriculture for at least three questions at household level, which would enable the generation of a list of households involved in agriculture and animal rearing.

In collaboration with an International expert consultant, the Directorate developed and operationalized the Agricultural Management Information System (AMIS) for the Ministry. The central data warehouse is the key component of the AMIS and included the development of dot models, conceptual models and databases. AMIS Focal and Information Officers were capacitated in Microsoft (MS) SharePoint, MS Excel and MS Project on aspects of data creation, pivot tabling, dashboards and project planning.

In order to link other systems within the Ministry, the Directorate established link the Co-operative Information Management System to the AMIS central warehouse to ensure timely access via Excel to the Co-operative database. A half-day workshop was coordinated by the Directorate to introduce South African Extension Suite Online, a web-based system specifically designed to assist Extension Staff in the field with readily available data and information in their area of specialization. Also, as the secretariat of the Ministerial/Telecom Information Communication Technology technical committee, the directorate arranged and attended the several meetings in which system migration for the Ministry's intranet and Namibian Livestock Identification and Traceability System, digital pen technology and Voice over IP for the Ministry's intranet were discussed and acted upon.

The Directorate developed and provided agro-information advisory services by populating and disseminating of structured and unstructured data and information on the MAWF intranet portal. A portal for the Ministry's Management was created that displays structured data on production, prices and agro-trade at national level. Unstructured information in the form of documents, lists and

pictures were also uploaded on the system. A progress report on the AMIS implementation 2011 was compiled and is accessible through the Directorate portal on the MAWF intranet portal.

The Directorate compiled and disseminated the following publications: 2010/11 Crop Assessment and Household Food Security Report, 2011/12 Annual Agricultural Input and Household Food Security Report, 2011 quarterly and Annual Agricultural Price Watch and the Annual Agricultural Statistics Bulletin (2000-2009).

The Directorate also provided support during the Common Wealth Namibia Investment Forum which took place on the 29-30 November 2011. The Forum was organized by the Ministry of Trade and Industry together with the Common Wealth Business Council. The objectives of the forum was to showcase investment opportunities in key sectors such as Agriculture, Mining, Energy, Manufacturing, Transport Infrastructure and Tourism and also to bring together key players in all different aspects of economic development.

The Directorate continued to administer the Co-operatives Act, 1996 (Act 23 of 1996) and implement the National Co-operative Policy that creates the legal and enabling environment for co-operative development in Namibia. The Division of Cooperative Development is responsible for the promotion, registration, and facilitating the development of co-operatives in all the economic sectors in Namibia. During the period under review, co-operative businesses were involved in economic activities such as livestock marketing, sewing and tailoring, savings and credit, small mining of tin and tantalite, marketing of semi-precious stones, arts and crafts, karakul carpet weaving, seed multiplication and certification, provision of agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers and ploughing services, first level processing of indigenous fruits and plants such as marula kernels and melon seed, as well as provision of services such as event management

and business development support services.

The vital role played by co-operatives in improving the livelihoods of many people within the Namibian economy, especially the rural people cannot be over-emphasized. Co-operatives have managed to bring services closer to the people. Services such as credit and farming input can now be easily accessed in many rural communities where co-operatives have been formed. They have also been a vehicle through which employment and income generating opportunities were created.

During the period under review, ten (10) new co-operatives were provisionally registered. These are: Epukiro Crop Farmers' Co-operative Ltd, Tushupenu Farmers Co-operative Ltd, Otjiyoung Farmers' Co-operative Ltd, Peter Eneas Nanyemba (P.E.N) Co-operative Ltd, Guinas Farmers Co-operative Ltd, Ohorongombaranga Multi-purpose Co-operative Ltd, Etunda Farmers' Co-operative Ltd, Nomstoub Trading Co-operative Ltd, Ghushwi Farmers' Co-operative Ltd, Windhoek Savings and Credit Co-operative Ltd

In addition to the provisionally registered co-operatives one (1) co-operative, Omkhaibasen Farmers' Co-operative (OKFC) Ltd was fully registered. This brings the total number of fully and provisionally registered co-operatives to six (6) and seventy-one (71) respectively. The Directorate is evaluating the business plans of six (6) co-operatives for full registration. Some of these co-operatives were assisted through the Co-operative Business Management Mentorship Programme of the Rural Poverty Reduction Programme which was implemented by the Namibia Development Trust.

During the period under review, the Co-Operative College conducted eight (8) Co-operative Member Education courses. The purpose of the course is to enhance co-operative members'

understanding on the Concept and Principles of co-operatives and to empower members to take ownership of their co-operative business by demanding transparency and accountability in all dealings of their co-operatives. It also enhances the members' understanding of their rights in, and obligations towards their co-operatives.

In addition, three (3) Foundation Bookkeeping and one (1) Business Planning courses were conducted during the year under review. The main objectives of these courses are to equip co-operative Managers and Bookkeepers with the necessary knowledge and skills required to maintain proper and up-to-date accounting records, as well as to plan and implement viable and sustainable economic activities. The Co-operative College is established to provide training to co-operative members and stakeholders- assisting and willing to assist co-operatives.

Another business development service provided by the Directorate during the year under review is the accounting and audit services. As "Auditor of last resort", the Division of Cooperative Development provides such services to co-operatives that cannot afford the services of professional Accountants and Auditors. This is mainly due to the fact that most of the registered co-operatives are still in the developing stage. During the period under review, completion of books and audit sessions were conducted at Caprivi, Kavango, Hardap, Karas, Erongo, Kunene, Khomas, Omaheke, and the North Central Regions. Sixteen (16) co-operatives were assisted in the period under review. The Directorate regards this as a crucial intervention since it provides an indication of the financial performance of the business and allows co-operatives to properly evaluate their business activities and plan for the future.

Two (2) co-operatives that are engaged in livestock production and marketing were able to access credit through the Agribank Loan Guarantee Fund during the period under review. The Directorate

facilitates access to credit by co-operatives through two loan guarantee funds. The two (2) funds created to guarantee loans to co-operatives are with the Agribank and Bank Windhoek for agricultural and non-agricultural co-operatives respectively. The purpose of the loan guarantee funds is to enable co-operative businesses with viable economic activities and in need of funding to access credit.

The liquidation and winding-up of non-complying and dormant co-operatives continued during the year under review. The liquidation of thirty-six (36) of the forty-one (41) co-operatives that were ordered to wind-up their activities in 2009 has been finalized and the notice of closure of such liquidation and cancellation of registration by the Registrar was forwarded to the Legal Drafters for publishing in the Government Gazette in terms of Section 83 (1) (b) of the Co-operatives Act, 1996 (Act 23 of 1996).

CAPITAL PROJECTS

AGRICULTURAL FEASIBILITY STUDIES AND SURVEYS

The project is aimed at enabling the Ministry, Farmers, Co-operatives and Potential Investors in the agricultural sector to undertake feasibility studies and surveys. The rationale is to encourage investments in the agricultural, water and forestry sectors and to determine the viability of agricultural projects before implementation. During the period under review, allocated funds (N\$ 3 million) were spent on the following feasibility studies and surveys:

- Amendments of the Karakul Pelts and Wool Act of 1982;
- Drafting of the Abattoir Lease Agreement;
- Drafting of the Namibia Agricultural

- Marketing and Trade Policy Strategy
- Consultancy on domestically occurring potassium as crop fertilizer;
- Consultancy to establish a veterinary drugs register;
- Feasibility study for the National Botanical Research Institute building; and
- Meatco restructuring study

DIRECTORATE OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING

OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of the Directorate of Agricultural Research and Training are:

- To render specialized services of acceptable quality to external and internal customers.
- To support the development of adequate, well-trained human resources required for the sustainable development of the agricultural, water and forestry sectors.
- To implement research agendas and priorities in line with the needs and demands of farmers in both communal and commercial areas.
- To improve the management of research plans, programmes and projects at all levels.
- To facilitate adequate access of appropriate information and technology to all stakeholders and customers.
- To facilitate and coordinate the development and management of all our ministerial human

- resources that will enable the Ministry to meet strategic and business objectives.
- To support the non-formal training of farmers and farm labourers.

ACHIEVEMENTS

PLANT PRODUCTION RESEARCH

AGRONOMY AND HORTICULTURE

The Sub-division of Agronomy and Horticulture continues to undertake research in the areas of crop improvement, crop diversification and plant-soil nutrient management. The sub-division produced 64 tons of foundation and certified seeds of improved varieties at Omahenene, Mannheim, Okashana, Bagani Research Stations. Low rainfall in some of these stations resulted in low quantity of harvested seeds. Cowpeas and others legumes were severely affected by aphids which resulted in low harvest.

The Sub-division continues to provide technical back stopping to registered seed growers for foundation and certified seeds. This is done through maintaining regular field level inspection to ensure that isolation distances and off-type rouging are adhered to during the production of quality assured certified seeds at farm level. The low rainfall resulted in most farmers not harvesting even enough for household consumption and therefore their contribution to certified seed remain minimal.

The Sub-division acquired new mushroom equipments for Okashana Research Station in order to increase the production and cope with the demand. Omahenene Research Station upgraded the irrigation facilities of 20 ha and a centre pivot was installed. This new development will facilitate the production of both foundation and certified seeds throughout the year. During the year under



review, 26 field experiments of different crops were been implemented at research stations. Additionally, the construction of a 700 m access gravel road from Ruacana –Outapi main road to Omahenene Research Station was completed.

The construction of ten houses at Mannheim Research Station is at 95% completion. This will allow research activities not to be done by remote control as researchers will be stationed at Research Station, thereby giving impetus to research agenda.

During the reporting period, an amount of 37 tones of millet rice from 30 ha was produced at Kalimbeza Research Station. Due to lack of milling machine, about 50 women were hired to manually clean the rice. Manual cleaning is not only a tedious process, but also leads to poor quality of the final product.

The station experienced heavy invasion of squires birds which destroyed the crops in the field.

During the period under review, the Namibian seed production manual was published and a1000 copies printed for distribution to stakeholders.

ANALYTICAL SERVICES

During the period under review a section of Product Development and Value Addition was added to the Analytical Services establishment. The new section is responsible for adding value to local and indigenous crop and plant produce. The section is working as an incubation center for the farmers and public at large. Equipments for the unit are procured and shared by the section together with an identified member of the public. Through this initiative, MAWF brought the first value added mahangu cookies to the Market in collaboration with Namibian Agronomic Board (NAB) and a private owned company GB Mahangu Enterprises. More collaboration in this field is on the marula oil refining as well as on

instant mahangu porridge development. Research is still ongoing in order to finalize this task.

NATIONAL BOTANICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The objective of the National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI) is to provide information to the general public and professionals alike on the plants and vegetation of Namibia, in order to ensure a sustainable utilization of this valuable resource.

An emphasis was made to update the database system of the National Herbarium of Namibia to BRAHMS, a database specifically designed to facilitate the extraction of data on plants. In future, this will be linked to an on-line website version, making all available data on plants available to the public. A start was also made to develop a web-based information system on vegetation types of the country – querable both on location (i.e. a map) and by composition (specific species combinations). This system is still under development, and will be populated as vegetation descriptions for new areas / regions become available.

The vegetation survey is continuing, with over 300 plots being surveyed in the Mashare area, Kavango region. One description of vegetation at Haribes has been published; two additional publications have been prepared and are ready for submission to peer-reviewed journals. A start was made to provide climatic data (as basic resource indicator) to the various research stations. A total of 10 automated weather stations were erected at research stations and similar locations during the year under review. The data is made available to the general public on an hourly basis on the website <http://www.biota-africa.org/weather/>.

Curatorial tasks in the herbarium are continuing, with well over 96 000 plant specimens being accessioned in the national reference collection of Namibia. A description of the Anthericaceae

(family in the Lily group) is being published. A start was made with the description of four other plant families in Namibia as part of the ongoing Flora of Namibia project.

Continued support was provided to activities within the Indigenous Plants Products (IPP) industry. Promotional, technical and other information was made available to stakeholders through the bi-annual INP Market Bulletin. Assistance was also given to the development of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) PGR policy guidelines. The Plant Genetic Resources Centre (gene bank) is holding over 3000 seed accessions of crop plants and wild plants alike. During the year under review, 50 watermelon land races were propagated in Malawi under the SADC PGRC programme. Seed collecting was also ongoing, with 122 new accessions being collected in the Omusati region. In the Botanic Garden, development and maintenance of infrastructure is ongoing. New

display boards have been erected, 18 new species have been cultivated and displayed. Further, a number of school groups have been taken through the garden on guided walks, and more than 500 visitors were recorded in the garden during the period under review. More than 50 % of these are Namibians, the remainder tourists.

LIVESTOCK RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Large Stock Research:

The evaluation of alternative methods of beef production in Namibia (Organic Beef): The data collection on this project is completed and the Division: Livestock Research is busy analyzing the data.

The project on the usage of prickly pears (*Opuntia fiscus indica*) as an alternative feedstuff for ruminants (Damara sheep) has been successfully carried out. The data is being analysed for publication.



Rangeland Research

The following two research projects have been completed and are due for publication:

The effect of Chinese manufactured herbicides containing active ingredients Bromacil and Tebuthiuron on *Acacia mellifera* and *Dichrotachys cinerea*.

A guide to Dwarf Shrubs of Namibia: A Field Guide

Small Stock Research

Development of the Gellapper Sheep, a Namibian meat master continued and the progress is as follow:

The number of this new sheep breed has reached 800 ewes. The target number is 1000 ewes before the breed can be availed to the farming communities.

The project on the monitoring and evaluation of the grazing habit of the Gellapper has been completed.

The research project on the reproductive and productive parameters of the Namibian indigenous goats has been completed and data is being analyzed.

LIVESTOCK SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

Livestock performance testing

The major aim of livestock performance testing is to promote economically and biologically efficient beef production by determining the production ability of young bulls under natural grazing conditions. This information is used as a selection aid for good performers.

As a service to the livestock farmers, the Division assists in collecting and analyzing data on Livestock Performance Testing (Phases A, B and D). Performance testing is a very important livestock improvement tool which is aimed at promoting economically and biologically efficient beef production. In light of this, 149 groups of livestock from the commercial farming sector participated in Phase A and B. Analysis were done and results were sent back to the participants. Further, a total of 419 young bulls, divided into 19 groups, participated in the Phase D test.

AGRICULTURAL TRAINING

The Division of Agricultural Training (DAT) is tasked with the facilitation and coordination of the development and management of the ministerial Human Resources that will enable the Ministry to meet its strategic and business objectives. In addition, this division is also responsible for the support of the non-formal training of farmers (emerging commercial, small-scale irrigation, resettled and communal) and their farm workers.

To this end, 25 National Youth Service (NYS) trainees were admitted to the Mashare Irrigation Training Centre (MITC) for 1-year training course in irrigation farming for possible participation in irrigation farming at irrigation projects across the country or to undertake irrigation farming as commercial farmers in their own rights.

Further, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) entered into between the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry and National Youth Service (NYS) was implemented. In line with this agreement, 15 NYS trainees were attached to MADI while 20 at TAZAC for their six month voluntary service.

Tsumis Arid Zone Agricultural Centre (TAZAC) has successfully trained farmers in conducting courses in Vegetable and Fruit Production, Engine Maintenance, Computer Applications and Junior Boargoat Judging. The courses were attended by

150 participants (45 males and 100 females) from Khomas, Hardap, Karas, Omaheke and Otjozondjupa regions.

Similarly, Mashare Agricultural Development Institute (MADI) presented training courses in blacksmithing (11), poultry production (17), vegetable production (17) and irrigation farming (29) to farmer from Otjozondjupa and Kavango regions. It should be noted that participants in poultry and vegetable production courses were members of the marginalized communities from Tsumkwe area.

Furthermore, DAT also offers training to farmers, public and private sector agricultural support service personnel through formal and non-formal training approach in order to ensure that the needs of the agricultural sector are met.

DAT has also participated in the University of Namibia's (UNAM) General and recruitment career fair in order to inform the public about the different careers in the Ministry.

During the period under review, the revised Training Policy was approved, printed and distributed to staff members for use.

In order to enhance the Division's capacity for effective service delivery, staff development continues to be high on the agenda. During the period under review, DAT's staff members are pursuing further studies as follows: 1 x MSc. One each in Animal Physiology respectively and 1 x BSc. Horticulture.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Bursaries Awarded

It is gratifying to report that a lot of progress has been made since the introduction of awarding of Ministerial bursaries in 2006, as bursary holders continue to complete their studies in their

respective fields.

During the reporting period, DAT has successfully advertised in the local newspapers a total of 28 bursaries of which 16 were awarded for studies in identified critical areas. Seven (7) bursary holders commenced with their studies at the institutions of higher learning in both South Africa and Namibia. However, (6) bursary holders to pursue studies at the University of Zambia and Sokoine University of Agriculture in Tanzania will only commence their studies in July and October 2012 when their new academic year commences respectively.

The following bursary holders are continuing with their studies in the following fields: 7 x BSc in Veterinary Medicine; 1 MSc x Food Science; 1 x BSc Animal Physiology; 2 x BSc Forestry; 1xMSc Integrated Water Resources Management; 1 x MSc Agrometeorology; 4 x BSc Information System; 1 x BSc Hons Water Utilization; 1 x BSc Food Science; 1 x BSc Civil Engineering major in Water Engineering; , 2 x BSc. Horticulture; 1 x Diploma Civil Engineering major in Water Engineering; 2 x BSc Statistics; 3 x BSc in Biomedical Sciences; 1 x BSc Hons in Plant Genetic Resource Seed Science; 2 x Diploma in Forestry and 1 x Diploma Analytical Chemistry.

A total of N\$3, 905,778.00 was spent covering tuition, books, food, transport, medical aid and accommodation for MAWF sponsored students during the 2011/2012.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Ten (10) staff members were granted approval to undertake qualifying training in various fields with sponsorship from other cooperating partners.

Furthermore to this, more than 400 MAWF staff members attended short courses in various fields. The courses were funded by MAWF and its cooperating partners. An amount of N\$ 2,804, 119.58 was used to cover tuition, lodging and incidental expenses.



DEPARTMENT OF WATER AFFAIRS AND FORESTRY



DIRECTORATE OF WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

INTRODUCTION

The Directorate of Resource Management is one of the three Directorates in the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry. The directorate is guided by the following legislation and policy, Water Act of 1954 while awaiting the enactment of Water Resources Management Bill.

The mission of the Directorate is, “to promote and facilitate the environmentally sustainable development, management and utilization of water as a scarce resource to achieve, on behalf of and with all the citizens of the nation based on sound socio-economic development in Namibia”.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Directorate are:

- To promote sustainable socio-economic development through sustainable development of water resources and securing equitable access of water resources and securing equitable access of water to all sectors of the Namibian population.
- To act as guardian over the water resources of Namibia, administering water legislation, controlling water abstraction and facilitating the equitable allocation of water resources to all users.
- To assume the responsibility for determining the potential of the water resources of Namibia and to implement measures to ensure the protection and sustainable utilization of the water resources of the country.
- To execute strategic water resource development planning as well as regulating and controlling of activities in the water sector.

GEOHYDROLOGY

Borehole Water Levels

The following rain measures were recorded in regions such as, (1) Hardap Region which measured between -0.24m and 1.49m, (2) Kunene and Otjozondjupa Regions between -3m and 16m, (3) Omaheke Region, between 0.98m and 9.88m, (4) Oshikoto Region, between 2.3m and 13m, (5) Caprivi Region, between 0 and 150m, (6) Ohangwena Region, maximum decline difference of -0.84m and increase in water levels with a maximum 0.6m, (7) Erongo Region, along Kuiseb River, the maximum water level was recorded at 14.12m. Khan River, the average water level was by 3.61m. (8) Oshikoto Region, few of the boreholes recorded a significant rise of water level from 0.5m.

Rehabilitation and Replacement of Monitoring Boreholes

Three replacement monitoring boreholes were drilled to replace previously defunct boreholes.

Licensing and compliance checking

The licensing sub-section compiled a list of all groundwater irrigation users within Namibia's current Water Controlled Areas (WCA). A tender was awarded for the rehabilitation/repairation of the casings, screens and well head construction of the 110 monitoring boreholes.

Groundwater Support to Directorate of Water Supply and Sanitation Coordination (DWSSC) and other Agencies:

Two boreholes were drilled near the Oshivelo area. Drilling work in the Cuvelai-Etосha Project was also conducted.

Groundwater Investigation and Management in the Cuvelai- Etosha Basin:

The investigation of the deep seated Ohangwena II aquifer continued under the year in review.

Additional deep investigation boreholes in the CEB area (4 boreholes, max depth 400m; Oshana - 1 borehole, max depth 400m; Omusati - 5 boreholes, max depth 400m; Oshivelo - 2 boreholes, max depth 250m.) were drilled.

HYDROLOGY

Flood and Rainfall

High rainfalls and large floods characterized the 2011/12 rainy season throughout Namibia and the surrounding areas. The rains carried on in April and May 2011, and the peaks in the major rivers on Namibia’s northern borders reached their highest levels also in April 2012.

For the fourth consecutive year high floods ravaged the northern parts of Namibia, affecting almost half of its population. The flooding caused loss of human lives, compelled people to move to safer grounds and relocation camps, disrupted, damaged and destroyed infrastructure and businesses, interrupted access to schools, health services and other services and set back socio-economic progress in the area and for Namibia as a whole.

Gates were opened at Hardap and Naute dams, Von Bach Dam, to release the surplus water in April, with Hardap carefully kept at 70 %, and no real damage resulted from this. With the lower rainfall in the area, the Dreihuk and Bondels dams near Karasburg received little inflow, and the Omaruru Delta Dam near Henties Bay finally got about 10 % full in April.

Expansion on hydrological network: New satellite DCPs were installed at Greylingsbhof (Gaub Pass) and Schlesien (Kuseb Pass) to improve the flood warning systems for the Lower Kuseb River and for Walvis Bay. New cellular network telemetry was added in the Cuvelai oshanas at three sites: Ogonho, Oshikuku and Okatope, the latter as floodwarning for Oshigambo. The following telemetry stations were upgraded to GPRS: Nkurenkuru, Rundu, Andara (Kavango River), Kongola (Kwando River), Katima Mulilo (Zambezi River), Bukalo (Bukalo Channel), Ngoma Gate (Chobe River)

Foreign support projects for capacity building:

NASA acquired internal funding to support Namibia and has made good progress with the website “Namibia Flood Dashboard” accessible at.

<http://matsu.opencloudconsortium.org/namibiaflood>.

LAW ADMINISTRATION

Permits Issuing: The Directorate administers two types of permits namely: (a) the drilling of boreholes for domestic and (b) for monitoring purposes. In this regard, seven permits were issued for the own use and drilling of boreholes for domestic, monitoring and irrigation purposes.

Five Permits were issued for effluent disposal. Six applications were processed.

Public complaints and awareness campaigns: The Swakopmund River sand mining meeting was held on 17 October 2011 between stakeholders in Swakopmund. The meeting discussed issues on sand mining along the rivers as well as to identify who will be responsible for issuing sand mining permits.

Legislation

The Water Resources Management Bill is in its final stage with legal drafters at the Ministry of Justice.

STRATEGIC WATER PLANNING

Namibia Water Corporation (NamWater): The performance and governance agreement for NamWater is still under review.

The Natural Resources Accounts (NRA): The technical report for NamWater Erongo is completed with back dated data from 2002-10. The sustainable yield as Swarts, et al, 2010, cited Wessels was calculated at just below 5Mm³/annum for Swartbank.

The Omdel year 1997/8 had an increase in water level average peaking at 1.5m. The average from 2001 dropped over the year to a low -3.4m in 2008 and picked up again in 2009 but not to above negative, -1.2m.

A report was compiled for Okahandja on water use.

Water Tariff Policy

The water tariff policy was approved for NamWater through the Permanent Secretary's office.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for Sikondo Irrigation Project

The compilation of post impact assessment statement is well in advance for Sikondo Irrigation project for the Directorate of Extensions and Engineering Services. Most required information on population, soil, climate, availability of water, chemicals (herbicides, pesticides and fertilisers), crops and employment has been collected and

analysed.

The social aspects needs to be further investigated to assess the extent of impact. The report is 95% complete. It will be completed by the beginning of the next financial year depending on speedy receipt of required information.

WATER ENVIRONMENT

Finalisation of Water Quality Regulations

The following guidelines, regulations and numerical standards have been drafted and discussed with relevant stakeholders, (i) numerical water quality standards and guidelines for portable water and effluent, (ii) regulations for waste water and drinking water, (iii) guidelines for bottled water, (iv) questionnaire for effluent and waste water permits, (v) questionnaire for water work operators, (vi) guidelines for waste water reuse and guidelines for disposal of water and wastewater treatment solids.

Most of these guidelines, regulations and numerical standards are in final draft and ready to submit to legal drafters. Regulations on Wetlands Resources Uses have been drafted and will be circulated amongst relevant stakeholders during the course of next year for comments.

Water Quality Investigations and Inspections

The seasonal water quality monitoring inspection at Namibia Custom Smelter (NCS) and the Total Hardness concentrations recorded values ranging between 612-796 mg/ℓ, with the maximum value lying in Group C, which are a low health risk to people's health. Heavy metal concentration remained within Group A limits. However nitrate concentration at Himmel farm in Oshikoto Region showed some increase from 9.7 mg/ℓ in Autumn

to 22 mg/l during Spring. The classification for water quality is as follow: Water of excellent quality is Group A, Group B is of acceptable quality. Water classified as of low health risk (Group C), this group calls for attention to the problem, although the situation is not critical as yet. Water classified as of higher health risk (Group D), this group calls for urgent and immediate attention. The classification above is for trace element detection. On the bacteriological classification of drinking water whereby Group A is bacteriological very safe, Group B, is still suitable for human consumption, Group C is of risk to human consumption and Group D is unsuitable for human consumption.

The Tender to develop the Water Quality Information System (WAQIS) database was awarded to New Point E Solutions.

Wetlands resources investigations

Site monitoring for the aquatic problem weed *Salvinia Molesta* and its biological control agent in Caprivi along the Zambezi / Linyanti/ Chobe and Kwando Rivers continued.

Water resources efficient Use

Questionnaires on water demand management practices at local level were mailed to various Municipalities, Town Councils, Village Councils and Settlements and few questionnaires were returned.

Awareness Campaigns

World Wetlands Day was commemorated on 24 February 2012 in Swakopmund. Water awareness and information materials were developed and displayed at Annual Ongwediva Trade Fair and Windhoek Show, and to the general public when requested.

Water investment conference

The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry hosted a Water Conference in 2012 to raise awareness on water management and investment opportunities.

Integrated Water Resources Management and Planning at basin and national level

A Cabinet submission and implementation plan has been drafted and is awaiting management approval.

BASIN MANAGEMENT IN NAMIBIA

The Basin Management Committees (BMCs) developed annual plans. Technical support on water quality and ecology, hydrology, groundwater, law administration and planning were provided to operational BMCs during the year. One additional sub-basin management committee (Tsumeb basin management committee) was established within the Cuvelai-Etосha Basin.

INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASIN COMMISSIONS

Namibia has a number of bilateral and multilateral agreements with neighbouring countries.

Okavango River Basin Commission (OKACOM)

A White Policy Paper on Okavango River Basin was developed.

At the Ministers' meeting held in Maseru, Lesotho, during the month of September 2011, a proposal was made for the 1994 agreement to be updated in line with the SADC Revised Protocol.

Orange-Senqu River Basin Commission (ORASECOM)

Finalisation of a Transboundary Diagnosis Analysis is on schedule and completion is expected in 2013. Transboundary Environmental Impact Assessment Guidelines were drafted.

Permanent Water Commission (PWC)

A task team put together by the Commission to work on the terms of reference for the feasibility study finalised the document.

The Ministers of Water from Namibia and Angola met in March 2012 and agreed to continue sharing information to ensure development and planning along the common border as well as to establish the Cuvelai Commission and streamline the Permanent Joint Technical Committee (PJC).

Zambezi River Basin Commission (ZAMCOM)

A Ministers' meeting was held during the course of the financial year which was preceded by the Zambezi Senior Officials' meeting at the September 2011 SADC meeting.

Southern African Development Community (SADC)

A Ministers' meeting was held in September 2011 in Maseru, Lesotho. Namibia attended the 5th SADC Water Multi – Stakeholder Dialogue held on 28th and 29th of June 2011 in Ezulwini (Mbabane), Swaziland.

a staff member for training in isotope through International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) sponsored project.

BUDGET

The total operational budget for the directorate for the fiscal year 2011/12 was N\$ 43,834,000.00 and for capital expenditure was N\$ 1.948, 000.00. The under expenditure on the operational budget was mainly due to professional positions that had been budgeted for but not filled in the financial year. The capital expenditure is divided into two, Research and Feasibility Studies whereby 37% was spent and Water Resources Management (40% spent).

HUMAN RESOURCES

Three staff members received support through bursaries to undertake further studies in the fields of Integrated water Resources Management (IWRM) and groundwater management for Honours' and M.Sc. Hydrology Division sent

DIRECTORATE OF WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION COORDINATION

OBJECTIVES

The Objectives of this Directorate are:

- To provide access to potable water supply.
- To improve rural sanitation services.
- To coordinate urban and rural sanitation services.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Activities

Private Water Connections: During the period under review, two thousand nine hundred and sixty nine (2969) private connections were added to the existing seven thousand three hundred and thirty two (7332) private off-takes in Ohangwena, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto and Otjozondjupa regions. These connections are for households to get their private off-takes connected from existing pipeline schemes. This brings the private off-takes to a total of one thousand three hundred and one (10301) during the reporting period.

Water Points (WPs) handed over to communities: The total number of water points handed over to communities for operations and maintenance by end March 2012 was 521 for the financial year 2011/2012.

Water Tanker Services: The Ministry supplied a total of 385 cubic metres of water by means of water tanker services to communities and institutions in Caprivi and Hardap regions.

Staff development: Capacity Building commenced by means of training of staff members stationed at different offices throughout the country on sanitation implementation and management issues. Two staff members attended a course in Delft, The Netherlands on Water

and Sanitation Management. It is hoped that staff are skilled after training to enhance the implementation of sanitation in the regions.

An annual staff development programme based on the training needs assessment done during the previous year was developed. Eighty Four (84) staff members received training on Information Communication Technology, Thirty (30) staff members received training on cleaning practice and procedures and One hundred and Thirty (130) received training on Sanitation and Community Mobilisation for Sanitation implementation. Seven (7) staff members were supported to complete their qualifying studies in Adult Education and Community Development and one staff member was supported to complete his studies in Human and Social Sciences.

Community training: The Tender for Community Training was approved by Tender Board for the 2011/12 financial year. A number of two hundred and ten (210) water point committees were trained plus 13 Caretakers and 15 Local Water Point Committees on the pipeline schemes.

Sanitation programmes and management: During the year under review, a 5 year National Sanitation Strategy Implementation Plan was developed and approved by Cabinet.

The proposed subsidy policy was still under discussion during the year under review. It was however highlighted by the Honourable Minister during his opening remarks in January as a priority issue that needs to be finalised during the 2012 calendar year.

Technical guidelines and a code of practice were produced by the consultant company Aqua Services and Engineering. The document was presented to different forums during the year and final approval needs to be obtained from Cabinet for implementation. This document will serve as a guiding tool for infrastructure development in the

Sanitation Sector in Namibia.

Awareness raising materials were developed and tested in some areas for implementation in the rest of the regions. The awareness raising programme start during the last quarter of the year by means of orientation sessions with staff in the regions and will proceed during the next year.

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

The Ministry continued with the implementation of capital projects. During the period under review, the Ministry commenced with the construction of following projects Katima Mulilo – Ngoma Water Supply Scheme, Katima Mulilo – Kongola Water Supply Scheme, Eiseb Water Supply scheme, Feasibility Study of the Otjimbingwe Water Supply Scheme which have all been completed. The Feasibility Study of water supply to Displaced Communities in Kavango Region was also completed

A number of water points have been rehabilitated and new ones drilled as had been identified by all regions. Twenty nine (29) Water points were installed, two hundred and four (204) Water Points were rehabilitated, thirty six (36) Boreholes drilled, sixteen (16) Water Points were cleaned and pump tested, fifteen (15) Extension pipelines were constructed and four hundred and thirty (430) Engines were repaired

The construction and renovations of area offices in the regions has started, with four offices completed in the Hardap and Karas regions respectively.

An integrated plan for the Oshana, Ohangwena, Omusati and Oshikoto regions was completed.

Four earth dams were constructed (two each in Hardap and Karas regions respectively) while a new standard design for earth dams was being developed for future construction.

The access roads to the Neckertal dam site, quarry; pump station and power supply to the project area have been completed.

Agreements with the Ohangwena and Caprivi regions were signed for the payment of the construction work to put up dry sanitation in rural areas and the work has been completed.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Lux Development

The Lux-Development sponsored water development projects in the Caprivi and Kavango Regions came to an end at the end of September 2011.

All the activities that were planned for the 2011/12 financial year included: An assessment on functionality of Water Points, an assessment on Rural Water IT information System, revision of the Water Point Committee training manual, installation of twenty (20) Water Points in Kavango Region with solar powered pumps, training of thirty five (35) Water Point Committees, provide further participatory extension training and community mobiliser, planning/monitoring skills to DWSSC staff, handing over and closing the project and the development of Terms of References for an evaluation mission of the Lux-Development in Namibia were achieved.

The construction of extension offices and accommodation buildings in the following constituencies was completed: Kongola Rural Water Extension Center (RWEC) and Sangwali RWEC in the Caprivi Region Mpungu RWEC in the Kavango Region.

The construction of the Mukwe RWEC – in the Kavango Region will be done during the 2012/13 period.

ICEIDA

The Iceland International Development Agency (ICEIDA) had a 3-year commitment with the Government of the Republic of Namibia which ended in December 2010. However a new Cooperation Agreement between the Governments of Iceland and Namibia was signed to extend the rural water supply project by one year. The agreement was to supply six (6) water points in Kunene Region with financial support amounting to US\$ 380 000. The drilling and installation of the water points were completed and the project closed during December 2011.

Namibia Red Cross Society

The Namibia Red Cross Society commenced with the implementation of a 3-year water supply and sanitation project for the rural communities in Kunene and Ohangwena regions to the value of N\$ 19 590 450. The project draws 75% of its finances from the ACP-EU funding. The project is ongoing.

European Commission

The European Union (EU) earmarked an amount of €30 million in their Budget support to the Water and Sanitation Sector. This funding is part of the EDF 10 agreement between the Government of the Republic of Namibia and the European Union.

Spanish Cooperation

A new agreement between the Spanish Government and the Namibian Government was signed that will contribute another 3 million Euro over the next three financial years. The first tranche of € 1 million in 2011/2012 was already paid into the state account. N\$5 Million that was spent in Ohangwena and Caprivi regions is part of the Spanish contribution.

Assistance to the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement

The maintenance of water supply infrastructure on resettlement farms is the responsibility of the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement (MLR), however, the division Rural Water Development and Planning is assisting the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement with the contract administration of constructing and repairing their water supply infrastructure.

Assistance to the Namibia/German Initiative Programme

The Governments of Namibia and Germany have agreed to implement a Special Initiative with a perspective of development and social consolidation at local and community levels in areas and for communities that had “historic ties” with the German Colonial Government.

The assistance granted by the division Rural Water Development and Planning is similar or in the same fashion as the assistance given to MLR, in assisting with the contract administration of constructing and repairing existing water supply infrastructures.

DIRECTORATE OF FORESTRY



Fig. 1: Water Pump, housepump and water tank installed at Omufitu-Wekuta Community Forest

CORE FUNCTIONS

The core functions of the Directorate of Forestry may be categorised into the following:

To establish, manage, utilise and conserve forests, including woodlands, for human benefit.

To provide robust scientific support to manage and develop the potential of Namibia's forest resources.

To protect trees and forests against illegal and unsustainable exploitation through law enforcement on both private land and in communal areas.

Support and carry out community-based afforestation and reforestation programmes.

Carry out forest extension and other campaigns to make the public aware of the role of forestry in their well-being.

Supervise and control of forest utilisation.

Conduct forest research.

ACHIEVEMENTS

FOREST POLICY, INFORMATION, PLANNING

During the period under review, the Directorate carried out various meetings and workshops aimed at sensitising communities on the importance and protection of forest resources and the procedures for obtaining permits. The Directorate issued Fourteen thousand two hundred and eighty four (14,284) permits for utilising forest products, while forty five (45) fines were issued to persons illegally transporting or harvesting forest products. Three court cases were initiated. A total of three hundred and eighty three (383) patrols and two hundred and ninety five (295) inspections were also conducted.

34,280.7 tonnes of firewood; 389.1 m³ of timber; 98,004.5 tonnes of charcoal; 109,002 poles; 3,430.3 tonnes of mopane roots; 457,936 wood carvings and 564,767 droppers were legally removed from the forests. A total of 444.5 tonnes of firewood; 12,552 poles; 19,005 droppers; 155 tonnes of charcoal; 431 m³ of timber; 133 planks and 543 wood carvings were confiscated from people who did not have forest permits.

To improve monitoring systems of the movement



Fig. 2: Construction of septic tank at Omufitu Wekuta Community Forest.

of wood, the Directorate is currently developing a Forestry Permit System in consultation with the Information System division of the Ministry to make the process of obtaining, approving and issuing of permits much more efficient. Data will be captured on a database, easily stored and retrieved for reporting purposes. The first phase of development has been completed. The next phase of development is soon to follow, and proper training will be provided to permit issuing officers on how to use the new system.

National Arbor Day was celebrated together with World Food Day in all regions across the country. The Tree of the Year, *Sclerocarya birrea*, more commonly known as the marula tree, was promoted with the theme that coincides with the United Nations International Year of Forests 2011, "Forests for People". The events were highlighted by various tree planting activities that took place at various locations.

In addition, World Aids Day, World Environment Day, World Wetland Day and Biodiversity Action Day were also celebrated by the Directorate during the year under review. The Directorate also participated in the annual agricultural shows at Windhoek, Ongwediva, Katima Mulilo, Rehoboth and Otjiwarongo, where forest products were exhibited and services rendered.

A calendar of events was developed and disseminated in celebration of the United Nations International Year of Forests. Much effort was invested in the official launch of the event as well as awareness creation for forests and trees in Namibia as part of this international initiative.

Community-Based Forest Management

New community forests were identified and the process to get them declared is in progress, namely the development of constitutions, by-laws, participatory community inventories, management plans and benefit-sharing plans. Nineteen (19) community forests' documentation for declaration was submitted for approval.

Forest Management Committees issued one hundred and twenty nine (129) permits to utilize forest products namely poles, droppers and firewood and law enforcement operations were carried out in respective community forests and confiscated 1,699 poles and 31 tonnes of firewood. The Okongo Community Forest Management Committee harvested 4, 800 ml of honey from the apiary. The incubator at Okongo community forest is working well and managed to hatch 57 guinea fowl chicks.

Two boreholes were drilled at Omufitu-Wekuta

and Okongo to supply water to the centres, nurseries and orchards. The construction of the septic tank for Omufitu-Wekutu community forest office was also completed

The communities received training in community-based inventory; law enforcement; tree marking; bookkeeping; fire management and permit applications to enhance community capacity to manage forest resources. Land-unit mapping was done at Community Forests in preparation for inventories. This was done in line with the new approach to satellite-based inventories of CFs in Namibia.

Okongo Community Forest Management Body entered into agreement with a private person who assist them to harvest two hundred (200) *Pterocarpus angolensis* trees and make planks. The benefit sharing is shared that the Forest Management Committee gets 40% while the harvester gets 60% of the planks. The harvesting is done in line with the management plan of the community forest. In most of the gazetted community forests, the FMCs generated N\$ 698 454.00 as income.

Tree Planting and Orchard Development

The overall objective of tree planting is to investigate the viability of planting trees and

establishment of orchards in the country so as to increase good nutrition through fruit production, poverty reduction and create opportunities for industrial development through agro-processing for example fruit juice-making, fruit drying, canning and others.

The Directorate collected 399.65 kg seeds of various tree species. A total of one hundred and eighty nine thousand seven hundred and seventy four (189,774) seedlings were produced of which sixty four thousand two hundred and forty seven (64,247) were sold and twenty thousand seven hundred and eighty (20,780) seedlings were donated to government ministries, churches, schools, community projects, non-profitable organisations, as well as communal and resettlement farmers, while 52,333 seedlings were planted by DoF. The design and implementation of a flowering calendar of various tree species was identified in the Forest Research Strategy as a priority to assist with efficient and targeted seed collection. The flowering calendar was developed, piloted and is in full implementation with regional staff receiving training in its application.

Furthermore, sixty one (61) days were spent on awareness campaigns, meetings, workshops and activities concerning tree planting and orchard development. Communities were trained on vegetative propagation of marula and tree planting management and also on the collection of data



for the on-going marula survey. About 20, 780 seedlings were donated and planted by various communities and institutions.

A total of 330 ha of the existing woodlots and orchards were maintained and the following operations carried out namely pruning, ploughing, and spot weeding, watering and pest control. Some 94 ha of orchards were planted with various fruit trees (Kanelongo, Onamega, Etunda and Katondo), 52,333 seedlings planted and replanted by DoF, as some trees planted died due to cold weather (frost).

Forest Protection and Conservation

A total of one hundred and eighty one (181) days were spent on fire awareness campaigns to educate communities on fire prevention, protection and control, and also to sensitise communities on the management of forest/veld fires and encourage them to participate in the clearing of fire cut-lines. The fire posters located along the border with Botswana in Omaheke have had a positive effect on awareness creation. This action should be rolled out to other areas.

Fire incidences occurred and destroyed a total area of 6,825,181 ha. Fire suppression actions were combined efforts of officials from DoF, Regional Councils, Namibian Police, Veterinary Services, Namibian Defence Force as well as community members.

Fire cut-line clearing has been constructed in most fire prone areas in order to control the spreading of wild fires, 3, 261 km of fire cut-lines were cleared involving 1,167 men and 317 women from Caprivi, Kavango, Otjozondjupa, Omaheke, Kunene, Omusati, Oshana, and Ohangwena Regions. Various fire fighting equipment and tools were purchased to be used in fire suppression, namely face shields, GPSs, pressure fire pumps, fire beaters, fire fighting protection overalls, gloves, safety boots, knap sacks, 12 trailers to carry fire fighting machines.

The bee keeping project supported by European Union was rolled out by the Directorate and yielded positive results with regards to the potential of utilising honey bee and wax products. The interest from the farmers is very encouraging. Most of those bee keeping beneficiaries trained have now established apiaries with the support from the DoF. Two apiaries were established.

A total of 324 days were spent on the removal of problematic bees. These bees were either transferred to various apiaries or were set free in the veld. The problematic or aggressive bees continue to be a challenges countries too much time is spent to remove and relocate them.

Forest Research

The Division Forest Research embarked on a participatory process to develop a Forest Research Strategy. After various interviews with stakeholders and personnel and thorough assessments of all research stations and activities, the document was finalised and officially launched. The official launch of the document was held on 17 August 2011 and was well attended by sectoral stakeholders and the media. The launch of the document also provided a platform for staff of the Forest Research Division to present their research findings through a research symposium. The Strategy has been used as a tool of reference in developing the Annual Work Plan in various planning sessions and is believed to guide future research processes for the Division.

In the absence of a dedicated electronic data/information management system for forest research, staff members have been actively involved in participating in the AMIS, a program co-ordinated by the Directorate of Planning. Specific activities included: Data management (creation, analysis and reporting Training – Dashboards and reports for the MAWF Intranet Portal and Microsoft Project Professional 2010

Training Phase I.

Existing forest research projects continue to be implemented according to respective protocols. These include contributions to resource assessment of various economically important tree species; and the maintenance and data collection from fire ecology trial sites. The facilities at three forest research stations were maintained and planning for the expansion of activities at these stations was undertaken.

Inventory assessments are ongoing and demand-driven. Community members from proposed Community Forests received training on inventory techniques. A training manual was developed and is being used for reference purposes. Inventory reports were finalised for various community forest areas.

Maps for gazetting of community forests were produced at the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC). Reports regarding monthly active fires in 2011 were received and processed and the results were disseminated. In-house GPS/GIS training was offered to staff of Regional Forestry Offices.

With the African Monitoring of the Environment for Sustainable Development (AMESD) project scheduled to conclude in 2013, a 2nd Forum under the theme "AMESD Services and Products: Achievements and Perspectives in Support of Environmental Management" was held in Mauritius from 20-23 July 2011. As indicated by the theme, the purpose of the Forum was to reflect on the impact of the project to date, and gather expectations for a follow-up project to be called Monitoring of Environment and Security in Africa (MESA) is scheduled to run from 2013-2018 and will consolidate and further develop Information Services in the thematic areas addressed by AMESD, including new thematic areas such as forest management. The AMESD receiving station in the NRSC was reconfigured to receive the SADC specific data. A range of

products related to agriculture, fire and drought are now being received on a daily basis. A national training workshop was conducted between the Polytechnic of Namibia and AMESD training partners. This short course was to familiarise the user community with the AMESD product suite and provided training on the basic GIS processing of data.

Wood Industry Promotion

The construction of firewood marketing outlets completed at Keetmanshoop, Ongwediva, Onhuno, Oshikuku and Okahao. The Mariental Municipality allocated a plot to the Directorate to build a firewood marketing outlets.

De-bushing programme: The programme was initiated with the aim to increase agricultural productivity and accessibility to the Ministry's research and training institution and contribute to employment creation opportunities especially for the youth. A total of 4,290 ha (farm land) and 1,605 km (VCF) were de-bushed and cleared involving 1,957 youth costing N\$ 13 885 420.0.

Human Resource Development and Organisational Effectiveness

The Directorate continues to represent MAWF in various, relevant international forums and notably attended the following sessions: 18th Session of the African Forestry and Wildlife Commission; 17th Session of the Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC, and the United Nations Forum of Forests. The Directorate has been actively participating in the political and technical establishment of the Southern African Science Service Centre for Climate Change and Adaptive Land Management (SASSCAL). Technical experts within the Directorate have participated in SADC and African meetings addressing topics like REDD +; Climate Change; Forest Genetic Resources; and sustainable greenhouse gas management systems.

DEVELOPMENTAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Firewood marketing outlets constructed at Mururani Gate, Okahao, Onhuno, Ongwediva, Oshikuku and Keetmanshoop have been completed. Okongo, Nkurenkuru Staff houses and accommodation at Ngoma were also finalised. Kanovlei Forest Research station office completed. The construction of Engombe and Onamishu accommodation and office complex is progressing well at 90% final stage. Upgrade of Grootfontein office, Onayena ADC, Rehoboth Forestry Office, Omaruru Forestry Office and Walvisbay Office finalised.

The drilling and installation of boreholes at Omufitu-wekuta and Okongo community forest Omauni were also finalised.

CHALLENGES AND CONCLUSIONS

The 2011/12 financial year has been characterised by its share of challenges. With respect to animal diseases the major challenge remained that of achieving Foot and Mouth Disease and Contagious Bovine Pleural Pneumonia (CBPP) freedom in the Northern Communal Areas (NCAs). The control and prevention of Foot and Mouth Disease virus continued to be a challenge for the Ministry despite the precautionary and mitigation measures put in place. This is mainly due to the free roaming of buffalos (which are natural carriers of the FMD virus), particularly in the Caprivi Region.

Cases involving illegal harvesting and transportation of forest products remained high despite the efforts to educate communities on proper procedures for obtaining permits. During the period under review, forty five (45) fines were issued to people illegally harvesting and transporting forest products, while three (3) court cases were initiated.

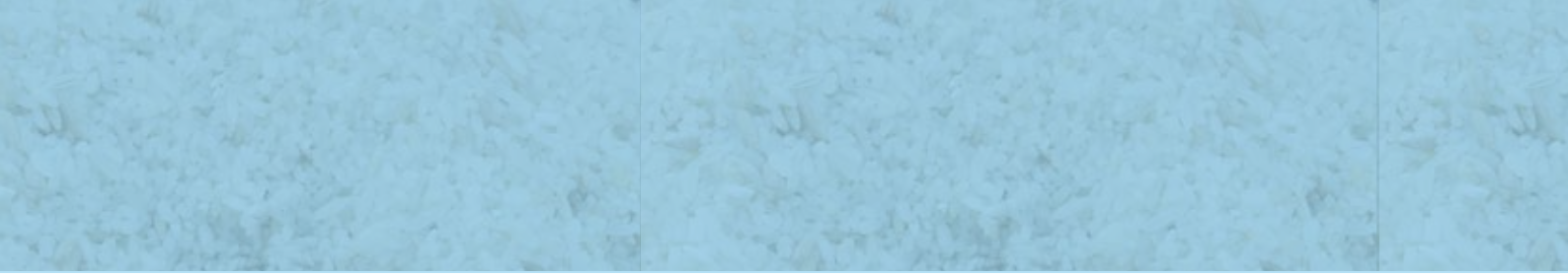
With regards to Water Resource Management, major breakdowns on the drill rig were reported in the North during the period under review. These breakdowns resulted in the suspension of drilling in the Karas, Omusati, Oshana, Ohangwena and Oshikoto regions. High rainfalls and heavy floods were also recorded during 2011/12 period causing hardships, infrastructure damages and loss of lives.

On a positive note, the Ministry has made significant progress in some areas of the agriculture, water and forestry sectors.

The Ministry developed and launched its five year Forest Research Strategy for the period of 2012-2015. This strategy is a five year plan aimed at giving guidance for the forestry sector, specifically for research that underpins decision making regarding forestry resource management in Namibia.

In terms of staff development, the Ministry continues to capacitate its staff members through professional, technical and competency training short course. During the period under review, Ten (10) staff members were granted approval to undertake qualifying training in various fields, while over four hundred (400) staff members attended short courses in various fields, sponsored by MAWF and its cooperating partners to the tune of N\$ 2,804, 119.58 in tuition, lodging and incidental expenses.

In collaboration with an International expert consultant, the Ministry developed and operationalized the Agricultural Management Information System (AMIS) for the Ministry. In addition, AMIS Focal and Information Officers were capacitated in Microsoft (MS) SharePoint, MS Excel and MS Project on aspects of data creation, pivot tabling, dashboards and project planning.





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