

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)



Environmental Clearance Certificate for

**FARM NO. 1489
KARUKUVISA VILLAGE, MASHARE CONSTITUENCY, KAVANGO
EAST REGION**

27th April, 2026



DOCUMENT INFORMATION		
Title	Environmental Clearance Certificate for Farm No.: 1489 Karukuvisa Village, Mashare Constituency, Kavango East Region	
ECC Application Reference number	260427007388	
Listed Activity (EMA, Act No. 7 of 2007 and EIA regulations of 2012)	Activity 4: FORESTRY ACTIVITIES 4) The clearance of forest areas, deforestation, afforestation, timber harvesting , or any other related activity that may require authorization in terms of Forest Act, 2001 (Act No. 12 of 2001) or any other law.	
Location	Mashare Constituency, Shambyu Traditional Authority, Kavango East Region.	
Proponent	Contact person: Wycliffe Nabaasa 827 Okaramba Street, Wanaheda, Windhoek Contact: 264 812056340 Email: wikibasa3@gmail.com	
Author:	Signature	Date
Mr. Wycliffe Nabaasa		27 th April 2026

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

Farm 1489 located in Mashare Constituency of Kavango East Region was acquired in 2006 by MS Kanyetu Pauline Nehova as a Communal Small-Scale Farming Unit, under a 25-year Lease Hold, Certificate No.: KACLB (LH) 0063. The Proponent and her immediate family, working in close collaboration with neighbours and inter-governmental departments, especially Ministries of Agriculture, and of Environment, ensured the maintenance of environmental sustainability, employing practices that enhance the wellbeing of the proponents and neighbours, while protecting the environment.

1.2. Location

Farm 1489 is located in KaRukuvisa, Mashare Constituency, in Shambyu Traditional Authority of Kavango East Region, on coordinates Y:91 224, 92 X:353 349,04 desig. 14906, about 125 km South East of Rundu Town along Hamweyi-Gwatjinga-Karukuvisa Road.

1.3. Ownership

The Owner (**Proponent**) is MS Pauline Nehova Kanyetu, Identity Number 681110 0038 3 of P.O. Box 1264 Rundu.

1.4. Contactable Neighbours

- I. Isabela Kaundu, Farms 1492 and 1488, Contact: isabelakaundu@gmail.com
- II. Elias Mudumbi; Kalimba Farm No.:1490, Contact: 0852787188, mundumbixe@gmail.com
- III. Rosvita Sanwendel, Sanwendel Farm, No.: 1472, Contact: Contact: 0812450446, kavangodrilling@gmail.com
- IV. Farm No.: 1399, Owner: Sebastian Simbaranda, Contact: 0812033914
- V. Farm No.: 1397, Owner: Genefefa Makongwa, Contact: 0812554140

1.5. Infrastructure development

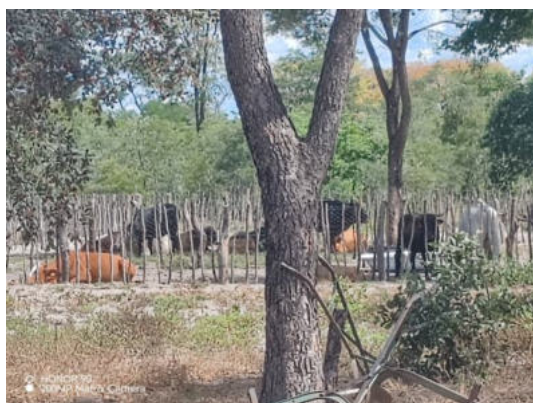
Since acquiring the farm, the Proponent has managed to put up a fence parameter around the entire farm which is key for reducing wildlife incursions, especially elephants. The fence also serves as cut lines against fire, especially approaching from neighbouring farms. In addition, MS Nehova, with support of her family and using her meagre sources of income, was able to install water system which operates on Solar Voltaic Energy. The water is stored in a 10,000-litre reservoir and is used for household, livestock and crop irrigation purposes. A number of semi-permanent shelter structures

have been constructed to accommodate a population of near 20 who support the various activities of the farm and some of whom are extended family members under her care.



1.6. Social and economic sustainability

The availability of water on a full-time basis has enabled a number of initiatives to be carried out with seemingly little ease, including livestock raising, small stock (goats and sheep), and chickens. Further, a well-maintained orchard consisting of apples, mangoes, lemons, oranges, Avocados and other fruit trees are currently supported.



1.7. Employment creation

The activities of the farm are able to provide employment opportunities to more than 10 people on a full-time basis, and support a population of about 20 people in terms of meeting day-to-day household needs – education for children, food security, health, water and sanitation, enough playing ground for children and adults, as well as healthy and non-polluted environment for human growth and development.

1.8. Support to Community Welfare

Farm 1489 has become a centre for community activities, especially community events, pensioners' pay days and other community gatherings, largely due to the owner's generosity. This is due to availability of space, food and hospitable character of MS Nehova and family. A tuck shop has been established at the farm to cater for community's immediate household needs – mainly small groceries.

1.9. Management

The farm is managed as a small-scale communal business entity through family structure with each member of the family contributing different abilities and resources wherever and whenever needed. MS Nehova remains a key figure in coordination of farm inputs and marketing of outputs, soliciting financial resources, mobilizing and motivating labour, and always at lookout for elephant incursions and fire outbreaks.

1.10. Ecosystem Characteristics

1.10.1. Soil

Farm 1489 lies in the Ncaute-Karukuvisa landscape is predominantly Arenosol type - deep wind-blown sands with sandy texture, loose, porous consistency with low capacity to retain water and nutrients, and forms humps around plants. The soil can be improved to enable supporting crops, as it is formed by silt deposits along flood plains or water catchment areas.

1.10.2. Vegetation and Timber Resource Potential

The vegetation composition of Farm 1489 is typical of Ncaute vegetation which is mainly influenced by topography, climate influences and human activities. It is characterised by dry, tall woodlands, with dominant trees such as Baikaea Plurijuga, Terminalia, Teak and Rosewood in scant varieties, as well as Guibortia, which can be used for a variety of livelihood uses. The vegetation supports a variety of wildlife species, including spotted hyenas and wild dogs, often spotted in the vicinity of the farm. The Directorate of Forestry has recently conducted a Forest Resource Assessment, whose report is key in informing timber and other forest resources availability. The report will be availed as soon as it is ready.

1.11. Sustainability

To ensure sustainable use of environmental resources around the farm, the Proponent has integrated a variety of livelihood options into the management of the farm which ensure less dependency on environmental resources, especially wooden resources. The activities include livestock keeping, crop production, poultry, small livestock (goats

and sheep), and a small tuck shop, all meant to supplement personal earnings of the Proponent. The options have ensured that the Proponent continues to provide for her immediate household needs and those of the immediate family without necessarily depending on forest and other environmental resources.

In return, the measure has ensured continuous regeneration and growth of a healthy farm ecosystem, where the vegetation has continued to flourish with little interaction, supporting ecosystem functions, providing for improved biological diversity around the farm, while supporting social and economic wellbeing of the Proponent.

1.12. Existing Challenges and the Need for Financial Resources

The above harmonious living between humans and ecosystem notwithstanding, there exists immediate social and economic challenges, especially resulting from the current global crises, including energy crisis that have impacted heavily on household livelihoods – food, social welfare, etc. The effects are felt in terms of rise in the cost of farm inputs, household consumer items, including food, which require pragmatic measures beyond the ordinary. The challenges especially require extra earning beside ordinary household income.

In addition, there is need to mitigate Human-Wildlife Conflict, especially involving elephants that break through the fences and invade crops. The wildlife is attracted because of permanent presence of water and crops at the farm, which forces them to break fences more often. Further, there is need to mitigate recurring forest fires that cross from neighboring farms. The fires are fueled by overgrown and dead trees which surround themselves with a lot of dry biomass and debris during extended dry seasons, thus catalyzing fires. It is the above and other factors that are compelling the proponent to apply for clearance to be permitted to harvest timber on her farm, in line with laid out procedures of the Environmental Management Act of 2007, so as to keep abreast with competing social, economic and environmental challenges.

2. COMPLIANCE AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This chapter outlines the regulatory framework applicable to the proposed project.

2.1. Compliance with the Environmental Management Act (No.7 of 2007)

Section 27 of the Environmental Management Act 2007 (Act No. 7 of 2007) (EMA) provides a list of activities that may not be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) (herein referred to as: listed activities). The proposed harvesting of timber falls under Activity 4, part 4, requiring that the harvesting follows the procedures of EMA, i.e.,

2.2. Listed Activities

The proposed development borders on a key activity on the Listed Activities as set out in the Environmental Management Act, 2007 (Act No. 7 of 2007) (herein referred to as the EMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation, 2007 (No. 30 of 2011) (herein referred to as the EIA Regulations), i.e., ‘...Listed Activities may not be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC), and hence the need for an application for clearance.

Table 1: Listed Activity triggered by the proposed project.

Listed Activity	Activity Description	Relevance to the proposed project
Activity 4 Forestry Activities	4.1 The clearance of forest areas, deforestation, afforestation, timber harvesting or any other related activity that requires authorization in terms of the Forest Act, 2001 (Act No. 12 of 2001) or any other law.	Vegetation clearance during the construction works. Unlikely to reach the thresholds set out in the Forest Act, however good practice to consider.

2.3. Tasks being undertaken

Table 2: Tasks in response to the Requirements of the EMA in relation to Activity 4

Sub-tasks	Activities
Identification of Stakeholders	Key stakeholders and database for Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP)
Authority consultation	Discussions with representatives from the relevant authorities
Newspaper adverts	Adverts will be placed in the local media to sensitize the public about the project and to invite interested parties to forward their comments, views and opinion to the Office of the Regional Council
Public Participation Meetings (PPP)	A consultative engagement has already been initiated and will continue, with objective of securing ‘no-objection’ from I&APs.
Public consultation (Draft Reports)	Issues raised during the public consultations process will be captured in the Comments and Responses Report (CRR)



2.4. Proponent's Prayer

It is the prayer of the Proponent that clearance is granted for her to harvest timber on her farm in a sustainable manner, which is aimed at securing both financial benefits from the timber harvested, as well as mitigating the impacts of both forest fire and Human-Wildlife Conflict through deploying more resources to strengthen fencing and to patrol the farm on full time basis.

2.5. Annexes

The following documents have been attached in support of the application for Environmental Clearance:

- i. Application for Environmental Clearance, with evidence of payment (Revenue stamps of N\$300)
- ii. Leasehold Certificate No.: KACLB (LH) 0063 Of 02 Feb 2006
- iii. Map of location of farm 1489 with coordinates as provided by the Surveyor General's Office
- iv. Proponent's Identity.
- v. Newspaper adverts (2 weeks consecutively)
- vi. Notices to public places
- vii. Notices to neighbours and acknowledgements (responses)
- viii. Letter of no-objection from Mashare Councillor's office
- ix. Environmental Management Plan
- x. Register of I&APs

Note that annexes will be available after all A&IPs respond to notices.