



Meeting Minutes

Environmental Scoping Report for the Proposed Water Supply Systems to Support Irrigation Demonstration Plots in the Kavango East Region

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Development Aid from People to People

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1 Public Consultation

Section 21 of the EIA Regulation requires the undertaking of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to follow a robust and comprehensive public consultation. This is an important process, because it gives members of the public, especially the Interested and Affected Parties to comment or raise concerns that may affect their socio-economic or general environment because of the project. Further, it solicits crucial local knowledge that the Environmental Assessment Practitioner may not have.

The Public Participation Process (PPP) was focused on members of the conservancy. While competent and or regulatory authority such as Ministry of Environment Forestry and Tourism (MEFT), Ministry of Agriculture Water and Land Reform (MAWLR), were consulted during the project development phase for application for the ECC.

1.1 Shighuru Village Consultation

A community meeting for Shighuru PO in the morning of 31 March 2026 at Shighuru village.



Figure 1 Community meeting for Shighuru PO, (Source : Red Dune Consulting, 2026)

- The meeting was attended by a total of 26 participants 12males and 14 females including representatives from DAPP Namibia and Red Dune Consulting CC
- The stakeholder engagement meeting for the proposed 40 demonstration irrigation plots in the Kavango East and Kavango West Regions commenced with welcoming remarks from the Headman, Mr. Muronga Johannes, followed by an opening prayer. Thereafter, Ms. Eufrasia Hamberera from DAPP Namibia presented an overview of the project background. Red Dune Consulting CC then outlined the objectives of the meeting, with particular emphasis on the Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) as stipulated in the project’s Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP).
- Community members confirmed that there are no existing conflicts associated with the proposed project and indicated that the site is not located near any heritage resources, such as grave sites. No questions were raised during the meeting; however, community members strongly emphasized their urgent need for reliable water supply to enable agricultural production at the demonstration plots (Producer Organisations).
- The meeting further clarified that, in accordance with Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) requirements, the project would not be supported if it triggers significant risks or “red flags,” including the displacement of people, destruction of heritage resources, damage to critical biodiversity habitats, or the potential to create conflict within the community. It was also emphasized that the proposed project site must not be situated on occupied land.
- Participants were informed that environmental protection in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In terms of this legislation, listed activities, including water resource development such as borehole drilling, may not be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). It was explained that, upon submission of all required and complete documentation, a decision on the ECC is typically expected within three months, although in practice this timeframe may vary depending on administrative processes and the completeness of submissions.
- To obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be conducted, of which stakeholder consultation forms a key component.
- Furthermore, the meeting was informed that a consent letter is a prerequisite for project implementation. This consent, referred to as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC),

ensures that the community fully understands and agrees to the proposed development.

The concept of FPIC was explained as follows:

- Free: Consent is given voluntarily, without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation.
- Prior: Consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities.
- Informed: The community is provided with all relevant information in an accessible and understandable manner.
- Consent: A collective decision made by the affected community in accordance with customary decision-making processes.
- Free, Prior and Informed Consent was obtained during the meeting through a show of hands. In addition, an FPIC consent letter was read aloud by the Red Dune Consulting team in the presence of the community and subsequently signed by the Village Headman.
- The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer.

1.2 Shikenge Village Community Consultation

A community meeting for Shikenge 1 and Shikenge 2 PO was held in the afternoon of 31 March 2026 at Shikenge village.



Figure 2. Community meeting for Shikenge 1 & 2, (Source : Red Dune Consulting, 2026)

- The meeting was attended by a total of 28 participants, comprising 16 females and 12 males, including representatives from DAPP Namibia and Red Dune Consulting CC.
- Proceedings commenced with welcoming remarks from the Headman, Mr. Mbambo Kleopus, followed by an opening prayer. Thereafter, Ms. Eufrasia Hamberera from DAPP Namibia provided an overview of the project background. Red Dune Consulting CC then outlined the objectives of the meeting, with particular emphasis on the Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) as stipulated in the project's Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP).
- Community members indicated that there are no existing conflicts related to the proposed project. They further confirmed that the project site is not located near any heritage resources, such as grave sites.
- A key question raised during the meeting concerned the timeframe required to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). In response, Red Dune Consulting CC explained that, in accordance with the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007, the competent authority is expected to make a decision within approximately three months following the submission of all required and complete documentation.

However, it was also noted that, in practice, the process may take slightly longer depending on the completeness of submissions and administrative procedures.

- The meeting was informed that, in accordance with Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) requirements, the project would not be supported if it triggers any significant risks or “red flags,” including but not limited to: the displacement of people, destruction of heritage resources, damage to critical biodiversity habitats, or the potential to cause conflict within the community.
- It was further emphasized that the proposed project site must not be located on occupied land.
- The participants were also informed that environmental protection in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In terms of this legislation, listed activities such as water resource development, including the drilling of boreholes may not be undertaken without obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).
- To obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be conducted, of which stakeholder consultation forms a key component.
- Furthermore, the meeting was informed that a consent letter is a prerequisite for project implementation. This consent, referred to as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), ensures that the community fully understands and agrees to the proposed water development project. The concept of FPIC was explained as follows:
 - Free: Consent is given voluntarily, without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation.
 - Prior: Consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities.
 - Informed: The community is provided with all relevant information regarding the project in an accessible and understandable manner.
 - Consent: A collective decision made by the affected community, in accordance with customary decision-making processes.
- Free, Prior and Informed Consent was obtained during the meeting through a show of hands. In addition, an FPIC consent letter was read aloud by the Red Dune Consulting team in the presence of the community and subsequently signed by the Village Headman.

1.3 Hoha Village community meeting

A community meeting for Hoha PO was held in the morning of 01 April 2026 at Hoha village.



Figure 3 Community meeting for Hoha Village (Source : Red Dune Consulting, 2026)

The stakeholder engagement meeting for the proposed demonstration irrigation plot at Hoha Village was held on 1 April 2026 and was attended by 31 participants, comprising 24 females and 7 males.

The meeting commenced with welcoming remarks from a community representative, followed by an opening prayer. Thereafter, Ms. Eufrasia Hamberera from DAPP Namibia presented an overview of the project background. The Red Dune Consulting team then outlined the

objectives of the meeting, with particular emphasis on the Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) requirements as stipulated in the project's Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP).

During the consultation, it was noted that there had been conflict at the previous Producer Organisation (PO) site. As a resolution, the Village Headwoman voluntarily relinquished a portion of her field to the community for the establishment of a new PO site. Community members confirmed that there are no conflicts associated with the new site. It was further indicated that the proposed site does not involve the displacement of people and does not pose any risk to biodiversity or heritage resources.

At the time of the assessment, the new PO site had not yet been fenced, as the community was in the process of retrieving fencing materials from the old PO site.

The only question raised during the meeting was related to the duration required to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). In response, it was explained that, in accordance with the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007, a decision on the ECC is typically expected within approximately three months following the submission of complete documentation, although this timeframe may vary depending on administrative processes and the completeness of submissions.

Participants were further informed that environmental protection in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In terms of this legislation, listed activities, including water resource development such as the drilling of boreholes, may not be undertaken without obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). It was also explained that, in order to obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be conducted, of which stakeholder consultation forms a key component.

Furthermore, the meeting was informed that a consent letter is a prerequisite for project implementation. This consent, referred to as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), ensures that the community fully understands and agrees to the proposed water development project. The concept of FPIC was explained as follows:

- Free: Consent is given voluntarily, without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation.

- Prior: Consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities.
- Informed: The community is provided with all relevant information regarding the project in an accessible and understandable manner.
- Consent: A collective decision made by the affected community in accordance with customary decision-making processes.

Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) was obtained during the meeting through a show of hands. In addition, an FPIC consent letter was read aloud by the Red Dune Consulting team in the presence of the community and subsequently signed by the Village Headwoman. The meeting was formally adjourned with a closing prayer.

1.4 Community meeting for Katere Village

A community meeting was held in the afternoon of 01 April 2026 at Katere village



Figure 4 Community meeting for Katere Village (Source : Red Dune Consulting, 2026)

The stakeholder engagement meeting for the proposed demonstration irrigation plot was held on 1 April 2026 in the afternoon and was attended by 23 participants, comprising 15 females and 8 males.

The meeting commenced with welcoming remarks from a community representative, followed by an opening prayer. Thereafter, Ms. Eufrasia Hamberera from DAPP Namibia presented an overview of the project background. The Red Dune Consulting team then outlined the objectives of the meeting, with particular emphasis on the Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) requirements.

Community members confirmed that there are no conflicts associated with the proposed project. It was further indicated that the development will not result in the displacement of people, nor will it lead to the destruction of biodiversity or heritage resources.

No questions or comments were raised during the meeting, and the community demonstrated a clear understanding of the proposed project and expressed full support for its implementation.

Participants were informed that environmental protection in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In terms of this legislation, listed activities, including water resource development such as the drilling of boreholes, may not be undertaken without obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

It was further explained that, in order to obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be conducted, of which stakeholder consultation forms a key component.

Furthermore, the meeting was informed that a consent letter is a prerequisite for project implementation. This consent, referred to as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), ensures that the community fully understands and agrees to the proposed water development project. The concept of FPIC was explained as follows:

- Free: Consent is given voluntarily, without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation.
- Prior: Consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities.
- Informed: The community is provided with all relevant information regarding the project in an accessible and understandable manner.

- Consent: A collective decision made by the affected community in accordance with customary decision-making processes.

Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) was obtained during the meeting through a show of hands. In addition, an FPIC consent letter was read aloud by the Red Dune Consulting team in the presence of the community and subsequently signed by the Village Headman.

The meeting was formally adjourned with a closing prayer.

1.5 Community meeting for Makena Village

A community meeting for Makena PO was held in the morning of 02 April 2026 at Makena village.



Figure 5 Community at Makena Village (Source: Red Dune Consulting, 2026)

A stakeholder engagement meeting for the proposed 40 demonstration irrigation plots was held at the Makena PO site on 02 April 2026 in the afternoon. The meeting was attended by 24

community members, including 17 females and 7 males, indicating active participation from the community, particularly women involved in agricultural activities.

The meeting commenced with welcoming remarks from a community representative, followed by an opening prayer. Thereafter, Leonard Diyando presented the project background and also served as a translator to ensure that all participants clearly understood the discussions. The environmental assessment team from Red-Dune Consulting CC then presented the objectives of the meeting, including the proposed river water abstraction and its intended benefits for improving agricultural productivity at the site.

During the engagement, it was confirmed that there are no conflicts associated with the project, and the proposed development will not result in the displacement of people or the destruction of biodiversity and heritage resources. The community demonstrated general understanding and support for the project. However, it was noted that some Producer Organisation (PO) members have withdrawn from participation due to the lack of reliable water for irrigation, which has negatively affected crop production and sustained engagement in agricultural activities.

Participants were informed that environmental protection in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In terms of this legislation, listed activities, including water resource development such as the drilling of boreholes, may not be undertaken without obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

It was further explained that, in order to obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be conducted, of which stakeholder consultation forms a key component.

Furthermore, the meeting was informed that a consent letter is a prerequisite for project implementation. This consent, referred to as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), ensures that the community fully understands and agrees to the proposed water development project. The concept of FPIC was explained as follows:

- **Free:** Consent is given voluntarily, without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation.
- **Prior:** Consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities.

- **Informed:** The community is provided with all relevant information regarding the project in an accessible and understandable manner.
- **Consent:** A collective decision made by the affected community in accordance with customary decision-making processes.

Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) was obtained during the meeting through a show of hands. In addition, an FPIC consent letter was read aloud by the Red Dune Consulting team in the presence of the community and subsequently signed by the Village Headwoman.

The meeting was formally adjourned with a closing prayer.

1.6 Community meeting for Kashira Village

A community meeting for Kashira PO was held in the morning of 02 April 2026 at Kashira village.



Figure 6 Community meeting for Kashira Village (source: Red Dune Consulting, 2026)

- A stakeholder engagement meeting for the proposed 40 demonstration irrigation plots was held at the Makena PO site on 02 April 2026 in the afternoon. The meeting was attended by 24 community members, including 17 females and 7 males, indicating

active participation from the community, particularly women involved in agricultural activities.

- The meeting commenced with welcoming remarks from a community representative, followed by an opening prayer. Thereafter, Leonard Diyando presented the project background and also served as a translator to ensure that all participants clearly understood the discussions. The environmental assessment team from Red-Dune Consulting CC then presented the objectives of the meeting, including the proposed river water abstraction and its intended benefits for improving agricultural productivity at the site.
- During the engagement, it was confirmed that there are no conflicts associated with the project, and the proposed development will not result in the displacement of people or the destruction of biodiversity and heritage resources. The community demonstrated general understanding and support for the project. However, it was noted that some Producer Organisation (PO) members have withdrawn from participation due to the lack of reliable water for irrigation, which has negatively affected crop production and sustained engagement in agricultural activities.
- Participants were informed that environmental protection in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In terms of this legislation, listed activities, including water resource development such as the drilling of boreholes, may not be undertaken without obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).
- It was further explained that, in order to obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be conducted, of which stakeholder consultation forms a key component.
- Furthermore, the meeting was informed that a consent letter is a prerequisite for project implementation. This consent, referred to as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), ensures that the community fully understands and agrees to the proposed water development project. The concept of FPIC was explained as follows:
 - Free: Consent is given voluntarily, without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation.
 - Prior: Consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities.

- Informed: The community is provided with all relevant information regarding the project in an accessible and understandable manner.
- Consent: A collective decision made by the affected community in accordance with customary decision-making processes.
- Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) was obtained during the meeting through a show of hands. In addition, an FPIC consent letter was read aloud by the Red Dune Consulting team in the presence of the community and subsequently signed by the Village Headwoman.
- The meeting was formally adjourned with a closing prayer.

1.7 Community meeting for Mukuvi Village

A community meeting for Mukuvi PO was held in the morning of 07 April 2026 at Mukuvi village.



Figure 7 Community meeting for Mukuvi Village (Source: Red Dune Consulting, 2026)

The stakeholder engagement meeting for the proposed demonstration irrigation plot at Mukuvi Village was held on the 7th of April 2026 in the morning. The meeting was attended by 28 community members, of which 20 were females and 8 were males.

The meeting commenced with welcoming remarks from a community representative, followed by an opening prayer. Mr. Leonard Diyando, the Farming Instructor from DAPP Namibia, provided the background of the project and served as the translator to ensure effective communication with all attendees. Thereafter, the Environmental Assessment team from Red-Dune Consulting CC presented the purpose and objectives of the meeting, outlining the proposed development and its anticipated benefits to the community.

The proposed project involves the establishment of a demonstration irrigation plot aimed at improving household food security, enhancing agricultural productivity, and strengthening climate resilience within the community. The consultation process emphasized inclusive participation, allowing community members to engage with the project team and raise any concerns or inputs regarding the proposed activity.

Participants were informed that environmental protection in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In terms of this legislation, listed activities such as water resource development may not be undertaken without obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

It was further explained that, in order to obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be conducted, of which stakeholder consultation forms a key component.

Furthermore, the meeting was informed that a consent letter is a prerequisite for project implementation. This consent, referred to as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), ensures that the community fully understands and agrees to the proposed development. The concept of FPIC was explained as follows:

- Free: Consent is given voluntarily, without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation.
- Prior: Consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities.
- Informed: The community is provided with all relevant information regarding the project in an accessible and understandable manner.

- Consent: A collective decision made by the affected community in accordance with customary decision-making processes.

Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) was obtained during the meeting through a show of hands. In addition, the FPIC consent letter was read aloud by the Red-Dune Consulting CC team in the presence of the community and subsequently signed by the Village Headwoman.

During the consultation, one of the A community member asked whether the consent letter (FPIC) could also allow access to water for use outside the demonstration plot, or if it applies only to the PO site?

Response: Environmental Assessment team clarified that the consent letter applies specifically to the proposed project activities at the demonstration plot (PO site). However, it was further explained that the project design includes provision for a communal water access point (tap), where community members, particularly PO members, will be able to collect water for household use. This access is limited to the project site and does not extend to water use in other areas beyond the scope of the project

The proposed project focuses on improving the functionality of the existing demonstration plot through the provision of a reliable water supply system, including borehole drilling to support irrigation. The intervention aims to improve food production, enhance agricultural productivity, and strengthen climate resilience within the community. The consultation emphasized that the project will be implemented in a manner that avoids adverse environmental and social impacts. No conflicts, no displacement of people and no destruction of biodiversity and heritage sites.

The community expressed understanding of the project and its objectives and agreed with the commencement of the project.

The meeting was formally adjourned with a closing prayer.

1.8 Community meeting of Katenture Village

A community meeting for Katenture PO was held in the afternoon of 07 April 2026 at Katenture village.



Figure 8 Community meeting at Katenture Village (Source Red Dune consulting, 2026)

Village was held on the 7th of April 2026 in the afternoon. The meeting was attended by 26 community members, 19 females and 7 males.

The meeting commenced with welcoming remarks from a community representative, followed by an opening prayer. Mr. Leonard Diyando, the Farming Instructor from DAPP Namibia, provided the background of the project and served as the translator to ensure effective communication with all participants. Thereafter, the Environmental Assessment team from Red-Dune Consulting CC presented the objectives of the meeting, outlining the proposed development and its anticipated benefits to the community.

Participants were informed that environmental protection in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In terms of this legislation, listed activities such as water resource development may not be undertaken without obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

It was further explained that, in order to obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be conducted, of which stakeholder consultation forms a key component.

Furthermore, the meeting was informed that a consent letter is a prerequisite for project implementation. This consent, referred to as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), ensures that the community fully understands and agrees to the proposed development. The concept of FPIC was explained as follows:

- Free: Consent is given voluntarily, without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation.
- Prior: Consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities.
- Informed: The community is provided with all relevant information regarding the project in an accessible and understandable manner.
- Consent: A collective decision made by the affected community in accordance with customary decision-making processes.

Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) was obtained during the meeting through a show of hands. In addition, the FPIC consent letter was read aloud by the Red-Dune Consulting CC team in the presence of the community and subsequently signed by the Village Headwoman.

During the consultation, community members raised questions regarding the duration required to obtain the Environmental Clearance Certificate and the number of Environmental Impact Assessments being undertaken for the project. The Environmental Assessment team clarified that the timeframe for obtaining an ECC depends on the review process by the competent authority but generally takes a few weeks to a few months, provided all required documentation is in order. It was further explained that the project is being implemented across multiple sites; however, the assessment approach may be consolidated depending on the nature and similarity of the activities.

The proposed project involves the establishment of a demonstration irrigation plot aimed at improving food security, enhancing agricultural productivity, and strengthening climate resilience within the community. The consultation emphasized that the project will be implemented in a manner that avoids adverse environmental and social impacts.

- No conflicts, no displacement of people and no destruction of biodiversity and heritage sites.

The community expressed understanding of the project and its objectives and agreed with the commencement of the project. The meeting was formally adjourned with a closing prayer.

1.9 Community meeting for Tjova Village

A community meeting for Tjova PO was held in the morning of 08 April 2026 at Tjova village



Figure 9 Community meeting for Tjova Village (Source: Red Dune Consulting)

The stakeholder engagement meeting for the proposed river water abstraction to support activities at the demonstration irrigation plot in Tjova Village was held on the 8th of April 2026 in the morning.

The meeting was attended by community members (attendance details recorded separately). The meeting commenced with welcoming remarks from a community representative, followed by an opening prayer. Ms. Eufrasia Hamberera from DAPP Namibia provided the background

of the project and served as the translator to ensure effective communication with all attendees. Thereafter, the Environmental Assessment team from Red-Dune Consulting CC presented the objectives of the meeting, outlining the proposed development and its anticipated benefits to the community.

Participants were informed that environmental protection in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In terms of this legislation, listed activities such as river water abstraction may not be undertaken without obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

It was further explained that, in order to obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be conducted, of which stakeholder consultation forms a key component.

Furthermore, the meeting was informed that a consent letter is a prerequisite for project implementation. This consent, referred to as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), ensures that the community fully understands and agrees to the proposed development. The concept of FPIC was explained as follows:

- Free: Consent is given voluntarily, without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation.
- Prior: Consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities.
- Informed: The community is provided with all relevant information regarding the project in an accessible and understandable manner.
- Consent: A collective decision made by the affected community in accordance with customary decision-making processes.

Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) was obtained during the meeting through a show of hands. In addition, the FPIC consent letter was read aloud by the Red-Dune Consulting CC team in the presence of the community and subsequently signed by the Village Headperson.

During the consultation, the community indicated that the existing water pumping infrastructure has not been functional since the day of installation. They further stated that the submersible pump was removed from the river for security reasons.

The proposed project aims to support irrigation activities through river water abstraction, thereby improving agricultural productivity, food security, and climate resilience. The

implementation of the project will follow Environmental and Social Safeguards to avoid and minimize adverse environmental and social impacts.

- No conflicts, no displacement of people and no destruction of biodiversity and heritage sites.

The community expressed understanding of the project and agreed with its commencement.

The meeting was formally adjourned with a closing prayer.

1.10 Community meeting for Mbapuka Village

A community meeting for Mbapuka PO was held in the morning of 08 April 2026 at Mbapuka village.



Figure 10 Community meeting for Mbapuka Village (source: Red Dune Consulting , 2026)

The stakeholder engagement meeting for the proposed Environmental Scoping and Environmental Management Plan for the abstraction of river water for the 40 demonstration irrigation plots in the Kavango East Region was held at Mbapuka Village on the 8th of April 2026. The meeting was attended by a total of 57 community members, 38 females and 19 males.

The meeting commenced with welcoming remarks from a community representative, followed by an opening prayer. Ms. Eufrasia Hamberera from DAPP Namibia provided the background of the project and served as the translator to ensure effective communication with all attendees. Thereafter, the Environmental Assessment team from Red-Dune Consulting CC presented the

objectives of the meeting, outlining the proposed development and its anticipated benefits to the community.

Participants were informed that environmental protection in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In terms of this legislation, listed activities such as water abstraction may not be undertaken without obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

It was further explained that, in order to obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be conducted, of which stakeholder consultation forms a key component.

Furthermore, the meeting was informed that a consent letter is a prerequisite for project implementation. This consent, referred to as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), ensures that the community fully understands and agrees to the proposed development. The concept of FPIC was explained as follows:

- Free: Consent is given voluntarily, without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation.
- Prior: Consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities.
- Informed: The community is provided with all relevant information regarding the project in an accessible and understandable manner.
- Consent: A collective decision made by the affected community in accordance with customary decision-making processes.

Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) was obtained during the meeting through a show of hands. In addition, the FPIC consent letter was read aloud by the Red-Dune Consulting CC team in the presence of the community and subsequently signed by the Village Headperson.

The proposed project involves the abstraction of river water to support the development of demonstration irrigation plots aimed at improving food security, enhancing agricultural productivity, and strengthening climate resilience within the Kavango East and Kavango West Regions. The implementation of the project will follow Environmental and Social Safeguards to ensure that adverse environmental and social impacts are avoided and minimized.

Community members confirmed that no people will be relocated to new areas and that there are no heritage sites located near the demonstration plot. As such, no factors were identified that would hinder the implementation of the project.

- No conflicts, no displacement of people and no destruction of biodiversity and heritage sites.
- Community has no questions or comments; they understand and agree with project commencement. The meeting was formally adjourned with a closing prayer.

1.11 Community meeting for Kangongo Village

A community meeting for Kangongo PO was held in the morning of 09 April 2026 at Kangongo village.



Figure 11 Community meeting at Kangongo Village (source: Red Dune Consulting, 2026)

The stakeholder consultation meeting for Kangongo PO in Kangongo Village was held on 09 April 2026 in the morning. The meeting was attended by a total of 30 people, including 15 females and 15 males. Attendance was lower than expected due to a funeral taking place in the village at the time. However, the Headman assured the project team that the information shared during the meeting would be communicated to the rest of the community members.

The meeting commenced with welcoming remarks delivered by the Headman, Mr. Disho Erwin, followed by an opening prayer. Thereafter, the project background was presented by Mr. Leonard Diyando from DAPP Namibia, who also assisted with translation where necessary. The objectives of the meeting were then outlined by the project team.

The meeting was informed about the Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) requirements, which do not support projects that present significant environmental or social risks. In particular, the following were highlighted as key red flags:

- Displacement of people
- Destruction of heritage sites
- Damage to critical biodiversity habitats

Furthermore, the community was informed that the proposed project site must not be located on occupied land.

The meeting was also informed that environmental protection in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In terms of this legislation, listed activities such as water resource development (including borehole drilling and river water abstraction) may not be undertaken without obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

It was further explained that, in order to obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment (ESIA) must be conducted, of which stakeholder consultation forms a core component.

Lastly, the meeting was informed that a consent letter is a requirement for the project to be implemented. This consent, referred to as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), represents the community's agreement to the proposed development after fully understanding its implications. The concept of FPIC was explained as follows:

- Free – Consent is given voluntarily without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation.
- Prior – Consent is sought well in advance of project authorization or commencement.
- Informed – The community is fully informed about the project and its potential impacts.

- Consent – A collective decision made through the customary decision-making processes of the community.

During the discussion, it was noted that the existing fence around the Kangongo PO requires improvement. Community members indicated that the fence should be heightened to at least 1.8 metres, as there is evidence of damage caused by wildlife.

No conflicts were reported, and there is no displacement of people, no destruction of biodiversity, and no impact on heritage sites associated with the proposed project.

The community did not raise any questions or concerns; they indicated their understanding of the project and agreed with its implementation.

The meeting was then adjourned with a closing prayer.

1.12 Community meeting for Mayara Village

A community meeting for Mayara PO was held in the morning of 09 April 2026 at Mayara village



Figure 12 Community meeting for Mayara Village (Source: Red Dune Consulting , 2026)

The stakeholder consultation meeting for Mayara PO in Mayara Village was held on 09 April 2026. The meeting was attended by a total of 26 people, including 12 males and 14 females.

The meeting commenced with welcoming remarks from a community representative, followed by an opening prayer. Thereafter, the project background was presented by Ms. Eufrasia Hamberera from DAPP Namibia, who also assisted with translation. The meeting objectives were presented by the Red Dune Consulting team.

The meeting was informed about the Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) requirements, which do not support projects that present significant environmental or social risks. The following were highlighted as key red flags:

- Displacement of people
- Destruction of heritage sites
- Damage to critical biodiversity habitats

Furthermore, the community was informed that the proposed project site must not be located on occupied land.

The meeting was also informed that environmental protection in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In terms of this legislation, listed activities such as water resource development (including borehole drilling and river water abstraction) may not be undertaken without obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

It was further explained that, in order to obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment (ESIA) must be conducted, of which stakeholder consultation forms a core component.

Lastly, the meeting was informed that a consent letter is a requirement for the project to be implemented. This consent, referred to as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), represents the community's agreement to the proposed development after fully understanding its implications. The concept of FPIC was explained as follows:

- Free – Consent is given voluntarily without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation.
- Prior – Consent is sought well in advance of project authorization or commencement.
- Informed – The community is fully informed about the project and its potential impacts.

- Consent – A collective decision made through the customary decision-making processes of the community.

During the consultation, it was noted that Mayara Village currently does not have a formally appointed Headman or Headwoman. As a result, the Secretary to the former Headman was given the mandate to sign the consent letter on behalf of the community, with authorization from the former Headman.

No conflicts were reported, and there is no displacement of people, no destruction of biodiversity, and no impact on heritage sites associated with the proposed project.

The community did not raise any questions or concerns and indicated their understanding of the project, as well as their agreement with its implementation. The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer.

1.13 Community meeting for Thikanduko Village

A community meeting for Thikanduko PO was held in the morning of 10 April 2026 at Thikanduko village



Figure 13 Community meeting for Thikanduko Village (Source: Red Dune consulting, 2026).

The stakeholder consultation meeting for Thikanduko PO in Thikanduko Village was held on 10 April 2026. The meeting was attended by a total of 34 people, including 20 females and 14 males.

The meeting commenced with welcoming remarks from a community representative, followed by an opening prayer. Thereafter, the project background was presented by Ms. Eufrasia Hamberera from DAPP Namibia, who also assisted with translation where necessary. The objectives of the meeting were then outlined by the project team.

The meeting was informed about the Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) requirements, which do not support projects that present significant environmental or social risks. The following were highlighted as key red flags:

- Displacement of people

- Destruction of heritage sites
- Damage to critical biodiversity habitats

Furthermore, the community was informed that the proposed project site must not be located on occupied land.

The meeting was also informed that environmental protection in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In terms of this legislation, listed activities such as water resource development (including borehole drilling and river water abstraction) may not be undertaken without obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

It was further explained that, in order to obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment (ESIA) must be conducted, of which stakeholder consultation forms a core component.

Lastly, the meeting was informed that a consent letter is a requirement for the project to be implemented. This consent, referred to as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), represents the community's agreement to the proposed development after fully understanding its implications. The concept of FPIC was explained as follows:

- Free – Consent is given voluntarily without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation.
- Prior – Consent is sought well in advance of project authorization or commencement.
- Informed – The community is fully informed about the project and its potential impacts.
- Consent – A collective decision made through the customary decision-making processes of the community.

During the discussion, the community expressed strong frustration regarding prolonged delays in accessing water. Members indicated that they have been waiting for water supply for an extended period, which has negatively affected participation in the Producer Organization. As a result, many PO members have lost motivation to remain actively involved in the initiative.

It was also raised that most members of the Thikanduko PO are elderly, and there is a need to encourage youth participation in order to sustain the initiative and improve productivity.

In addition, a community member asked whether DAPP Namibia could provide seeds to support their agricultural activities, highlighting the need for complementary inputs alongside water access.

No conflicts were reported, and there is no displacement of people, no destruction of biodiversity, and no impact on heritage sites associated with the proposed project.

The community did not raise further questions or concerns and indicated their understanding of the project, as well as their agreement with its implementation. The consent letter was signed by the Village Headman as confirmation of the community's agreement to the proposed project.

The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer.

1.14 Community meeting for Bagani Village



Figure 14 Community meeting for Bagani Village (Source: Red Dune Consulting, 2026)

1.15 Bagani Village (Bagani PO)

The stakeholder consultation meeting for Bagani PO in Bagani Village was held on 10 April 2026, the meeting was attended by 37 people that is 20 females and 17 females. The meeting commenced with welcoming remarks from the Headman, followed by an opening prayer. Thereafter, the project background was presented by Ms. Eufrasia Hamberera from DAPP Namibia, while the meeting objectives were presented by the Red Dune Consulting team.

The meeting was informed about the Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) requirements, which do not support projects that present significant environmental or social risks. The following were highlighted as key red flags:

- Displacement of people
- Destruction of heritage sites
- Damage to critical biodiversity habitats

Furthermore, the community was informed that the proposed project site must not be located on occupied land.

The meeting was also informed that environmental protection in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In terms of this legislation, listed activities such as water resource development (including borehole drilling and river water abstraction) may not be undertaken without obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

It was further explained that, in order to obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment (ESIA) must be conducted, of which stakeholder consultation forms a core component.

Lastly, the meeting was informed that a consent letter is a requirement for the project to be implemented. This consent, referred to as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), represents the community's agreement to the proposed development after fully understanding its implications. The concept of FPIC was explained as follows:

- Free – Consent is given voluntarily without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation.
- Prior – Consent is sought well in advance of project authorization or commencement.

- Informed – The community is fully informed about the project and its potential impacts.
- Consent – A collective decision made through the customary decision-making processes of the community.

Following the presentations, the Headman invited the community to indicate whether there were any conflicts related to the Bagani demonstration plot (PO site). The Vice Chairperson of the Bagani PO responded that no conflicts had been encountered, and the community expressed that they do not oppose the proposed development.

However, the community raised a concern regarding the implementation timeline, indicating that the process may take longer than expected. Members emphasized their eagerness for the project to commence, as they are keen to begin working actively at the PO site once water access is secured.

No conflicts were reported, and there is no displacement of people, no destruction of biodiversity, and no impact on heritage sites associated with the proposed project.

The community did not raise further questions and indicated their understanding of the project, as well as their agreement with its implementation.

The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer.

1.16 Community meeting for Biro Village

A community meeting for Biro PO was held in the morning of 10 April 2026 at Biro Village



Figure 15 Community meeting for Biro Village (Source: Red Dune Consulting, 2026)

The stakeholder consultation meeting for Biro PO in Biro Village was held on 09 April 2026 in the morning. The meeting was attended by a total of 29 people, including 20 females and 9 males.

The meeting commenced with welcoming remarks from a community representative, followed by an opening prayer. Thereafter, the project background was presented by the DAPP Namibia team, while the meeting objectives were presented by the Red Dune Consulting team.

The meeting was informed about the Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) requirements, which do not support projects that present significant environmental or social risks. The following were highlighted as key red flags:

- Displacement of people
- Destruction of heritage sites
- Damage to critical biodiversity habitats

Furthermore, the community was informed that the proposed project site must not be located on occupied land.

The meeting was also informed that environmental protection in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In terms of this legislation, listed activities such as water resource development (including borehole drilling and river water abstraction) may not be undertaken without obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

It was further explained that, in order to obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment (ESIA) must be conducted, of which stakeholder consultation forms a core component.

Lastly, the meeting was informed that a consent letter is a requirement for the project to be implemented. This consent, referred to as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), represents the community's agreement to the proposed development after fully understanding its implications. The concept of FPIC was explained as follows:

- Free – Consent is given voluntarily without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation
- Prior – Consent is sought well in advance of project authorization or commencement
- Informed – The community is fully informed about the project and its potential impacts
- Consent – A collective decision made through customary decision-making processes

During the discussion, the following questions were raised by community members:

1. How long will it take before water is made available to the community?

The project team explained that water provision is dependent on the completion of the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) process, followed by procurement and installation of infrastructure. While exact timelines cannot be guaranteed, efforts will be made to ensure timely implementation once approvals are secured.

2. What is the role of the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) in the project?

It was explained that MEFT is the regulatory authority responsible for reviewing the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and issuing the ECC. The Ministry ensures that the project complies with environmental legislation and that potential

environmental and social impacts are properly assessed and managed before implementation.

These responses provided clarity on both the project timeline and the institutional roles involved.

No conflicts were reported, and there is no displacement of people, no destruction of biodiversity, and no impact on heritage sites associated with the proposed project.

The community indicated their understanding of the project and expressed support for its implementation. The consent letter was signed by the Headman as confirmation of the community's agreement to the proposed project.

The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer.

1.17 Community meeting for Diyogha Village

A community meeting for Diyogha 1& 2 PO was held in the morning of 10 April 2026 at Diyogha Village.



Figure 16 Community meeting for Diyogha 1 & 2 Source: Red Dune Consulting)

The stakeholder consultation meeting for Diyogha 1 and 2 was held on 09 April 2026 in the afternoon. The meeting was attended by a total of 34 people, including 21 females and 13 males.

The meeting commenced with welcoming remarks from a community representative, followed by an opening prayer. Thereafter, the project background was presented by the DAPP Namibia team, while the meeting objectives were presented by the Red Dune Consulting team.

The meeting was informed about the Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) requirements, which do not support projects that present significant environmental or social risks. The following were highlighted as key red flags:

- Displacement of people
- Destruction of heritage sites
- Damage to critical biodiversity habitats

Furthermore, the community was informed that the proposed project site must not be located on occupied land.

The meeting was also informed that environmental protection in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In terms of this legislation, listed activities such as water resource development (including borehole drilling and river water abstraction) may not be undertaken without obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

It was further explained that, in order to obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment (ESIA) must be conducted, of which stakeholder consultation forms a core component.

Lastly, the meeting was informed that a consent letter is a requirement for the project to be implemented. This consent, referred to as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), represents

the community's agreement to the proposed development after fully understanding its implications. The concept of FPIC was explained as follows:

- Free – Consent is given voluntarily without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation
- Prior – Consent is sought well in advance of project authorization or commencement
- Informed – The community is fully informed about the project and its potential impacts
- Consent – A collective decision made through customary decision-making processes

During the discussion, community members strongly urged for the acceleration of project implementation, emphasizing that prolonged delays are affecting their livelihoods. It was noted that many community members are on the verge of losing hope due to the continued lack of reliable water access.

In addition, a community member raised concerns regarding the ongoing drought conditions in the area, highlighting the urgent need for a sustainable water supply to support agricultural activities and improve food security.

No conflicts were reported, and there is no displacement of people, no destruction of biodiversity, and no impact on heritage sites associated with the proposed project.

The community indicated their understanding of the project and expressed support for its implementation. The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer.

1.18 Community meeting for Shamvhura Village

A community meeting for Shamvhura PO was held in the morning of 10 April 2026 at Shamvhura Village.



Figure 17 Community meeting for Shamvhura Village (Source: Red Dune Consulting, 2026)

The stakeholder consultation meeting for Shamvura PO in Shamvura Village was held on 10 April 2026. The meeting was attended by a total of 30 people, including 11 males and 19 females. Participants were drawn from Shamvura Village and Linus Shipapo 11, who were requested to congregate at a central venue in Shamvura Village for the purposes of the consultation.

The meeting commenced with welcoming remarks delivered by community representatives from both villages, followed by an opening prayer. Thereafter, the project background was presented by the DAPP Namibia team, while the meeting objectives were presented by the Red Dune Consulting team.

The meeting was informed about the Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) requirements, which do not support projects that present significant environmental or social risks. The following were highlighted as key red flags:

- Displacement of people
- Destruction of heritage sites
- Damage to critical biodiversity habitats

Furthermore, the community was informed that the proposed project site must not be located on occupied land.

The meeting was also informed that environmental protection in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In terms of this legislation, listed activities such as water resource development (including borehole drilling and river water abstraction) may not be undertaken without obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

It was further explained that, in order to obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment (ESIA) must be conducted, of which stakeholder consultation forms a core component.

Lastly, the meeting was informed that a consent letter is a requirement for the project to be implemented. This consent, referred to as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), represents the community's agreement to the proposed development after fully understanding its implications.

During the discussion, the following questions were raised by community members:

1. How long will it take before water is made available to the community?
The project team explained that water provision depends on completion of the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) process, followed by procurement and installation of infrastructure. While exact timelines cannot be confirmed, efforts will be made to ensure timely implementation once approvals are secured.
2. Was DAPP aware of the Environmental Impact Assessment requirements before establishing the demonstration plots?
It was clarified that environmental compliance is an ongoing process, and the current Environmental and Social Impact Assessment is being undertaken to ensure alignment with the requirements of the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007).

No conflicts were reported, and there is no displacement of people, no destruction of biodiversity, and no impact on heritage sites associated with the proposed project.

The community indicated their understanding of the project and expressed support for its implementation. The consent letter was signed by the Village Headman of Shamvura Village

as confirmation of the community's agreement to the proposed project. The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer.