

## Locals are being used to poach – Nambahu

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**DEPUTY minister of environment and tourism Tommy Nambahu says his ministry is aware that local people are being used in the poaching of elephants and rhinos.**

He said this during a sponsorship handover by the Environmental Investment Fund (EIF) of Namibia to the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, and the wildlife crime prevention unit of the Namibian police force yesterday.

Nambahu said his ministry is aware that local criminals are being used by a cartel and urged the locals to be patriotic and disclose information that may help stop poaching in the country.

“There are honest and clean ways to earn your living,” he said.

The EIF has given two Toyota Land Cruiser vehicles valued at a combined N\$1 million to the MET and NamPol to aid in anti poaching activities in and around the Etosha National Park and Kunene region.

The EIF is an environmental financial institution established in February 2012 to help fund environmental projects in the country. Two white rhino carcasses discovered on a farm in the Otjozondjupa region over the weekend increased poaching figures in Namibia to 62 rhinos this year.

The MET and police are carrying out post-mortem investigations on all rhino carcasses found so far.

Receiving the donation, the deputy minister called on all Namibians to support the environment ministry in putting an end to poaching activities in the country.

“Everyone can assist, help your country not necessarily with money but information that may lead to the arrest of these poachers,” he pleaded.

– Nampa