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Republic of Botswana



Indigenous Peoples Plan

**Managing the Human-wildlife interface to sustain the
flow of Agro-ecosystem Services and Prevent Illegal
Wildlife Trafficking in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi
Drylands**

GEF Project ID:	9154		
Country/Region:	Botswana		
Project Title:	Managing the human-wildlife interface to sustain the flow of agro-ecosystem services and prevent illegal wildlife trafficking in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands		
GEF Agency:	UNDP	UNDP PIMS ID:	5590
Type of Trust Fund:	GEF Trust Fund	GEF 7 Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity (Child project: Global Wildlife Programme)
GEF-7 GWP Component (s):	1. Improved environment, natural resources, climate change governance, energy access, and disaster risk management		
	2. Anti-poaching, prevention of human-wildlife conflict, livelihoods enhancement, and capacity building of local institutions		
	3. solutions developed at national and sub-national levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services		
	4. legal and regulatory frameworks, policies, and institutions enabled to ensure the conservation, sustainable use, access and benefit sharing of natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems, in line with international conventions and national legislation, monitoring & evaluation		
Anticipated Financing PPG:		Project Grant:	USD 5,996,789.00
Co-financing:	Government: USD 21,000,000.00 UNDP: USD1,000,000 Birdlife Botswana \$500,000	Total Project Cost:	USD 28,496,789.00
UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Category: Low-moderate risk	UNDP Gender Marker: 2	LPAC Date: TBD	Atlas Project ID No 00103617
PIF Approval:		Council Approval/Expected:	
Expected Project Start Date:	1 May 2017	Expected Project End Date:	30 November 2024
Revisions	27 February 2023, 31 May 2023, 7 June 2023		

1. Executive Summary

Botswana is a middle-income country in southern Africa with a population of 2,417,596 inhabitants as of May 2023. The country is remarkably diverse, with at least 28 different languages spoken. Within Botswana's population there are a number of groups who are considered indigenous peoples under the UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES), Standard 6 criteria.¹ These include the San (known in Botswana as Basarwa), made up of some two dozen groups who currently number some 68,000, the Nama, who number 2,750, and the Balala, who number 2,350. The San, Nama and Balala have a history of hunting and gathering, but today they all have mixed economic systems that include some foraging, agriculture, livestock raising, and working for other people. In total, these groups represent approximately 3.14% of the current population of Botswana. The San, Balala, and Nama are among the most underprivileged people in the country, with a high percentage living below the poverty line.

As is the case with a large number of African states, the Botswana government does not recognize the term 'indigenous peoples,' maintaining that all citizens of the country are indigenous.² The government of Botswana does recognize what it terms 'remote area dwellers' who reside in outlying rural areas. The government has a Remote Area Development Programme that is part of the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development. Seven of the 10 district councils have remote area development and social and community development personnel. Botswana also has an Affirmative Action Framework (AAF) that is aimed at promoting the well-being of remote area community (RAC) members.

In Ghanzi and Kgalagadi Districts, approximately 18% of the population is made up of San, Balala, and Nama who are classified by government as Remote Area Dwellers. There is a total of 27,100 people who fit the UNDP criteria of indigenous peoples. Another 20% can be described as what the World Bank identifies as Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities. While Botswana does not use the term marginalized and historically disadvantaged communities like Namibia does, there are members of the population in western Botswana who, for a variety of reasons, were underserved and who did not have the same rights as others in the eyes of the government.

UNDP SES Standard 6 requires that in cases where indigenous peoples are found within project areas and the project risk is rated as substantial, an indigenous peoples' plan (IPP) has been developed with the purpose of promoting full participation of those groups in the project. The plan seeks to mitigate the impacts from the project and also seeks to ensure equal and relevant benefits from the project alongside other participants. The Indigenous Peoples Planning

¹ United Nations Development Programme (2017) *UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples*. New York: United Nations Development Programme.

² See statements made by the Botswana delegation at the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues of the United Nations (UNPFII) (2007-2019); see also Zips-Mairitsch, Manuela (2013) *Lost Land? (Land) Rights of the San in Botswana and the Legal Concept of Indigeneity in Africa*. Berlin and Zurich: Lit Verlag and Copenhagen: International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs.

Framework (IPPF) was a precursor to this plan which sets out the frameworks, issues, and requirements for IPP development during the first part of project implementation.

This IPPF has been prepared by UNDP in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, Conservation, and Tourism (MENT) for the UNDP-supported, GEF-financed project '*Managing the human-wildlife interface to sustain the flow of agro-ecosystem services and prevent illegal wildlife trafficking in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands*'. The project is aimed at supporting wildlife conservation, reducing human-wildlife-conflict (HWC) and illegal wildlife trade (IWT), and seeks to promote both sustainable livelihoods development and integrated land use management in two districts of Botswana: Ghanzi and Kgalagadi (see Figures 1-3).

This IPP highlights risks that were identified in the UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedures (SESP) and the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) that are of particular relevance to indigenous peoples. Risks were identified in the first phase of the project implementation beginning in 2017, and subsequent work has focused on risks identified by local communities, including those who self-identify as indigenous. There were 7 risks identified as Substantial and 10 identified as moderate (see the SESP for the KGDEP Project).

The Free Prior and Informed Consent Survey carried out in June-July 2022 highlighted risks identified.³ Since that time, community members have had the chance to identify additional risks that they see from the project, including those associated with anti-poaching, lack of sufficient support for community trusts, and concerns about over-utilization of wildlife by safari companies and individuals as well as poaching (illegal exploitation of wild animals). There is continued concern that the government and UNDP develop and implement a fully functioning Grievance Redress Mechanism in line with UNDP SES policies.

2. Project Description

The Government of Botswana, through the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, Conservation and Tourism (MENT), in partnership with UNDP, is implementing a 6-year GEF-funded project titled: *Managing the human-wildlife interface to sustain the flow of agro-ecosystem services and prevent illegal wildlife trafficking in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands* (PIMS 5590). This is a what is known as a child project under the World Bank-led Global Wildlife Programme that seeks to prevent the extinction of known threatened species globally through activities that: a) reduce illegal wildlife trade and wildlife crime; b) protect the habitats of targeted species through improved governance and natural resource management; and, c) reduce demand for illegally-traded wildlife and wildlife products by changing consumer behavior, and supporting activities that promote alternative, nature-based livelihoods to decrease the costs to communities of living with wildlife (by mitigating human-wildlife conflict).

The Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project (KGDEP, as it is known locally), operates across a vast landscape that extends from the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park in the south-west, to the Central Kalahari Game Reserve in the north-eastern part of the study area, including the intervening Wildlife Management Areas and communal lands that link the two protected areas.

³ Bradley, James (2022) *Kgalagadi Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project (KGDEP) Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Community Stakeholder Consultation-Free, Prior and informed Consent*. Gaborone: Government of Botswana and the United Nations Development Program.

The Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park is officially a part of Kgalagadi District, while the Central Kalahari is officially part of the Ghanzi District. There are also commercial (freehold) ranches in the project area, including ones in Ghanzi District and Ncojane, also in Ghanzi District, and in the Bokspits area of Kgalagadi District.

Natural resources management in this Kalahari landscape is impacted by land-use conflicts arising from the competing goals of conservation and economic development, commercial cattle ranching and subsistence livestock-keeping, and the desire of some communities to pursue traditional livelihoods. The consequent rangeland degradation and ecosystem fragmentation that has taken place threaten the future of wildlife and economic development and impact the quality of life of rural communities. Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) have been established to secure migratory corridors so that wildlife can move safely between the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park and the Central Kalahari Game Reserve. WMAs also support nature-based economic activities for local communities. These WMAs also support communities engaged in a variety of different activities ranging from foraging to livestock-raising and from natural resource management to exploitation of non-timber forest products.⁴

Due to the complex interplay of multiple factors, the effectiveness of the WMAs is being compromised, in part because of the expansion of livestock activities inside the WMAs. Wildlife is under threat from hunting beyond license limits, some degree of poaching, wildlife poisoning and illegal wildlife trade (IWT). In general, communities have yet to realize the benefits of living with wildlife because the community trusts have been inactive for 6 years due to the hunting ban.

There are several reasons that the community trusts became inactive. There was little or no government or NGO investment in them during the period of the hunting ban. Those community trusts that were dependent on safari hunting as a major source of economic support declined in membership because the funds from safari clients were not forthcoming. Even after the restoration of hunting in March 2019, no community trusts in the project area were granted licenses to hunt. Most of the community trust areas were taken over by private safari companies during the hunting ban (2014-2019). The majority of community trusts that depended on non-consumptive ecotourism (that is, no hunting) were hard hit by the decline in the numbers of tourists as a result of the lockdown declared by the government of Botswana due to the coronavirus pandemic in March 2020. Some of the community trusts faced challenges because of internal struggles over leadership, while others saw a reduction in the numbers of trust meetings and losses of membership of Trust management committees. Income levels of community trusts declined by 70-90% from 2014-2021, based on preliminary data obtained during community consultations in 2022.

Competition between commercial and subsistence livestock farmers, combined with increasing land-use pressures from these and other sectors is reducing the rangeland productivity and causing an expansion of bush in some areas. People in the remote area communities are having to go farther from their settlements in order to graze their livestock and to collect wild food and medicinal plants. The lack of viable alternative livelihood opportunities fuels community

⁴ For a discussion of government policy on wildlife management areas, see Republic of Botswana (1986) *Wildlife Conservation Policy*. Government Paper No. 1 of 1986. Gaborone, Botswana: Government Printer.

frustrations. Stakeholders currently do not have some of the planning tools, institutional coordination, and operational capacities needed to manage natural resources effectively. For these reasons, balancing competing needs while optimizing environmental, social, and economic outcomes remains difficult to achieve.

The Government of Botswana seeks to address these issues through a project with four component activities: 1) Coordinating actions to combat wildlife crime/trafficking while enforcing wildlife policies and regulations at district, national and international levels; 2) Establishing incentives and systems for wildlife protection and utilization by communities in order to increase their financial returns and so help reduce human wildlife conflicts, 3) Securing livelihoods and conserving biodiversity in the Kalahari landscape; 4) Ensuring integrated landscape planning in conservation areas and introducing sustainable land management practices in communal lands to secure wildlife migratory corridors. This will increase the productivity of rangelands by reducing competition between land uses while increasing ecosystem integrity of the Kalahari ecosystem. The project also incorporates gender mainstreaming, knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation and post-project assessment.

3. Description of Indigenous Peoples

In broad terms, indigenous peoples in Botswana refer to Khoesan peoples, including the San, who belong to over 30 named, self-identified groups, along with the Nama, and the Balala. The latter groups today have learned Nama and Sekgalagadi and use these languages in daily conversations. Other groups in Botswana would fit the World Bank's criteria of Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities (ESS7) (World Bank 2018), such as the Herero and Bakgalagadi.⁵

There are 14 different groups in Ghanzi and Kgalagadi who identify as indigenous people and who Botswana refer to as Basarwa while the government identifies them as Remote Area Dwellers (see Table 1). Botswana does not disaggregate its population along the lines of ethnicity, and as a result population estimates for the various groups are limited. The total population in Botswana of people who are considered to be Remote Area Dwellers in 2023 is approximately 77,000.⁶

San is a collective name for a wide range of peoples living throughout Botswana. Members of the public and some government officials refer to San peoples as Basarwa, a term that San and remote area dwellers reject. Today some San say that they prefer to use the term 'Bushmen' to refer to themselves, though they prefer individual group names, such as !Ani, G//ana, G/ui, †Hoan, †Khomani, Naro, Tshila, and !Xóǒ. They self-identify as San or Bushmen at international meetings such as the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII). All of them speak languages containing click consonants and have a history of hunting and gathering.

The San group with the highest numbers and who are the most widely distributed in the project area are the Naro, who occupy the Ghanzi Ridge and adjacent areas. Like the !Xóǒ and the †X'ao-||'aen (Makaukau), the Naro are a transboundary group, extending west into Namibia. Many

⁵ World Bank (2018b) *Guidance Note – ESS7: Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities*. Washington, DC: The World Bank.

⁶ Steven Ludick, Director, Department of Community Development, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, personal communications, 2018, 2020, 2022.

Naro live on the Ghanzi Farms, which were originally established in 1898 and expanded in the 1950s and 1970s and in areas to the north and south. The Naro, Ts'aokwe, and other San on the Ghanzi Ridge have a history of farm work that goes back over 120 years.

Some Naro were also resettled out of the farms in the late 1970s to East and West Hanahai and Groot Laagte in Ghanzi Wildlife Management area GHA 1. In the second decade of the new millennium (2011-2020) !Xóǎ San residing at Ranyane in Ghanzi District were involuntarily relocated to Bere in Ghanzi District, an action that was taken by the Ghanzi District Council and Central Government which went against the wishes of the people of Ranyane, and thus can be characterized as involuntary resettlement.

Efforts to resettle people at Rooibrak south of Tsau Hill in Ghanzi District were unsuccessful as sufficient water to support a community could not be obtained. Some individuals moved to Kuke on the northern edge of the Ghanzi-Northwest District boundary, particularly after the Khoemacau copper-silver project began in the first decade of the new millennium. Others moved on their own to communal areas and Wildlife Management Areas outside of the farms, notably to WMA GHA 10, and WMA GHA 11. Some of these moves were due to a reduction in the numbers of farm labour jobs over the past two decades. A few of the groups that moved out of the farms became more mobile and sought voluntary refuge in places that had few or no cattle posts or ranches, such as the north western part of Groot Laagte Wildlife Management Area (GHA1) and in the north western corner of the Central Kalahari Game Reserve to the south of the Kuke Fence and east of Tsau Hill, which is located on the eastern boundary of the Central Kalahari. There are also likely some voluntary isolated indigenous peoples in the southwestern portion of the Central Kalahari Game Reserve.

The !Xóǎ, the second largest San group in the area, do some work on cattle posts but by and large they reside in communities that until the 1970s were largely independent of other groups. Today, however, nearly all !Xóǎ reside in multi-ethnic communities in northern and central Kgalagadi District. Some !Xóǎ work as cattle herders (*badisa*) mainly for Bakgalagadi (including Bakgwatlheng, Babolangwe, Bangologa, Baphaleng, and Bashaga). The Bakgalagadi have a different pattern of residence and land use than do San, with home villages surrounded by fields (*masimo*) and in some cases distant cattle posts (*meraka*). San are found in Bakgalagadi communities and in all of their land use categories.

The San of the study area belong to three different language groups: (1) Khoe-Kwadi, (2) Kx'a, and (3) Tuu according to linguist Tom Güldemann.⁷ The Nama, who reside primarily in southern Kgalagadi District, speak Khoekhoe or Khoekhoegowab, a sub-group of the Khoe-Kwadi language family. Nama are also found in Namibia and South Africa and thus are a trans-boundary group. The Xóǎ, along with Nama and Balala, are transboundary people, with the majority of Xóǎ found in the Kgalagadi District of Botswana.⁸ The Balala are found primarily in the eastern part of the Kgalagadi District, extending into South (Ngwaketse) District.

⁷ Tom Güldemann, personal communication, November 2022; see also Güldemann, Tom (2014) 'Khoisan' linguistic classification today. In *Beyond 'Khoisan': Historical Relations in the Kalahari Basin*. Tom Güldemann and Anne-Maria Fehn, eds. pp. 1-44. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

⁸ Traill, Anthony (1974) *The Complete Guide to the Koon. A Report on Linguistic Fieldwork Undertaken in Botswana and South West Africa*. African Studies Institute, Witwatersrand University, Johannesburg,

In addition to linguistic similarities, the San, Nama, and Balala have a number of cultural and socioeconomic similarities. These include a history of mobility, foraging, and utilization of territories ranging from roughly 200 to 5,000 km² in area. Historically, all of the San resided in groups, known as bands, ranging from 25-80 persons in number. The bands are linked through blood [kinship] ties, marriage, friendship, and sharing of gifts and sometimes services. There are large marriage pools which essentially are supra-regional networks consisting of up to 500 people related to one another that stretch across larger areas. All of them have a strong sense of territorial land use and management which they define as 'ownership.' They all have knowledgeable individuals in each community who oversee land use and natural resource management. At the same time, each group has strong rules about sharing of meat, wild plants, and other resources. Many of these sharing rules for land and resources still exist today.

The indigenous groups are all largely egalitarian socially, economically, and politically, though some differences in social equality have begun to be seen. It is important to note, however, that leadership roles existed in all of these groups. The roles have become institutionalized over time, with some headmen and headwomen overseeing customary courts and serving as individuals with some influence who have the power to resolve local disputes. Individuals are guided by a strong sense of ethics and morality that is drawn from their belief systems about the ways that the world should work. They are also very aware of their environments and do what they can to ensure sustainable natural resource use, though there are cases where overuse of resources does occur, particularly when large groups of people come together for marriage ceremonies or for honoring the memory of one of their number who has passed away. All San, Nama, and Balala have beliefs in an afterlife and in a spiritual being who influences their lives, including those who practice religions such as Christianity and Islam. The traditional belief systems of these groups all focus on the importance of the natural environment to their well-being.

The San, Nama, and Balala have a shared history of marginalization, discrimination, and what they see as unjust treatment at the hands of other groups and the nation-state of Botswana. Historically, some of the members of these groups were viewed as '*bolata*', serfs or servants who lacked the same rights as other groups. In the past they did not have the right to speak in public meetings (*dikgotla*). They sometimes did not receive pay for their labor, they experienced corporal punishment for perceived transgressions, and they were moved without their permission from one place to another.

Many San have experienced dispossession of their ancestral lands throughout the country. Dispossession of Nharo, Ts'aokhwe, /Ani, and other San occurred with the establishment of the Ghanzi Farms in 1898.⁹ At one point, in 1937, a Ghanzi District Commissioner, W.H. Cairns, recommended the establishment of a San settlement site at Olifonskloof, which lasted approximately a year.¹⁰ In the 1950s, landless people who had migrated out of the farms to Ghanzi Township were told by the Bechuanaland Protectorate administration that they had to leave Ghanzi. Some of them moved to places outside of the Ghanzi Farms. Some of their homes were

South Africa. Heinz, H.J. (1994) *Social Organization of the !Kö Bushmen*, Klaus Keuthmann, ed. Köln: Rüdiger Köppe Verlag.

⁹ See Silberbauer, George B. (1981) *Hunter and Habitat in the Central Kalahari Desert*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Pp. 9-14,

¹⁰ Silberbauer, op. cit., pp. 13-14.

destroyed by Ghanzi District officials on the recommendation of the Bechuanaland Protectorate Administration, a set of actions that continue to be discussed by people in Ghanzi District. Over 2,500 people were relocated out of the Central Kalahari Game Reserve in 1997, 2002, and 2005, resulting in a series of legal cases filed in the High Court against the government of Botswana.

There is significant sociocultural diversity in the Central Kalahari which has to be taken into consideration in the work and planning of the reserve. The people who resided in the Central Kalahari included members of 9 ethnic groups: G/ui, G//ana, G//olo, †Hoan, Kūa, Tsassi, Ts'aokohoe, and Tsila San and Babalaongwe Bakgalagadi. Members of some of these groups spoke only mother tongue languages, so paying attention to translation is absolutely crucial. The two main Central Kalahari San groups were the G/ui and the G//ana. The Gui and G/ana, who are two distinct ethnic groups who have considerable rates of intermarriage, both speak what is known as a Khoe-Kwadi language, and they are part of the western Khoe sub-group of the Khoe-Kwadi (Güldemann 2014, 27, Figure 5).

The government of Botswana lost the first CKGR case in the High Court in 2006.¹¹ The government also lost a water rights case on appeal on 2011.¹² Subsequently, the government won a legal case regarding resettlement of Naro San and Bakgalagadi from Ranyane in southern Ghanzi District in 2015.¹³

Both of these cases would have triggered UNDP SES Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement¹⁴ and UNDP SES Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples¹⁵ along with the World Bank's standards on involuntary resettlement (ESS5)¹⁶ and the stipulations regarding indigenous peoples and Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities (ESS7).¹⁷

Indigenous populations and others in the Ghanzi and Kgalagadi Drylands project area are concerned about their rights, and they want to be consulted, to get information about

¹¹ High Court of Botswana (2006) *Case No. MISCA 52/2002 in the Matter Between Roy Sesana, First Applicant, Keiwa Setlhobogwa and 241 others, Second and Further Applicants, and the Attorney General (in his capacity as the recognized agent of the Government of the Republic of Botswana). Judgment coram Hon. Mr. Justice M. Dibotelo, Hon. Justice U. Dow, Hon. Mr. Justice M. P. Phumaphi. 13 December, 2006.* Lobatse: High Court of Botswana.

¹² Court of Appeal, Botswana (2011) *In the Court of Appeal of Botswana held at Lobatse. Court of Appeal No. CACLB-074-10. High Court Civil Case No. MAHLB 000 393-09 In the matter between Matsipane Moseithanyene, First Appellant, and Gakenyatsiwe Matsipane, Second Appellant, and the Attorney General Respondent. Heard 17 January 2011 and delivered 27 January, 2011.* Lobatse, Botswana: Court of Appeal.

¹³ High Court of Botswana (2015) *High Court of Botswana. Case No MAHGB – 000043-4 in the matter between Heebe Karakuis and 114 others and Ghanzi District Council Respondent: Judgment. J. Rannowane, judge.* Decision on 21 October 2015. Lobatse: High Court of Botswana.

¹⁴ United Nations Development Programme (2020) *UNDP SES Standard 5. Displacement and Resettlement.* New York: United Nations Development Programme.

¹⁵ United Nations Development Programme (2017) *UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples.* New York: United Nations Development Programme.

¹⁶ World Bank (2017) *World Bank Social and Environmental Framework.* Washington D.C. The World Bank. World Bank (2018a) *Guidance Note for Borrowers – Environment and Social Framework for IFP Operations: ESS5: Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement.* Washington, DC: The World Bank.

¹⁷ World Bank (2018b) *Guidance Note – ESS7: Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities.* Washington, DC: The World Bank.

government and project plans, to participate in the decision-making regarding the project and its planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. They also want to see that Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) procedures are followed. They want to have a functioning Grievance Redress Mechanism that can be accessed easily. And last but not least, they want to ensure that they will not be displaced, relocated, or resettled as a result of government, project, or private sector decisions.

4. Summary of Substantive Rights and Legal Framework

There are a number of government institutions, policies, and programmes that are relevant to Botswana's indigenous peoples. While the Botswana constitution does not contain specific reference to indigenous peoples, it does state specifically that all of the country's citizens have basic human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Beginning in 1974, the government of Botswana engaged in development activities on behalf of those people then labeled Bushmen in a program known initially as the Bushmen Development Programme. Perhaps the most important method employed by personnel in this programme was to encourage Bushmen to speak for themselves, a process that the Bushmen Development Officer referred to as "politicization." The Bushmen, who felt that they were seriously marginalized, began calling for equal rights, particularly rights to land. Some Bushmen said that they wanted to be seen as full members of the national polity of Botswana.

While the focus initially was on Bushmen, later the target group expanded to include other groups living outside of villages. Extra Rural Dwellers, later called Remote Area Dwellers (RADs) were defined initially as follows:

They are rural citizens who (a) are poor (below the Poverty Datum Line), (b) live outside villages (or on the fringes), (c) are generally non-livestock owners, (d) depend at least partially on hunting and gathering for daily subsistence, (e) often culturally or linguistically distinct (Minute to the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government and Lands [MLGL], LG 1/3, 4 April 1977).

It was clear from this definition that there were other people besides Bushmen who were in need of assistance and who met specific criteria. The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Local Government and Lands (MLGL, later MLGLH) agreed with this approach and recommended to the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning that the name and target group of the program be changed officially (MLGL file LG 1/3 VII [(79), 7 July 1977). At the suggestion of then Vice President Ketumile Masire, the name given to the expanded program was the Remote Area Development Program (RADP) which came into being in 1978.

The decision to broaden the definition of Remote Area Dwellers to include "all people living outside organized village settlements was important in that it underscored the government of Botswana's commitment to a multiethnic set of policies in which all citizens have equal rights,

something stated frequently in government white papers (for example, the Tribal Grazing Land White Paper¹⁸ and national development plans.)¹⁹

The Remote Area Development Program was housed in the then Ministry of Local Government and Lands; today, it is in the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD). Funds for development of Remote Area Dwellers and Remote Area Communities (RACs) were set aside under a government financial institution in the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning (MFDP) known as LG 32 (later called LG 127). Funds were also allocated to the 7 districts that had Remote Area Dwellers, including Ghanzi and Kgalagadi Districts.

Seven of Botswana's 10 districts have Remote Area Development Programme offices in which Remote Area Development Officers (RADOs) are housed. These offices are now part of the District Councils, administrative units of the Botswana government, each of which has a set of officers to address specific areas. The Remote Area Development Officers work alongside Assistant Social and Community Development Officers (S & CD officers) who were associated at one time with the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs. In the field the RADOs had several responsibilities: ensuring that children got to schools, helping to deliver destitute rations and drought relief food, and working on district and local planning for the establishment of activities aimed at helping local people in terms of agriculture, livestock, and small businesses. In the latter case the businesses were primarily income generating projects associated with craft production but later they were expanded to include ecotourism, beekeeping and honey sales, charcoal production, and other livelihood activities.

The Remote Area Development Programme attempted to come up with a means of getting around the problem of land not being allocated to specific groups, which had been the problem facing Basarwa/San and other minorities for generations.²⁰ One way of ensuring that remote area minorities got land was to have the district land boards set aside areas for settlements. The first district where these kinds of schemes were planned was Ghanzi in western Botswana, an area where the Bushmen Development Officer had commissioned a study of the Ghanzi Basarwa be undertaken in 1975-76.²¹ Based on the recommendations of the Ghanzi Basarwa report, the Ghanzi District Council agreed to set aside a certain amount of land to accommodate those San who wished to leave the Ghanzi Farms and establish themselves in their own places. Four locations were selected: East and West Hanahai, Rooibrak (which turned out to have too little water), and Groot Laagte. Some of the people who lived in the vicinities of Rooibrak, Groot Laagte, and Qabo returned to the bush and essentially became what are known as voluntary isolated indigenous peoples (VIIPs), a process which continues up to the present.²²

¹⁸ Republic of Botswana (1975) *National Policy on Tribal Grazing Land*. Government Paper No. 2. Gaborone: Government Printer.

¹⁹ See, for example, Republic of Botswana (2017) *Botswana National Development Plan 11 (2017-2023)*. Gaborone: Ministry of Finance and Development Planning.

²⁰ Wily, Elizabeth A. (1979) *Official Policy Towards San (Bushmen) Hunter-Gatherers in Modern Botswana: 1966-1978*. Gaborone, Botswana: National Institute of Development and Cultural Research.

²¹ Childers, Gary W. (1976) *Report on the Survey/Investigation of the Ghanzi Farm Basarwa Situation*. Gaborone, Botswana: Government Printer.

²² Arthur Albertson, Kalahari Wildlands Trust, personal communications, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023; field data, Robert Hitchcock, Melinda Kelly, part of a National Geographic-funded project in the Central Kalahari conducted in 2019.

Unfortunately, several problems arose with the settlement schemes. The first one revolved around the size of the area to be allocated. While it was held that the area should be large enough to support a sizable population based on diverse production systems, with room enough for growth, the Ghanzi District Council decided to allocate blocks of land 20 X 20 kilometers in size (400 km² in area) for the proposed settlements at West and East Hanahai. As populations of humans and livestock grew, these areas turned out to be too small. They were not adjusted, however, to fit the population's needs. A second problem was that the Ghanzi Land Board was reluctant to provide for security of tenure over the land to which people had been moved. This continues to be a major problem for people living in communal areas and in Wildlife Management Areas. A third difficulty was that the Ghanzi council and the Ghanzi Land Board were reluctant to allow local residents to fence their agricultural areas, something that led to high rates of wildlife and livestock damage to crops.

A major problem relating to the RAD settlements was that they were open to anyone in the country who wanted to settle there. Thus, local people tended to get squeezed out by wealthier groups who came in with their livestock and who had the funds to start businesses like small general dealerships. The Ghanzi Land Board allegedly tended to favor non-San groups in the allocation of grazing rights, water rights, and business sites. According to many residents of Ghanzi remote area communities, there is still a problem of differential allocation by the Ghanzi Land Board, an issue that they say they want investigated by the government Ombudsman or by the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development. Similar claims have been made by remote area communities in the Kgalagadi District; for example, at Nwatile, the Kgalagadi Land Board gave water rights to a non-San individual from Hukuntsi who had no ties to anyone in Nwatile. There continue to be complaints about rights being allocated in remote area communities to non-residents and people from other parts of Botswana.

Remote Area Dweller settlements were not necessarily gazetted settlements under the government's National Settlement Policy (NSP), which added to the uncertain land tenure status. The National Settlement Policy of 1998 stipulates that communities having 500 or more people within a distance of 15 kilometres can be gazetted (made legal under government policy) and therefore can receive central and district government support for development activities.²³ Those settlements that either had fewer than 500 people or which were considered to be in cattle post (grazing) areas were not seen as having the same status as gazetted settlements. It is crucial that in the future that the government of Botswana and Ghanzi and Kgalagadi District Councils rethink their policies regarding community rights in gazetted and ungazetted settlements and villages. There also has to be a rethinking of the rules regarding water right allocation.

The issue of gazettelement is a crucial one being debated currently in Botswana. It should be noted that the Ghanzi Wildlife Management Areas are gazetted, but not the Kgalagadi District Wildlife Management Areas. Few of the remote area communities are gazetted, resulting in the possibility of district council decisions leading to their residents being relocated against their will, which is what happened at Ranyane in Ghanzi District in 2013. There is a serious need for reassessment of the District Council and Land Board land use and development plans and concerted efforts to coordinate the district council plans with those of the KGDEP.

²³ Republic of Botswana (1998) *National Settlement Policy*. Government Paper No. 2 of 1998. Gaborone, Botswana: Government Printer.

The Remote Area Dweller settlements, of which there are 73 currently in Botswana,²⁴ did, however, get social and physical infrastructure, much of it provided by donor funds, especially SIDA (Swedish International Development Agency) and NORAD (the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation), some of this work being undertaken under the Accelerated Remote Area Development Program (ARADP) which lasted from 1998 to 1996.²⁵ Since that time, government has covered the costs of development and infrastructure in the remote area communities.

In Ghanzi District, there is only one community where residents have the ability to get *de jure* (legal) rights over their residential plots, which is D'Kar.²⁶ Dqae Qare, a freehold farm known as the Dqae Qare San Lodge, is located 11 km north of Ghanzi that caters to tourists, is owned by the D'Kar Trust, having been bought for them by SNV, a Netherlands voluntary organization, in 2000. Dqae Qare is an important location not only because of its land tenure status, but also because it employs over two dozen Naro San and Bakgalagadi and benefits are shared with the D'Kar Trust.²⁷ The status of Dqae Qare has been uncertain since 2021 (kuru Family of Organizations, personal communication, February 2023).

None of the other remote area communities in Ghanzi and Kgalagadi have secure land tenure status. All of them are either on communal land or in Wildlife Management Areas. This is a particularly significant problem for indigenous peoples in Botswana that is urgently in need of resolution, especially since the pressures for turning communal land into ranches and farms and degazetting wildlife management areas are building quickly at the national and district level. This is particularly true in the southern Ghanzi and Kgalagadi Districts, both of which have seen a land rush and some rezoning by the two district's councils and Land Boards.\

As noted in the report of the Office of the Special Rapporteur for Minority Issues on his visit to Botswana in 2018²⁸ there is a need for a clear mechanism for demarking and recognizing traditional or historical land use and land tenure rights, especially in the tribal (communal) areas, and the need to address long-standing grievances over land access. Based on feedback from community trusts, remote area settlements and community members, there is also a need to ensure a fair and just process for complaints about land issues to be handled by the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, and for a Grievance Redress Mechanism to be in place to handle land related and other complaints.

²⁴ Ludick, Steven (2018) Botswana Report. In *Sub-Regional Workshop on Inclusive Development for San People in the Framework of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 3-5 December, 2018, Windhoek, Namibia*. Windhoek: Minorities Communities Division, Office of the President, and New York: United Nations Department of Social and Economic Affairs (UNDESA).

²⁵ Chr. Michelsen Institute (1996) *NORAD's Support of the Remote Area Development Programme in Botswana (RADP) in Botswana*. Bergen, Norway: Chr. Michelsen Institute, University of Bergen, Bergen, Norway, Oslo, Norway: Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Gaborone, Botswana: Ministry of Local Government, Lands, and Housing.

²⁶ Lawy, Jenny (2016) *An Ethnography of San: Minority Recognition and Voice in Botswana*. PhD Dissertation, Social Anthropology, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom.

²⁷ Bollig, Michael, Robert K. Hitchcock, Cordelia Nduku, and Jan Reynders (2000) *At the Crossroads: The Future of a Development Initiative. Evaluation of KDT, Kuru Development Trust, Ghanzi and Ngamiland Districts of Botswana*. The Hague, The Netherlands: Hivos.

²⁸ Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (2018) *Report of the Special Rapporteur on minority issues on his visit to Botswana*. A/HRC/40/64/Add.2. Geneva: OHRC. See especially pp. 11-13.

Government of Botswana Policy Documents Relating to Remote Area Populations and Communities

There are three main Botswana government policy documents relating specifically to remote area populations. These are as follows:

Republic of Botswana (2000) *Remote Area Development Program Operational Guidelines*. Gaborone, Botswana: Government Printer.

Republic of Botswana (2009) *Revised Remote Area Development Programme (RADP)*. Ministry of Local Government, February 2009. Gaborone, Botswana: Republic of Botswana.²⁹

Republic of Botswana (2014) *Affirmative Action Framework for Remote Area Communities, 16th July 2014*. Gaborone: Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development.

Unlike Namibia,³⁰ the Botswana government never issued a formal white paper on indigenous peoples or on the Remote Area Development Programme even though a draft of one developed by the Ministry of Local government and Rural Development was discussed at Cabinet level in the 1990s. The revised Remote Area Development Programme of 2009 and the Affirmative Action Framework are not very specific about the land issues facing Remote Area Dwellers in particular, saying members of a remote area community have the same rights as other people to apply for land in remote area settlements.

The openness and lack of specificity about issues such as the gazettement of remote area communities as settlements has left open the possibility of members of other groups moving into the remote area communities and utilizing the water, grazing, and other resources in these places, resulting in community competition over resources, which are subjects of major concern to indigenous and other communities. The Affirmative Action Framework and the Remote Area Development Programme were under investigation by a team of consultants in 2021 which overlapped with the present project implementation.³¹ While there was a mention of 'Bushmen rights' in the 1966 Constitution, this was later removed during the first millennium of the 21st century as the government of Botswana was dealing with legal actions related to the CKGR.

There is no mention whatsoever of Remote Area Dweller land needs and rights in the 2015 Botswana government land policy.³² Those remote area communities that have applied for land under the 2015 Land Policy have not been granted any land, unlike individuals, some of them well-

²⁹ Republic of Botswana (2009) *Revised Remote Area Development Programme (RADP)*. Ministry of Local Government, February 2009. Gaborone, Botswana: Republic of Botswana. See especially pp. 9-10. See also Republic of Botswana (2014) *Affirmative Action Framework for Remote Area Communities, 16th July 2014*. Gaborone: Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, p. 9.

³⁰ Division of Marginalized Communities (2020) *Draft White Paper on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Namibia*. Windhoek: Division of Marginalized Communities, Office of the President.

³¹ Diouf, Alexandre and David Mmopelwa (2021) *Review of the affirmative action framework for remote area communities and impact assessment of the Remote Area Development Programme: Inception Report*. Gaborone: Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRUD).

³² Republic of Botswana (2015) *Botswana Land Policy*. Government Paper No. 4 of 2015. Gaborone: Botswana Government Printer.

to-do, who have applied for land. These issues have been raised by Botswana citizens and representatives of Botswana San non-government organizations at the meetings of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York and in UN and Universal Period Review meetings in Geneva numerous times in the past two decades, and at regional meetings on San inclusive development such as the one held from 3-5 December 2018 in Windhoek. Some of these meetings were convened by the Working Group of Indigenous Minorities in Southern Africa and some by the governments of Botswana and Namibia. There were some specific meetings related to the issues raised by the Central Kalahari Game Reserve relocation by the Botswana government.³³

In addition to indigenous peoples in the project area there are also vulnerable groups, including some voluntary isolated hunting and gathering peoples (VIIPs) in remote parts of the north western and south western Central Kalahari and in the Groot Laagte WMA (GHA 1) in north western Ghanzi District, extending into southern Northwest District. A careful and well thought out policy will be needed to work out effective ways to deal with voluntary isolated indigenous peoples. It is estimated that there are between 100 and 200 people in three or four groups. They are particularly vulnerable to disease which is something that must be taken into consideration in ensuring that they be allowed to remain isolated and that the areas they occupy are set aside in such a way that no development is allowed to occur in the areas that they occupy.

Vulnerable groups also include women, girls, and youth, orphans, the elderly, and people with disabilities. Members of these vulnerable groups receive assistance through the Botswana government's social safety net programmes, some of which are spelled out in the national policy on destitute persons.³⁴ There are also people who have HIV/AIDS and ones with drug-resistant tuberculosis who are assisted through government programmes sponsored by the Ministry of Health and Wellness and the District Health Teams. Voluntary isolated indigenous peoples, however, are beyond the range of government programmes.

A recent area of concern has been the COVID-19 pandemic, which has led the government to mount a whole series of lockdowns, dissemination of information, and provision of soap, hand sanitizer, and personal protective equipment beginning in late March 2020. Various organizations in Botswana have undertaken gap analyses to determine the statuses of vulnerable groups and to recommend assistance.³⁵ In addition to the COVID-19 epidemic, there have been concerns about gender violence and abuse of youth, particularly at school hostels, an issue highlighted by the Botswana Khwedom Council and the San Youth Network (SYNET) in 2020.³⁶ The Department of Social Protection and UNICEF Botswana have raised the issue of violence against women and youth, as have various government agencies, including the Ministry of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs and the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sport, and Culture Development

³³ Sapignoli, Maria (2018) *Hunting Justice: Displacement, Law and Activism in the Kalahari*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

³⁴ Republic of Botswana (2002a) *Revised National Policy on Destitute Persons*. Gaborone: Government Printer.

³⁵ See Child Frontiers (2020a) *Mapping and Capacity Gap Analysis: Strengthening the social service workforce to prevent and respond to violence against children in Botswana*. Gaborone: Child Frontiers.

³⁶ Hitchcock, R.K. and J. Frost (2021). Botswana. In *Indigenous World 2021*, Dwayne Mamo, ed. Pp. 37-47. Copenhagen: International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs.

(MYSC).³⁷ These issues are highlighted in the gender mainstreaming and planning documents related to the KGDEP.

Botswana is a signatory of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that was passed in the United Nations in September 2007, and it is a party to a number of other treaties and declarations relevant to indigenous peoples (see Box 1). Botswana has not, however, signed the International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention 169 which is the only international convention directly focused on indigenous people. It is important to note that Botswana has supported the African Commission of Human and People's Rights' position on group rights and peoples' rights in meetings of the African Commission, the African Union, and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the United Nations.

Indigenous peoples, minorities, and vulnerable groups have both been very active in terms of asking the government of Botswana to treat them equally and to address their specific human rights concerns.³⁸ What remote area dwellers want is for Botswana to carefully consider the concept of juridical personality, which is the recognition of a group, association, or organization of indigenous peoples within the legal system whereby both individuals and organizations have certain rights, protection privileges, responsibilities, and liabilities in law.³⁹

5. UNDP Social and Environmental Standards

This Indigenous Peoples Plan has been prepared in line with UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES) Policy, which came into effect 1 January 2016.⁴⁰ It has also been prepared in line with the updated SES policy that came into effect on 1 January 2021. These standards underpin UNDP's commitment to ensure protection of indigenous peoples. They are an integral component of UNDP's quality assurance and risk management approach to programming. Through the SES, UNDP meets the requirements of the GEF's Environmental and Social Safeguards Policy.

The objectives of the UNDP SES are to:

- Strengthen the social and environmental outcomes of Programs and Projects;
- Avoid adverse impacts to people and the environment;
- Minimize, mitigate, and manage adverse impacts where avoidance is not possible;
- Strengthen UNDP and partner capacities for managing social and environmental risks;
- Ensure full and effective stakeholder engagement, including through the development of a mechanism to respond to complaints from project-affected people.

³⁷ Child Frontiers (2020b) *Protecting Children of Nomadic Groups in Botswana*. Gaborone: Child Frontiers and UNICEF, May 2020.

³⁸ See, for example, Kann, Ulla, Robert Hitchcock, and Nomtuse Mbere (1990) *Let Them Talk: A Review of the Accelerated Remote Area Development Program*. Gaborone, Botswana: Ministry of Local Government and Lands and Oslo, Norway: Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation.

³⁹ Adriano, Elvia Arcelia Quintana (2015) The Natural Person, Legal Entity or Juridical Person and Juridical Personality. *Penn State Journal of Law and International Affairs* 4(1):365-393.

⁴⁰ United Nations Development Programme (2016) *Guidance Note: UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. Social and Environmental Assessment and Management*. New York: United Nations Development Programme.

In accordance with UNDP SES policy, the Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) has been applied to the Project during the project development phase (both at Project Identification and Project Grant Preparation stages). The earlier screenings were done as part of the project preparation activities. Consultations were held at the local level with a sample of the communities in the proposed project area.

In addition, in accordance with that policy, a SES principle or standard is 'triggered' when a potential risk is identified and assessed as having either a 'moderate' or 'high' risk-rating based on its probability of occurrence and extent of impact. Risks are assessed as 'low' if they do not trigger the related principle or standard. In the case of this project, the overall rating initially was low, was later assessed as moderate, but has been upgraded to high in this assessment.

The screening highlighted the Kgalagadi-Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project's intentions as they relate to mainstreaming human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, and environmental sustainability. Careful attention was paid to UNDP's SES Standard 6 on Indigenous Peoples.⁴¹

An impact risk assessment was undertaken using the Social and Environmental Screening Procedure to identify and assess both the probability and the impact of risks posed by the project. This was done three times, including the FPIC survey done in the KGDEP area in June-July 2022.

The studies and consultations identified the following risks as specific to indigenous peoples in the KGDEP area:

Risk 1: Indigenous Peoples including vulnerable groups might not engage in, support, or benefit from project activities (UNDP SES Standard 6)

Referring to UNDP Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples, the policy and operating environment of Botswana in relation to indigenous peoples is relatively stable, though there have been issues raised internationally and locally regarding the government's treatment of indigenous peoples. Botswana is a democratic country that has held eight open elections since its independence on 30 September 1966. The country has a strong constitution and well-defined rules of law. It has regularly taken part in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the Human Rights Council, the most recent discussions being in 2023. Government officials and representatives of Botswana indigenous organizations take part regularly in the annual meetings of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York, most recently in April 2023.

As mentioned previously, the government has an office devoted to Remote Area Development, a remote area development policy, and an affirmative action framework aimed at assisting people living in remote areas. However, a number of implementation risks to the project remain due to the marginalized position of the country's indigenous peoples. These include, but are not limited to the following:

⁴¹ United Nations Development Programme (2021) *UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples*. New York: United Nations Development Programme.

- 1) Representation and participation: San, Nama, and Balala are all minority populations, and they lack strong political and institutional representation in the project landscape, with the exception of the Ghanzi District Council which has at least 6 district councilors who are San from various parts of the district. In general, levels of education, employment, technical expertise, and experience tend to be lower for San than is the case for other groups in the project area. Indigenous peoples in the project area have an unfortunate history of dispossession, resettlement, and dispossession, which has led to the rise of organizations promoting indigenous rights in the area (e.g., First People of the Kalahari, the Kuru Family of Organizations, and the Botswana Khwedom Council) (see Table 2). Indigenous groups in the area have had difficulties in seeking their rights and opportunities to negotiate with the government, which has led to a series of legal cases brought against the government.
- 2) Special attention should be paid to ensuring that consultation systems within the project are detailed, comprehensive, and are monitored following SES and FPIC principles. This set of processes should include identification through document reviews, consultation with central, district, and local level organizations, hosting of meetings with project-affected communities, and targeted discussions with indigenous, minority, and vulnerable groups in the project area. Such approaches should include balanced gender and youth participation. There should be consultation and FPIC before planning for specific activities is complete, for example, the plans that government tried to impose on the Central Kalahari Game Reserve such as establishing a trust to cover all of the CKGR communities without any consultation with the communities themselves in the time before the KGDEP project was conceived.
- 3) Potential for limited benefits from wildlife and natural resources exists for indigenous peoples in the project area. While the government has a well-established Community-based Natural Resource Management Programme which has existed in the country since 1990, the imposition of the hunting ban in January 2014 led to a weakening of the community trusts that had been established under the CBNRM policy. In some cases, the community trusts were taken over by outside organizations. In other cases, the community trusts were not getting any benefits from CBNRM, so they ceased to hold meetings and plan any activities. This, in turn, has led to a reduction in the financial, employment, and subsistence returns from the trusts. The project authorities will have to carefully assess the status of the community trusts through careful consultation efforts aimed at speaking to all segments of the communities. San, Nama, and Balala community members should be included in government discussions of CBNRM and access and benefit sharing of natural resources and in institutions involved with conservation and development in the project area.
- 4) Preliminary Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) procedures have largely been followed in the early phases of the project, but additional efforts will have to be made in this area in order to meet social safeguards requirements. Further consultations must be carried out for certain project activities, including work on livelihood-related projects such as tourism-related enterprises and the veld product center which have important implications for both land use and community member participation, management, and equitable benefit sharing.
- 5) Special efforts need to be made to document the territoriality and land use practices of remote area communities in the project area. Such a step is necessary in order to highlight potential areas of conflict (e.g., over land being allocated for commercial ranches, game

farms and wildlife corridors). Such mapping has taken place in the southern Ghanzi and northern Kgalagadi Districts and has been presented to the Department of Wildlife and National Parks and to the two district councils but no decisions have been forthcoming from government or the district councils about how to deal with the complexity of issues relating to land use.

Required Action to address points 1-5 above. The project's Stakeholder Engagement Plan considered the need for additional stakeholder engagement work. Government will have to ensure that the risks identified in the surveys carried out in Ghanzi and Kgalagadi are addressed. Also, risks identified in the Grievance Redress Mechanism's implementation will have to be addressed and mitigated. The required actions include a wholesale reassessment of the anti-poaching operations, human rights, and conflict management training of DWNP officers, and ensuring that there is no impunity for people who violate human rights. Promoting partnerships between communities and government is a goal of the KGDEP. These partnerships should include recognition and support of the various indigenous peoples' organizations in the project area such as the Kuru Family of Organizations, First People of the Kalahari, and the Botswana Khwedom Council. These organizations should be consulted directly in all phases of KGDEP implementation.

Risk 2. Increased wildlife-related legal enforcement and new approaches to Human-Wildlife Conflict could change current access to protected areas, buffer zones including Wildlife Management Areas, and communal zones, as well as to specific resources, potentially leading to economic displacement and/or changes in indigenous and other people's property rights (SES Principle 1, Standard 1, and Standard 5).

This risk stems from the continued competition for land between conservation, subsistence, and agricultural livelihoods in the Ghanzi and Kgalagadi Districts. Indigenous peoples in the project area have been moved involuntarily to promote conservation and tourism, as occurred in the case of the Central Kalahari Game Reserve, and at least one community in the GH 10 Wildlife Management Area, Ranyane, has been moved to Bere, ostensibly in order to achieve conservation goals.

There is thus considerable sensitivity among indigenous people in the KGDEP area with respect to the possibility of being resettled and relocated as land zoning changes in the area. The project has committed itself to a 'no resettlement' position in line with SES Standard 6. However, mixed messages are being reported, particularly in GH 10 and 11, where ranches have been allocated and local people told that they have to relocate.

Required Actions. The government of Botswana and the UNDP must monitor and consult on any likely changes in land use and enforcement resulting from decisions at the district level. What this means is that project authorities must attend district council and land board meetings and look carefully at all land use and management plans issued by Ghanzi and Kgalagadi. project activities. There are risks related to the statements made by project officials, district council officials, and central government personnel which cause confusion both to project personnel and local communities. There is considerable uncertainty surrounding community trusts that have been established without consultation with local communities. One example is that of the Memoghamoga Community Trust which was established by Central government in 2018 without consulting any of the communities in the Central Kalahari Game Reserve or the people in the community of New Xade.

All of the local communities in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi drylands region are aware of issues relating to wildlife crime, its prevention and enforcement, and generally demonstrate considerable hostility towards these policies, emanating from their experiences with anti-poaching operations. These communities view the policies and laws governing the use of wild animals to be too pro-wildlife, and that they take away benefits from people. Attention must be paid to addressing these concerns by the government and UNDP.

Required Action: Consultations on the potential risks of anti-poaching patrols and engagement with anti-poaching activities must be included in the addition IPP consultations. Discussions will also have to be held about government anti-poaching policies and how they are being implemented. Communities should be informed about the results of the Botswana Anti-Poaching strategy which is seriously in need of re-evaluation, and principles incorporated into it that emphasizes human rights

A particular area of concern that has been noted by community members in the KGDEP area is that letters they have written to the MENT about issues such as anti-poaching, setting of hunting quotas, support of community trusts, and advertising of campsites for private allocation on the web have gone unanswered, underscoring what they see as a lack of consultation and lack of responsibility on the part of MENT. These concerns must be addressed in order to gain the buy-in of indigenous people in the area for supporting the project's goals and objectives.

There will have to be a monitoring system which records all communications from communities to the MENT in which the letters are included, and the responses to the communities are documented. A major problem in the project area has been the failure to respond to written communications, and the failure to record community concerns when meetings are held by MENT and DWNP with communities. It is crucial that minutes be taken in all meetings with communities, and that these minutes be made available to the communities.

Risk 4. Protecting traditional knowledge and cultural heritage (SES Standard 4).

This project does not seek to engage in activities that document or appropriate traditional knowledge and cultural heritage from indigenous peoples. There is a different access and benefit sharing project in Botswana that deals with the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Nagoya Protocol which addresses bioprospecting.⁴² The KGDEP project will seek to engage whenever possible and to respect the practices of indigenous peoples in utilizing traditional and indigenous knowledge to manage and conserve natural resources and cultural resources. Where community-based management rights exist, these should be respected. These objectives will be achieved through consultation with communities about wildlife corridors, fencing, establishment of tourism and livelihood activities, and by building on both traditional and scientific management practices.

⁴² UNDP (2020) *Access and Benefit-sharing (ABS) Project - Promoting beneficiation and value addition from Botswana's genetic resources through enhanced capacity for research and development and protection of traditional knowledge*. Gaborone: UNDP.

Efforts will be made to ensure protection of traditional uses of medicinal and other kinds of plants, minerals, and other resources. Specific efforts will need to be made to enable access of communities to areas of cultural and social importance, including places where there are sacred sites, including graves, as seen, for example, in the Okwa Valley (Cheetah Conservation Botswana 2022a,b; Kalahari Wildlands Trust 2023). Communities should be involved in the identification of culturally important sites, including shrines and places of historic importance. Community members should also be incorporated into the management teams that deal with these sites. Some of the places that communities want to have protected are sip-well () sites and places with rock engravings. Any plans about tourist or other public access to these places will have to be discussed with local leaders and local communities, who will have a full say over whether these kinds of activities can take place.⁴³ This includes all activities relating to ecotourism including ecotourism trails which have been proposed recently by the KGDEP.

6. Participation, Consultation, and FPIC Processes

The communities where the FPIC survey was undertaken in June-July 2022 are presented in Table 4. Follow-up of these consultations are needed in the three villages which gave only limited agreement to the project. A second phase of FPIC consultations should be done in the 15 villages which were not part of the original FPIC survey.

While the objective of the FPIC process is to reach an agreement (consent) between the relevant parties, whether it is a signed agreement or an otherwise-formalized oral contract, this does not suggest that all FPIC processes will lead to the full consent of and approval by people affected by the project. The project has a duty to achieve consent and not just consult with local people.⁴⁴

7. Capacity Support for Implementation of the Indigenous Peoples Plan

The IPP details actions to be taken within the Project to ensure that sufficient capacity is allocated to meet the objectives of the SES Standard 6 and the specific measures agreed within the IPPF. Where capacity may be limited, the IPP will include additional actions to increase capacity in the short- or long-term to the same ends. As with other activities under the IPP, it is important to maximise the participation of indigenous peoples in capacity support measures.

8. Recently Proposed Project Activities.

The KGDEP has proposed four initiatives that present opportunities for community benefits and potentially have some risks. These include:

⁴³ Some similar recommendations were made in the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework, Department of Wildlife and National Parks (2016) *Human-wildlife-Conflict Management (HWCM) in Northern Botswana Project*. Gaborone: Department of Wildlife and National Parks, Government of Botswana, and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

⁴⁴ Iseli, Claudia (2020) The Operationalization of the Principle of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent: A Duty to Obtain Consent or Simply a Duty to Consult? *UCLA Journal of Environmental Law* 38(2):259-275.

A. *Establishing a veld products and crafts centre such of the village of Ka/Gae.* This is a good idea from the standpoint of increasing access to community members in the KGDP area to sell crafts, something that has been problematic in the past because of the decline of Gantsicraft's ability to work in the field due to lack of transport, and the purchasing activities of the Kuru Family of Organizations and Botswanacraft, none of which have been able to purchase crafts in the field in the past three years. Careful efforts will have to be worked out to ensure fair prices to be paid for crafts and for a benefit-sharing agreement between the veld products and crafts centre and local communities in the KGDEP area. Care will also have to be taken to ensure that the veld product exploitation activities are sustainable and do not utilize vulnerable, threatened, or endangered species. An Environmental and Social Impact Assessment of the centre likely will be necessary. Careful assessment will be required if the growing of high-value plants at the centre will have to be carried out and how the information on the results will be disseminated. A gender-balanced approach will be needed, given that a significant portion of the approximately 2,500 craft producers in the project area are women.

B. *Implementing performance-based payments for adhering to agreed-upon local and use plans.* Payments will be made to local communities for keeping cattle in agreed-upon areas, ensuring that cattle and other stock do not stray into wildlife zones, to ensure that poaching is not done in the communities, and for carrying out conservation-related activities. These have already been pioneered in Zutshwa and have been discussed in Ukhwi, Ncaang, and Nwatile. Careful explanations of the criteria for the payments will be required. NGOs, notably Kalahari Research and Conservation (KRC), are already involved in implementing these payments which are very popular in Zutshwa.

C. *Development of self-drive wilderness ecotourism trails.* These trails will provide self-drive tourists for opportunities to travel in remote areas that have wildlife and not cattle. These will be low-cost ecotourism ventures where tourists will drive themselves, guided by maps that indicate where they can drive and camp. As the numbers of these wilderness ecotourism trails expand, they will have to be monitored to ensure that tourists do not engage in illegal resource exploitation. Care will have to be taken to ensure that there is a balance among the various communities in cash benefits deriving from the ecotourism trails. This process has already been pioneered in Zutshwa village.

D. In addition to these proposed activities, there are also ones being implemented in the BORAVAST communities (Bokspits, Rappelspan, Vaalhoek and Struizendam) in Kgalagadi South. These activities include training in how to produce charcoal using Sexanana (*Prosopis glandulosa*, mesquite) and how to assist in the removal of non-indigenous plants like Sexanana. This is a collaborative effort between the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystems Project (KGDEP) and the Department of Forestry and Range Resources (DFRR). Meanwhile, DFRR is also working on developing a management strategy that will control the spread of the "problem tree" in the Kgalagadi landscape. It is assumed that there is an EIA that has been done for this activity.

E. The community trusts in the KGDEP area should all be revisited, and discussions held regarding their needs, desires, and concerns. Data on the community trusts are presented in Table 5. Currently, there is immense confusion at the community level about exactly what the project is offering and what government and the district councils are offering with respect to community

trusts. While 'the management of community expectations' is clearly necessary, this will require all project personnel to provide accurate and up to date information on their plans.

Table 1. Population Sizes and Distributions of Major San (Basarwa) Groups in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Dryland Ecosystem Project Area, Botswana

Group Name	Location	Population Size
Ani	Eastern Ghanzi District	600
Balala	Kgalagadi District, Southern District	2,350
G ana	Central, western, and northern Kalahari	2,825
G old (Dxoro)	Lake Xuan, Central District, eastern CKGR*	750
Gnu (G wi)	Central and western Kalahari	2,300
#Hoan	Kweneng District, Central Kalahari	300
#Khomani	Kgalagadi District, Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, Northern Cape of South Africa	250
Kua	Western Central District, eastern CKGR*, northern Kweneng District	650
Nama	Kgalagadi District, Southern District	2,750
Naro (Nharo)	Ghanzi District and Kgalagadi District	8,000
Ts'aokhoe	Ghanzi District	1,000
Tshila	Central Kalahari	500
‡X'ao- 'aen [//'Xau ‡esi, //Au//eisi, Kao//'aeisi, Auen, Makaukau]	northern Ghanzi District (Groot Laagte)	1,000
!Xǒó	Ghanzi, Kgalagadi District	3,800
Total = 14 Groups	Two Districts	27,100

*CKGR = Central Kalahari Game Reserve

Table 2. National, and Community-Based Organizations involving San and other Groups in Botswana

Group(s)	Organization	Founding
All minority groups in Botswana	Reteng – the Multicultural Coalition of Botswana	2002
Naro San and other minorities in Ghanzi and Northwest Districts, Botswana	Kuru Family of Organizations (KFO)	1986
San in Southern Africa	Working Group of Indigenous Minorities in Southern Africa (WIMSA)	1996
G/ui, G//ana, and other San and Bakgalagadi in Botswana	First Peoples of the Kalahari (FPK)	1993
San Youth in Botswana	SyNet	2016
San in Botswana	Botswana Khwedom Council (BKC)	2008

Table 3. Projects in the KGDEP area and non-government organizations involved in implementing them.

Activity	Implementing NGO	Status
Human-wildlife Conflict management	Cheetah Conservation Botswana (attn: Rebecca Klein et al)	On-going
Conservation payments to community members	Kalahari Research and Conservation (attn: Glynn Maude et al)	On-going, began 2020
Land Use Planning in GH 10 and GH 11	Cheetah Conservation Botswana, Kalahari Wildlands Trust	On-going
Establishment of Veld Products and Craft Centres	Cheetah Conservation Botswana (CCB)	In planning stages
Charcoal production and removal of invasive non-indigenous plants	Department of Forestry and Range Resources and NGO	On-going

Table 4. Communities that were visited during the FPIC process in June-July 2022.

District	Community	Date of Consultation	Location (Degrees, Minutes and Seconds)	Population (2022)	Land Category
Ghanzi	West Hanahai	6 June 2022	22°6'16"S 21°46'19"E	1,101 (2022)	WMA
Ghanzi	New Xade	7 June 2022	22°7'11"S 22°24'40"E	1,614 (2022)	WMA
Ghanzi	East Hanahai	8 June 2022	22°9'48"S 21°51'16"E	720 (2022)	WMA
Ghanzi	Bere	9 June 2022	22°49'17"S 21°52'30"E	874 (2022)	WMA
Ghanzi	Ka/Gae	10 June 2022	22°51'22"S 22°12'30"E	746 (2022)	WMA
No. Kgalagadi	Monong	13 June 2022	23°39'42"S 21°30'53"E	392 (2022)	Communal
No. Kgalagadi	Ncaang	14 June 2022	23°26'27"S 21°13'15"E	358 (2022)	WMA
No. Kgalagadi	Ukhwi	15 June 2022	23°33'21"S 20°29'58"E	669 (2022)	WMA
No. Kgalagadi	Ngwatle	16 June 2022	23°42'33"S 21°4'41"E	461 (2022)	WMA
No. Kgalagadi	Zutshwa	17 June 2022	24°8'28"S 21°14'50"E	613 (2022)	WMA
So. Kgalagadi	Khawa	20 June 2022	26°16'54"S 21°22'7"E	1,299 (2022)	WMA
So. Kgalagadi	Struizendam	21 June 2022 and 23 June 2022	26°40'22"S 20°38'9"E	723 (2022)	Communal
So. Kgalagadi	Bokspits	22 June 2022	26°53'51"S 20°41'32"E	705 (2022)	Communal
So. Kgalagadi	Rappels Pan	23 June 2022	26°49'19"S 20°48'54"E	338 (2022)	Communal
So. Kgalagadi	Vaalhoek	24 June 2022	26°52'5"S 20°42'36"E	588 (2022)	Communal

Data From James Bradley (2022)

Table 5. Community Trusts in Ghanzi and Kgalagadi Districts, Botswana

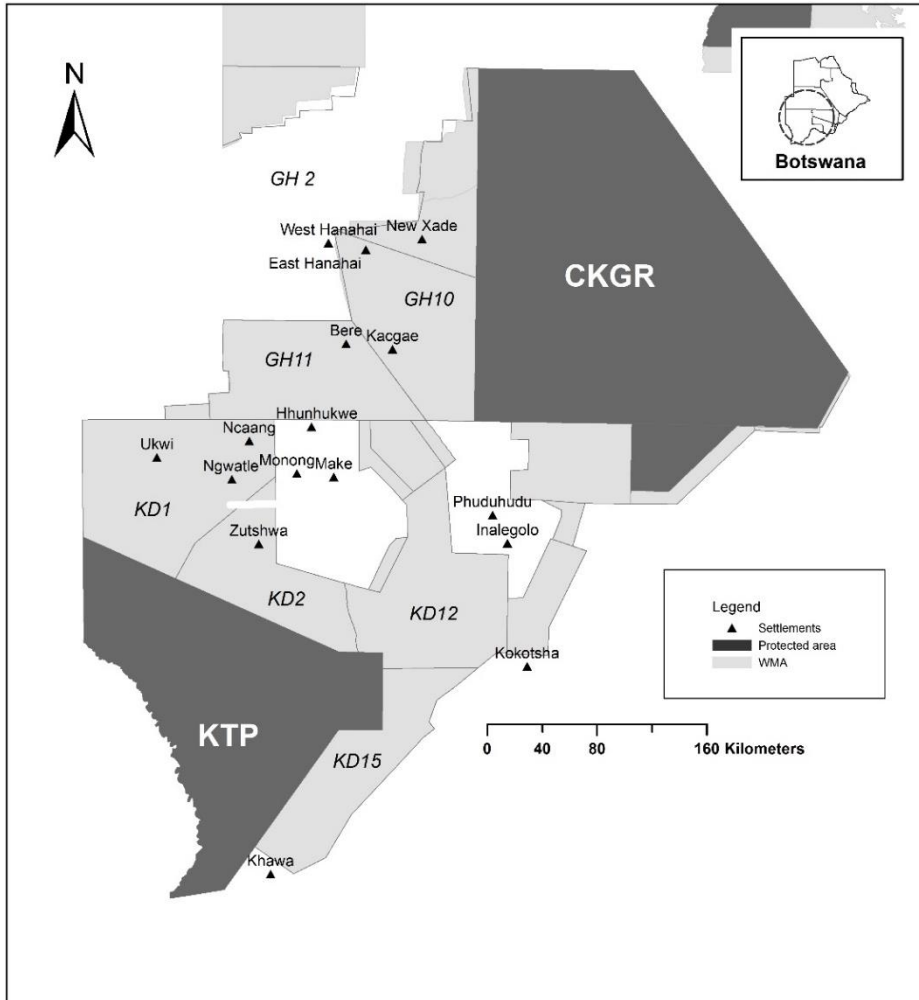
Name of Trust and Date of Founding	Controlled Hunting Area (CHA), Support Organization	Number of Villages Involved, Population Size	Project Activities
Huiku Community Based Conservation Trust, 1999	GH 1, Komku Development Trust	2 villages (Groot Laagte and Qabo), 1,013 people	Community tourism, lodge, crafts, veld bush) products
D'Kar Kuru Trust, 1999	Dqae Qare freehold farm, D'Kar Kuru Trust	1 village, (D'Kar), 943 people	Community tourism, crafts, lodge at Dqae Qare in Ghanzi Farms
Kgoesakani (New Xade) Management Trust, 2000	GH 3 (2,790 km ²) RADP, government of Botswana, Permaculture	1 village (Kgoesakani, or New Xade) 1,094 people	Community tourism, crafts, livestock, veld products, related to the Central Kalahari Game Reserve
Xwiskurusa Community Trust, 1996	GH 10 (1,248 km ²), Permaculture Trust	3 villages (East and West Hanahai, Ka/Gae), 1,247 people	Community tourism, crafts, veld products
Chobokwane Community Trust, 1999	GH 11, Komku Development Trust	1 village (Chobokwane), 489 people	Community campsites, crafts, veld products
Xwiskurusa Natural Resources Conservation Trust, 1996	East and West Hanahai, Ka/Gae, Ghanzi. GH 10 (1,248 km ²)	3 villages, 1,600 people	Wildlife utilization, tourism, crafts, veld products, related to the CKGR
Au Shee Xha Ulu Community Natural Resources Trust, 1996	Bere, Ghanzi District GH 11	1 village, 400 people	Grapple plant and other veld products, crafts, bee keeping
Nqwaa Khobe Yeya Trust, 2001	Ncaang, Ngwatle, Ukwi. KD 1 (12,180 km ²) Kgalagadi District	3 villages, 1,000 people	Wildlife utilization, tourism, crafts, veld products
Qhaa Qhing Conservation Trust, 2001	Zutswa, KD 2, Kgalagadi District 7,002 km ²	1 village, 350 people	Wildlife utilization, tourism, crafts, veld products
Maiteko Tshwaragano Development Trust, 2002	Zutswa, KD 2, Kgalagadi District 7,002 km ²	1 village, 350 people	Salt production, tourism, crafts

Koinapu Community Trust, 2000	Kokotsha, Inalegolo, and Phuduhudu, KD 12, 348 km ²	3 villages, 2,200 people	Wildlife utilization, tourism, crafts, veld products
Khawa Kopanelo Development Trust, 2001	Khawa, KD 15, 6,638 km ²	1 village, 700 people	Wildlife utilization, tourism, crafts, veld products

Note: Data obtained from the Ghanzi District Council, the Kgalagadi District Council, and the CBNRM Support Program (www.cbnrm.bw and www.iucnbot.bw) of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Table 6. Training Capacity needs for the Environmental and Social Management Plan and Indigenous Peoples Plan

Type of training	Training content	Participants	Timeframe	Responsible party	Cost (USD)
Anti-poaching policy	Policy directives from government's anti-poaching policy documents	Government personnel and community members	2021-present	DWNP	\$6,000
Livelihoods	Livelihood plans and guidelines on implementation of these kinds of projects	Community organizations and community members	2021--present	MENT and NGOs	\$10,000
Integrated land use planning	Land use planning methods, policies, and procedures	Government, district councils, land boards, and communities	2021-present	Government ministries and NGOs	\$12,000
Monitoring and evaluation	Procedures for monitoring and evaluation (M&E)	Government, UNDP, NGOs, communities	2021-present	DWNP, PMU	\$8,000
Total					\$36,000



INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS RELATING TO INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). This covenant was based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1966. The **Human Rights Committee (HRC)** is the body of independent experts that monitors the implementation of the ICCPR by states.

International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). This covenant was also adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1966, and it came into force in 1976. This covenant commits states to promote and protect a wide range of economic, social, and cultural rights, including the right of individuals to work in economically just and healthy conditions, to an adequate standard of living, to social protection, to education and to enjoy the benefits of cultural freedom and scientific progress. The implementation of this covenant is monitored by the **Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (CESCR)**, a body of independent experts.

International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries. This convention is the only human rights instrument relating specifically to indigenous peoples.

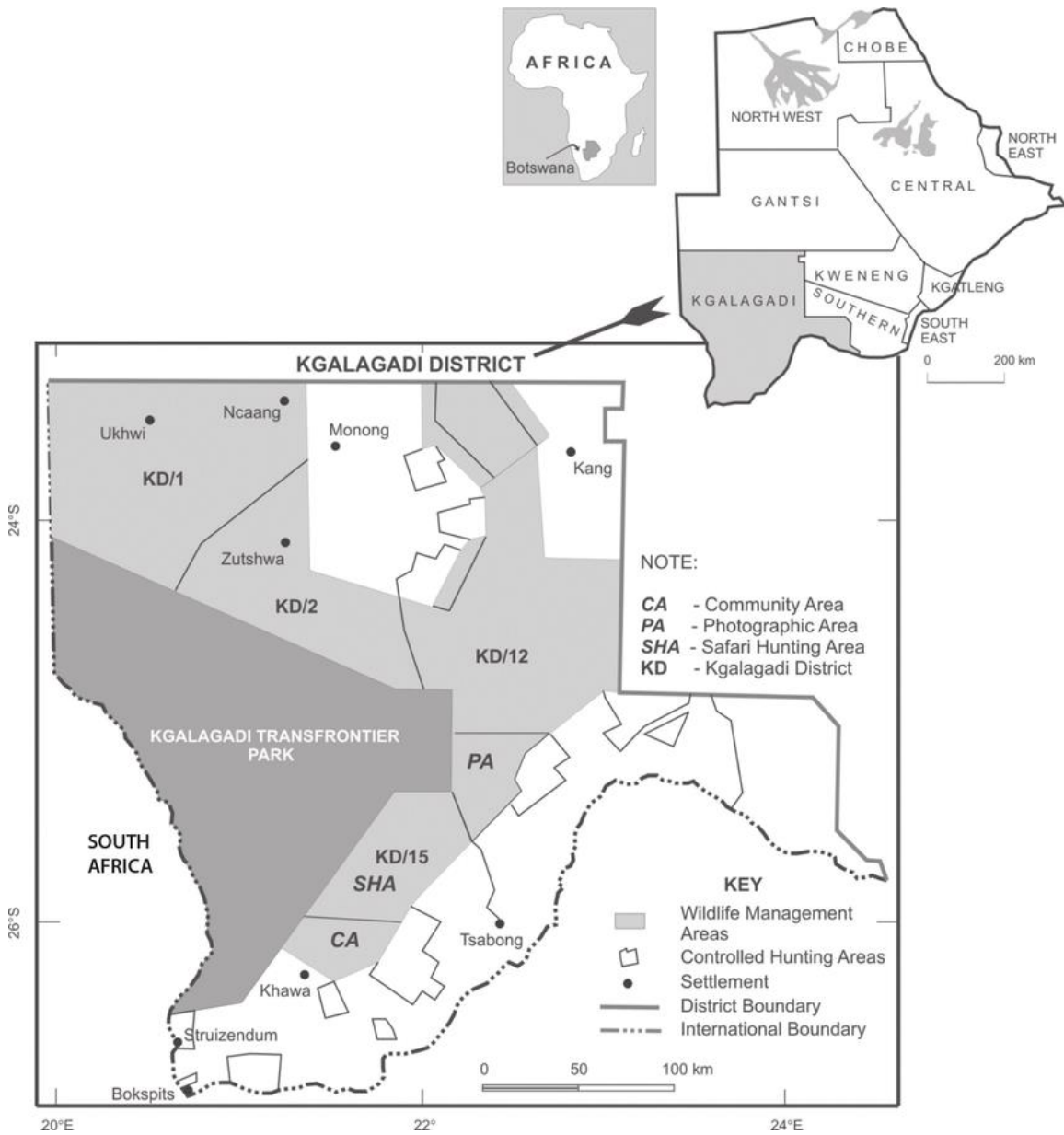
The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). This important declaration, 23 years in the making, was passed by the United Nations General Assembly on 13 September 2007.

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNFPII). This forum was created by the United Nations in 2000. It has a permanent secretariat and meets annually in New York, a meeting that is open to indigenous representatives.

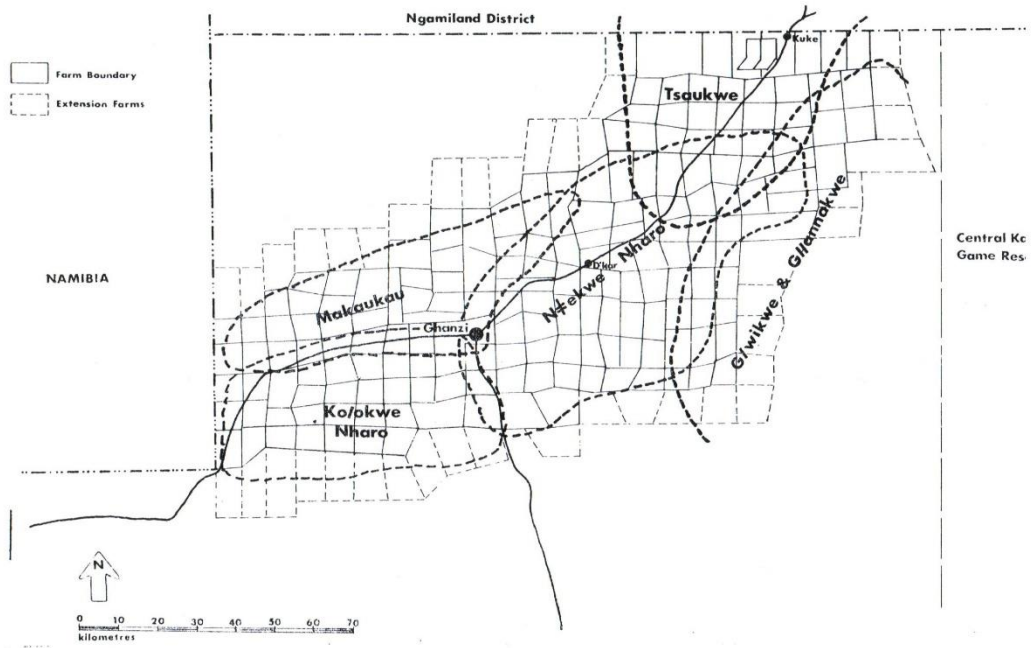
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples This special rapporteur position was created by the Commission on Human Rights (the predecessor to the Human Rights Council) in 2001.

United Nations Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNEMRIP) This group of experts was created in 2006. Consisting of five experts, the Expert Mechanism focuses primarily on studies and research-based advice to the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Human Rights Council.

Universal Periodic Review (UPR), bi-annual reviews of all states by the Human Rights Council in Geneva. Countries are required to attend and to provide formal responses to the human rights issues raised at the UPR meetings.



BASARWA LANGUAGE GROUPS: PRESENT AREAS OF LAND OCCUPATION (GHANZI DISTRICT)



Annex 1:



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

Kgalagadi-Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project (KGDEP) – Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)

Community Stakeholder Consultation – Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC)

FPIC Report

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GEF Project ID:	9154		
Country/Region:	Botswana		
Project Title:	Managing the human-wildlife interface to sustain the flow of agro-ecosystem services and prevent illegal wildlife trafficking in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands		
GEF Agency:	UNDP	UNDP PIMS ID:	5590
Type of Trust Fund:	GEF Trust Fund	GEF 7 Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity (Child project: Global Wildlife Programme)
GEF-7 GWP Component (s):	1. Improved environment, natural resources, climate change governance, energy access, and disaster risk management		
	2. Anti-poaching, prevention of human-wildlife conflict, livelihoods enhancement, and capacity building of local institutions		
	3. solutions developed at national and sub-national levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services		
	4. legal and regulatory frameworks, policies, and institutions enabled to ensure the conservation, sustainable use, access and benefit sharing of natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems, in line with international conventions and national legislation, monitoring & evaluation		
Anticipated Financing PPG:		Project Grant:	USD 5,996,789.00
Co-financing:	Government: USD 21,000,000.00 UNDP: USD1,000,000 Birdlife Botswana \$500,000	Total Project Cost:	USD 28,496,789.00
UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Category: Low-moderate risk	UNDP Gender Marker: 2	LPAC Date: TBD	Atlas Project ID No 00103617
PIF Approval:		Council Approval/Expected:	
Expected Project Start Date:	1 May 2017	Expected Project End Date:	1 November 2024

1 Introduction - Project background and location

The government of Botswana project titled ‘Managing the human-wildlife interface to sustain the flow of agro-ecosystem services and prevent illegal wildlife trafficking in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands’ is a total USD 28,496,789.00 six year-long project (2017-2023) that includes co-financing and government in kind input. The project consists of four components:

- (1) Component 1. Coordinating capacity for combating wildlife crime (including trafficking, poaching, and poisoning) and enforcement of wildlife policies and practices at district, national, and international levels
- (2) Component 2. Incentives and systems for wildlife protection by communities and increasing financial returns from natural resource exploitation and reducing human-wildlife-conflicts (HWC)
- (3) Component 3. Integrated land use planning (ILUP) in the conservation areas and sustainable land use management (SLM) in communal lands, securing wildlife migratory corridors, and increasing productivity of rangelands respectively, reducing competition between land uses and increasing ecosystem integrity of the Kalahari ecosystem.
- (4) Component 4. Gender mainstreaming, traditional ecological and scientific knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), and ensuring the dissemination of project lessons.

In accordance with UNDP’s Social and Environmental Standards (SES) policy⁴⁵ UNDP projects require an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out by independent experts in a participatory manner with stakeholders, following the principles of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent where SES Standard 6 on Indigenous Peoples applies.⁴⁶

The ESIA aims to identify and assess social and environmental impacts of the safeguards risks identified in the project’s social and environmental screening procedures (SESP) report, and design appropriate avoidance, mitigation, management, and monitoring measures as required under the UNDP SES Policy, and in alignment with relevant national legislation or policies⁴⁷. This report will address all relevant issues related to the SES Overarching Principles and Project-level Standards, with particular focus on Principle 1: Human Rights, Principle 2: Gender and Principle 3: Environmental Sustainability, and Standard 1 (Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management, Standard 2 (Climate Change and Disaster Risks), Standard 3 (Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions), Standard 4 (Cultural Heritage), Standard 5 (Displacement and Resettlement), Standard 6 (Indigenous Peoples), and Standard 7 (Labour and Working Conditions). The key output of the stakeholder engagement process is the ESIA Report, which will be used to inform the development of a comprehensive Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP). This is a government-led project which is supported by UNDP and financed through the Global Environmental Facility. The Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, Conservation, and Tourism (MENT) is the implementing agency in Botswana. The ESIA will also assess the ongoing situation and impacts of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on the social and economic well-being of the people in the area.

⁴⁵ UNDP Social and Environmental Standards – Policy Update (2019)
[https://info.undp.org/sites/bpps/SES_Toolkit/Pages/Homepage.aspx]

⁴⁶ Guidance Note on the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards – *Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples* (December 2020)

⁴⁷ Kgalagadi-Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project (KGDEP) Environmental And Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) (Hitchcock, 2021)

1.1 ESIA

Draft copies of the ESIA⁴⁸ and associated Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP)⁴⁹ were made available to the consultants in addition to a Social and Environmental Screening Template⁵⁰. This template seeks to identify the issues and impacts arising from the project including the potential social and environmental risks associated with the project activities. Following the completion of the FPIC consultations the ESIA, ESMP and associated documents will be revised and updated to ensure that they take into account the issues raised during the FPIC process.

1.2 Location

The Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project (KGDEP), operates across a vast landscape that extends from the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park (KTP) in the south-west, to the Central Kalahari Game Reserve (CKGR) in the north-east, and includes the intervening Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and communal lands that link the two protected areas. Natural resources management in this Kalahari landscape is impacted by land-use conflicts arising from competing goals of conservation and economic development, commercial cattle ranching and subsistence livestock-keeping, and the desire of communities to pursue traditional livelihoods. The consequent rangeland degradation and ecosystem fragmentation that has taken place threatens the future of wildlife and economic development and impacts on the quality of life of rural communities. WMAs have been established to secure migratory corridors for wildlife to move safely between the KTP and the CKGR, and to support nature-based economic activities for local communities.

1.3 History of consultations

Some consultations have been undertaken with the communities in relation to both the wider KGDEP project as well as specific component projects over the last 3-5 years, some of which have been relatively extensive. However, there are limited clear records of these consultations, including dates, meeting summaries and agendas or the personnel involved, available. Two reports undertaken for the KGDEP⁵¹ and a further document providing a summary of consultations undertaken in eight communities in northern Kgalagadi and Ghanzi regions in relation to community livelihoods and potential project activities during November 2020 were shared with the consultant. Furthermore, it is our understanding that there has been no clear or concerted attempts previously to achieve consent from the affected communities in line with UNDP SES and Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) principles.

1.4 Understanding of the scope of works

Ensuring full, effective and meaningful participation is at the heart of UNDP's approach to working with indigenous peoples who might be impacted by a UNDP-supported project. Standard 6 contains specific requirements regarding the participation of and agreement with indigenous peoples throughout the project cycle⁵². These guidelines go beyond the standard stakeholder engagement requirements. It is the understanding of the consultant that the principal aim of the upcoming consultations was to secure the FPIC of the communities in relation to the KGDEP project as a contributing component of the ESIA.

However, despite the consultants initially being engaged in July 2021 it quickly became apparent that it was not possible to embark upon the FPIC process straight away as there was no clarity on the

⁴⁸ Hitchcock, Robert K. (2021) *Kgalagadi Drylands Ecosystem Project Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)*. Gaborone, Botswana: Government of Botswana and United Nations Development Program.

⁴⁹ Hitchcock Robert K. (2021) *Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP): Managing the Human-Wildlife Interface to Sustain the Flow of Agro-Ecosystem Services and Prevent Illegal Wildlife Trafficking in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands*. Gaborone, Botswana: Government of Botswana and United Nations Development Program.

⁵⁰ Hitchcock, Robert K. (2021) *United Nations Development Program Kgalagadi Drylands Ecosystem Project (KGDEP) Social and Environmental Screening Template*. Gaborone, Botswana: United Nations Development Program. 15 June 2021

⁵¹ Value Chain Analysis And Economic/Financial Feasibility Study In The Kalahari Landscape – El Mondo (June 2019) and Final Human-Wildlife Conflict Management Strategy – Karunya Consulting (July 2020)

⁵² Guidance Note on the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards – *Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples* (December 2020)

exact activities which would be undertaken with the communities. The FPIC process was then subsequently delayed until a formal 're-set' process could be completed.

2 Project reset

In the second quarter of 2021 the majority of KGDEP project activities were paused by UNDP and the Government of Botswana. Subsequently the independent Mid-Term Review (MTR)⁵³ of the project in July 2021 also raised some concerns with regard to the ongoing implementation of the project in relation to the overall objectives and goals. One particular aspect which arose was that '*on-the-ground activities with communities could not proceed without the completion of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Environmental and Social Safeguards Management Plan (ESMP), and securing of Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC).*'⁵⁴

The KGDEP project 're-set' process was undertaken between February to March 2022 with input from representatives of relevant government ministries and departments, civil society stakeholders and community trusts. The re-set process provided a revised series of timelines, implementation structures, results framework and project activities. Of particular relevance for the implementation of the FPIC consultations as part of the social safeguards component are the revised project activities. These activities relate in particular to the following project outputs:

Output 2.1: At least 4 value chains and 3 ecotourism businesses established to increase financial benefits from biodiversity conservation for local communities

Output 2.2: Strategies for communities, CSOs and academia to collaborate with law enforcement agencies are established and applied to reduce HWC and increase local level participation in combatting wildlife crimes in the two districts

Output 3.2: Approximately 100,000 ha of community lands around the Protected Areas (east of KD1 and east of KD15/Bokspits) put under improved community rangeland management and pastoral production practices (such as Holistic Range Management, bush clearance, rehabilitation of degraded pastures, climate smart agriculture and community-based fire management). This integrates SLM into livelihood activities and reduces threats to wildlife from the productive landscape outside the PAs

The re-set process identified a number of activities to be implemented or facilitated by the KGDEP project in relation to the stipulated project outputs. It is these proposed activities and the villages which they would involve, benefit or impact which would be the focus of the FPIC consultations. The following sections (2.1 to 2.3) are extracted from the Re-set Report as they provide the available details in relation to the proposed activities.

In addition to the outline overview of the proposed activities included in the sections below the Re-set Report also provides concept notes for four of the proposed livelihoods activities:

- Establishment of highway craft centre with refurbished supply centres in GH/10 villages and buyer networks
- Pan campsite expansion to enable ecotourism and conservation work of Ngwatle community
- Veld product centre in Bere for processing of sustainable harvest and/or cultivated Devil's Claw and other medicinal plants
- Expansion of Khawa village campsite in support of community incomes from related ecotourism initiatives

In the absence of any further detailed information relating to the implementation of these activities it is the information contained in the re-set report, as outlined below and within the concept notes listed above, which guided the FPIC consultations.

The ongoing Land Use planning process for Ghanzi and Kgalagadi Districts was not covered in detail within the FPIC consultations. The topic was raised with the clarification that further, more detailed

⁵³ Mid-Term Review Report (July 2021)

⁵⁴ Petersen (2022) Draft Re-Set Report – KGDEP project

consultations with each of the affected communities will be led by the consulting team for that project.

2.1 Output 2.1

These activities are proposed to be carried out by BTO and three firms/ NGOs as Responsible Parties.

- Undertake one livelihoods intervention for each of the six Community Trusts. This means that at least one village in each block will benefit directly from livelihood activities. These TRG proposals are based on previous stakeholder consultations, business plans and feasibility studies completed, and the desire to undertake activities with a reasonable chance of success in the remaining project implementation period, that are linked to the project logic.

Responsible Party	Output	Work Package	WMA Block	Trust/s	Village/s	Technical Guidance
Firm/NGO	2.1	Establishment of highway craft centre with refurbished supply centres in GH 10 villages and buyer networks	GH10	Xwiskurusa Community Trust	Kac/gae, East Hanahai, West Hanahai	DWNP with LEA
BTO	2.1	Pan campsite expansion to enable ecotourism and conservation work of Ngwatle community	KD1	Nqwaa Khobe Yeya Trust	Ngwatle	BTO with LEA
Firm/NGO	2.1	Veld product centre in Bere for processing of sustainably harvested and/or cultivated Devil's Claw and other medicinal plants	GH11	Au <u>Shee Xha</u> , Ulu Trust	Bere	DFRR with LEA
BTO	2.1	Expansion of Khawa village campsite in support of community incomes from related ecotourism initiatives	KD15	Khawa <u>Kopanelo</u> Development Trust	Khawa	BTO with LEA
DEA (supported by PMU)	2.1	Sustainable expansion of salt production from Zutshwa pan with extracted brackish groundwater (a common property natural resource with measurable value to the community - CBNRM Policy)	KD2	<u>Qhaa Qhing</u> Conservation Trust	Zutshwa	DEA with LEA
DFRR (supported by PMU)	3.2	Strengthening of Boravast charcoal and fodder businesses and value chains to enhance ecological and business sustainability	BV	Boravast Trust	Bokspits, <u>Rappelspan</u> , <u>Vaalhoek</u> and <u>Struizendam</u>	DFRR with LEA

- Concept notes have been developed for the four new livelihoods activities and are contained in Section VII, each one with a work package in support of the community, to be undertaken by a business or NGO, to be appointed in terms of an agreement with MENT and UNDP as a Responsible Party (or by BTO in the case of the tourism facilities).
 - Establishment of highway craft centre with refurbished supply centres in GH 10 villages and buyer networks
 - Pan campsite expansion to enable ecotourism and conservation work of Ngwatle community
 - Veld products centre in Bere for processing of sustainably harvested and/or cultivated Devil's Claw and other medicinal plants
 - Expansion of Khawa village campsite in support of community incomes from related ecotourism initiatives
- Support sustainable expansion of salt production from Zutshwa pan with extracted brackish groundwater (a common property natural resource with measurable value to the community in terms of Botswana's CBNRM policy) – including overseeing works to expand the pans, and testing of the quantity and quality of water supply from the existing borehole, complying with any necessary environmental legislation
- Strengthen Boravast charcoal and fodder businesses and value chains through training and equipment supply, as well as necessary resource studies, to enhance ecological and business sustainability by project end
- Organize general small business training for all six Trusts through LEA's SMME development programme, subsidized through the project, with input from District Development Officers –

through which communities can put in place building blocks for longer term initiatives such as game farms.

- Hire a company / NGO to undertake governance training for all the community Trusts and village governance structures in the six project sites, to promote organizational, business and negotiation skills, and support participatory planning for land use and conservation

2.2 Output 2.2

These activities to be carried out by DWNP, with support from MENT-DEA/UNDP and the PMU as required.

- Hold launch and undertake roll-out of the Human Wildlife Conflict strategy for Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Districts
- Print and disseminate copies of the Strategy and public awareness materials to stakeholders
- Utilize DWNP Data Working Group to: a) determine the annual average number of incidents in the two districts for each year 2018-2021 and capture this for information purposes; b) report the results in the 2022 PIR as a new benchmark at the point that the HWC is being unrolled; c) gather the data for 2022 and 2023, plot the values 2018-2023 on a graph and look for a change of trajectory post-rollout, whilst also comparing the 2023 value with both the original baseline and the 2021 benchmark
- Procure services of local company to produce public awareness materials (printed and video) for implementation of HWC Strategy across the two Districts
- Revive Multi-stakeholder Forum for implementing the HWC Strategy and supporting authorities in monitoring wildlife crime to meet at least once a year (three times before project end), in Ghanzi, Tshabong, Hukuntsi
- Draw up specifications and budget for a technical support package for working with communities to implement HWC mitigation measures in 6 target villages, to be undertaken by a business or NGO, to be appointed in terms of an agreement with MENT and UNDP as a Responsible Party
- Put out Request for Proposals (RFP) through an open quality-based fixed-budget competitive process to select a Responsible Party to undertake this work package; DWNP to evaluate technical proposals and select the successful business / NGO

Responsible Party	Output	Work Package	WMA Block	Trust/s	Village/s	Technical Guidance
No. 6	2.2	Human wildlife conflict mitigation in six conflict hotspot villages	Ghanzi District		<u>New Xade</u>	DWNP
			GH11	<u>Au Shee Xha, Ulu Trust</u>	<u>Bere</u>	
			BV	<u>Boravast Trust</u>	<u>Struizendam</u>	
			Kgalagadi District		<u>Monong</u>	
			KD2	<u>Qhaa Qhing Conservation Trust</u>	<u>Zutshwa</u>	
			KD15	<u>Khawa Kopanelo Development Trust</u>	<u>Khawa</u>	

- Include in specifications for the responsible party (HWC technical support package) the consultation of six target village communities on selection of measures addressing the five key objectives, including identifying risks and measures to mitigate these:
 - Objective 1:* Improve wildlife and HWC monitoring
 - Objective 2:* Improve HWC response and support
 - Objective 3:* Improve agricultural management to reduce damage from wildlife
 - Objective 4:* Increase benefits from living with wildlife
 - Objective 5:* Improve policy development and land use planning

- Include also in specifications the facilitation by the Responsible Party of site-specific mitigation interventions selected with communities (e.g. construction of traps for damage-causing animals to be relocated (by DWNP), breeding and training of guard dogs for livestock, construction and maintenance of predator-proof fencing for kraals, installation of light and sound devices to drive away predators), including liaison with DWNP for technical guidance and provision of infrastructure and equipment as needed, ensuring compliance with necessary permissions, regulations and standards, putting in place plans for operations and maintenance post-project, cooperating with the Technical Advisory Committees where relevant, and writing up lessons learnt.
- Include also in specifications support by the Responsible Party to DWNP to run district-level training courses with community escort guides on HWC monitoring processes using the Management Oriented Monitoring System (MOMS), and to procure equipment for monitoring and capturing of HWC data by community escort guides
- Conclude Letter of Agreement between MENT, UNDP and selected company / organization outlining the full scope of work, deliverables, timelines and budgets
- Oversee the Responsible Parties to carry out the work for HWC technical support packages in line with the safeguards established, and paid on the basis of deliverables satisfactorily achieved
- Revisit the HWC wish list and finalise the procurement of the materials, taking into consideration the recommendations from the HWC strategy.

2.3 Output 3.2

These activities to be carried out by DFRR, with MoA-DAP), and with support from MENT-DEA/UNDP and the PMU as required.

Responsible Party	Output	Work Package	WMA Block	Trust/s	Village/s	Technical Guidance
No RP, Work by DFRR staff	3.2	Holistic rangeland management for enhanced productivity in grazing lands surrounding four target villages	GH10	Xwiskurusa Community Trust	E Hanahai, W Hanahai	DFRR
			KD1	Nqwaa Khobe Yeya Trust	Ukhwi	
			KD2	Qhaa Qhing Conservation Trust	Zutshwa	
		KD1	Nqwaa Khobe Yeya Trust	Ngwatle, Ncaang, Ukhwi		
		KD2	Qhaa Qhing Conservation Trust	Zutshwa		
		KD15	Khawa Kopanelo Development Trust	Khawa		

- A. Rangeland rehabilitation programme (including bush control, rehabilitation of degraded pasture), linked to income generating activities
 - Support BORAVAST Trust on final branded packaging of charcoal and fodder produced, and set up transport arrangements with Choppies
 - Measure area cleared of prosopis in Kgalagadi South (BORAVAST) region, and set up system to continue measuring and feeding data into DFRR and project M&E
 - Introduce palatable grass species to cleared areas through reseeding
- B. Holistic range management (HRM)
 - Conduct community consultations on HRM to raise awareness on benefits and select farmers to train in Kgalagadi - Ukhwi and Zutshwa
 - Train farmers from the selected villages East and West Hanahai, Ukhwi and Zutshwa on HRM - 10 per village, based on existing training plan
 - Develop individual grazing plans with trained farmers areas, and monitor their implementation by farmers
 - Carry out range assessment in areas of focus around 4 villages to determine prevalent species/carrying capacity/encroacher species

- Engage a company or CBO to carry out clearing work on encroaching woody plant species in the areas, including ranches and communal areas
 - Purchase equipment and seeds, and carry out reseedling of cleared areas with palatable grass species
 - Conduct fodder production trials with trained farmers in their areas, supplying seedlings of fodder plants
 - Bridge to the new \$39 million GCF/CI project in Kgalagadi district by rolling out HRM sensitization with other communities in the district, with wide outreach including village leadership and other community governing structures
 - Hold field days and demonstrations on HRM practices
- C. Community based fire management
- Conduct basic fire management training for untrained communities in Kgalagadi
 - Conduct training for relevant government technical officers/DDMC members in Kgalagadi
 - Procure equipment for trained communities – personal protective equipment (PPE) and tools

3 Free Prior and Informed Consent⁵⁵

Numerous international and regional instruments have affirmed FPIC as a legal norm imposing clear affirmative duties and obligations on States that should be pursued in a wide range of circumstances. While there is no single internationally agreed definition of FPIC, there is a sufficient and growing consensus around what FPIC is comprised of, and regarding the bare minimum measures that a State must take to guarantee its respect, protection and enjoyment. At a very general level, FPIC may be understood as the right of indigenous peoples to approve or reject certain proposed actions that may affect them and that the process for reaching such a decision must possess certain characteristics. FPIC is a manifestation of indigenous peoples' right to self-determine their political, social, economic and cultural priorities. It constitutes three interrelated and cumulative rights of indigenous peoples⁵⁶:

- The right to be consulted
- The right to participate
- The right to their lands, territories and resources

The text below is taken from Box 5 on Page 7 of the Guidance Note on the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards – *Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples* (December 2020) which provides a definition, meaning, and Standard 6 requirements regarding FPIC:

The below definitions build on the elements of a common understanding of free, prior and informed consent endorsed by the UNPFII at its Fourth Session in 2005⁵⁷

FREE refers to a consent given voluntarily and absent of coercion, intimidation or manipulation. Free refers to a process that is self-directed by the community from whom consent is being sought, unencumbered by coercion, expectations or timelines that are externally imposed:

- *Stakeholders determine process, timeline and decision-making structure;*
- *Information is transparently and objectively offered at stakeholders' request;*
- *Process is free from coercion, bias, conditions, bribery or rewards;*

⁵⁵ Guidance Note on the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards – *Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples* (December 2020); Roesch, R. (2016) The story of a legal transplant: The right to free, prior and informed consent in sub-Saharan Africa' (2016) 16 African Human Rights Law Journal 505-531; McCulloch, E.M. (2021) Free, Prior, and Informed Consent: A Struggling International Principle, Public Land & Resources Law Review: Vol. 44, Article 5; Iseli, C. (2020) The Operationalization of the Principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent: A Duty to Obtain Consent or Simply a Duty to Consult? UCLA Journal of Environmental Law and Policy, 38(2)

⁵⁶ Free, prior and informed consent: a human rights-based approach: Study of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights [UN Human Rights] 2018)

⁵⁷ *Report of the International Workshop on Methodologies Regarding Free Prior and Informed Consent E/C.19/2005/3, endorsed by the UNPFII at its Fourth Session in 2005*

- *Meetings and decisions take place at locations and times and in languages and formats determined by the stakeholders; and*
- *All community members are free to participate regardless of gender, age or standing.*

PRIOR means consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities. Prior refers to a period of time in advance of an activity or process when consent should be sought, as well as the period between when consent is sought and when consent is given or withheld. Prior means at the early stages of a development or investment plan, not only when the need arises to obtain approval from the community:

- *Prior implies that time is provided to understand, access, and analyze information on the proposed activity. The amount of time required will depend on the decision-making processes of the rights-holders;*
- *Information must be provided before activities can be initiated, at the beginning or initiation of an activity, process or phase of implementation, including conceptualization, design, proposal, information, execution, and following evaluation; and*
- *The decision-making timeline established by the rights-holders must be respected, as it reflects the time needed to understand, analyze, and evaluate the activities under consideration in accordance with their own customs.*

INFORMED refers mainly to the nature of the engagement and type of information that should be provided prior to seeking consent and also as part of the ongoing consent process. Information should:

- *Be accessible, clear, consistent, accurate, constant, and transparent;*
- *Be delivered in appropriate language and culturally appropriate format (including radio, video, graphics, documentaries, photos, oral presentations);*
- *Be objective, covering both the positive and negative potential of project activities and consequences of giving or withholding consent;*
- *Be complete, covering the spectrum of potential social, financial, political, cultural, environmental impacts, including scientific information with access to original sources in appropriate language;*
- *Be delivered in a manner that strengthens and does not erode indigenous or local cultures;*
- *Be delivered by culturally appropriate personnel, in culturally appropriate locations, and include capacity building of indigenous or local trainers;*
- *Be delivered with sufficient time to be understood and verified;*
- *Reach the most remote, rural communities, women and the marginalized; and*
- *Be provided on an ongoing and continuous basis throughout the FPIC process.*

CONSENT refers to the collective decision made by the rights-holders and reached through the customary decision-making processes of the affected peoples or communities. Consent must be sought and granted or withheld according to the unique formal or informal political-administrative dynamic of each community. Consent is:

- *A freely given decision that may be a “Yes” or a “No,” including the option to reconsider if the proposed activities change or if new information relevant to the proposed activities emerges;*
- *A collective decision determined by the affected peoples (e.g. consensus, majority, etc.) in accordance with their own customs and traditions;*
- *The expression of rights (to self-determination, lands, resources and territories, culture); and*
- *Given or withheld in phases, over specific periods of time for distinct stages or phases of the project. It is not a one-off process.*

In all cases, no activities predicated on the granting of FPIC should be initiated until the outcomes of the FPIC process and the associated IPP/IPPF are validated and any required mitigation measures are in place. However, in the case of the KGDEP there are unique circumstances as the FPIC process is occurring after the initiation of the wider project. However, specific project activities have been put on hold subject to the completion of the ESIA process of which FPIC forms a key component. With regard to undertaking an FPIC process Page 23 of the Guidance Note on the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards – *Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples* (December 2020) provides a detailed outline to be followed. This includes:

- *Full, accurate information regarding the project (e.g. positive and negative, potential risks and short and/or long term impacts, benefits) is communicated in the most appropriate language and medium, ensuring that it is easily understandable and accessible (innovative and creative forms of communication may be required)*
- *Information reaches all members of affected indigenous community and is consistent with the community's mechanisms for information sharing*
- *A secure, culturally appropriate and trusted environment for discussions is provided*
- *Decision-making processes, timelines, and languages for communicating are determined by the affected indigenous peoples without interference*
- *Customary laws and practices of the affected indigenous peoples are respected.*

The overall aim of the FPIC process with all stakeholders is to obtain a signed agreement or oral contract witnessed by an independent entity agreed to by both parties, ensuring that the greatest number of community members are involved and represented, including potentially marginalized groups. The community's customs and norms for participation, decision making and information sharing are to be respected. It is critical to ensure there is sufficient time to engage with potentially affected indigenous peoples in order to understand their concerns and visions.

While the objective of consultation processes shall be to reach an agreement (consent) between the relevant parties, this does not mean that all FPIC processes will lead to the consent of and approval by the rights-holders in question. At the core of FPIC is the right of the peoples concerned to choose to engage, negotiate and decide to grant or withhold consent, as well as the acknowledgement that under certain circumstances, it must be accepted that the activities (or project) for which FPIC could not be ascertained will not proceed and/or that engagement must be ceased if the affected peoples decide that they do not want to commence or continue with negotiations or if they decide to withhold their consent to the activities and/or project.

3.1 Recording and documenting the FPIC process.

The FPIC process should be well-documented in writing and reflected in the IPP/IPPF and made publicly available. The outcomes documentation should clarify if consent was provided or withheld and record whether the community provided consent through an oral contract. Indeed, it may be necessary *'to document the process and decisions in more than one way, for example in both a written document and a recording of the representative speaking the decision.'*⁵⁸

This documentation should include commitments and requirements agreed upon to reach such agreement as well as ideas, questions and concerns raised, so that it is possible to review the whole process during monitoring and in the event a grievance or dispute arises.

Rights-holders may choose to grant their consent on the basis of certain conditions to be documented and operationalized (e.g. benefits continue to be derived from the project, restrictions on access to

⁵⁸ Guidance Note on the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards – *Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples* (December 2020) – Page 24

certain areas, limitations on contact with certain sectors of society or members living in voluntary isolation, etc.). These should be noted in the IPP/IPPF. If these conditions are not met, the community may review and either reaffirm or refuse consent. This option may be invoked at any stage of project implementation. Consent is an iterative process, not a single decision point.

4 Methodology for KGDEP FPIC process

The consultants utilised the Guidance Note to plan the necessary FPIC consultations with the stipulated communities. Initial FPIC consultations with each community were scheduled to be undertaken through the community Kgotla with follow up focal group meetings if possible. The Kgotla is at the heart of each community and provides the base for all formal communications with the community allowing for a trusted environment for open discussions.

- The consultants were provided with all necessary materials by the in-country UNDP Project Management Unit to be able to speak to the history of the project, the proposed project activities and associated impacts and outline implementation plan. Specific details relating to the implementation timeline and implementing partners were not available as these are still to be determined.
- FPIC consultations were to be conducted through the community's culturally approved mechanism for information sharing – the Kgotla.
- Meetings would be conducted within the chosen language of the Kgotla – either Setswana or English.

4.1 FPIC fieldwork and planning

A total of 15 villages/communities (Table 1) were identified for consultation by the KGDEP PMU team following the project reset undertaken in early 2022 and in relation to planned activities which would directly involve or impact upon those communities.

Initial contact was made through a phone call with each village Kgotla administration to explain through a phone call to the project aims and objectives, outputs, and activities relevant to each village, as well as to explain the purpose and need for the FPIC process and to schedule meetings. Invitation letters were then sent to each village, through the Tribal Administration (TA) office at the relevant District Council. The TA office received an email from the consultants with attachments, including letters specific for each village, a copy of the agreed schedule of Kgotla meetings, as well as a copy of the introduction letter from the Ministry of Environment Natural Resources and Tourism (See Appendix 1). Each village was again reached by phone to confirm whether they have received the letters and how prepared the community was. A number of the villages were proactive and called the consultants to acknowledge receipt, soon after receiving their letters.

Initial phone contacts were made in the week beginning 16 May 2022 with formal invitation letters sent in the weeks of 23 May 2022 and 30 May 2022. FPIC consultations were then held between 6 June 2022 and 24 June 2022 (See Table 1).

The consultants reconfirmed each meeting one to two days in advance, either by phone or in person. The consultants also arrived in each village in the late afternoon or evening to introduce themselves to the Kgosì and/or VDC representative(s) and Trust chairperson (if applicable). This allowed for the meeting for the following day to be confirmed along with a further outlining and clarification of the objectives for the meeting. A full day was then available for each meeting to take place allowing the meetings to start and proceed once the community was ready and not to some pre-determined timetable.

Table 1 Consultation Survey Sites for KGDEP FPIC Fieldwork

District	Community	Date of Consultation	Location (Degrees, Minutes and Seconds)	Population ⁵⁹	Land Category
Ghanzi	West Hanahai	6 June 2022	22°6'16"S 21°46'19"E	1,101 (2022)	WMA
Ghanzi	New Xade	7 June 2022	22°7'11"S 22°24'40"E	1,614 (2022)	WMA
Ghanzi	East Hanahai	8 June 2022	22°9'48"S 21°51'16"E	720 (2022)	WMA
Ghanzi	Bere	9 June 2022	22°49'17"S 21°52'30"E	874 (2022)	WMA
Ghanzi	Ka/Gae	10 June 2022	22°51'22"S 22°12'30"E	746 (2022)	WMA
No. Kgalagadi	Monong	13 June 2022	23°39'42"S 21°30'53"E	392 (2022)	Communal
No. Kgalagadi	Ncaang	14 June 2022	23°26'27"S 21°13'15"E	358 (2022)	WMA
No. Kgalagadi	Ukhwi	15 June 2022	23°33'21"S 20°29'58"E	669 (2022)	WMA
No. Kgalagadi	Ngwatle	16 June 2022	23°42'33"S 21°4'41"E	461 (2022)	WMA
No. Kgalagadi	Zutshwa	17 June 2022	24°8'28"S 21°14'50"E	613 (2022)	WMA
So. Kgalagadi	Khawa	20 June 2022	26°16'54"S 21°22'7"E	1,299 (2022)	WMA
So. Kgalagadi	Struizendam	21 June 2022 and 23 June 2022	26°40'22"S 20°38'9"E	723 (2022)	Communal
So. Kgalagadi	Bokspits	22 June 2022	26°53'51"S 20°41'32"E	705 (2022)	Communal
So. Kgalagadi	Rappels Pan	23 June 2022	26°49'19"S 20°48'54"E	338 (2022)	Communal
So. Kgalagadi	Vaalhoek	24 June 2022	26°52'5"S 20°42'36"E	588 (2022)	Communal

4.2 Process followed for all kgotla meetings

At each kgotla meeting, the normal kgotla meeting process was followed. After an opening prayer, village leadership and elders are introduced, followed by the introduction of consultants, then opening remarks and welcome speech by the Kgosi, presentation by consultants, then questions, comments and suggestions, followed by answers and reactions to comments and suggestions by consultants, and finally closing remarks by village elder (e.g. Kgosana, area Councillor, School Head etc.) and a closing prayer.

During their presentation, the consultants explained all four project components, their outcomes, the reset process as well as projects/activities selected for each community. The consultants also fully explained the FPIC process. Meetings were predominantly conducted in Setswana (11 villages) with

⁵⁹ StatsBots (2022) – Population and Housing Census 2022 – Population of Cities, Towns and Villages (Version 2)

the remaining meetings (four villages) conducted in English. Limited translation was required from Setswana to Naro for two villages (West Hanahai and New Xade). In addition, there was full translation of the presentation from the consultants from English to Afrikaans in four villages.

Further to the kgotla, focal meetings were held with specific interest and/or vulnerable groups within each community as available. The consultants asked the community to identify focal groups to engage with during the kgotla meetings so as not to have pre-meditated engagements beyond the kgotla. Focal groups may include farmers groups, craft groups or marginalised sectors of the community. These meetings allowed for a deeper discussion of the proposed activities and the potential impacts upon the communities.

4.3 Recording of consent

There were two methods used to confirm the consent or otherwise of each community with both methods presented and discussed during the kgotla meeting.

The first was a written confirmation letter which confirmed the response of the community. Three alternative letter templates were drafted prior to the meetings confirming either 1) full consent, 2) withheld consent or 3) additional information required before consent can be confirmed or denied. Letters were available in both English and Setswana (See Appendix 2) with the Kgosi given the option to complete one of the letters on behalf of the community following the completion of the kgotla if they were happy to do so.

The second method allowed for the community representative(s) to provide the consent or otherwise in their own words by recording them on a digital voice recorder. Typically, the Kgosi, occasionally along with another senior member of the community, recorded a message or consent or otherwise in their own words following the conclusion of the kgotla meeting. A copy of all recordings from 14 of the 15 communities are provided with this report. There is no recording available for Bokspits.

5 Results of the FPIC consultative process and key observations

The FPIC consultations were conducted successfully with meetings predominantly held on the previously agreed and scheduled day with no conflicts. One village, Struizendam, requested an alternative date due to inclement weather (it was raining heavily and extremely cold on the scheduled day). A smaller meeting between the Consultants, Kgosi, VDC and Trust representatives was held on the scheduled day where all information was presented and questioned. At a rescheduled full kgotla meeting held two days later, led by Kgosi, VDC and Trust chairperson, all of this information was relayed to the wider community in order to secure consent of the community.

Kgotla meetings were, on the whole, well attended with up to 110 individuals at a single meeting and a majority of female participants (309 male and 518 female) at the kgotla meetings (Table 2). For one village, Bere, despite the scheduled meeting being publicised in advance by the Kgosi and VDC sufficient numbers of the community did not attend. Instead, the Kgosi, Trust Chair and VDC representatives determined to hold a smaller focal meeting instead where the issues could be presented and discussed. Information would then be relayed to the wider community at the next full kgotla meeting.

All 15 communities consulted throughout the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi districts were familiar with the KGDEP project. They clearly remembered previous kgotla meetings addressed by individuals and issues discussed during those meetings. Some people also remembered some facilitators and project coordinators that were introduced to them by name. The nature of FPIC was fully discussed within the kgotla meetings and there was no objection to the completion of a consent letter and audio recording.

5.1 Consent

Consent was freely given by 12 of the 15 villages following the consultative meetings (Table 2). The benefits of participating in the project were seen to outweigh the risks. However, the community members called for the project implementation team to start work soon, be committed to the project and work with them with respect.

The three remaining villages (West Hanahai, Kacgae and Monong) provided conditional consent subject to receiving further detailed information from the UNDP project team with regard to the implementation of the proposed project activities. Monong asked for additional time to consider the issues and determine which version of the consent template to sign with the consultants going back to the village 4 days after the meeting to collect the signed response.

The consensus from the meetings was that there had been a lack of feedback and engagement from the KGDEP project team or its representatives with regard to the proposed project activities and their implementation. Communities were sympathetic to the underlying challenges relating to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on daily life and the ability to hold face to face meetings, in addition to the project reset, but this did not excuse the lack of direct engagement. One comment which sticks out from the close of our meeting in Bere was: *'Please come back soon. Please don't go away for another 10 years.'*


Table 2 Kgotla meeting attendance and village consent to the KGDEP project and its proposed activities

District	Community	Total number of attendees to kgotla meeting	Gender of meeting attendees	Type of consent given	Format of consent
Ghanzi	West Hanahai	72	23 Male 49 Female	Partial consent – require further information before final consent is provided	Written and oral
Ghanzi	New Xade	33	13 Male 20 Female	Full consent	Written and oral
Ghanzi	East Hanahai	34	15 Male 19 Female	Full consent	Written and oral
Ghanzi	Bere	10	9 Male 1 Female	Full consent	Written and oral
Ghanzi	Ka/Gae	26	7 Male 19 Female	Partial consent – require further information before final consent is provided	Written and oral
No. Kgalagadi	Monong	64	25 Male 39 Female	Partial consent – require further information before final consent is provided	Written and oral
No. Kgalagadi	Ncaang	65	28 Male 37 Female	Full consent	Written and oral
No. Kgalagadi	Ukhwi	79	26 Male 53 Female	Full consent	Written and oral
No Kgalagadi	Ngwatle	43	11 Male 32 Female	Full consent	Written and oral


District	Community	Total number of attendees to kgotla meeting	Gender of meeting attendees	Type of consent given	Format of consent
No. Kgalagadi	Zutshwa	36	15 Male 21 Female	Full consent	Written and oral
So. Kgalagadi	Khawa	110	42 Male 68 Female	Full consent	Written and oral
So. Kgalagadi	Struizendam	Meeting 1 – 10 Meeting 2 – 53	8 Male 2 Female 14 Male 39 Female	Full consent	Written and oral
So. Kgalagadi	Bokspits	76	27 Male 49 Female	Full consent	Written and oral
So. Kgalagadi	Rappels Pan	63	25 Male 38 Female	Full consent	Written and oral
So. Kgalagadi	Vaalhoek	53	21 Male 32 Female	Full consent	Written and oral

5.2 Summary of the FPIC consultations

A copy of the full transcripts from each of the community meetings is included in Appendix 4 of this report for more detailed review. Below we include a summary of the feedback and discussions raised during each of the meetings in turn. This includes some specific opportunities and risks which were raised by the community members.

West Hanahai		Refurbished craft centre and Holistic Rangeland Management training
		
Consent	Partial consent subject to additional information and clarifications	
Additional information requested	Additional information with regard to implementation of the project, the role of the identified NGO and how this will impact upon the craft producers and existing craft sellers	
Summary of discussions and questions	General discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There has been too much time taken by the project to reach this point, this time is now lost and so the project should be extended. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What about the other livelihood projects that were suggested and discussed – what was the selection criteria for the projects? • Why did Bere get the Veld product processing centre when we also suggested it? If the centre will be in Bere how will our community access and benefit from it? • Who will be able to access and engage with the craft centre? • What about the people who already have licences to sell? • UNDP propose to refurbish the craft centre and establish a highway craft centre but will they also help with the marketing and how will we ensure sustainability and the possibility of expansion beyond the three villages associated with the Trust. • Marketing is the main challenge, not production • There is a risk of overgrazing in communal areas if there is improved quality of livestock and improved grazing in the area through improved management practices (following training). How would we stop external parties coming in to access this grazing? • The Trust is new and will need support from UNDP to develop management skills and capacity otherwise it will be set up to fail. <p>Risks or concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is not enough grazing land available as it is being lost to village expansion and the establishment of the proposed ranches
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New Xade	Human Wildlife Conflict mitigation
	
Consent	Full consent
Summary of discussions and questions	<p>General discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We gave up hunting for CBNRM but we are benefiting nothing from it. • Where is the game meat? • Traditions are being eroded, the traditional lifestyles are being eroded and the skills of producing crafts are being lost • Trust was pushing for DWNP to trust them and involve them in setting the hunting quotas. DWNP should also trust them in managing the area. For instance, there are waterholes that were drilled which are not active or pumping as DWNP doesn't have capacity and resources to maintain. • Hunting and gathering is in the blood of San peoples – therefore the commercial hunting in this area must either provide meat or allow concession for community hunting otherwise there will be no engagement from that section of the community as it doesn't support

	<p>their tradition and identity. Can traditional hunting not be incorporated into the existing commercial hunting within the community areas?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why are you referring to Human Wildlife Conflict – We were told that we were moving from an area with wildlife to an area with no wildlife and so there would be no issues but the wildlife are still here. We are meant to co-exist with them. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is significant potential for tourism options through a cultural village and campsite in or near the village for passing tourists. Why did UNDP not support this? • There is a wealth of indigenous knowledge with wildlife and an opportunity to partner with external research institutes. This information is not being studied or encouraged and so may be lost. The community is keen to work with wild produce such as devil’s claw. <p>Risks or concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No skills are being transferred from the elderly to the younger generation because there are no markets or opportunities for the exploitation of those skills and associated products. • The money from UNDP for project development in the community may not end up at New Xade (or at least not that much of it). The bulk of the money will go to administration of the implementing NGO. So the money should come through to the community and not the implementing NGO. • The projects and activities proposed by UNDP suit their agenda but may not suit the communities, particularly if the community is not fully involved in discussions around implementation.
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East Hanahai	Refurbished craft centre and Holistic Rangeland Management training
	
Consent	Full consent
Summary of discussions and questions	<p>General discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who will be trained as there are 5-6 farming syndicates each with multiple members so only training 10 farmers is not enough to make a difference. • Also what about the farmers in communal areas? The number of people to be trained is not sufficient. • How much money will the implementing NGO take and how much will actually be spent within the community? • How will crafts be marketed and how will communities work together on this?


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training is needed for quality assurance. <p>Risks or concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there are no markets for the crafts produced then skills will be lost as those who have skills now will not pass those skills on to the younger generation as there will be no point/value to doing so. • The youth are not keen on taking up skills if they don't translate to improved livelihoods • There is currently a lack of availability of egg shells / materials and tools for craft and the licencing for collection and use from DWNP (licence to trade). DWNP should help to facilitate this more. • The existing markets for livestock favour the feedlot owners and so alternative markets need to be identified. • Livestock theft is a big issue of concern in communal grazing areas.
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Bere	Veld product processing centre and Human wildlife conflict mitigation
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Consent	Full consent
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Summary of discussions and questions	<p>Risks or concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are not significant quantities of devil's claw available locally in the wild and so may run out quickly through over harvesting. • There is collection to date but scaling up stage there is a very real risk that it won't be viable. Even at pilot stage there were people having to travel up to 20km to find the plant. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultivation of Devil's Claw is the only way to ensure viability. • Other communities may be able to supply the produce for processing. It is important to include other villages as if/when Bere runs out of the plant then other communities may have. • Devils' claw is not the only plant which has medicinal properties. UNDP should be open to trials with other veld products e.g. <i>dikgotse</i>, it is good for blood pressure and improves immunity.
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Kacgae	Establishment of highway craft centre
	
Consent	Partial consent subject to additional information and clarifications
Additional information requested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional information with regard to implementation of the project, the role of the identified NGO and how this will impact upon the craft producers and existing craft sellers • How will the partner NGO be selected? How will the NGO work with the Trust?
Summary of discussions and questions	<p>General discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A previous NGO, Permaculture, took advantage of the community. The communities hopes were raised and then dashed and all they were left with was a building which has not been used and now needs refurbishing. • Why did UNDP select projects without further engagement with the communities? Kacgae asked for help with a campsite but this was not included? Also a game farm. Why were these projects forgotten?

Monong	Human wildlife conflict mitigation
	
Consent	Partial consent subject to additional information and clarifications
Additional information requested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The community want to work with UNDP on this project but don't know much about the HWC strategy. • The community would like to discuss further as there are doubts that any of the measures proposed will actually make a difference.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The community would like more information on the implementation of the proposed activities – on the strategy, proposed activities and mitigation measures. • The community would like to be party to the discussions as to what activities are to be trialled or implemented.
Summary of discussions and questions	<p>General discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jackals are the major species of concern. They cause more damage than leopards and lions but leopards are the most difficult to deter as they jump over kraals. Lions are not such a problem. • The community are good at herding cattle <p>Risks or concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGOs have come into the community previously and then left with limited communication - Thusano Lefatsheng. NGOs exploit the communities. • Devil’s Claw is being harvested locally and sold for very little money. The produce is purchased by private company and facilitated by DFRR. Product being sold on to SA or beyond. Only receive P300 for 50kg bag.


Ncaang	Bushfire management equipment and training
	
Consent	Full consent
Summary of discussions and questions	<p>General discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome the proposed activities as wildfire is a big problem there. • Community is proactive in firefighting • People are trained but do not currently receive certificates to go with the training. Future training should include certification for course completion etc. • Government employees get an allowance for firefighting but community volunteers don’t get any allowance. Perhaps through the Trust there can be a fund to financially compensate those who fight fires. • What was the selection criteria for projects – how was this done? The Ncaang community proposed campsite and a veld product centre too but why is this only at Bere? How can the community access this proposed centre at Bere as they have lots of Devil’s claw? • Members of the San community raised concerns that they were not benefitting from the Trust and the Trust’s activities. • Hopes had been raised by the initial UNDP engagements and visits, e.g. to the community campsite. <p>Risks or concerns</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land use and land management – Land Board is conflicting with the current management plan as the Land Board says that the Management plan has long since expired. As a result boreholes are being allocated in areas which they shouldn't be. The proposed Land Use plans need to be developed quickly to manage the developments. • The Trust management and Board need training
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Ukwhi	Holistic rangeland management
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Consent	Full consent
Summary of discussions and questions	<p>General discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflict wildlife should be on the hunting quota, such as lions which are the biggest problem • There is a lack of engagement between the TAC and the community • How were projects selected? • Land Board is conflicting with the current management plan as the Land Board says that the Management plan has long since expired. The government is promoting conflicting land use and undermining the current zonation of the area. • There is an issue of sustainability for the project – how will this be achieved? Birdlife Botswana worked with the community on the campsite but when they left the project stopped too. • Feedback and engagement from UNDP is slow and delayed. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We would be keen to work with the proposed craft shop at Kacgae to promote and sell our craft. <p>Risks or concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The skill levels within the community Trust are poor and so training is required for Trust management. There should be a Trust Manager. • The Trust is failing to account for funds that are coming in. There is a lack of transparency. • Where will the funding for the NGO go to? It normally ends up with the NGO and very little money is spent on the ground.

Ngwatle	Pan campsite development and bushfire management, equipment and training
	
Consent	Full consent
Summary of discussions and questions	<p>General discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very happy about the proposed support to the campsite, would like to get implementation going quickly. They were supported by Birdlife Botswana previously. • However, why support the campsite close to the village and not the site near to Xaa which is a better site? • The community has craft production but no market for these crafts. • There are also more veld products beyond devil's claw that also have medicinal properties. <p>Risks or concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are not that many tourists which come through Ngwatle so marketing will need to be rigorous to put them on the map. There was talk of establishing a camping route with neighbouring communities and with KTP etc. as this could create opportunities. • There is no compensation for fire damage (crops or livestock) – there is no system which allows for compensation payments. There should be a compensation system established. • People are actively poaching within the area because San people are not benefiting from the Trust. • There are currently no land certificates or tourism licences for the campsite(s).

Zutshwa	Salt mine development, Human wildlife conflict mitigation, bushfire management, equipment and training, Holistic rangeland management and training
	
Consent	Full consent
Summary of discussions and questions	<p>General discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were clear and acknowledged concerns relating to the management of the salt mine, including the misuse of funds. The community acknowledge that they will need to deal with the existing problems before new money gets invested. • Why support the chosen activities and not some of the other preferred livelihood projects such as craft production? With craft production the money would go to the people and not the trust. With the salt mine the money goes to the trust and trust manager and not the community. • Holistic Rangeland Management was tried before but because the training was erratic and inconsistent then there has been no progress. Therefore, those who are trained revert back to traditional activities. Therefore, if nothing changes then the same result will happen. • Benefits from hunting are too little and insignificant. Therefore, the community are forced to go out poaching/hunting and find food. • For the HWC strategy the community helped to develop the strategy but have since heard nothing more about it. No progress has been made and there has been no follow up with farmers. The community want to see implementation. • HRM may help the community decide on how best to zone the area – set aside grazing areas. This may also help reduce HWC. • It is poachers from Ghanzi and Tshabong which are the ones causing the fires. • It is important for a vehicle to be available to get the trained people to get to where the fire is. • There should also be some allowance for the volunteer fire fighters. • DFRR should look at the people trained in the communities for hiring new people. However, they always advertise in Hukuntsi and Kang and hire people who are not yet trained. • UNDP should identify NGOs such as Tanate to partner with as they are already in the community and working with the people to change and improve lives. • There has been a lack of feedback and follow up from UNDP. • There should be a junior manager at the mine from the community being trained.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poaching is a result of a lack of employment opportunities. <p>Risks or concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There needs to be provision of water for livestock otherwise there is little chance of progress or success with the Holistic rangeland management. • There needs to be improved transparency with the Trust so that the community know where the benefits of the project are going to. • There has been significant funds invested into the salt mine project but it is still losing money and being managed badly. • Monitoring and Evaluation programme – UNDP must ensure that their money is actually making a difference on the ground and not rely on what they are told by implementing partners. There is no point in going through training and equipment provision if it all then just sits and can't be used. Is the money making any difference? Is the salt mine viable? • Communal herding may increase the threat of stock theft.
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Khawa	Pan campsite development, Human wildlife conflict mitigation, Bushfire management, equipment and training
Consent	Full consent
Summary of discussions and questions	<p>General discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be a gatehouse or similar to collect fees from tourists. Currently there is little tourism outside of the Khawa Dune Challenge so what other tourism activities can be linked to? • There should be a gate into KTP from Khawa which would help promote tourism in the area. • Very happy to have improved fire management and training as last year's fire was really bad. • Lions are a big concern and so HWC mitigation is welcome. • Implementing the KGDEP project activities from Tshabong is not a good idea, it won't work. The officers / staff should be spending a lot of their time in the focal community (e.g. Khawa). • Training of Trust staff and VDC officers is very important. • Keen to begin implementation – Govt. related projects are often delayed. <p>Risks or concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire management is good, the community like the idea of having equipment and trained people. However, a vehicle is needed to get people to where they are needed, they can't rely on a government vehicle.

Struizendam	Charcoal and fodder production and Human wildlife conflict mitigation
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Consent	Full consent
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Summary of discussions and questions	<p>General discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Trust board of trustees don't provide feedback to the communities. • This UNDP project has spent a lot of time piloting the charcoal and fodder. It needs to be implemented commercially now. The community doesn't know how far the project is along and whether it is successful. The community really like the fodder project but nothing is moving forward. • DWNP must work closely with the BORAVAST Trust to make the HWC mitigation work properly <p>Risks or concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mismanagement of the Trust • There needs to be storage capacity for the fodder so that it doesn't get ruined by rain.
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Bokspits	Charcoal and fodder production
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Consent	Full consent
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Summary of discussions and questions	<p>General discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a lack of feedback from the Trust to the community. • There is perceived mismanagement of the Trust including a lack of transparency, poor accounting and a lack of feedback from the Trust so there is an assumption the finances are not being recorded and may be being misappropriated. <p>Risks or concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mismanagement of the Trust
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Rappels Pan	Charcoal and fodder production
	
Consent	Full consent
Summary of discussions and questions	<p>General discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a lack of feedback from the Trust to the community. • People don't really trust the Board of Trustees anymore. Maybe it would be better for UNDP to work with the VDCs and Kgosi rather than the Trust? • There needs to be management training for the Board of Trustees for the Trust • Charcoal – they don't have a large enough system to produce charcoal in bulk. They are expecting a kiln which will allow them to produce in significant volumes which will allow more people to be involved. • Fodder – trying to standardise the production of the fodder thing with BOBS and UB etc. and increase shelf-life of the fodder. • The community is tired of experimenting because of the delays. • Money is too little and it doesn't encourage other people to get involved. Needs to be scaled up. <p>Risks or concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mismanagement of the Trust • There are not enough tools for the producers.

Vaalhoek	Charcoal and fodder production
Consent	Full consent
Summary of discussions and questions	<p>General discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Happy that UNDP are still working with the community and supporting the projects. • Project has the potential to create jobs, they know the problems the project has and if they can be resolved then there is great potential. • While the Trust is waiting for improvements to the fodder process (improved standards etc.) fodder should still be being produced and sold and not left to rot whilst they wait for finalisation. • Money is too little for the produce and it comes late (produce sold on consignment so it takes a while for money to filter back). • People work long hours for little immediate return and so trained people are leaving the project • The charcoal and fodder production was set up with funding from UNDP but there was no provision for labour/employment. The Trust is

	<p>therefore forced to sell before they can pay people and it may take months before funds come back. UNDP should factor in costs to cover labour when products are collected rather than once sold. This will help with motivation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been irregular feedback from UNDP to date. • There needs to be monitoring and evaluation to determine the success or otherwise of the project. Administration issues. <p>Risks or concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mismanagement of the Trust • People work long hours for little immediate return and so trained people are leaving the project
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5.3 Public review of the ESIA report and FPIC component

The UNDP SES guidance stipulates that the ESIA report must be made available publicly for review for up to 120 days to allow for open feedback. There may be a temptation to place the report centrally with the District Administration, however, this would certainly restrict the number of people and community members who might view the documents. Instead, a copy of the document should be placed at each community kgotla following a kgotla meeting which provides a summary of the report(s) to the community members. Community members should be encouraged to read and review the documents. Such a kgotla meeting would provide the KGDEP project team to present additional information on the proposed methods of implementation, particularly for those three communities which requested more information.

5.4 Future engagement

It is clear that the communities are keen for implementation of project activities to proceed as swiftly as possible so that any benefits can be realised. However, implementation should not be the sole engagement of the KGDEP project with the Ghanzi and Kgalagadi communities. Indeed, it was made clear to the community members that FPIC remains an iterative process and so consent may be withdrawn at any time.

Community members made it clear that they would like to be kept informed of the ongoing status of the project, associated timelines and any challenges which have arisen and are to be addressed. However, the community members are also realistic that they don't want to have multiple meetings a year where nothing new is introduced or there has been limited progress to discuss. A compromise of a minimum of two meetings per year was suggested with additional meetings scheduled if and when necessary. Identifying a clear point of contact, potentially a clearly identified community liaison officer, and clear line of communication with the KGDEP project would be a positive step.

Care should also be taken to offer the necessary due care and respect to community members and their structures as partners and valued stakeholders in the project and not just benefit recipients. This begins through ensuring respectful engagement, listening and responding to queries and concerns in a timely manner and to incorporating this feedback into the implementation process. This includes not arriving 10 minutes before a meeting/workshop/training is scheduled to start and then leaving immediately after the conclusion of the activity. There is significant value to be gained through informal engagement with community representatives and members.

During the FPIC consultations it was also made clear to the communities that consent is an ongoing process and it can be withdrawn by the communities at any time. Facilitating further and more

consistent engagement with the communities will allow for any issues which may impact upon the consent given to be raised and addressed promptly.

5.5 Expectation management

Over the years a number of projects designed to support or develop livelihood activities within these communities have been undertaken with mixed results. These projects raise hopes within the communities that something real will change and there will be many new opportunities. The implementing organisation typically over promises on what can be achieved and often under delivers. These projects are frequently unsustainable and often end quickly with limited feedback to the communities. Care needs to be taken with the engagement between the KGDEP project and the communities so as not to raise expectations too high too quickly. Already there is some concern that many of the projects that were discussed in the initial consultations have been discarded even though it is clear that not all of the projects could be implemented.

5.6 Community Trusts

It was apparent that little to no feedback was given to the wider community by the relevant community Trust representatives that had participated in the KGDEP reset process. It was clear from comments and questions during the FPIC meetings that the reset meeting in Gaborone, the reset process and the resultant projects/activities selected for each community were discussed for the first time during these meetings. It was also evident that not all members of the respective board of trustees for each trust had been fully informed by their relevant chairperson.

Furthermore, feedback from the communities raised concerns about the management of the Trusts. Some of this feedback was as simple as requesting training for Trust management whilst in other communities, significant concerns were raised about perceived or actual mismanagement of the Trusts and in particular of the income.

5.7 Training

A common theme running through the meetings was for the need for training for community Trust board members and management in particular. Some of this is may be related to inexperience, as many board members are young and have been recently elected. Whilst in other cases it is due to concerns around mismanagement of the Trust and its finances, either perceived or real.

5.8 Monitoring and Evaluation

A number of the communities raised the requirement for the KGDEP project to have its own monitoring and evaluation component which could assess and determine the effectiveness of the projects investments. This would assess whether money was actually spent within the communities or whether funds were used for external administration costs or similar leading to limited on the ground investment. It was stated that the UNDP shouldn't rely on partner organisations to undertake the monitoring reports but should instead do their own.

5.9 Wildlife utilisation within community areas

Since the resumption of hunting activities within Botswana in 2020 there has been commercial hunting within a number of the Controlled Hunting Areas (CHAs) in both Ghanzi and Kgalagadi Districts. This hunting is leased through an annual quota process led by the Department of Wildlife and National Parks and the local Technical Advisory Committee with the lease fees paid to the respective community trusts. At all of the villages visited within the Ghanzi District all of the villages reported receiving no additional benefits from the hunting Quota beyond the payment of the lease fees. However, villages within the northern Kgalagadi were very happy as they had not only received the lease fees but also had shared game meat provided by the hunting operator following the hunting of

plains game as part of the leased quota. Meat was equally distributed between member villages and everyone was happy.

5.10 Full community engagement

One of the significant challenges with the FPIC process concerns trying to ensure a full and reflective engagement within each community. It was important to undertake each community meeting within the forum of the kgotla as the '*secure, culturally appropriate and trusted environment for discussions*'. However, it was apparent to us that certain sections of a given community may not be adequately represented. During each kgotla meeting the consultants asked if there were any community members or sections of the community not represented and each time we were answered in the negative.

However, we remained concerned that sections of the community remained poorly represented but we didn't want to push too hard as we could then be seen as having an ulterior motive or agenda. Whilst engaging informally with community members before or after the kgotla meetings it became apparent that the only way to reach all sectors of each community, including those who don't habitually come to the kgotla, would be to go door to door. This would take some considerable time and may raise questions with regard to the agenda of the FPIC process and the KGDEP project as a whole.

5.11 Summary of concerns, risks and opportunities

General

- There needs to be significantly improved communications between the KGDEP project, the community trusts and the communities.
 - It is clear that there has been little to no communication from Trusts to the communities with regard to the project reset and proposed implementation.
 - This should include progress updates every 6 months to the wider community through Kgotla meetings or similar in addition to any other meetings and communications necessary for implementation of the different project components.
 - Meetings should be open and constructive with meaningful engagements with community members and with feedback helping to guide and refine project activities. Community members want to be engaged with the project.
 - All meetings should be well documented with a traceable record of meeting transcripts.
 - Consideration should be given to a designated Community liaison officer to improve lines of communication and to allow for a designated point of contact for communities which would contribute to ongoing consent in line with FPIC principles.
- Further clarity needs to be provided on the project selection process that was followed and why certain projects were allocated to certain villages whilst other projects were not taken up.
- Trust governance and management – training is required to improve the management and communication skills of Trust members and increase accountability to their respective communities.
- There needs to be clarity provided to the communities on the selection and appointment process to be followed for implementing partners and NGOs. This needs to be followed up by ongoing monitoring of implementation activities to ensure that project commitments are met and followed and not just used by the implementing partner in other ways.

Crafts and craft centre

- The identification of markets, marketing and sale of craft products is key to the success of the craft centres
- It is important to ensure access to the proposed craft centre at Kacgae for all communities involved. Other communities from within the KGDEP landscape may also want to access the centre and market their crafts.
- Some provision of tools may be required as well as some training to ensure quality control of crafts
- Whilst there is availability of materials there is need to secure the necessary licences for the collection, processing and sale of crafts developed from products such as ostrich eggshells
- If markets and avenues for sale are not identified then there is a significant risk of losing the traditional skills and practices involved with craft production. Skills are not being passed down to younger generations as they see no way of selling crafts and benefiting from the activity.
- How will existing licenced vendors who have stock of crafts be able to integrate into the proposed craft centres and marketing?

Veld product processing centre

- There is limited resource availability (Devil's Claw) around Bere for the veld product processing centre – need to ensure sustainability and not overharvesting. Cultivation will be the only way to ensure long-term sustainability.
- How will other communities access the veld product processing centre? Such a facility was requested by many of the communities involved in the KGDEP and they questioned why it was to be located at Bere.
- The centre shouldn't only focus on Devil's Claw but also should look at other products including *dikgotse*.

Community campsites

- Where are the tourists going to come from to make the campsites viable and sustainable? Marketing will need to be rigorous to put them on the map. There was talk of establishing a camping route with neighbouring communities and with KTP etc. as this could create opportunities.
- Tourism numbers are not high currently – a gate into KTP should be established near to Khawa which would facilitate tourism development in the area.

Salt mine

- The salt mine is managed poorly and the finances are not clear. The community acknowledge the need to address these concerns before additional investment is made. There have been significant funds invested into the salt mine project but it is still losing money and being managed badly. Appointing a junior manager from the community to be trained would be seen as a positive step.
- There needs to be improved transparency with the Trust so that the community know where the benefits of the project are going to.

Charcoal and fodder production

- Project has the potential to create jobs, they know the problems the project has and if they can be resolved then there is great potential.

- While the Trust is waiting for improvements to the fodder process (improved standards etc.) fodder should still be being produced and sold and not left to rot whilst they wait for finalisation.
- The money that comes for the produce (charcoal and fodder) is too little and it comes late (produce sold on consignment so it takes a while for money to filter back). People work long hours for little immediate return and so trained people are leaving the project
- The charcoal and fodder production systems were set up with funding from UNDP but there was no provision for labour/employment. The Trust is therefore forced to sell before they can pay people and it may take months before funds come back. UNDP should factor in costs to cover labour when products are collected rather than once sold. This will help with motivation.
- There needs to be provision for storage of fodder and charcoal so that it is not damaged by bad weather.
- There also needs to be adequate training for the equipment that has been made available so that it is not damaged.

Fire management

- There needs to be a designated vehicle(s) available to respond to fires – no point having equipment and training if no vehicle is available as Government vehicles are not reliable when needed.
- What about a compensation scheme – currently there is no compensation for fire damage (crops or livestock) – there is no system which allows for compensation payments.
- There should also be some allowance for the volunteer fire fighters.
- DFRR should look at the people trained in the communities for hiring new people. However, they always advertise in Hukuntsi and Kang and hire people who are not yet trained.

Holistic rangeland management

- How will farmers be selected for training when there are far more farmers than the stated training capacity? How will long term sustainability be assured?
- Provision of water is necessary if there is to be long-term sustainability.
- There are concerns related to cattle theft if cattle are to be herded communally.
- Available grazing land is being lost to village and community expansion and to the allocation of ranches.
- What about the threat from external farmers bringing their cattle into the communal areas if the grazing resources are significantly improved through the improved rangeland management practices?

Human wildlife conflict mitigation

- There has been little engagement with communities following the initial consultations involved with developing the strategy. How will it be implemented?
- DWNP must work with the communities to identify the mitigation actions and implement them.

6 Appendix 1 – Letters of introduction and meeting request

6.1 Letter of introduction – English



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May 2022
Kgotla
P O Box xxx

RE: REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIVE KGOTLA MEETING IN RELATION TO THE K GALAGADI AND GHANZI DRYLANDS ECOSYSTEMS PROJECT (KGDEP PROJECT).

Dear Kgosi xxx,

As you may already know, the government of Botswana is involved in a project titled ***'Managing the human-wildlife interface to sustain the flow of agro-ecosystem services and prevent illegal wildlife trafficking in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands'***, which includes your village and its surrounding settlements. The title of the project is summarised as Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Dryland Ecosystems Program (KGDEP). It is a total USD 28,496,789.00 six year-long project (2017-2023) involving the Government of Botswana and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) that includes co-financing and government in kind input. The project consists of four components:

- (1) Component 1. Coordinating capacity for combating wildlife crime (including trafficking, poaching, and poisoning) and enforcement of wildlife policies and practices at district, national, and international levels
- (2) Component 2. Incentives and systems for wildlife protection by communities and increasing financial returns from natural resource exploitation and reducing human-wildlife-conflicts (HWC)
- (3) Component 3. Integrated land use planning (ILUP) in the conservation areas and sustainable land use management (SLM) in communal lands, securing wildlife migratory corridors, and increasing productivity or rangelands respectively, reducing competition between land uses and increasing ecosystem integrity of the Kalahari ecosystem.
- (4) Component 4. Gender mainstreaming, traditional ecological and scientific knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), and ensuring the dissemination of project lessons.

In accordance with UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES) policy UNDP projects require an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out by independent experts in a participatory manner with stakeholders, following the principles of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent where SES Standard 6 on Indigenous Peoples applies.

The ESIA aims to identify and assess social and environmental impacts of the safeguards risks identified in the project's social and environmental screening procedures (SESP) report, and design appropriate avoidance, mitigation, management, and monitoring measures as required under the UNDP SES Policy, and in alignment with relevant national legislation or policies. This is a government-led project which is supported by UNDP and financed through the Global Environmental Facility. The Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, Conservation, and Tourism (MENT) is the implementing agency in Botswana. The specific community stakeholder engagement component will feed into and inform the continued development and finalisation of the ESIA.

Some consultations have been undertaken with the communities in relation to both the wider KGDEP project as well as specific component projects over the last 3-5 years, some of which have been relatively extensive. However, there has been no clear or concerted attempts previously to achieve consent from the affected communities in line with UNDP SES and Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) principles.

The social safeguards component requires a survey to be undertaken of a sample of communities in the Ghanzi and Kgalagadi and Kgalagadi Districts. Your village is one of the villages selected to be part of this consultative meetings. The independent consultant who will be carrying out this survey in June 2022 is James Bradley, who along with his colleague Sehenyi Tlotlego, will be carrying out the fieldwork in the communities seeking Free, Prior, and Informed Consent for the KGDEP project. The survey will commence on the 6th of June in the Ghanzi district, and end on the 24th of June in the Kgalagadi district. We have attached a schedule of meetings for all the villages we will be consulting. We have also enclosed a letter of introduction from the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, and Tourism. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Yours Sincerely

James Bradley, james@esabotswana.com
Sehenyi Tlotlego, sehenyi@gmail.com

6.2 Letter of introduction – Setswana



Ecosystem Solutions for Africa
P.O. Box HA 77 HAK, Maun
Tel. No.: (+267) 72875659
Fax: (+267) 6860581
Email: james@esabotswana.com

xxx May 2022
xxx Kgotla
P O Box xxx

RE: REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIVE MEETING IN RELATION TO THE KGALAGADI AND GHANZI DRYLANDS ECOSYSTEMS PROJECT.

Go Kgosi xxx,

Jaaka le ka tswa le setse le itse, Goromente wa Botswana o tsentse letsogo mo *project* e e bidiwang ***“Managing the human-wildlife interface to sustain the flow of agro-ecosystem services and prevent illegal wildlife trafficking in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands”*** e e akaretsang metse ya lona le metsana e e mo tikologong. Leina la project e le khutswagaditswe gotwe “Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystems Project (KGDEP project). Ke *project* e e tsayang dingwaga dile thataro (2017-2023) e e akaretsang Goromente wa Botswana, le lekgotla la United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), e ntsheditswe sephato sa madi le ditirelo ke Goromente wa Botswana. Project e e na le makgamo a le mane:

- (1) Lekgamo la Ntsha: Bokgoni jwa go rulaganya thibelo ya bogodu jwa diphologolo (go akarediwa motsamao, go tsuma le go dirisa bothole) le go gagamatsa tiriso ya melao le mekgwa ya go dirisa diphologolo, mo kgaolong ya rona le lefatshe ka bophara.
- (2) Lekgamo la bobedi: Dilo tse di rutuetsang batho se-legae, le mananeno a a ka ba thusang go sireletsa diphologolo, le go nonutsha letseno la madia le le tswang mo tirisong ya ditsa-tlholego, le go fokotsa go gotlha-gothana ga batho le diphologolo.
- (3) Lekgamo la boraro. Lenaneo la tiriso lefatshe le le lomaganeng mo mafelong a tshomarelo ditsa-tlholego, le tiriso lefatshe ka tshomarelo mo mafelong a mafudiso, go babalela motsamao wa diphologolo le go godisa maduo a tswang mo ditsa-tlholegong, le go fokotsa phadisanyo fa gare ga mefuta e e farologanyeng ya tiriso lefatshe, le go godisa boleng jwa meamuso le ditsa-tlholego tsa sethakethake sa Kgalagadi.
- (4) Lekgamo la bone: Thutuetso ya bong, tsamaiso e e lolameng ya dikitso tsa ngwao le tsa maranyane, le go tlhodumela tsamaiso, le go tlhomamisa gore dintlha tse di ithutilweng mo *project* e, di a anamisiwa.

Katsela e e tsamaelang le melawana ya UNDP ya go bereka le batho le tikologo, UNDP e lopa gore tshekatshego ya go tlotlhomisa ka fa *project* e amang matshelo a batho le tikologo ka teng (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), e dirwe ke batho ba ba ikemetseng ka nosi, ka tsela e e akaretsang batsayakarolo, gape le ka tsela e e salang morago ditsetlana tse di tihomamisang gore batho ba dumalana ka bongwefela jwa dipelo tsa bone (*consent*), ba goloselegile (*free*), ba tihaloseditswe ka botalo (*informed*) ebile ba filwe sebaka se se lekanyeng pele ga ba dira tumalano eo (*prior*) e leng (*Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) principles*), e leng gone fa tsetlana ya borataro ya melawana ya go bereka le batho le tikologo (Social and Environmental Standard (SES) 6) ya UNDP e berekang teng.

Maikaelelo a tshekatsheko e (ESIA) ke go bona ka fa *project* e amang matshelo a batho le tikologo ka teng, go tsamaelana le dilo tse di bothabetsi mo pabalesegong (*safeguards risks*) tse di lemogilweng mo mokwalong wa tlotlhomiso matshelo a batho le tikologo (*social and environmental screening procedures (SESP) report*), le go tlhoma ditiro tsa go tila, go fokotsa manokonoko, tsamaisa le go tlotlhomisa go ya pele, jaaka go lopiwa ke melawana ya UNDP SES, le go tihomamisa gore *project* e tsamaelana le melao le melawana e e maleba ya lefatshe la Botswana. Goromente wa Botswana ke ene a gogang *project* e kwa pele, e e rutuediwang ke UNDP e bile e ntsheditswe madi ke *Global Environmental Facility (GEF)*. Lephata la Tikologo, Ditsa-tlholego, Tshomarelo le Bojanala (*Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, Conservation, and Tourism (MENT)*) ke lone le le tsamaisang *project* e mo Botswana. Go buisana le batsayakarolo mo, go ta tthathelela go bopiwa le go feleletswa ga ESIA. Dipuisano tse dingwe di setse di tshwerwe mo metseng ya lona, mabapi le yone *project* e ya KGDEP ka kakaretso, le dikarolo dingwe tsa *project*, mo dingwageng the tharo go ya go tse thano tse di fitileng, dingwe tsa tsone e le dipuisano tse di tseneletseng. Go lebega go ne go sena tshamaiso e e tlhamaletseng, kgotsa tumalano fa gare ga bodiredi go kopa tumalano ka bongwefela jwa pelo ya batho-se-legae ba ba amiwang ke *project* e, ka ile selo se se lopiwang ke tsamaiso ya UNDP SES, e e tihomamisang gore batho ba dumalana ka bongwefela jwa dipelo tsa bone (*consent*), ka kgololesego (*free*), ba tihaloseditswe ka botalo (*informed*) e bile ba filwe sebaka se se lekanyeng pele ga ba dira tumalano eo (*prior*).

Lekalana la pabalelo matshelo a batho (*social safeguard component*) le tlama gore go buisanwe le bontha bongwe jwa botho ba ba amiwang ke *project* e, ba ba mo dikgaolong tsa Ghanzi le Kgalagadi. Motse wa lona ke mongwe wa metse e e kgethilweng go tsaya karolo mo dipuisanong tse. Batho ba ba ikemetseg ka nosi, ba ba ta a simolodisang dipuisano ka kgwedi ya Seetebosigo e tlhola malatsi a le marataro (6th June) ko Kgaolong ya Ghanzi, ba bo ba fetsa ka yone kgwedi ya Seetebosigo a tlhola malatsi a le Masome a mabedi le bone (24th June) ko kgaolong ya Kgalagadi, ke James Bradley, le modiri-ka-ene, Sehenyi Tlotlego. Re ta a tsamaya le metse re buisana le batho re buisana ka *project*, a

be re kopa tumalano ya batho ka tsamaiso ya FPIC. Lenaneo la mosepele wa rona le gokagantswe le lekwalo le. Re tsentse thulaganyo ya lenaneo la diphuthago tsa metse yotlhe e re ya go rerisana le yone. Gape re tsentse le lekwalo le le tswang ko Lephatheng la Tikologo, Ditsa-tlholego, Tshomarelo le Bojanala le le rurifatsang thumo e. Fa le na le diputso re kopa gore le re tshware ka megala kgotsa le romele melaetsa.

Ka boikokobetso,

James Bradley, james@esabotswana.com, 72 875 659
Sehenyi Tlotlego, sehenyi@gmail.com, 73 757 744

6.3 Letter of introduction from MENT

PRIVATE BAG BO 199
GABORONE
BOTSWANA

REFERENCE: ENT 1/7/10 VII (15)



REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

TEL: (+267) 3914955
FAX: (+267) 3951092

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL
RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND TOURISM

20 August 2021

To whom it may concern

**INTRODUCTION OF DR JAMES BRADLEY - KGALAGADI & GHANTSI
DRYLANDS ECOSYSTEM PROJECT- ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL
IMPACT ASSESSMENT (ESIA) CONSULTANT**

The above subject matter refers.

The Government of Botswana, through the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, Conservation and Tourism (MENT), in partnership with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), is implementing a 6-year GEF-funded project entitled: ***Managing the human-wildlife interface to sustain the flow of agro-ecosystem services and prevent illegal wildlife trafficking in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands (KGDEP)***. The objective of the project is to promote an integrated landscape approach to managing Kgalagadi and Ghanzi drylands for ecosystem resilience, improved livelihoods and reduced conflicts between land uses biodiversity conservation, economic and livelihood activities.

One of the core principles of UNDP in programme and project implementation is to ensure mainstreaming of social and environmental standards (SES) to support sustainable development. The objectives of the standards among others are to:

- Strengthen the social and environmental outcomes of Programmes and Projects
- Avoid adverse impacts to people and the environment
- Minimize, mitigate, and manage adverse impacts where avoidance is not possible
- Strengthen capacities for managing social and environmental risks and
- Ensure full and effective stakeholder engagement, including through a mechanism to respond to complaints from project-affected people.

Our Vision: *World Leader in Environmental Sustainability*



The Ministry is therefore, committed to ensuring that all stakeholders are fully consulted as expected by the Social and Environmental Standards and Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) is obtained from the communities who will be participating in the various project activities implemented and supported by the Kgalagadi & Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project.

It is on this basis of the foregoing, that a consultant **DR James Bradley** has been appointed by UNDP on behalf of the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, Conservation and Tourism to undertake stakeholder engagement in support of a Lead Consultant Professor Robert Hitchcock who is tasked with delivery of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and Environmental and Social Management Plan for the project.

Please accord Dr Bradley the necessary access and support during the consultation process.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully



B. Babusi-Hill

FOR/PERMANENT SECRETARY

Our Vision: *World Leader in Environmental Sustainability*



7 Appendix 2 – Letters of consent templates

7.1 Letters of consent – English version

Community: _____
Date: _____
Name of Community Representative: _____

Following consultations on ____ June 2022 relating to the UNDP Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project (KGDEP) and the proposed project activities which may impact upon our community I/We give consent to the continuation of the project. We acknowledge that as a community we retain the right to revoke this consent at any time through correspondence with the KGDEP Project Management Unit.

Signature

Date

Community: _____
Date: _____
Name of Community Representative: _____

Following consultations on ____ June 2022 relating to the UNDP Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project (KGDEP) and the proposed project activities which may impact upon our community I/We **do not** give consent to the continuation of the project.
(Provide a summary of why consent is being withheld and any additional steps which the community would like to see followed)

Signature

Date

Community: _____
Date: _____
Name of Community Representative: _____

Following consultations on ____ June 2022 relating to the UNDP Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project (KGDEP) and the proposed project activities which may impact upon our community I/We **request additional information and engagement before we are able to provide consent** for the continuation of the project. We acknowledge that as a community we retain the right to revoke this consent at any time through correspondence with the KGDEP Project Management Unit.

Signature

Date

7.2 Letters of consent – Setswana version

Motse: _____
Letsatsi le nako: _____
Leina la moemedi wa motse: _____

Re lebile phuthego e re neng re e tshwere ka ____ Seetebosigo 2022, mabapi le project ya UNDP ya “Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project” (KGDEP), le ditiro tsa yone tse re solofetseng di ka ama motse wa rona, **ke/re dumalana le tswelelopele ya project e.**

Re lemoga gore rele batho ba motse, re na le tshwanelo ya go bosetsa morago tumalano ya rona ka nako ngwe le ngwe, re dira jalo ka dipuisano le botsamaisi jwa project ya KGDEP jo bo ko Tshabong.

Seatla:
Letsatsi:

Motse: _____
Letsatsi le nako: _____
Leina la moemedi wa motse: _____

Re lebile phuthego e re neng re e tshwere ka ____ Seetebosigo 2022, mabapi le project ya UNDP ya “Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project” (KGDEP), le ditiro tsa yone tse re solofetseng di ka ama motse wa rona, **ga ke/re dumalana le tswelelopele ya project e.**

Mabaka a rona ka bokhutswane le tsela e motse o eletsang gore e salwe morago ke a a latelang:

Seatla:
Letsatsi:

Motse: _____
Letsatsi le nako: _____
Leina la moemedi wa motse: _____

Re labile phuthego e re neng re e tshwere ka ____ Seetebosigo 2022, mabapi le project ya UNDP ya “Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project” (KGDEP), le ditiro tsa yone, tse re solofetseng di ka ama motse wa rona, **ke/re kopa tthaloso e e tseneletseng le dipuisano tse dingwe pele ha re ka tsaya tshwetso ya tswelelopele ya project e.**

Re lemoga gore rele batho ba motse o, re na le tshwanelo ya go bosetsa morago tumalano ya rona ka nako ngwe le ngwe, re dira jalo ka dipuisano le botsamaisi jwa project ya KGDEP jo bo ko Tshabong.

Seatla:
Letsatsi:

8 Appendix 3 – Copies of signed consent letters

8.1 West Hanahai

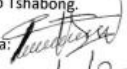
Motse: West Hanahai

Letsatsi le nako: 06/06/2022 09:00 09:00 hrs


Leina la moemedi wa motse: Kross Khoxo

Re labile phuthego e re neng re e tshwere ka 6 Seetebosigo 2022, mabapi le project ya UNDP ya "Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project" (KGDEP), le ditiro tsa yone, tse re solofetseng di ka ama motse wa rona, ke/re kopa tihaloso e e tseneletseng le dipuisano tse dingwe pele ha re ka tsaya tshwetso ya tswelolepele ya project e.

Re lemoga gore rele batho ba motse o, re na le tshwanelo ya go bosetsa morago tumalano ya rona ka nako ngwe le ngwe, re dira jalo ka dipuisano le botsamaisa jwa project ya KGDEP jo bo ko Tshabong.

Seatla: 

Letsatsi: 06/06/2022



8.2 New Xade

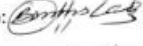
Motse: NEW XADE

Letsatsi le nako: 07/06/22 09:00 hrs

Leina la moemedi wa motse: LORANTO K. BELING

Re labile phuthego e re neng re e tshwere ka 07 Seetebosigo 2022, mabapi le project ya UNDP ya "Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project" (KGDEP), le ditiro tsa yone tse re solofetseng di ka ama motse wa rona, ke/re dumalana le tswelolepele ya project e.

Re lemoga gore rele batho ba motse, re na le tshwanelo ya go bosetsa morago tumalano ya rona ka nako ngwe le ngwe, re dira jalo ka dipuisano le botsamaisa jwa project ya KGDEP jo bo ko Tshabong.

Seatla: 

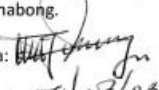
Letsatsi: 07/06/22

8.3 East Hanahai

Motse: EAST HANAHAI
Letsatsi le nako: 08/06/2022
Leina la moemedi wa motse: Mogwasi Felames

Re lebile phuthogo e re neng re e tshwere ka 08 Seetebosigo 2022, mabapi le project ya UNDP ya "Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project" (KGDEP), le ditiro tsa yone tse re solofetseng di ka ama motse wa rona, **ke/re dumalana le tswelolepele ya project e.**

Re lemoga gore rele batho ba motse, re na le tshwanelo ya go bosetsa morago tumalano ya rona ka nako ngwe le ngwe, re dira jalo ka dipuisano le botsamaisi jwa project ya KGDEP jo bo ko Tshabong.

Seatla: 
Letsatsi: 08/06/22

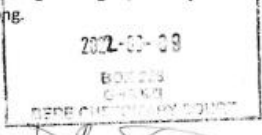



8.4 Bere

Motse: BERE SETTLEMENT
Letsatsi le nako: 09/06/2022
Leina la moemedi wa motse: Kgosi DAVID RASE TSWANA

Re lebile phuthogo e re neng re e tshwere ka 09 Seetebosigo 2022, mabapi le project ya UNDP ya "Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project" (KGDEP), le ditiro tsa yone tse re solofetseng di ka ama motse wa rona, **ke/re dumalana le tswelolepele ya project e.**

Re lemoga gore rele batho ba motse, re na le tshwanelo ya go bosetsa morago tumalano ya rona ka nako ngwe le ngwe, re dira jalo ka dipuisano le botsamaisi jwa project ya KGDEP jo bo ko Tshabong.

Seatla: 
Letsatsi: 

8.5 Kacgae

Motse: KACGAE

Letsatsi le nako: 10 June 2022 / 11.15 Am

Leina la moemedi wa motse: DAOSTA MATHA

Re labile phuthego e re neng re e tshwere ka 10 Seetebosigo 2022, mabapi le project ya UNDP ya "Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project" (KGDEP), le ditiro tsa yone, tse re solofetseng di ka ama motse wa rona, ke/re **kopa tihaloso e e tseletseng le dipuisano tse dingwe pele ha re ka tsaya tshwetso ya tswelolepele ya project e.**

Re lemoga gore rele batho ba motse o, re na le tshwanelo ya go bosetsa morago tumalano ya rona ka nako ngwe le ngwe, re dira jalo ka dipuisano le botsamaisa jwa project ya KGDEP jo bo ko Tshabong.

Seatla: Mankwe

Letsatsi: 10 June 2022



8.6 Monong

Motse: MONONG

Letsatsi le nako: 13-06-2022 07:00

Leina la moemedi wa motse: MOLELE D. MOLELE

Re labile phuthego e re neng re e tshwere ka 13 Seetebosigo 2022, mabapi le project ya UNDP ya "Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project" (KGDEP), le ditiro tsa yone, tse re solofetseng di ka ama motse wa rona, ke/re **kopa tihaloso e e tseletseng le dipuisano tse dingwe pele ha re ka tsaya tshwetso ya tswelolepele ya project e.**

Re lemoga gore rele batho ba motse o, re na le tshwanelo ya go bosetsa morago tumalano ya rona ka nako ngwe le ngwe, re dira jalo ka dipuisano le botsamaisa jwa project ya KGDEP jo bo ko Tshabong.

Seatla: Monalet

Letsatsi: 17-06-2022



8.7 Ncaang

Motse: NCAANG

Letsatsi le nako: 14/06/22

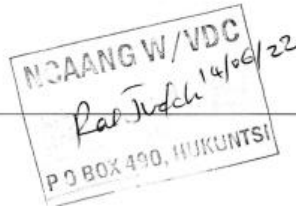
Leina la moemedi wa motse: KEMONEILWE PELPONE

Re lebile phuthego e re neng re e tshwere ka 14 Seetebosigo 2022, mabapi le project ya UNDP ya "Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project" (KGDEP), le ditiro tsa yone tse re solofetseng di ka ama motse wa rona, **ke/re dumalana le tswelelopele ya project e.**

Re lemoga gore rele batho ba motse, re na le tshwanelo ya go bosetsa morago tumalano ya rona ka nako ngwe le ngwe, re dira jalo ka dipuisano le botsamaisi jwa project ya KGDEP jo bo ko Tshabong.

Seatla: [Signature]

Letsatsi: 14/06/22



8.8 Ukwhi

Motse: UKHWI

Letsatsi le nako: 15/06/2022

Leina la moemedi wa motse: MOFOAT LUCAS

Re lebile phuthego e re neng re e tshwere ka 15 Seetebosigo 2022, mabapi le project ya UNDP ya "Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project" (KGDEP), le ditiro tsa yone tse re solofetseng di ka ama motse wa rona, **ke/re dumalana le tswelelopele ya project e.**

Re lemoga gore rele batho ba motse, re na le tshwanelo ya go bosetsa morago tumalano ya rona ka nako ngwe le ngwe, re dira jalo ka dipuisano le botsamaisi jwa project ya KGDEP jo bo ko Tshabong.

Seatla: M. Lucas

Letsatsi: 15/06/2022



8.9 Ngwatle

Motse: NGWATLE

Letsatsi le nako: 16 June 2017

Leina la moemedi wa motse: MALISO BIKGWE

Re lebile phuthego e re neng re e tshwere ka 16 Seetebosigo 2022, mabapi le project ya UNDP ya "Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project" (KGDEP), le ditiro tsa yone tse re solofetseng di ka ama motse wa rona, **ke/re dumalana le tswelolepele ya project e.**

Re lemoga gore rele batho ba motse, re na le tshwanelo ya go bosetsa morago tumalano ya rona ka nako ngwe le ngwe, re dira jalo ka dipuisano le botsamaisi jwa project ya KGDEP jo bo ko Tshabong.

Seatla: Baloko

Letsatsi:

16/06/2022



8.10 Zutshwa

Motse: ZUTSHWA

Letsatsi le nako: 17/06/2022

Leina la moemedi wa motse: Mr. Abathine Kabathophane

Re lebile phuthego e re neng re e tshwere ka ____ Seetebosigo 2022, mabapi le project ya UNDP ya "Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project" (KGDEP), le ditiro tsa yone tse re solofetseng di ka ama motse wa rona, **ke/re dumalana le tswelolepele ya project e.**

Re lemoga gore rele batho ba motse, re na le tshwanelo ya go bosetsa morago tumalano ya rona ka nako ngwe le ngwe, re dira jalo ka dipuisano le botsamaisi jwa project ya KGDEP jo bo ko Tshabong.

Seatla: Kgosi A. Kabathophane

Letsatsi: 17/06/2022



8.11 Khawa

Motse: KHAWA

Letsatsi le nako: 20 JUNE 2022

Leina la moemedi wa motse: PIET OSENONENG

Re lebile phuthego e re neng re e tshwere ka 20 Seetebosigo 2022, mabapi le project ya UNDP ya "Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project" (KGDEP), le ditiro tsa yone tse re solofetseng di ka ama motse wa rona, **ke/re dumalana le tswelopele ya project e.**

Re lemoga gore rele batho ba motse, re na le tshwanelo ya go bosetsa morago tumalano ya rona ka nako ngwe le ngwe, re dira jalo ka dipuisano le botsamaisi jwa project ya KGDEP jo bo ko Tshabong.

Seatla: Bonouang

Letsatsi: 20 JUNE 2022



8.12 Struizendam

Community: STRUIZENDAM

Date: 23.06.2022

Name of Community Representative: GERHARDUS C ESTERHUIZEN

Following consultations on __ June 2022 relating to the UNDP Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project (KGDEP) and the proposed project activities which may impact upon our community I/We give consent to the continuation of the project. We acknowledge that as a community we retain the right to revoke this consent at any time through correspondence with the KGDEP Project Management Unit.

Signature: [Signature]

Date: TREASURER

23.06.2022



8.13 Bokspits

Community: BOKSPITS

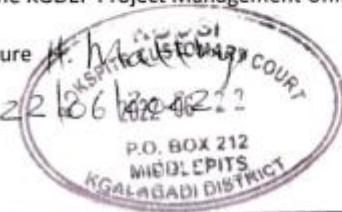
Date: 22 JUNE 2022

Name of Community Representative: HEMBOUC MATHE

Following consultations on 22 June 2022 relating to the UNDP Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project (KGDEP) and the proposed project activities which may impact upon our community I/We give consent to the continuation of the project. We acknowledge that as a community we retain the right to revoke this consent at any time through correspondence with the KGDEP Project Management Unit.

Signature

Date



8.14 Rapplespan

Community: RAPPELSPAN

Date: 23/06/2022

Name of Community Representative: DAVID MATHEIS (KGOSI)

Following consultations on __ June 2022 relating to the UNDP Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project (KGDEP) and the proposed project activities which may impact upon our community I/We give consent to the continuation of the project. We acknowledge that as a community we retain the right to revoke this consent at any time through correspondence with the KGDEP Project Management Unit.

Signature

Date

Handwritten signature and date '23/06/22'.



8.15 Vaalhoek

Community: VAALHOEK

Date: 24-06-2022

Name of Community Representative: Maria Sophia Bock

Following consultations on __ June 2022 relating to the UNDP Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project (KGDEP) and the proposed project activities which may impact upon our community I/We give consent to the continuation of the project. We acknowledge that as a community we retain the right to revoke this consent at any time through correspondence with the KGDEP Project Management Unit.

Signature MSBock

Date 24/06/2022



9 Appendix 4 – Transcripts of the FPIC consultation

Transcripts of the KGDEP FPIC Kgotla and Focal Meetings

9.1 West Hanahai – 06 June 2022

Kgosi welcome remarks - Kgosi Khoxho Xase

Please identify yourselves by name when given a chance to speak

This is a project we are all familiar with. We have had at least 3 meetings here before about this project. It has been working with our trust, Xwiskurusa, which we share with other villages. We know that when the project started it was just our 3 villages and some villages in the Kgalagadi district. Now there are more villages sharing the pie.

Maybe UNDP is here to introduce new projects. So, listen carefully.

Many consultants have been here before. We know Mr. Mpofo and many others that have been here representing UNDP whom we have been working with on this project. It took 6 years to develop this project that was meant to help us, and now there is only one or 2 years left. I would like to know what will happen to leftover money at the end of the project. Will the money go back or not? It would be great if any leftover money could be used to continue supporting our projects.

The youth must participate in these discussions and ask more questions.

The letter for the meeting was received here on Friday last week. I was away at a workshop and have not been able to inform many people in the village, and hence the poor attendance. All of us here present today represent the rest of the village of West Hanahai. Those that are present must share all their concerns here, and refrain from distributing untrue stories later at home.

Like I said earlier, it is a project we all know, that we all want, but it has failed to deliver, and that is the main problem.

You must all attend and stop walking away from kgotla meetings. Today I will instruct the VDC to cut the salaries of those involved in Ipelegeng that will leave the meeting before we finish.

Tshiamo Mosege

The project is needed here in West Hanahai. There are many people that have been trained in sewing. There are many people in the village that are good at leather works, and there are people who are good at tannery here, both adults and young people. There is a rich tradition of tannery and leatherworks that must be taught to the younger generation and that can be shared with the rest of the world.

We are interested in continuing with the project. However, it is also important for government to support the project. For example, it is not a nice thing to hear that the government is taking away our land and turning it into ranches without consultations with us. The people of West Hanahai wants to continue with the project, but the government must trust us fully and give us the full responsibility and authority to manage our land and resources, and to run our projects.

It is also better to talk to us about our projects so we can decide together. It is not a great thing to tell us what projects are good for us. We know our resources better, as well as our tradition and all the natural resources around us.

Yes, we are giving consent. The project must continue to run and that under no circumstances would we want the project to stop. However, the project implementers must come here soon to answer many questions that the community has.

Kgosi Duxwa Xaoga

I liked this project during the initial years. I am not sure I still like it that much because there have been many years now when I was not sure whether the project will go ahead or it is dead. In the beginning it was our tradition we were talking about and that we were going to promote. For example, our food, our medicinal plants and traditional medicinal practices.

In the beginning we had hunting licenses in the land we gave to Xhwiskurusa trust, including the current hunting grounds. This land also has our wild fruits and our medicinal plants. We had our own medicine. Trees were dug and prepared to heal cancer. Back in the day when traditional medicinal practices were observed and followed, we didn't suffer this much from ill-health.

I like the project because it partially addresses our tradition. We had a full tradition that helped us look after ourselves well at times when we had no clinics and hospitals. This project could help us go back to our traditional healing practices and allow us to help modern day medicines as well the clinics and hospitals. The project that has been given to Bere was suggested here and should have been given to us.

Goitsewang Haube

Why have we been given crafts only? Crafts have always been here. We have had organizations such as Gantsi Craft and Permaculture here working with us before. Unfortunately, these NGOs were funded by foreign donors and at some point, they lost their funding and had to be closed. Once there were closed, we had no markets, which is a big challenge for us craft producers. Obviously, the main challenge here is marketing, not production, because there are many producers here. The Social and welfare department has taken many people to craft production training courses and there are many crafts produced here that are sitting and rotting in people's houses right now with no place to sell them. This project must therefore work hard to find markets.

Dikgakgamatso Katima

GH10 is our area where we had our special game licenses and hunted for many years. These licenses were then replaced by a hunting quota that we are now giving to a hunting safari company. GH10 was also zoned such that we now have a no hunting zone, a hunting zone and a cultural zone. Now that government has decided to allocate sections of our land to other people, our land use plan will be confused by this allocation. We have sip wells where animals drink, salt licks for mineral supplements and rich cultural areas such as where bows and arrows were polished and sharpened. The community here is therefore not happy about this new allocation or proposal for ranches in our area.

The craft centre is appreciated. Initially, there was one craft centre proposed only in Kacgae, and we asked for craft centres in each village and that has been approved. When we eventually have the centre fully operational, we would be able to help other villages and allow them to sell at the centre for a small amount of money that can help grow our community trust. Likewise, we will get a chance to go and sell our harvested veld products to Bere and pay a small fee to them that will help grow their trust.

Tirelo Mosege

I came late and I am not sure if this is a new project or the same old craft project that Xhwiskurusa has been working on. From what I have heard so far, it is a good project, and I want it to go ahead, and I want to be a part of it.

Xase Magana

I have asked for sewing machines and those machines are on their way. Can I ask for further help from this project through the trust once those machines have been delivered?

Goitsehang Haube

Silence means something is wrong. Not many people are taking part in the discussions. It is a sign that people do not understand it and require more explanation. I don't fully understand this project.

Qcine Ciko

I am still confused. Is this a new project or will it work under Xhwiskurusa? Many people here work well with leather. Will the project provide help to all these people? After producing all the products, will Xhwiskurusa help collect and sell all the products outside the country?

Name not recorded

Is the craft shop in Gantsi dead? Is this craft centre that is being discussed going to replace the one in Gantsi or is it not related to it?

Tshepiso Sedumago

We are confused. Are we talking about a new project or the same old craft project? Crafts, such as beaded products and leather works exists in the village and the knowledge to make more exists. The craft centre is what is critically needed.

Kgosi Khoxho Xase

People like the project because they make crafts. Back in the day when crafts were properly promoted, many crafts were made here.

I must have missed this, but how long will the project be funded for? It is also not good that the project has been selected, but the detailed process has never been discussed with us before. We like the project, but we don't know the details of how it is going to be run.

We need more information on training and other activities that we are going to run, because we have been taken for a ride in the past by other NGOs.

I personally don't agree with the craft project because we asked for better projects, such as a game farm. Game farm brings in more money, employs more people and it promotes our hunting culture. One of the outputs of a game farm is reducing human wildlife conflict and reducing wildlife crimes, but how can we achieve these without providing game meat to our people? Game farm would promote tourism and tourism would promote conservation and human-wildlife co-existence. My main problem is that the livelihood project was selected without consultations with us. No discussions have been held with us here until today. If we had talked, we would have had the chance to ask for the game farm instead.

Tshiamo Mosege

Kgosi is clear. The fact that UNDP has decided on a project for us without consultations with us is not ideal. We, therefore, request representatives of UNDP to come here themselves to explain the selection criteria and allow us to discuss projects that we prefer. We also want to discuss possibilities of extending the project with more time because 2 years is not enough to get the project off the ground.

Onosi C. Dithapo

UNDP met with us a while ago and selected projects. It was clear from this meeting that the Game Farm project needs a lot of money. Because of that UNDP did not select it at all.

Kgosi Khoxho Xase

It is a pity to know now that the trust chairperson was present at the meeting and that the project was explained to him. It is also clear that the trust and UNDP then forgot about us. We have since received no feedback from any of them until today. Maybe they have visited Bere village. Because of the lack of consultation, UNDP must come here and share full information, and explain how and where craft producers will make and sell their crafts.

Closing remarks – Kgosana Duxwa Xaoga

The FPIC process is a beautiful exercise. It allows the community to make decisions about whether they want to take part in a proposed project or not.

We like the craft project. It will revive leather works, bows and arrows, the making of necklaces and other beaded products. We all know how to make these products. What we don't know is how this business is going to be managed.

Time is a major factor here. One year is too short to achieve anything tangible. It is advisable that UNDP increase by another 2 years at least.

Thank you for coming to consult us. People need projects. That is why there are these many people at the kgotla today. But projects must help improve the livelihoods of these people. The people have spoken that they would like further discussions on this subject. UNDP will get the consent of the people of West Hanahai during the next consultative meeting.

9.1.1 Meeting with the Farmers and craft producers

Onosi C. Dithapo

The trust will need extensive training. Members are new and lack management skills. Training is required not only during implementation, but in advance, if possible, before the implementation of the project.

George Qgam

Initially farmers used to herd their livestock. These days farmers are not putting much effort in looking after their livestock. A lot of livestock is stolen because of lack of herding. There is definitely a need

for farmers to improve the quality of their stock. I am part of a syndicate that has a farm and the syndicate definitely needs funding from CEDA/LEA to increase stock and improve the quality of the livestock.

I got some goats through the LIMID program, and someone stole the entire stock and I have now lost all of them to stock theft. I am a victim of stock theft.

So, stock theft is the biggest problem at the moment. Many people do not keep enough stock that is commercially viable. They keep just enough to sell in order to buy household supplies and cover basic household costs.

We are about 10 farmers that are very much interested in the holistic rangeland project. Water remains a big problem here. We are currently dependent on a truck that brings water for our cattle every day. We have a borehole here in West Hanahai, but the pump has died. We now can't control the movement of our livestock because it is randomly moving up and down in search of water.

There is also not enough grazing in communal areas. There were 789 residential plots allocated here in West Hanahai this year alone. Farmers are losing grazing land to village expansion. There is also the proposed boreholes and ranches that will take up all the remaining grazing land. There are the 1km-by-1km ranches that have been proposed, those will take away all the land and there will be no land left for communal farmers.

Feeding livestock has always been a problem amongst farmers here. There is no culture of feeding livestock, or supplementary feeding to improve the quality of livestock. There is a general lack of knowledge among subsistence farmers about commercial livestock farming.

Pricing of livestock at the market is also a problem. Prices are set by the feedlot owners. They dictate the price per kilogram and these prices will drop with an increase in the supply of cattle.

Money from crafts has always been too little compared to the amount of effort put into producing the crafts.

NGOs like permaculture that have facilitated the production of crafts here before disappeared leaving only craft shops behind. There has been no impact of these projects because people's economy is still where these NGOs found it many years ago. These NGOs have come and gone and have achieved nothing because the lives of the people have remained the same or become worse in some cases.

There is a concern that craft producers are losing their skills because they are not practicing anymore. How do we revive these skills and how do we ensure that these skills are passed on to the next generation?

9.2 New Xade – 07 June 2022

Welcome remarks by Kgosana Lethapo Sefitlholo

New Xade now has a community trust. It was registered 2 years ago. It has been named *Itangwe*, meaning Our Land. Is this project known here in the village? No, not many people know about it. From the schedule attached to the letter, it should be that only villages with San people in the majority are going to be consulted. Maybe this is a new project that is going to help us develop. The trust was

registered so that it can help us use the natural resources around us. Let us discuss how these resources could be used to benefit us.

We will talk to you about your presentation, and we will share our ideas. It would be great if you could come back soon.

Dauqoo Xukuri

Some people came here before together with DWNP to address us and take ideas from us. We agreed with the project and told them that we want it. They took some assignments from us and promised that they will come back. We also asked them to come back. Why are they not back here yet?

Our main problem is livestock predation. Lions, leopards, and wild dogs are the main problem animals. We set up our trust so that we can address HWC and reduce poaching in our area. We also want to run community projects that can help generate income for the community. Mr. Mpofu and his team were here and have not been back since. We are still waiting for our answers.

Tholego Kekailwe

It is a pity that livestock farmers are not here. I cannot understand the project in 2 hours. It is therefore better for the project to come back and run a workshop and explain the project well. The Cheetah Conservation people have been here but there are no improvements. The problem is getting worse and we are already in conflict with DWNP over livestock predation and lack of compensation for the loss.

We need a 5 to 10 days workshop so we can understand all the issues related to the project and so we can freely share our concerns. This is not the first time we address issues related to HWC.

James Kilo

The project is not new. We have heard about it before. It is good that it is being reintroduced here. We must address the issue of HWC. Wildlife has its place and people and their livestock have their space. Lions leave their place and come and kill livestock here, but the compensation takes forever to be processed.

Although we know about the project from previous discussions, the project is still fairly new because nothing has been done yet. So please come back soon so we can get started. We are doing this for our children. I agree with the proposed workshop because I believe it will educate us well in the use of natural resources and how we can coordinate its use to derive financial benefits for the community.

Kethaloseng Phetolo

I understand the project very well. We were given a chance to share our ideas and contribute to it, particularly our understanding of problem animals such as lions, wild dogs and leopards. Back in the day we would kill lions or scare them out of our areas. The same with wild dogs. Elephants are the worst because it is difficult to chase them away or kill them. How do people in other areas handle problem elephants? They kill people, destroy water tanks, raid crops, etc. They are very destructive. How do we stop elephants from disturbing people? Lions and other predators are easy to deal with. Elephants are the difficult ones to address.

Kgosana Letlhapo Sefitholo

What benefits will result from this project for the community? How do we get assisted?

Hon. Jumanta Gakelebone

I may be the area Councillor, but I am also a member of the community. I wish to raise a few questions. Is there money ready to start with this project immediately? If the money is ready, we are ready. We now have a trust, and the trust must be equipped with tools and knowledge to fully execute the interests of the community.

The conflict between people and wildlife exists, especially lions. If the New Xade economy could be derived from wildlife and natural resources, then the negative energy among the people could be reduced. We must realize financial benefits from the use of natural resources in order to be part of its conservation. We are in the knowledge economy, the 4th revolution.

People of New Xade have extensive knowledge of natural resources around them. Many people here have more knowledge about wildlife than many wildlife biologists because they had to study animals from the day they were born. Wildlife was part of their lives from day one. Lion cubs and me were born in the same area and we grew up together. It is unbelievable to some when I tell them that I do miss a lion roar. It is because lions were integral to my upbringing. When our hunts were unsuccessful, lions hunted successfully and we shared their kill, and vice versa. In some instances, lions killed and ate us, and we killed and ate them too. We co-existed. Humans and lions can change each other's lives. Similarly other wildlife and us humans, who live here, have the ability to change each other's lives. So, DWNP alone cannot manage wildlife without the help of us, the people that live with the wildlife, and that co-existed for centuries. The drylands project drilled boreholes before, but DWNP failed to maintain them.

To achieve effective wildlife management, DWNP must first give the wildlife to the community. DWNP must trust people with the wildlife, fully. Let the community carry out businesses in the wildlife areas without reservations. These businesses will look after the existing boreholes and possibly drill and equip more boreholes. Once wildlife provides tangible benefits to us, we will protect the wildlife fully in return for the benefits.

We are ready to work with UNDP, but we must make a meaningful livelihood from the natural resources. We have a trust here now, and we have the CBNRM policy. Both should make it possible for tangible benefits to be realized, provided DWNP can work with us on the wildlife side.

The trust could use management training because it is a new trust, and the board has just started without any formal training.

They are trying but they "driving at night in foreign territory".

When I was in Washington DC a few years ago, attending a meeting where we discussed funding for community projects, we agreed there that the best way to successfully fund community projects and see results is to send the money directly to the community, and not to the government. That is why, for example, the Drylands project trusted DWNP with the boreholes and we have the situation we find ourselves in today. Elephants are now destroying the same boreholes that were meant to supply New Xade with water. The bulk of the money must come here to the people and used to run projects here on the ground.

Ketsholole Mohubiso

I don't know about this project. Wildlife is harassing us, not the other way round. God created people and wildlife in the same area to live together. God did not separate them into 2 different worlds. I would understand human wildlife conflict differently if God had created people and wildlife in 2 separate boxes right from the beginning. People are seen to be harassing wildlife, but that is not the case. This problem is exaggerated. I grew up knowing that people and wildlife live together. This notion of separating us from the wildlife is new to me.

To show you how funny this is, bear this in mind. We were moved from a wildlife area on the basis that we are being moved to a place that has no wildlife and therefore we cannot interact or benefit from wildlife in the order that we were used to. We were told we are being moved to a human wildlife conflict free area. And then look at the situation today. Before long we had more wildlife here like lions, followed us here. Wildlife was taken away from us and replaced by food parcels, and now the same thing is being repeated, by using human wildlife conflict this time around. What is the livelihood project embedded in the human wildlife conflict project? Is human wildlife conflict the main issue here or is there another agenda hidden behind it?

Itshokeng Fani

How the human wildlife conflict project is going to be implemented is still a problem. But consent is needed for the project that seeks solutions to the human wildlife conflict problem to go ahead. I agree with the project and, although I agree with the need for more information regarding the implementation of the project, I also believe that we should give consent.

Vote of Thanks - Hon Jumanta!

Thank you, Kgosi, for welcoming us in your Kgotla. Thank you, government officers, for your advice on this matter. And thanks to UNDP for including us in the Drylands project.

Hunting and gathering wildlife food and other resources has always been our social welfare system and has always been a part of our lives. Conflict between people and wildlife only started recently when hunting and gathering was made illegal by the government. We now must come up with solutions to the problem and develop strategies on how to resolve the resultant human wildlife conflict.

Let me summarize the problem. Our social welfare system is not equal to the new policies. Continuation of the welfare system equals to illegal activities and equals to breaking the law. How do we then resolve this equation such that our social welfare system is equal to policy and equal to legal wildlife and natural resources offtake?

Please do come back soon. There are problems that need to be resolved and they need our attention sooner than later. We should also remember that there is life after the problem is resolved or at the end of the project. It is my hope that the project will source a good life for the people and for wildlife, both at the same time.

I also agree that we should continue with the project while we request more information about project implementation plans. I request UNDP and the Drylands project to come back to us soon so we can develop an implementation plan together and work out how we move forward on this project.

9.2.1 Meeting with Hon. Jumanta and S&CD officers

The village has a few projects that have been earmarked. There is a cultural village here in the village, a campsite in the CKGR, as well as a livestock farm (that includes game farming, and has been leased

to a different trust). There is a rich culture here that requires a lot of research. These includes a variety of foods and the bow and arrow technology that is unique to this area and among its people.

The issue of representation is a problem. There are elderly women in the village with a lot of indigenous knowledge that could be used to run out of school youth training programs in traditional knowledge such as bead and leather works.

It is important for a concession area or supporting a game ranch that will allow and promote community hunting. It is clearly a source of dignity for many people here and it appears it is their identity. They still greatly believe in being recognized as hunters and gatherers. The trust has been set up but needs a lot of assistance and training. There is a need for tailor made projects that will help the people feel great about themselves and identify themselves with the project.

The community has a campsite in the CKGR as per the 3rd draft of the management plan. Elephants started being seen here around 2010. Now there is many elephants around and seen regularly. The trust must therefore be involved in the establishment of lodges in the provided community use zones within the CKGR to help bring benefits to the community.

The main concern here is that funding agencies like UNDP have a tendency of promoting policies and selecting projects that suite their agenda, and not necessarily the agenda of the community. If projects like this one allowed communities, such as this one, to be part of problem resolution fully, the community will help with the identification appropriate projects and the community will totally buy into the project because they were fully a part of identifying and implementing solutions to their problems.

The attitude is as it is because it is difficult to balance finding food, a way of life that has been made illegal, with conserving the resource that one must steal from. Hunting and gathering is in the blood of these people and there is no reason why we should criminalize this way of life and there is every reason to promote it.

There are a number of NGOs that are working with indigenous groups and they are already looking for solutions relevant to the problems faced by indigenous groups. This rural community needs help. They are fully dependent on government food parcels. They have lost hope and are not putting effort in finding employment or doing something with their lives.

9.2.2 Daoqoo Xukuri - Trust Chairman

The registration of the trust was initiated in 2017 and eventually registered in 2020. It started operating in 2021. It is called Itangoo Community Trust. The trust has been receiving its hunting quota every year and has done 2 hunts so far. It made P476,000 the first year and P541,000 the 2nd year. The quota has been purchased by Tholo safaris in the last 2 hunts.

The human wildlife conflict issue is led by lions. Leopards are as much of a problem like lions. In fact, the animals are not so much the problem, but the problem lies with the DWNP. There are too many delays in compensating people for the loss of their livestock. I see no risks associated with working with UNDP on this project. I see many opportunities in UNDP and DWNP working with the trust in finding and implementing solutions to the human wildlife conflict problem. The focus should be on how to reduce livestock and lion interaction.

The community campsite in the CKGR should be developed and UNDP should assist the community if possible. Help should be in the form of funds to develop facilities at the campsite as well as developing a management plan for the operation of the campsites.

There are many projects in the pipeline for this community. If all goes according to plan, the campsite money may have been secured from BTO. There is also a cultural village in GH3, that needs a fence, water and power. This would make an ideal campsite for tourists going to Xade gate. It is also a good opportunity for traditional skills transfer from the elderly to the youth, before the elderly people are all gone.

There is also a craft shop that was built by Permaculture that needs to be developed. However, this may be developed by the trust with funds from the hunting quota. It would be great to do something with devils' claw and may be find ways in which it can be processed and marketed internationally.

The trust also has a tractor that can assist with farming. Cluster farms could hire the tractor through government subsidies. Because government sponsors 4ha only per farm, the trust would get the money from government and then plough the remaining land for free.

9.2.3 Mokate Sechume

There were 4 cats on the quota which made P470,000 in the first year and P534,000 in the second year. This money has been used to buy tents and uniform for escort guides. The money may also be used to develop a management plan for the campsite and traditional village in GH10. The San feel marginalized here. They don't attend Kgotla meetings anymore because they believe that their trust has been taken away from them and it is now being managed by none-San speaking people. They make crafts and are happy to be part of the craft production, but they are very unhappy about that too because for a long time now, nothing has been happening there too.

9.3 East Hanahai – 08 June 2022

Opening remarks by Kgosi Johannes Magwasi

It is disappointing to note that the people of East Hanahai are not here to attend this meeting. Under normal circumstances, the Kgotla should be full when we are discussing development projects. The people of East Hanahai know this UNDP project too well. In previous discussions, we put forth many projects to UNDP that we asked for, that we believed could help develop us. It is at this platform that we could voice our concerns and present our requests to UNDP. Many people choose to stay back and fail to address their development concerns and their opinions. All of you that are present here today, must speak to the rest of the East Hanahai people and encourage them to attend meetings of this nature in the future. Development organizations, such as UNDP, come to assist us in the same way that government departments do. We must therefore find it fit for us to come and discuss with them and share our requests and listen to the information they are bringing. With that said, please be free to ask and share your views. Please make sure that you ask where you need clarity.

Onosi Dithapo

This project has been designed to come and benefit us. The craft centres are going to be developed here in the Xwiskurusa villages, but we are required to share this project with other villagers such as Bere and New Xade once the project has been established. Consent is given by us at our own will, without any pressure or force from anyone.

Molapi Kwadipane

There are three consent forms that were presented to us here. Do we complete all three forms? I want us to complete the first one which gives consent to the continuation of the project. Why then do we need the other two?

David Mathalaga

Regarding the group of 10 farmers that will be trained, what else will they be required to do? What farmers need is a feedlot that will help them reach better livestock markets. If this is possible, how many farmers could be assisted by this UNDP project to set up a feedlot?

Molasi Katsana

The communal farmers of East Hanahai have not grouped themselves into a syndicate yet. Are these ten people going to form the first syndicate?

Monica Xoma

There are two projects presented to us here. We want to be a part of both. But the management of these projects will be a problem if Xwiskurusa Trust will be expected to manage them. If we want the projects to be successful, then the trust must be trained well in managing these projects. Is there training factored into these projects for this purpose, or will the trust be expected to just go ahead and run the projects themselves?

Molasi Katsana

Almost everyone in East Hanahai is a farmer, in one way or another. Because of that human wildlife conflict is a big problem. We are fighting with wildlife here. The big question is, how then can livestock and wildlife live together? I remain hopeful that this project will provide an answer to this question.

Gome Petros

Where will the 10 people be selected from? From East Hanahai or from the three villages that make up Xwiskurusa Trust? There are many syndicates that exist in this area. How then are the 10 people going to be selected from the many syndicates that exist here? For your information there are many syndicates in this area.

Solomon Tsopane

We have been looking for assistance towards improving the social welfare of the people of East Hanahai for some time now. There are many problems related to farming that need solutions. For example, water provision is a big problem. The diesel water pump used to pump water from the borehole to water livestock is broken. This was provided by council. A solar system is therefore needed to replace the current diesel engine and pump system. Because of the water problem, livestock is roaming all over the place looking for water, and because of the chaos created by lack of water, stock theft is at its highest right now.

If the project is going to select 10 people per village from 532 people in East Hanahai, where the majority of people are farmers, then 10 people may be too small.

In the overall, to achieve improved livestock farming, the project must improve grazing and water supply. It is great to know that there is going to be a craft shop in each of the three villages. There are various groups of people making crafts in the village. The understanding here is that each village would then send their crafts to the big craft centre in Kacgae.

Boifang Dinah Telelo

For people that went to the recent training, craft material has already been sent and will be received very soon.

Vote of Thanks by Molasi Katsana

The youth must come to the Kgotla and learn from the older people. The elderly people are coming to the end of their lifetime, and they are ready to put on the button to the younger generation.

What we have been discussing here today are all good news for the people of East Hanahai. If it wasn't for Covid-19 and all the restrictions and the problems that came with it, I would say come back really fast so we can start implementing the projects soon. The more you visit the more you and us will master the projects and the more the projects will be able to improve the livelihoods of the people of East Hanahai.

With that I thank you all!

9.3.1 Meeting with Farmers

The main problem with farmers here in East Hanahai is that they raise their livestock for subsistence purposes only. They are not running their farms as businesses. Therefore, none of the farmers has tried to acquire knowledge of how to improve the quality of their livestock so they can fetch better prices on the market. There is no information on how to feed, and what medicines to apply, under which conditions.

There are five known syndicates outside East Hanahai. Molatswana syndicate has ten members, Sheta syndicate has six members, Xaritei syndicate has 15 members, Motopi Syndicate has seven members, and Letlhafula syndicate has 5 members. There are more boreholes outside East Hanahai that are run by these syndicates. By selecting only 10 people for the proposed training, many people will be left out. It is a good idea to know that the country is working towards food security. But in order to achieve improved quality of livestock, the farmers must secure water for their livestock.

There is need for a cattle crash that can allow coordinated movement of livestock to markets. There is also need for accessing markets directly. The existing market through feedlots in Gantsi is not viable, because prices are set too low by the feedlot owners. Alternative markets must be found that can buy livestock at better prices. With bigger and better markets, employment opportunities will be created, and the livestock industry can support more value chain businesses.

Livestock predation is not so much a problem for us here. Livestock theft is the big problem. But even that, livestock theft is only a problem in communal grazing areas, and it is very low in syndicates. That is because the syndicates are able to provide reliable drinking water to their livestock and they can monitor livestock movements better.

Across the board, bigger markets will help increase the income generated from livestock farming. But this must come with a lot of education and knowledge about commercial livestock farming. The problem is that in the communal areas there are just way too many livestock that exceeds the carrying capacity of the areas. The quality of grazing is therefore compromised because of this overcrowding. One of the big problems with livestock farming in this area is transport to the market. Individual vehicle owners are charging a lot of money to transport cattle between East Hanahai and Ghanzi.

9.3.2 Meeting with Craft Producers (12 people attended)

Many of us craft producers have many products kept in our houses with no place to sell them. Some producers have stopped producing altogether because they now have no tools to make the products. Some of these are simple tools such as those used to punch holes in ostrich eggshells and filing tools

for smoothening ostrich eggshells. Some of these tools require electricity and the hope is that as part of the new craft centres, such tools will be made available and will be used by producers.

I am not sure if the trust has a license to trade with wildlife products. But if not, the trust must approach the DWNP for the licenses and permits to allow groups to get ostrich eggs and turned leather from suppliers. The trust can get one license for all the craft producing groups if possible. Although in majority of the craft producers have extensive experience in making crafts, refresher courses and new training courses will be needed to control the quality of the products. There is going to be a lot of interest generated among craft producers once reliable markets are secured. Markets will encourage production greatly, both in quality and quantity.

There is no risk of running out of raw material. There are enough resources around East Hanahai, such as ostrich eggshells. Other material that cannot be found here will have to be ordered.

The big risk about the current situation is that existing craft production skills are slowly disappearing. There are no skills transfer from the older people to the younger generation. No one is making bows and arrows anymore and only a few people are making beaded products from ostrich eggshells today.

Once the craft project finds the market, craft producers will respond to the market because they will be encouraged to start producing products by the availability of markets.

If wildlife skins are not available, livestock skins can be used at the beginning of the project. Livestock hides are readily available. Wildlife products will require licenses and it may take a while to secure such licenses.

There is also a lot of indigenous knowledge that is on the verge of being lost, such as traditional tools, how these tools are used, dye plants and how the dye is processed. Because craft production has stopped, there is no transfer of skills from older people to the younger generations.

9.4 Bere – 09 June 2022 – Meeting with Kgosi, VDC and Trust members

Kgosi David Rasetswana

Thank you for coming to consult with us on this project. All is very clear to us now. We all know that the community of Bere, or at least some members who were involved in the devil's claw (sengaparile) project previously, are eagerly waiting for this project to continue, and would love to continue with it.

Gabamoitse Lucas

It has been a long time since we talked about this project. In our last meeting with UNDP, we presented them with about five projects that were suggested by the community. Those projects include game farm, campsite, veld products harvesting, borehole, slaughterhouse and a cultural village. It appears UNDP decided to select one project from the list based on the one they saw was best for the community. Why did it take so long for UNDP to come to us from the last time we discussed these projects? It is also not okay for UNDP to come now to inform us about which project was selected without asking us what we think about their choice.

There was a workshop in Gaborone on the 29th of March. There we talked about this project. The first meeting was in Kang and that is where UNDP took us through the Drylands project, and this was while the project was still ongoing. Here we talked about project progress and project monitory. I am surprised because UNDP has never come back to the community to discuss the choice, they had made for us.

The first part of the devil's claw project was only a trial. The idea was to learn from it and decide whether it is viable or not. We don't have the results yet or at least we have not discussed them. We still don't know whether devil's claw is a feasible project or not.

UNDP should have come to the Bere trust or to the Bere community to tell them that the devil's claw project is indeed feasible and that it can be fully implemented, and that UNDP is interested in implementing a full project with us.

The people of Bere may give consent to this project because they want to continue harvesting and selling devil's claw. But me as the chairman of the trust, I know too well that there is not enough devil's claw around Bere. Even during the trial period, people had to travel more than 20 kilometers from the village looking for devil's claw. The distance alone tells one that there is not enough devil's claw in the area and raises the feasibility question.

What is important for UNDP and us to look into is what other vet products, other than devil's claw, are available in our area that can be explored under this project.

Galotlwaelwe Mereyabone

90% of the community of Bere are dependent on government social welfare programs. It would be great if the Chairperson could conclude on which project, he thinks would have been best for the community of Bere and should have been chosen by UNDP.

It is important look at veld product carefully, including the fact that there will have to be many workshops that will have to be run to help everyone look at the seasonality of the products. There should be more workshops that would allow harvesters to learn a lot more about devil's claw and how to harvest it and process it in a manner that preserves it for future use.

There is definitely not a lot of devil's claws in the Bere area. However, this project may be viable, provided many other people will be included. Currently there is only about 10% of the community that is involved in the devil's claw project. This project must also consider cultivation. It has been said before, and it is being said here today, that devil's claw can be cultivated. Successful cultivation will ensure that there is a constant supply of devil's claw.

The only risk I see is that, if markets are made available before cultivation takes place, supplying such markets may force us to overharvest devil's claw in the wild. Bigger markets will certainly lead to unsustainable harvesting.

There are many other products such as *moretlwa*, *morama*, *motsotsojane*, *Moopudu* and *Dikgotse* that can also be harvested and processed. *Dikgotse* for example, is an immune booster and reduces high blood pressure and reduces anxiety. When processed, *Dikgotse* should perform well on the market. Please note that the community needs feedback constantly. We all know that when you go after this meeting you will be gone for another 10 years. Please come back soon and address the community.

I would encourage UNDP to ensure that the project is about all veld products, and not just devil's claw. We have already piloted with devil's claw. As requested before, this project should look at setting up experiments for other products, in the same way we did with devil's claw. An example is the delicious yogurt made from *Motsotsojane*. *Motsotsojane* fruits can also be dried and stored and when dried they have a very long shelf life.

Boitswarelo Motshabi

It is important to include other communities because when the community of Bere runs out of raw material of a certain veld product, other communities may have and could supply the project. We should be open to working with other trusts, such as Xwiskurusa trust, so that they can help with bulk raw materials when the project is ready to process and produce volumes. It would also be appreciated if UNDP could at least visit twice a year. We know that four times a year is too much. They could come during the first quarter in the last quarter of the year to check on project progress.

Kgosi David Rasetswana

We have had and we understand where the project is now. My concern is that we ask for more projects. Are we going to get more feedback from UNDP and is it possible that we could get different feedback in the future?

With regard to the varied products project, UNDP is coming to us with a good idea. We like the project, but our trust is young and has no money and they have no capacity to manage such a project. We want to continue with the project, but at the same time we also want to continue with the cultural village and the campsite.

The greater part about other veld products such as Morama, Dikgotse, is that there is plenty of them around Bere. We can never run out of these veld products.

Gabamoitse Lucas

We will need a lot more information about the human wildlife conflict project later.

Kgosi David Rasetswana

We have been informed that devil's claw is very easy to cultivate. We also know that it needs water and a farm and some people to take care of them to ensure that they receive enough water, and they should grow very well. If we can't cultivate then I am sure we are going to run out of devil's claw in the wild at some point.

Gabamoitse Lucas

The project is needed, and we give UNDP a consent on behalf of the community. We will call the community to a public quarter meeting, and we will discuss all these projects.

Boss Tshwate

We want the veld products project, but we acknowledged that some veld products are found far from the village, and that is not enough of some of them, such as devil's claw. We all want this project to continue.

9.5 Kacgae – 10 July 2022

Welcome by Kgosana Xlamkwa

It is great to be meeting here today. Please let us discuss without conflicts. On behalf of Kgosi, I welcome you all. Let's address these issues with respect. Let us all listen and hear what the visit is all about. If it is what belongs to us, it will come to us.

Kgosi David Daosa Manka

I was held up elsewhere on other duties. Please accept my apologies. VDC please share your issues . Our government is also interested in the same resources. We have accepted that we are 3 villages lumped up in the same trust. It is important for us to know how we can use these resources collectively to enhance our livelihoods. Our farms and our campsites are all mixed up in one area. How can we separate them? We also have *mahupu* and *motsotsojane* available in our area and can be processed into various products. How can we enhance the profitability of these veld products?

Ms. Matshelane

What are the conditions, how much money and what compensations are planned for under this project? The community of Kacgae needs full knowledge of what the facilitating NGO will and get and for how much. The trust was also going to put money into renovating the craft shops in the Xwiskurusa member villages. Is this a duplication of the same project or is UNDP building another set of craft shop in the 3 villages?

Kgosi David Daosa Manka

It is not clear how we are going to work with the veld products project given to Bere. It is a separate project on its own in another village. Why must we sell our products there? Is there a system put in place already, or to be put in place that will allow us to sell to Bere?

Ms. Qaisa

Some of our people that traditionally hunted no longer do so. Where are we going to get wild animal hides and ostrich eggshells? Are we going to get a community quota that will allow us to get our own raw material for crafts?

Ms. Matshelane

Permaculture is a classic example of an NGO that made promises to the community of Kacgae, and then when the community hopes were high, they disappeared without saying goodbye. The community is now left with dilapidated buildings that they can even renovate. If I were to choose, I would sign the second consent form. That would allow Xwiskurusa trust to discuss the matter with TAC and follow the right procedures.

Mrs. Aedige

These NGOs always have a package when sourcing funding for community development. But the total lump sum of money is never shared with the community. The community is kept in the dark and never knows how much of the budget is for community projects and how much goes to administration. There is also always lack of monitoring to ensure that the project is successful.

There is a problem with craft production. It is clear that some women produce beaded products and these are elderly women only. There are no youth. Clearly there is no skills transfer between generations.

Ms. Matshelane

ESA has been sent here by UNDP. Is ESA the same company that will come here to facilitate the project?

Mrs. Aedige

Please bring feedback to the community and to the Trust. It should be clear that I am not against UNDP supporting the craft centre. We are asking UNDP to come and discuss the finer details of the project with the community. We will sign the second consent form.

Kebareeditse Qhamok

Do we know what will happen to any leftover money at the end of the project?

Mrs. Aedige

It is highly recommended that when the craft shops are renovated, they should also be extended to include a display area where crafts can be sold within the villages. Prices in the villages may be lower than those at the main centre by the turn-off at the main trans-kalahari highway.

Vote of Thanks by Mrs. Aedige

We are very thankful for this meeting. We know that Xwiskurusa does not give feedback to the community. We need to shake our board representatives here a little bit and force them to continuously give us feedback. Thank you for answering the many questions we had. However, we still feel that we should sign the second consent form and ask UNDP to come here and give us more information about the project.

Kgosi, rest assured that all is well. When you are held up elsewhere, remember that we will represent you fully. And thank you your welcome remarks and opening the Kgotla for us.

Thanks to the community for coming to this meeting despite this cold weather. If Xwiskurusa or UNDP calls us here again, at least those of us that are here must attend so there is continuity on this subject.

9.6 Monong – 13 June 2022

Opening Remarks by Kgosana Motshabise

I welcome you all to the Kgotla. Be free to express yourselves, but please do so with humility and discipline. You are all welcome.

Kaite Mochabise

Elephants are the worst when it comes to raiding crops. Fence is not a deterrent for elephants. Elephants are very strong. The bush fence we put around our ploughing fields is useless against elephants. Fences are also failing. What then can effectively stop elephants from raiding crops?

Bolokang Ditholo

Elephants are not frequently seen here. The few that are spotted here and there are only passing through. Let's talk about animals that are a problem for us here.

Keineetse Motshabise

We have stopped producing crafts. Maybe this project will help revive craft production and reduce the number of people that are dependent on the Ipelegeng program.

Kgosana Motshabise

Leopard is the most problem animal for us. How do we reduce its impact on our livestock? Jackals are also a problem. Back in the day when they were hunted, we only experienced predation of small stock by jackals only at night. Now they hunt small stock during the day. Lions are also not so much of a problem here because we kraal our livestock. Lions don't bother us that much because they don't jump into strong kraals like leopards do.

We are looking forward to this project because there are many children here in the village that have gone to school that are looking for employment opportunities.

Hon. Gaboitsanwe

What is this project? I don't understand it. What I know is that lions, leopards and jackals are the problem animals when it comes to livestock here. I also know that porcupines are a big problem for arable farmers.

Wazha Pauline Nyadza

I am interested in learning strategies used in other places that have worked, and examples and case studies of places where human-wildlife co-existence has been practiced successfully.

Name not recorded

Wildfires are killing our land. We want wildlife in our area, but frequent wildfires are chasing them away. We are always running and putting out fires all the time.

Lions are also a problem for our livestock, but we also want to keep them in our area for the younger generation to see.

We have plenty of devil's claw in our area. All of it is gone now. It has been sold to people that want to buy for very low prices or those who want it for free.

Problem lions must be dealt with accordingly. But I don't really know how this can be done. Can we capture and release these lions ourselves or is it something? I think that is an exercise that can be done by DWNP only. They have people that know how to do that better than us.

I agree with continuing with the project. I have a ploughing field and I grow crops every year. I want this project to work with us to find solutions that can reduce crop damage by wildlife.

There are many people with skills for turnery. These skills could be natured in craft production can be supported and markets found. There is a lot of devil's claw around us here. Where is that NGO that worked with us before. It was called Conservation (couldn't verify full name, possibly Conservation International). They bought a lot of craft products from us at one stage and then disappeared into thin air. Devil's claw has helped us for many years. It is our medicine. We did not have many Covid-19 cases here because people were drinking devil's claw tea. But now people who come here to buy are getting devil's claw for free from the harvesters.

Kgosana Motshabise

This project is coming with some issues that are relevant to us, and it looks like it will finally help us. If it is going to work with us on reducing livestock predation and crop damage by wildlife, then the project will promote agriculture, which is how we make a living here. However, irrigation is a better only way of producing crops, than having to wait for the rain. It would be great if this project could support the drilling and equipping of boreholes and irrigation systems for selected farmers. Can UNDP fund that under this project?

Bolokang Ditholo

We accept the project for many reasons. First because UNDP has responded to requests by Monong community. However, the community trust and the farmers committee must work together to ensure that this project becomes successful. It will fail if village institutions don't work together like it is the case today.

Leave the forms with us here for the community to decide which one we will complete. Once we have decided and completed the form, we will call you and we will arrange for the form to reach you. We will either send it to you or you can come back and fetch it if you can.

Hon. Gaboitsanwe

NGOs are good at raising community expectation and then they would disappear with even saying goodbye. But if it was only me, I would have agreed to give consent today. There is help coming from UNDP, to help us improve the livelihoods of the people of Monong. I would have signed the form today. I take it that other people will agree with me that it is a great idea to become part of the project. Here is a project that is aimed at helping us look after our livestock and grow crops better, but yet we are not sure whether we want to give our consent or not.

Our trust belongs to 3 villages. Maybe the trust was represented by member from other villages at the UNDP March meeting. If they had given us feedback, there would probably be more acceptance of the continuation of the project by this community. But please inform UNDP that we want them to continue working with us on this project.

It is not good to know that some NGOs and private businesses are taking advantage of the poverty of rural communities. Buying 50kg of devil's claw at P300 is not okay. We know that Government officers, from DFRR were also present and agreeing with these very low prices. Discussions must be held between these buyers and the community, and the prices must be set together, and not dictated. Natural products harvested by these poor people are taken from them for free. With those prices, harvesters are demoralized, the value of the resources is reduced, and communities end up losing interest and stop harvesting.

Thusano Lefatsheng helped us before, and life was better when they were working with us. But we have no idea where they went and whether they are still alive or died with covid-19. South Africans now farm devil's claw and some of the seed they planted was from here.

9.6.1 Meeting with Trust board representatives from Monong

Present :

Kaboyaone Rantshisane - additional member

Kelennetse Galetlhopane – Treasurer

The Chairperson is Pogiso Molefele and he is from Make village. The trust is called Mahumo Conservation Trust and it was registered in 2011 or just before then. The MAHUMO name comes from the first 2 letters of the names of each of the member villages, being Make, Hunhukwe and Monong. We have been given community concession area KD/6.

We have 3 leopards on the quota, and no lions and no jackals. Also, it is worth knowing that lions seen in our area are mobile lions that are moving between conservation areas. Hunting is away from the village, so poses no threat to other land uses. There is no conflict between the hunting operation, this project and other trust affairs.

Suggest that the project supports the construction of solid fences for farmers, so that crop damage and livestock predation can be reduced. This can also reduce the need to use bushes fences because they kill too many trees.

We are pushing the rest of the members to do their best to promote community interests. We also think that this project will encourage board members to give regular feedback to the community and develop new ideas and strategies that help the community more.

Money from the previous 2 hunting seasons has been saved in the trust account. Some of the money has been used to purchase camping equipment for escort guides.

Our hunting partner is a company called YUBA and it is working with us very well. We are asking for wild dogs and hyenas to be included on the quota, so that we could sell the quota for a better price. So far, we have been making about P300, 000 each year. That is not a lot of money. But on the other hand, a lot of farmers are losing their livestock and crops to wildlife and are not receiving compensation from government.

Our trust is still young, and it needs a lot of support from government and other partners. With the little money that the trust has saved from selling the quota, there are a few projects that the trust has planned to finance. These are projects such as a guesthouse in Hunhukwe. Because of this, the trust has not yet considered compensating some farmers who lose livestock and crops to wildlife. At least not as yet. That idea might come later when the quota is large enough to attract better prices from hunting companies. But it is very clear that the equation is straight forward. Tourism (hunting in our case) supports income generation for the trust, and the trust then can support community projects.

There is no clear group that can scream out loud saying that they are marginalized here in the village. Maybe the youth can say so when it comes to craft production because it is dominated by elderly people. It is mainly because the youth have no interest in craft production because there is very little money made from the sale of crafts. But is also because elderly people have also had no interest in training the younger generations. There is also a general lack of interest in promoting traditional knowledge from both the Bakgalagadi and San people. Otherwise, we are all taking part in every community project equally.

Human wildlife conflict is a problem here. Game ranching might help solve the problem and may support the proposed land use.

We also feel that some NGOs come here for their own financial benefit. They start competing with the community trusts. For example, instead of building the capacity of trusts to reach the markets directly, they block the community trusts from doing so, and they place themselves as the "middleman". In which case, it becomes in their interest to buy crafts from producers at very low prices and sell them

at market prices and pocket the difference. We know this from working with NGOs such as Thusano Lefatsheng and Gantsi Craft. I also know this from my involvement with Ngwao Boswa Women's Basketry project in Gumare and how Botswana Craft also exploited them.

9.7 Ncaang – 14 June 2022

Welcome Remarks by Kgosi Kemoneilwe Seipone

It is great that UNDP has included Ncaang among the villages supported under this project. It is our hope and prayers that this project will help reset our trust and push it back into motion. We are here and we are progressing and we will continue with the UNDP project. Our trust was down, but it is now up ever since it started selling its quota.

Government is the weakest link in as far as this project is concerned, especially DWNP. For example, no one has ever bothered to come and inform us about who has won our tender. We see people coming through our area and we have no idea as to who is who and they are here to do. We are getting the meat and we are very grateful for that, but we have no idea who is hunting it and under what conditions. This Drylands projects managed to get us where we are now, and we are grateful. But what lacks is feedback on how the project is progressing and how the trust is performing.

UNDP must develop a monitoring and evaluation system that will allow them to question how things are going. On behalf of the community, I give the project all my blessings and want it to continue. With that I will open the flow for fruitful discussions and will a lot of respect for each other.

Batshwanalemang Thabanelo

You talked about the UNDP meeting in Gaborone to where members of the board were invited to. We have no idea about the meeting and whether we were represented. Did we ask for the projects or did we just get given the projects by UNDP?

Amogelang Gaboitsalwe

Land use planning is going to be a problem. There is no point in developing a management plan because Land Board allocates as nit wishes.

Tsheme Kabaepela

Training a fire team and providing firefighting equipment is a great thing. But there is need for transport to take the fire team to where the fire is to put out the fires on time. Is it possible that UNDP can budget for some insurance for the fire team? Some money that can be used to compensate fire fighters in the event of an injury or death while fighting the fire.

Name not recorded

My main worry is that there is a lot of talk and not much action. We have spent a long-time planning projects but we have implemented none of them. We could be evaluating a lot of projects today that were implemented in the last 5 years or so.

Thapelo Lucas

We have worked with many UNDP people including Mr. Mpofu. When Mr. Mpofu was accompanied by a white lady and visited us here, we gave them a long list of projects that are on our wish list. What happened to the other projects? Why didn't we get at least one livelihood project?

However, I appreciate the fact that we have been included in the fire management project because Ncaang is central to all the villages in Kgalagadi North. We need this project. But could it be possible that UNDP could consider an allowance for fire fighters when they are busy fighting fires?

Is it only our village (Ncaang) that has been allocated the fire management project, or are the other villages in the Chobe district that will benefit from the same project?

The Land Board is undermining the trust integrity. The trust has a valid constitution and developed a legitimate management plan for our area. We agreed on a 20km radius for livestock grazing and set aside a section for safari hunting as well as photographic tourism. We now have a plan to review the management plan. But the Land Board is undermining the management plan and allocating as they see fit.

The main problem with our trust is its management. Each village has its own committee, and it is through this committee that the village interacts with the trust board. These committees are not active and that is where the main problem is. There is therefore a disconnection between the community and the board.

Fire is a problem in our area. Because it is a problem, I suggest that we accept continuing with this project. We are one of the villages that respond promptly when there is a call for firefighting.

Kgosi Kemoneilwe Seipone

Will UNDP come and help us select our village committee or is it something we must do for ourselves?

The Land Board issue is real. We have complained several times, but there is nothing we can do because the Land Board has the mandate to allocate as they see fit. But we would like to find ways of encouraging them to respect our management plan.

Firefighting tools are already here with us. Those were delivered a while ago. We are only just waiting to select our committee. Officers from DFRR were here and we told them that a water bowser is needed.

Mr. Lebinatlou

Wildfires are a problem here and we want this project to continue. However, please note that some people have lost their lives to wildfires. If the fire team is not going to be put on a salary, at least UNDP should consider an allowance for when they are in the field putting out fires. When we were fighting fires with people from Tsabong, they told us that they were being paid for fighting fires. The standard must be the same everywhere in Botswana and it must apply to us all. If there is a fire here and DFRR is busy with another fire in Kang, we have no choice here but to wait for DFRR to finish putting out the fire in Kang. By that time our fire would have spread far and totally out of control. UNDP should consider supporting the trust with another vehicle so that the team is ready to attend to wildfires in our areas as soon as they are identified.

Name not given

We would like to work with UNDP on this project. What is the implementation plan and when do we start? How much more time do we have to wait before UNDP comes back to us to start the project? I agree with everyone who has suggested that allowances and risk insurance be considered by the project.

Name not given

We have welcomed the UNDP officers here several times and we have accepted the Drylands project. Training in fire management is needed. We want the training. But UNDP must start sooner than later. People are getting tired of waiting. The project will come to an end soon. So, the sooner we get started the better. We have already accepted some tools and those are in our office. We just need to pick up from where we left and move forward.

Ratanag Magogbe

Transport for the firefighting team is a serious challenge. UNDP must pay attention to this problem. It is not just a problem for us here, but a problem for the entire district.

I encourage UNDP to ensure that the training is certified so that the trainees can receive a completer's certificate at the end of the course.

The land use management component of this project must take into account our 20km livestock grazing radius.

All relevant government departments and NGOs must participate in the land management and planning exercise. KRC has been working with us for many years now and they too must become part of this exercise. That way no one is left out and could be affected negatively. We don't want Land Board coming to us at some point to tell us that they feel that our village must relocate to another site.

It is appropriate for us to review the management plan. Again, I encourage everyone to respect the 20km radius we have suggested. It has always been said that Land Board is part of the TAC, and the TAC has always been part of the trust. So, I don't why sometimes Land Board behaves as though they are not part of the TAC by working against the trust. Every relevant department must participate in the review, including the Land Board.

If possible, UNDP must fund the entire management review exercise. The trust could ask for the money and identify an institution that can consult with us and develop a new management plan.

Vote of Thanks – Mme Motshoge

We have all understood very well. We know what the project intends to do and achieve. We now know what the message behind today's meeting was. We clearly know which project UNDP has chosen to support in Ncaang.

There has been a lot of men commenting and agreeing with the project, but only a few women contributed to the discussions. I fully understand that "*ga di ke di etelelwa ke manamagadi pele*". But I take it that those that have spoken, spoke on our behalf and that we have all agreed to continue with the project. UNDP must respond quickly and comeback to continue the project quickly.

9.8 Ukhwi – 15 June 2022

Opening Remarks - Kgosana Moipolai Lucas

Welcome everyone. You will be addressed first by our visitor. Please listen carefully and then ask questions where you have not understood and share your comments and suggestions when you have understood. I don't hear very well, but if you have understood then I have understood too. We know this project is linked to our trust, which was struggling and almost died at some point. Now our trust is back in action and things are improving. Who remains with the project at the end of 2024? Highly

likely our trust. The trust board members know our problems well and so does the S&CD office. These are the institutions that must be involved throughout the entire project life. They must always take part in planning the project activities and evaluating progress. We certainly can't send people that don't know our problems to represent us.

Birdlife Botswana worked with us here to develop our campsite. When they left the project stopped working too. Our big lesson here was that there should have been someone that worked with BirdLife who would then remain here in the village to continue implementing the activities after Birdlife left. Otherwise, what is in these projects for us in the long term? That institution should always be the trust. The trust knows our issues and the needs of all our people.

With regards to human wildlife conflict, lions are a problem here. To resolve this conflict, we should sell the wildlife (lions) to a hunting company so we can see the benefit of losing livestock and crops to wildlife in a different way other than the frustrations of waiting for government compensation. This way we will get some benefits from conserving these otherwise very destructive animals. We will be able to improve our lives using the same wildlife that is destroying our livelihoods. It becomes a win – win for us and for wildlife.

We are told that our constitution is outdated and that our management plan has expired. This news is brought to us by the very people that are meant to be advising us. They are meant to be here with us all the time, working with us to ensure we are on the right path. That alone says a lot about the amount of advice they have been giving us over the years. Who in the village here has been elected by who into position and who has been given the capacity to manage any of these projects? The answer is no one. People are elected into power and expected to figure it out somehow.

We have our concession area (KD1 & KD2). NGOs raise a lot of money saying they are going to use the funds to assist us. But we all know that these funds, most of which are from foreign countries, are diverted and are spent by the NGOs on other things, while we remain empty handed.

There is a lot of interference by government departments, in the affairs of our trust. Now government is saying our management plan was prepared wrongly, while they were part of its preparation. All government departments were included during the preparation of the management plan, but now they are saying government was not fairly represented, and that some elements in our constitution and in the management plan must be changed because they don't agree with certain government policies.

Why didn't they advise us when the constitution and the management plan were being developed?

My major concern about the Drylands project, and about any other project for that matter, is continuity. Who will be left behind to carry on with this project? How do we ensure continuity after the project has come to an end? I request UNDP to consider funding the position of a trust manager. In my view, this is the position that is needed by the trust to ensure that there is continuity when the UNDP funds dry out or the project simply comes to an end. UNDP must discuss with TAC and KRC the need for a trust manager. The trust chairperson is not enough. His main responsibility is to coordinate the affairs of the trust. He can't be the same person tasked with implementing the activities of the trust. Currently he is the one responsible for money, distributing meat, and managing the relationship between the trust and the hunting company. That is too much.

When is he going to find the time to attend to community issues, assignments and requests? Considering the above, I would like to inform you that the village committees are not functional. This project must try and build the capacity of the trust to revive village committees. In fact, if the village committees are functioning well, then the entire trust will function very well, because the trust will be

supported by functional village committees that give regular feedback to the community. The VDC's can't play this role, because they have their own mandate and issues to deal with. VDCs constantly receive assignments from government, and they are busy from this side of things, and cannot effectively run trust affairs in the villages. All the good things that come from KRC into the villages, must come in through the village committees.

My last point is that UNDP takes forever to come back to us. Who then is going to help us follow up on your visit? It is going to be another 10 years before you come back. If we had a trust manager we would give him/her the responsibility to follow up with you and to ensure that you come back sooner than later. We need UNDP to help us and it would help us even better if you came back soon.

Ketlaayakae Modisane

The project is not new to us. It is an old project that we have been working with and very familiar with.

Yes, we understand that COVID-19 pandemic delayed everything. But no feedback for this long is inexcusable. There have been no consultations for over 2 and a half years now. However, I really like the fire project and I am looking forward to fire management training. The fire management project will help us control all these wildfires that are destroying our environment.

Kgosi has a valid point. The management of our trust is a concern for everyone. We are currently all not happy about the way things are going. We need a trust manager. I suggest we visit other trusts such as Xwiskurusa trust to benchmark. I understand a social worker in East Hanahai or West Hanahai successfully managed their farm. We could do something similar here and ask council for an additional social worker to manage the trust and our projects.

I am afraid that UNDP might look at their computers in Gaborone, and through all the information they have about us, notice that we don't have a trust manager, and use that gap to withdraw their support. I think instead of using the problem to decide not to help us, UNDP must use some of that money to help us resolve the problem, by putting some towards the recruitment of a trust manager.

Developing a plan for our area is a great idea. We need a management plan of our own, that can be respected by government. I know that fencing is not encouraged in wildlife management areas and that is a problem for us. How then can we separate the zones that already exist or that we may be suggested in the future without dividing them using a fence?

Kgosi Moipolai Lucas

When we started with this project, we presented a list of projects to UNDP. What happened to the list? How come the other projects have not been supported? Is it because government wants to stop hunting totally?

UNDP must come and help us reorganize our trust. There are people that must resign from the committees to allow the trust to function well. These people are causing problems and are responsible for the trust's failures. We would like the trust to become strong again and continue implementing its activities to the benefit of the community.

I have visited many community trusts in Ngamiland and Chobe and I know how successful some of those trusts are. Their success is based on the amount of money they make from the sale their hunting quota that has big game such as buffalo and elephants. Their quotas attract big hunting companies, and these hunting companies pay a lot of money. With the money they receive these trusts are able to develop the community in a way that people from here cannot imagine.

The least we can ask for from the Drylands project is support for our campsite. Because we see that government is against hunting, at least it should support our photographic tourism project. Regarding land use planning, we have already zoned our area. Zoning might also help control wildfires because we could create firebreaks along the boundaries of the zones. However, there were fire breaks put in place in the past, but those have been ignored and are overgrown now. This brings us back to the issue of management.

If we don't have a trust manager who is going to manage these zones, and the maintenance of firebreaks, then what is the use of developing a management plan for the area?

Again, let me say we were encouraged to register our trust, but we have been left running it without anyone trained to manage it. The chairman of the trust is out with the hunting team as we speak. That is why he is not at this meeting. Instead of sending escort guides to accompany the hunts, he goes hunting himself. He can't be the trust chairperson and an escort guide at the same time.

Leteane Karoge

It would be great if one of our youths is trained as the trust manager. I am of the view that sending someone for training will solve our problem in the long term, but it doesn't solve the problem we have now. We must therefore encourage UNDP to set aside some funds to support a manager now and set aside more funding to train another manager who will then look after the trust in the long term. I would also encourage DWNP and the TAC to continuously work with the trust. Currently both DWNP and the TAC are seldom seen here. They come and go when they feel there is a need. Sometimes the gap is too much. We know that these are government employees executing government agenda and may be busy elsewhere. But they must understand that this success or failure of the trust is a measure of how much guidance they are giving to the trust. If the trust manager is secured through this project, UNDP must ensure that there are checks and balances put in place for the trust manager. It is important to hold the manager accountable and responsible from day one.

I am worried that our social welfare officer has reserved her comments. I would like to ask her this question. If we agree to continue with this UNDP project, do you think that will contradict with any government programs?

Gaone Ramogale

I can't really answer that question now. I will be able to answer it later during implementation. However, consultations are very important especially those that are geared towards poverty eradication. It is important to secure community consent because it indicates that the community is fully on board.

Land use planning is also very important and I agree with you on the suggestion that all parties affected must be involved. I take it that the land board will work with you on the land use planning exercise.

Name not recorded

One of the projects that we asked for was a craft shop. We have one here that has been supported by Council. It would be great if the Xwiskurusa trust can allow us to work with them to promote our craft shop.

It appears here that we all agree with continuing with the drylands project. Therefore, consent is hereby given by the Ukhwi community.

Closing remarks – Freeze Semommung

You received a great welcome from the people of Ukhwi. They have also agreed to continue with the Drylands project and they have given their consent. When is the next meeting to kick start everything back into motion? I thank you all.

9.9 Ngwatle – 16 June 2022

Opening remarks by Kgosana Malebo Dinkwe

You are all welcome. Please be free and open during these discussions.

Matlotlo Senkganang

I understood very well. We have met with UNDP representatives before. We have a campsite and BTO has been involved in its development. We also have Phuduhudu cultural village. BTO is therefore a very important player in both these projects. Upgrading the campsite must include the provision of water.

We have a craft centre that is sitting idle. No one is using it because there is no market for crafts. A community ostrich farm could provide the eggshells needed by craft producers.

Gadiphimolwe Keemekae

It would have been nice if UNDP has enough money to fund all our livelihood projects. But due to the constraints shared here we understand that it only the campsite that will be supported.

Wildfires are a problem for us here. It is affecting livestock grazing in a bad way. I welcome the training, but I would also like to encourage the project to consider certificates for the trained fire team. The trained people will otherwise remain with nothing at the end of the project that shows that they were trained and were part of the fire management team.

I was the vice chairman of the trust at some point, and we attended a meeting at Nata Sanctuary where they experimented with aquaculture. They brought fish from Angola, and they were going to put fish tanks and other supporting structures for the project. This was back in 1997. We tried to develop the campsite next to Xaa. We only built a structure there and that was it and the project failed. Xaa campsite is ideal for tourists, but it is far from the village. We will need to have people based there to look after the infrastructure all the time. We will also need a solar system to provide power and provide water. This would attract a lot of tourists going through the Xaa gate.

When people talk about veld products, they think that devil's claw is the only product with medicinal properties. But there are many other products that we know that have other medicinal qualities that are worth exploring. I urge the Drylands project to help us revive this culture. We are not allowed to wear traditional clothing and practice our beliefs. *Sedimo* is a tradition worth promoting and allow to continue being practiced. It is due to these traditional practices and medicines that covid-19 cases were very low among the San communities.

People are actively poaching here because San people are not benefiting from the trust. These trusts were set up to help create employment opportunities and improve the lives of San people. We are not benefiting from these trusts at all and that is why we resort to poaching. We are forced to provide meat for our families in ways that are not legal.

I visited the campsite on March 8th to check the status of the facilities there. We came back and sat here at the kgotla and discussed campsite standards. Among others, we talked about the reception and the camping grounds. We said there should be a fireplace at each camping ground. Currently there are boards with names of birds on them marking each camping ground. This exercise was supported by Birdlife Botswana, supported by UNDP. An ablution block exists, but with no running water. It would be great if we could provide water to the campsite. What is also needed is to expand the campsite to include permanent accommodation in the form of a lodge.

I agree with BTO playing a major role in the expansion of the campsite. We have worked with BTO before, so it should be easier for BTO to work with us on this project again. BTO also noticed that campsites we have are not registered. We do not have certificates or tourism licenses for any of them. We must therefore apply to the land board for land certificates and apply for tourism licenses. To do so we will need to develop management plans for the campsites. KRC is a strategic partner and can work with us to develop these management plans. Boreholes have been drilled already, all we need to do is to connect a pump and a pipeline that can reticulate the water.

Our main concern is that there is no compensation for any injuries or damage is caused by wildfires. When crops or livestock is lost to wildfires, DFRR registers them, but that is the only thing that happens, there is never any competition for the loss.

Going back to the campsites, it is BTO that runs this campsite. The campsites were developed with money from NEF, but the money was not enough to cover pipelines and reticulation. Solar panels are in place and a borehole has been drilled. UNDP and Birdlife could combine efforts and support one or two people be based at the campsite and look after the infrastructure. There is no point in finding money and financing infrastructure that then gets stolen.

Vote of Thanks - Kgosana Malebo Dinkwe

Thank you for the issues raised here today. Wildlife use is a big problem for many people today. Game licenses helped many people look after their families. When they were taken away life problems also increased. With parents unable to look after their families, poaching also increased. Livestock is also not doing well, because we are losing livestock to wildlife. Loss of livestock makes life problems even worse, and that adds to the poaching problem.

The Xaa campsite is in a wildlife rich area. It should be the one that is developed first, and not this one but in the village. Mosetheng and Phuswane campsites all need water, but are close to the village, where there is lack of wildlife. If we provide salt licks and water at all these pans, we will attract a lot of wildlife.

9.10 Zutshwa – 17 June 2022

Welcome Remarks by Kgosi Kabatlhophane

Welcome to the Kgotla everyone. Let's be free and discuss issues in a civil way. Development agents bring good things to us. Please take with you the issues as discussed here today, and please do not add anything else to the issues raised here on your way home.

Ofetotse Matsepanyane

I would like to talk about this old project. Why has UNDP decided to use the salt project among the many good projects that were suggested? We needed more people to hear and understand about the conflict between the community itself. We do not agree on how we should run the salt project. Because of this disagreement, people coming here to consult with us go back with the good things they have brought us without any decision made by us, therefore such projects do not benefit the community.

Money from the salt project does not benefit the community. It is only enjoyed by a handful. Money is coming in but no one knows where it all goes.

If this project promoted craft production, at least the money goes directly to the producers. Craft production would also promote skills and talents that are now dying. There is a lot of talent sitting at home right now benefiting no one. Craft production is as sustainable project because the skills are there, if only the market is made available. So as far as crafts production is concerned sustainability is guaranteed. There is a lot of talent such as carvings and leatherworkers. I could make the entire kit for a traditional dance group if asked to.

We had a workshop here on human wildlife conflict. So, they left like you will be leaving after this meeting, and we have never seen them again. You too, may never come back. There is no progress after all these trainings and workshops because there is very poor follow-up after the training. No one is here to follow up and manage the projects, after the training or the workshop has been held.

The main problem among livestock farmers here is diseases. We welcome the holistic rangeland management project. This project might bring benefits to livestock farmers. But the lack of knowledge amongst farmers, can you say result of no training, or poor training. There are no benefits to farmers when the training is erratic and two spaced out. After five years of no follow up, we would have forgotten about what we were trained on and we go back to our normal subsistence farming practices.

Moses Letshelelo

I understood very well and thank you very much for the Drylands project. The suggested project might help improve our livelihoods. I would like to thank you particularly for selecting the salt project. Many people here are not educated so they understand very slowly and sometimes very late. Sometimes we sit here and regret why we have chosen this project and not that project. In this case it wasn't us because the decision has already been made for us.

The main problem has been lack of money to sustain the salt project. We were asked before why the money from the salt project is being misused while under our watchful eyes. Like I said we sometimes understand a little too late. Is walk this road with us so we can develop this old project further. The salt project must also be formally handed to the Zutshwa community so we can fully take over and know that it is under our care and control.

I welcome the holistic rangeland management project and human wildlife conflict resolution. We live with wild animals and we will continue to do so into the future. However, drilling and equipping both holes and providing water for livestock might be a solution. That might also help us with zoning so we can separate grazing from other land use. Zoning can also help with the reduction of human wildlife conflict. We could even use systems such as paddocks in the grazing zone, provided there is enough water for livestock.

The wildfire management project is also very good, and it is welcome. Training and more education on wildfire are welcome. We are not sure about the sources of this fire and where they come from.

But we suspect that hunters are causing all these fires. We also believe that poachers from Ghanzi and Tsabong are the ones responsible for these fires. A vehicle dedicated to firefighting is needed.

Kegomoditswe Mokoto

I agree with the support pledged by UNDP for the salt project. We have been asking for assistance for many years. I mean the problem is lack of knowledge. The salt project was handed over to us here many years ago by the then Vice President, who is now the President, through the poverty eradication program. What we are crying about now is self-inflicted pain. We let the project suffer. UNDP is here today willing to assist. Government keeps putting money in the salt project but there is no success. If the salt project was run properly it would add value to our trust.

The land is planning component will help develop our area, because everyone has been talking about the development of a management plan for our area. I want to complete consent form now because I want UNDP to help us move forward.

Tshegofatso Koto

I agree with the previous speaker that all is clear and that we should sign the consent form so we can continue with the drylands project.

Kgosi Kabatlhophane

I believe the issues have been discussed sufficiently. We will complete the form and you will take it with you. The human wildlife conflict component is needed by our people here very much. We get that with the DWNP we will develop strategies on how to reduce human wildlife conflict. Like the trials we hear about in other areas, we would like our own children here to do patrols and track predators and inform us when they see any tracks. The people we put in power are the problem here. The committee has been informed time and again that it is their responsibility to check the salt project continuously to ensure accountability. Everyone must be held accountable.

Isaac Kalo

I am the Chairman of the farmers committee. Training is good and welcome. We can have all the training in the world, as well as the tools we need, but there will be no progress if people are not happy. Please provide an allowance for the people that participate in fighting wildfires. At least during the time, they are busy putting out wildfires. It is also advisable for DFRR to look at us too when positions become available. The trained people must be recruited to permanent positions within government as fire fighters. But DFRR is always hiring people from Hukuntsi and Kang.

Kegomoditse Mokoto

The assistance from UNDP is good and it is welcome. But it is only good if there is going to be continuous monitoring and evaluation of the project. Someone must keep a constant eye on these projects, especially the salt project. We are all humans, and when we are trusted with looking after a community project, we tend to look for opportunities for our personal gain. The community must take charge of their projects. All village committees must come together and demand accountability from people that are running all the community projects

Onthusitse Selotsane

People were not very happy about the salt project. The people working at the mine are doing their best and they are producing a lot of salt, but there is no progress. Salt is produced and moved to the storerooms. The salt is loaded in trucks and goes off to be sold but it appears there is no money to run the mine. There is no progress. We have been asking for help for many years. It is also important to look after the workers at the salt mine. They need tools and equipment to allow them better working conditions. For example, the workers need protection from the sun during hot summer days.

Name not recorded

I am happy that UNDP selected the salt project. If the salt project is supported very well, it can employ a lot more people. Currently there is no progress. We asked the TAC why they have selected this manager, and they said it is because he had diploma or degree certificate that is required for this job. I am thinking now that we should have a junior manager that can learn from the current manager. The problem we are sitting with is that we have a manager from elsewhere, who is not interested in improving the lives of our people but is interested in improving his personal life. He doesn't care about these people here. If this manager will still be here come December 2024, the salt mine will be a complete failure. If this Manager was our child from here in Zutshwa, as his parents, we would bring him here at Kgotla and ask him account for everything. When we ask questions, we are told that the income is very little and that the expenditures are too high. How then is this manager able to continue to run a business at a loss? Something is not right. It is this problem that we wish this UNDP project might help resolve. UNDP and the community must demand accountability and work out ways in which the project can be sustainable. We want to get to a stage where the profit from this old project, is used to finance the craft and cultural village projects. But currently, when the project makes profit, that profit is taken by the manager. When the community is happy because there is continuous feedback about the performance of the salt mine, and everything is going very well. When the community is complaining, it is because there are problems.

Lions are a problem, but we get compensated for the livestock we lose to lions. Our main problem is the leopard. If we can have people on foot patrol, that are able to identify their tracks, track them and chase them away continuously, we might be able to reduce livestock losses to leopards. I don't know what other methods can be used to deal with leopards, because they are a real problem.

Poaching is a result of lack of employment opportunities. If the management of the salt project is strengthened, and production capacity increased, then the salt mine can hire some of the youth that are idling in the village. That would reduce the number of people that attempted to turn to poaching, and we may see only two people arrested instead of the many that are being arrested currently. Zutshwa is currently labelled as the area of lawlessness due to extreme levels of poaching. The situation can be turned around by strong support to income generating projects, such as the salt project.

I am very happy that we are going to be working on land management and land use planning. Organizations such as TANATE should work with UNDP to make this possible.

I would like us to be as smart as lions in our choice of projects. We must remain steady and focused and pounce on projects without missing. I therefore agree with everyone that we should move forward with the Drylands project.

Name not given

I also agree with everyone that we should move ahead with the project. I am concerned about the manager. He sells the salt and receives money but at the end of the day not much of it is left. The project always has no money. Where is all the money going? He is getting paid much money. Maybe all of it is going to his salary. If that is the case, then maybe we need junior manager that can be paid a quarter of his salary. This might help us save some money, to use to support the project after our journey with the Drylands project.

Kgosi Kabatlhophane

Thank you everyone for finishing this meeting well. You have all agreed that you want to continue with the Drylands project. Holistic rangeland management is a good idea. We don't have enough grazing land because we have set aside a lot of land for wild animals. Maximizing grazing in the land that we have to improve the quality of our livestock will bring us benefits. But if we are expected together all our livestock and head them to the east, where we have designated livestock grazing land, then I might have a problem with who would help me drive my livestock to this area. During their last trip UNDP spoke to me about a community kraal, an abattoir and a pre-school close to where the abattoir will be. They said the pre-school is for the little children with the people looking after our livestock at the abattoir.

What happened to all these promises, or are they included in the holistic rangeland management project? Holistic rangeland management is associated with communal heading of livestock. How are individual farmers and their livestock going to be protected from other greedy farmers? It might be worth a while to have every farmer agreed to the terms and conditions of becoming part of the communal heading system. This is where people are going to be stealing each other's livestock. There should therefore be measures put in place to protect farmers and their livestock. We may need provide tear gas, or pepper sprays to livestock headers to protect themselves well they are looking after the livestock.

All the points raised are very good. I support the argument that although human wildlife conflict must be resolved, poaching will always be a problem because it is a result of extreme poverty. However, it is clear that we all agree that the main issue here is conservation of our natural resources. As a community we are fully behind the conservation of our wildlife.

Please note that there are ethnic divides among us here but Basarwa and Bakagalagadi are expected to share food from the same bowl, but they don't want to share the bowl. The other one is taking more from the bowl than the other. Our traditions and our ways of life are different "*dingwao tsa rona ga di tshwane*". When thinking about which projects to support, this ethnic divide and traditions must be considered, to avoid supporting project that will promote the ways and norms of one ethnic group and ignore the other. The ignored group will find ways of supporting itself, including illegal wildlife utilization.

I urge you and the UNDP team to hurry up come back soon before we give up on you and change our minds.

I want to encourage the people of Zutshwa, to stop crying for money lost at the salt mine and stand up for themselves. We should consider the option of hiring older people to look after the salt mine. They might do a good job. These young and educated youth are very dangerous. Nonetheless, I support the motion that we should hire our own children, because they will always be here with us. If they misuse the profits from the salt mine, and use that money to buy cars or food, they will give us lifts in those cars and they will share the food with us. This way we would have not lost completely.

I also agree with the fact that the salt mine was profitable at some point when it could support disadvantaged people in the village. The salt mine has contributed to funerals, supported mothers with newborn babies, and helped build destitute houses. But now the salt mine is way too far from the people. I fail to determine where to place the blame, but I think it's both the coordinator and the board members.

I am unhappy that people working at the salt mine are not represented here today. VDC chairman I would like you to ensure that the salt mine is invited to the Kgotla and that some representatives come to meetings. We are talking about them today, but there is no one to share with us their issues and help us find solutions to their problems. They could also help us address community concerns related to the salt mine.

We all agree to continue with the Drylands project, and I would like to believe that even if there were more people present here today, all of us would still agree.

9.11 Khawa – 20 June 2022

Welcome remarks – Kgosi Piet Manyoro

Welcome everyone and please spend time and listen. The jobs we have always been talking about are brought by projects such as this one. We are in a settlement that has only a few opportunities for employment. When you hear that there is a meeting here at the Kgotla, you must come in large numbers and do so like cattle looking for water.

We would like to see our campsite developed. An entrance gate would be really nice so everybody that goes through the gate can pay. We are blessed with sand dunes that have become a tourist attraction. Tourism can develop villages. We cannot always depend on government for developments. There are other entities other than government that can help us develop our community faster such as UNDP.

It is important to start with teaching people, and then taking them along every step of the project. Like the construction of a house, one starts by building a solid foundation and then builds the rest of house from there. Education and training are the foundation of a successful project.

Name not recorded

We would like to continue with this project. There is a lot we can learn from UNDP, and there is a lot of help that we can receive towards resolving the problems we have. Because of that I completely agree with the proposed projects.

Wildfire is a real problem for us here. Last year's fire was really bad and we had to get all the tools and support from Tsabong. Before we could get any support, we used tree branches to fight the fire. Firefighting tools and equipment will therefore be very useful here. We also need to create cutlines that can serve as fire breaks.

To promote tourism and take advantage of the Khawa dune challenge that happens annually, I would encourage government to create a gate into the park, somewhere closest to Khawa village. This would allow many of the tourists that would come to experience the dune challenge, to access the park easily.

I appreciate they pledged to assist us with the campsite. With COVID-19 many things were delayed, and we are not receiving as much help from the government as we used to. Household income is at

its lowest and people cannot sustain themselves. With movement reinstated, we may see a lot more tourists coming through our village, and tourism might improve our lives. The gatehouse is important because it will make it easy for revenue be collected, improving income accrued by the trust.

We have Swakara farm which we use for small stock. It would be great if this farm could also be supported.

Human wildlife conflict is not such a problem but there is occasional predation by lions. The solution I see here is including lions on the quota. The money from the quota will be better and will help with village developments.

Please do not go for good because it has been a while since we so anyone from UNDP. You can see what is happening and that people need help.

Mrs. Kelefile

It would be great if UNDP could come back to us and consult us some more but I would encourage them to come prepared to start the projects. All the project implementers in the village such as the VDC and trust members training is important must be trained first before implementing the project.

Kgosi Piet Manyoro

Sometimes signing forms can be a problem but in this case we know the project and I could sign the consent form now on behalf of the community. But my main problem is that people come, talk and go away, and they don't come back. Then they are replaced by other people who come, talk and go away again, leaving us all sitting here and waiting for more people to repeat the same cycle. We are tired of talking, we want action. We need a lot of help with many projects, such as fencing the trust farm, and if we can start with one, then we will be paving way for action on other projects.

We all agree with the support that has been pledged towards the campsite and towards fire management. The park gate is very important as it will provide a gateway into the park and promote tourism in this region. There are many projects that are on our bucket list, such as tannery using goat and cattle skins.

Piet Osenoneng

Last year's fire was very dangerous. We all need training on prevention of wildfires and safety during firefighting exercises. It is a great idea that cruise can be made available and left here with us so they are readily available. Long is the office that helps us but they are too far from here. By the time they come to our rescue the fire is already too big and out of control. If the tools and transport are readily available, then we can get to the fire and suppress it before it becomes too big.

We are losing camping fees because we don't have a gatehouse and we don't have a fence around the campsite. I remain hopeful that this project will provide a gate house and perimeter fence.

Kgosi Piet Manyoro

I agree with all the three projects that UNDP has chosen to support. But I would like to suggest that human wildlife conflict and fire management be the first project to be implemented.

I encourage UNDP to consider drilling boreholes provide water for wildlife in natural water holes. This will attract more wildlife including lions into our area.

You must come back soon so we can get these projects started. We all agree with continuing with the Drylands project and I will sign the consent form on behalf of the community after this meeting. My last concern is that UNDP is working with government departments on this project and government is notorious for delaying things. For example, coordinating the drylands project from Tsabong, without any field staff based in the project areas is not ideal. Also, there is not enough officers to sufficiently attend to project activities.

Name not recorded

There is a lot of talent in the village that is being lost. There is a variety of craft products made in the village with no market. The village needs a cultural house, in the form of a museum, similar to the D'kar art and craft museum, where products can be sold. This centre would capture the tradition, cultures and norms of our people.

Many NGOs and companies come here and make promises that they have never fulfilled. We see them when they come here to consult with us, and when they leave, they go for good.

Closing remarks – Kgosana David Manyoro

Thank you all. Do not be like the others that have come here made promises, left, and never seen again. We know UNDP is different and that you or someone else will come back soon. There are less employment opportunities in the village and we are always open to new ideas and suggestions on how we can improve what we have.

9.12 Struizendam – 21 June 2022

Kgosana Leon Mathys

I apologize for the weather and the fact that we couldn't hold this meeting with the general public. But here we are, and we can get this meeting going. We know that one cannot touch something without assessment. The Sexanana bush is here and it is encroaching on our grazing. We have an opportunity of making money while removing this weed at the same time.

I personally have no objections to continuing with the project. We now have a trust that is registered and functioning but of course with problems. I am grateful that the charcoal production has started, we are already loading charcoal and sending it to the markets. It is pleasing to know that marketing has already started and the Choppies store in Tsabong is taking some of our charcoal.

Gert Esterhwezen

Production of fodder should have started already. In fact we have a few samples at the office in Bokspits. We are currently running mineral tests and the folder content test. We have already paid 4000 pula to the Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS), Currently running tests. It is in the process and results will be shared as soon as the tests are done. After testing scientists will be engaged to help improve the shelf life of the fodders.

We are hoping that the drylands project will provide a warehouse where the folder can be stored. It is not a good idea to produce the folder and leave it outside because if it gets wet it will be ruined. We can't start mass producing now even if we had all the tests done because we don't have storage.

We are hoping that we could increase production to 400 bags of charcoal per day, which is 100 bags a day per village.

Kgosana Paul Denis Mathys

We are pleased to know that UNDP is still willing to run the race with us. We are also willing to work with the Drylands project.

Bigger markets for the charcoal and fodder will increase employment opportunities in the area. There is no problem with us giving consent right here during this meeting, and I think we all agree that consent should be given. However, I think we will have a problem with community ownership. Maybe you should leave the consent forms here with us, we call a Kgotla meeting later this week and get the community on board.

Is it possible for UNDP to consider funding other projects that are not dependent on natural resources?

Human wildlife conflict is a big problem here. Is it possible that we could put a predator proof fence, and the community could run a project that maintains the fence? The hunting quota generates money that can be used to maintain this fence? To reduce human wildlife, the trans frontier park fence should be reinforced and made predator proof and should be patrolled and maintained. Our trust can take care of this.

It is great to know that UNDP is promoting gender equality through gender mainstreaming. We have a 2:3 ratio for women to men on this project. We would have gone for 1:1 if it wasn't for the fact that the project is physically demanding. More men are needed to operate the physically demanding tools such as chainsaws, while the women participate by picking and packing the logs and the charcoal.

Sondag Mathys

It is important to follow procedure when calling consultative meetings. Always go through the Kgosi's office, and the Kgosi together with the VDC and the trust representatives, will consult the village. The trust board is responsible for contacting us about any project related to natural resources.

9.13 Bokspits – 22 June 2022

Kgosana Hermanus Mathys

Welcome to you all! the UNDP wants to continue to support the charcoal and fodder project. Please ask questions as much as possible so you can understand this project in full.

Name not recorded

It has been a long time since we've been going back and forth with UNDP on this project. The project has been going for some time now and some charcoal has been produced and some money has been made. Where is the money going and what is it used for? Our trust must answer this question.

Mpho Bojane

The training is good, but it's not so good when there's nothing that shows that people have been trained. There should be completer's certificates to confirm that they attended the training.

We can give consent now, but our trust must share the figures with us. They should show us how much money has been made since the project started and how much has been paid to the producers. We need basic loss of profit accounts.

Lydia Villander

We have abandoned buildings here in the village that was used by IVP. These buildings could be renovated and turned into storage. We also have a piece of land where we experimented with growing the hoodia cactus. This plot can be fenced and connect water and can be used for this project.

Gideon Martin

IVP renovated the plot. All the materials that project received we provided by LEA. UNDP has provided chainsaws and all the protective gear.

The main concern is who uses the facility in that the income is too low so the benefits are not encouraging, and the good news is that there is a bigger machinery that is expected that will help increase productivity.

Mienah Titus

There is definitely a breakdown between the trust and the community – the trust gives information only to a handful of people. We can always blame COVID-19 but the truth is that we have administrative issues. I recommend that the trust holds more meetings and invites more people to these meetings. There should also be improved communication between Kgosi and the trust. It is a pity that the trust didn't know that UNDP would be addressing this Kgotla today.

Gideon Martin

We were elected into power only in February last year. So, we are fairly new board of trustees. The board is not complete and there are many empty positions in the board that needs to be filled. This makes us fail to discuss effectively and conclude discussions about trust affairs.

We have asked Kgosi to hold a Kgotla meeting so we can talk about the AGM. But we can't even address this quarter meeting because we are incomplete.

There was a big launch where UNDP, LEA and DFRR were present. Many people were invited to this launch and should know quite a bit about the project

Titus Roy

The trust board of trustees was not informed about this meeting. They could have prepared themselves well in advance.

Maria Vissagie

Feedback is a big problem for the trust from the time it was started. The Bokspits community is denied information. The community needs to know what is going on. We all look so confused because we don't know. We do not understand what the trust is doing because no one tells us.

We are now working with the new committee that replaced the old board the new board should have addressed us and should have given feedback to the community already. We hear about vehicles and other things from other people, but no feedback from the board of trustees itself. There is definitely no feedback from the trust and lack of consultation with the community. The new board has failed to consult with the community and inform the community what was handed over to them by the old board and account for what they have received. There is a trailer with no wheels that is reported to

be seen somewhere and no one is informing the community about any of their assets. Accountability is lacking within the new board too.

Sophia Steenkamp

We are receiving help from UNDP and we are in no position to throw that away. We accept the pledge from UNDP to continue with us on this project and we are prepared to develop it so it can benefit our children. I therefore encourage everyone here to give consent, and as explained earlier, we can always revoke this consent if things don't go right. We should therefore, complete the first form for now and then push UNDP to support our project thereafter.

We elected a new board last year and the young people that were in this board have left already. They thought that they were going to make a lot of money quickly and when they realized that this was not the case, they left.

Closing remarks – Kgosana (Name not recorded)

I wish to thank you all for attending this meeting during this very cold weather. Please remain patient with this project so that we can realize its fruits in the future. We have agreed to give consent to the continuation of the Drylands project and we are going to do so soon after the meeting.

9.14 Rappelspan – 23 June 2022

Welcome remarks – Kgosi David Mathys

The weather is not on our side today. This is extreme weather than what we have been used to as it has been raining for four continuous days now. They say Covid-19 thrives in this weather, so please maintain social distances and keep your masks on for the duration of this meeting. I know it's cold and I plead with you to remain patient and calm until we finish.

I have not received a letter introducing the meeting, but I spoke to the consultants and confirmed the meeting by phone. I used the telephone conversation to invite as many people as possible. Ipelegeng alone represents half or three quarters of the community. When you are at the Kgotla know that you are considered working and you will be marked present. Besides when the weather is this extreme you are normally asked to go home and you will soon after the meeting.

Marda Mathys

I need more explanation so I can understand better. I am still lost.

Mr. Mathys

Will there be management training for the trust board of trustees? The office term for the current committee is already coming to an end. They were promised training when they assumed office last year February, and nothing has happened to this day. Once their term has ended, we are again forced to choose a new board that also needs training and the cycle continues.

The community does not trust the board of trustees because nothing is happening, and they are not giving the community feedback. UNDP might help the board to start acting and talking to the people.

Albert Van Rooyen

The commission made by producers is too little. P10 per bag of charcoal is just too small. The project must look at ways to increase this amount. To make things worse, fodder production has not started yet. May be combining charcoal and fodder production will increase the amount of production per day because both fodder and the coal can be made from the same tree.

Lukas Mathys

Transport is needed to move the logs from where they are cut to where they are cooked. Transport is also needed to move the coal from Rappelspan to the trust's office in Bokspits. Currently Bokspits and Struizendam are monopolizing the available vehicle.

All the machines go to Bokspits and none of them are sent here for our use. We also need our own machines so we can control our production here.

Kgosi David Mathys

There are not enough tools for the producers. There are only 2 block cutters shared between Bokspits and Rappelspan. We are currently using chain saws. These saws are used day in and day out. They are going to get damaged quickly.

The fodder project has been paused for too long. Because of that the team that was trained will need to be retrained before the projects starts again. The gap between training and implementation has been too wide. I hear that there is a fodder producing machine that has been ordered. That machine should not go to Bokspits but should come to Rappelspan.

Mr. Mathys

LEA has procured a vehicle for the project and that vehicle still in Gaborone being branded.

We should know that training will have to be continuous. Trained people leave and it is the responsibility of those remaining to train new members. The reason people are leaving the project is because the money is just too little compared to the amount of work they put into producing the charcoal.

The trust is suffering from lack of communication. If the trust board and the Rappelspan members made it a point that they consulted us regularly and shared with us what is happening we wouldn't be asking all these questions.

Gert January

Communication between the board and the community is very poor. How come we are only hearing about the vehicle today?

The board has the potential of breaking up the BORAVAST trust. Because they are not communicating, we now want our own machinery and our own storage here in Rappelspan. But if each village get these things, we are all going to divide and try to produce on our own. What we need is the board to start informing all the villages and to try to unite us in the process, so all 4 villages can start working together again.

Mr. Mathys

We have sent fodder Samples to BOBS and we are still waiting for the test results.

Ms. Mathys

I would like to thank UNDP for coming to inform us that they have not forgotten about us and that they would like to continue with us. Sexanana is our diamond and we are also willing to continue with the project despite the ongoing challenges.

Kgosi David Mathys

When you go back to UNDP, please ask them why they haven't approved our campsite. We were given a campsite but on very difficult conditions that we can discuss some other time. We would like to develop this campsite at some point.

This community could benefit from the human wildlife conflict strategy. Please come back soon and start implementing the strategy.

I have heard about the UNDP project in Ngami and how well they have done. It appears to be a very successful charcoal production project.

It is a pity that we currently have no people representing Rappelspan on the board. We must elect these people soon. This is how we are losing out. No one is on the board to promote our interests.

Vote of Thanks – Kgosana Fredrick Yster

I thank you for finding it important not to cancel this meeting because of the bad weather. I thank you for your patience and cooperation.

9.15 Vaalhoek – 24 June 2022

Welcome remarks - Kgosi Bock

Welcome to Vaalhoek. Expect many questions and comments about the trust. Many people are not happy about how the trust is being managed. The Polka group, please stay with us until you transport arrives. You will also bear witness of today's meeting and subsequent discussions.

Rachel Bock

There has been a general lack of feedback from the trust. I don't even remember when the project started. At this stage, even though I am watching from a distance, I can see that although the process of producing charcoal is slow, at least something is happening. The project is beneficial to the community as it creates the needed employment. When people were trained to produce charcoal, their expectations were raised and they thought they were going to make a lot of charcoal, sell and make enough money to look after their family. But now that progress is slow, many people are disappointed.

We should all understand that we need donor money to make the project profitable. But that it can only be funded if it looks viable.

Paul Bock

It is clear that the board is failing to disseminate information about the trust. However, we all know that we have 2 products, being charcoal and fodder. There should be 2 groups of people working hand in hand. One group cuts the trees for charcoal, while the other groups work on the sale tree to produce fodder. This way there is going to be more production of both.

Maria Van Niel

I have not been trained and I have very little knowledge about charcoal production. But from a distance, it all looks like a big and exhausting project.

I agree with Paul that while one team is busy making charcoal, the other team must also be busy making fodder.

What I have also seen is that the charcoal production team starts in the early morning, and they finish in the late evening. It is hard work and many hours put into producing the coal. But the money is just too little and that is why trained people are leaving the project. The project should be seen to be improving people's livelihoods. The current pay they are getting is not making any difference.

James McKenzie

I am very thankful that someone has suddenly arrived here in our village to talk to us about the project. I am constantly pushing the board and the Drylands project team in Tsabong to come and give us feedback. Is this project useful or are we wasting our time? Both the Drylands project team and our board are too slow.

Monitoring and evaluation should be a strong component of the project. UNDP should be concerned about whether the project they financing are making a difference on the ground. Is it benefiting us, or does it have the potential to benefit us in the future? UNDP must keep an eye on the implementing team.

The board seems to be keeping a secret away from the community. The community has asked them several times to come and address them, but there seems to be no action from the board. What is it they are hiding away from us? If the board is not willing to do their work, then they must resign so we can elect a new board.

Titus Bock

The charcoal and fodder project suffers lack of monitoring. No one has been assigned the responsibility to monitor progress. UNDP must put more effort in monitoring progress and ensuring that benefits go to the community.

Johannes Bock

I also agree with the people that are saying our board is still sleeping. The board members must wake up and start working on these 2 projects, and they must come and address us soon.

The fodder machines we have are very expensive tools that are now sitting and doing nothing. Government is trying to help us develop ourselves, but we take the tools and do keep them in the storeroom when we should be using them.

Jacob Hendricks

Many people do not know their role as members of the trust. The board members report to the community. When they are wrong, it is the community that holds them accountable. Ask me in another forum and I will share with you all how trusts are expected to function.

Hilda Kamboer

The main problem with the project is that labour costs were never provided for. The Ipelegeng arrangement is short term. Currently, charcoal producers have to wait for a very long time before they get their money because the charcoal is taken on consignment. The P166 that we sometimes get after waiting for 3 months is a joke for men with families that work hard to produce the charcoal every day. UNDP should allow for a budget for labour costs for a year's production for the producers. This way, the project would have saved enough money at the end of the year, that can be used to pay the same producers in the second year. Ipelegeng is the only reason the project is still running today. I was trained as a charcoal producer and I have served as a board member, so I am speaking from experience. If the money was better and reliable, we would see a lot more people joining the production teams.

James McKenzie

In South Africa, after they finish harvesting the tree, they put a chemical on the trunk that will then kill the remaining part of the tree. We should not use the chemical here so the trees can produce new shots that can be harvested to produce fodder. However, where the trees must be completely removed to create space for other plant species then some of the tree can be killed completely.

Hilda Kamboer

I am also encouraging UNDP to budget for a project manager responsible for charcoal and fodder production. Then this person can handle everything related to this project and be held accountable.

Kgosana Leon Hendricks

The contracts signed between the board and some producers are coming to an end. Will they sign new contracts and be supported by UNDP? Some producers are owed their pay for 3 months. Will this debt be settled by UNDP or the board?

Titus Bock

It is the responsibility of the board to contact UNDP and inform them about their debt and seek assistance from UNDP through this pledge. I feel the information about how much and how far UNDP can help with this project.

Name not recorded

I agree with the motion that we should go ahead with the project. The issues we are discussing are all internal and we can handle them here with our board.

Titus Bock

I also agree that we should carry on with the project. We can always address our trust issues separately. It is clear the community wants to carry on with this project. UNDP must pressurize the board to give community feedback on the one hand, and we must pressurize them this side too. It is our trust we must know what is happening.

Johannes Bock

Our responsibility as a community is to pause, take stock of ourselves and our board, find where the blockage is, and find how we unblock the system to make it all smooth again.

Hilda Kamboer

We hear that there is equipment expected to arrive that will increase production. Already there is light at the end of the tunnel. Our board must be instructed to give quarterly reports and hold quarterly meetings with the community. We know that all of that costs money and that this money must be sourced somehow. If quarterly reports fail, they should at least hold meeting twice a year. The community needs the information so they can make decisions in the short and in the long term.

Closing remarks – Kgosana Leon Hendricks

For the first time we have received the information we have been asking the board to come and give us. Thank you for that. We have decided unanimously that we give consent to the continuation of the project. What remains is for us to work with our board to ensure that we strengthen how we benefit from the charcoal and fodder project. Kgosi, please invite the board to come here and address us. Thank you for staying throughout this cold weather. You went through all the hardship for a great reason.

ANNEX 2: CULTURAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AAF	Affirmative Action Framework
ABS	Access and Benefit Sharing
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
APP	Anti-Poaching Policy
APU	Anti-Poaching Unit
ARADP	Accelerated Remote Area Development Programme
BDF	Botswana Defense Force
BDP	Botswana Democratic Party
BKC	Botswana Khwedom Council
BPTC	Botswana Predator Conservation Trust
BOCONGO	Botswana Council of Non-Government Organizations
BPCT	Botswana Predator Conservation Trust
BPS	Botswana Police Service
BTO	Botswana Tourism Organization
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBNRM	Community Based Natural Resource Management
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
CCB	Cheetah Conservation Botswana
CHMP	Cultural Heritage Management Plan
CKGR	Central Kalahari Game Reserve
COVID-19	Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2)
CTA	Chief Technical Advisor
DA	District Administration
DAP	Department of Animal Production
DC	District Commissioner
DCEC	Department of Corruption and Economic Crime
DDC	District Development Council
DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs
DFRR	Department of Forestry and Range Resources
DISS	Directorate of Intelligence and Security Services
DLUPU	District Land Use Planning Unit
DS&CD	Department of Social and Community Development
DSS	Department of Social Services
DTA	Department of Tribal Administration

DTRP	Department of Town and Regional Planning
DWNP	Department of Wildlife and National Parks
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework (UNDP)
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan (UNDP)
FPIC	Free, Prior, and Informed Consent
FPK	First People of the Kalahari
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GCC	Global Climate Change
GDC	Ghanzi District Council
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GOB	Government of Botswana
GPS	Global Positioning System
GR	Genetic Resources
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
GRN	Government of the Republic of Namibia
GWP	Global Wildlife Programme
HEC	Human-elephant conflict
HWC	Human-wildlife conflict
ILUMP	Integrated Land Use and Management Plan
IPP	Indigenous Peoples Plan
IPPF	Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework
IWT	Illegal Wildlife Trade
KCS	Kalahari Conservation Society
KDC	Kgalagadi District Council
KFO	Kuru Family of Organizations
KGDEP	Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystems Project
KTP	Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park (Botswana, South Africa)
KRC	Kalahari Research and Conservation
KWT	Kalahari Wildlands Trust
LEA	Local Enterprise Authority
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MENT	Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, Conservation, and Tourism
MLH	Ministry of Lands and Housing

MFDP	Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
MLGRD	Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
MLMWSS	Ministry of Land Management, Water, and Sanitation Service
MMRGTE	Ministry of Mineral Resources, Green Technology, and Energy
MNIGA	Ministry of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs
MOADFS	Ministry of Agricultural Development and Food Security
MOE&SD	Ministry of Education and Skills Development
MOHW	Ministry of Health and Wellness
MOMS	Management Oriented Monitoring System
MOPAPA	Ministry of President Affairs and Public Administration
MP	Member of Parliament
MTERST	Ministry of Tertiary Education, Research, Science, and Technology
MYSC	Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sport, and Culture Development
NAC	National Anti-Poaching Committee
NAS	National Anti-poaching Strategy
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NCONGO	Ngamiland Council of Non-Government Organizations
NCS	National Conservation Strategy
NDP	National Development Plan
NGO	Non-government organization
NJ	Natural Justice
NMAG	National Museum and Art Gallery
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
NP	National Park
NPGD	National Policy on Gender and Development
NSP	National Settlement Policy
NSP	National Spatial Plan
OWT	Okwa Wildlife Trust
PA	Protected Area
PAC	Problem Animal Control
PIF	Project Identification Form (GEF)
PIR	Project Implementation Report
PMU	Project Management Unit
PSC	Project Steering Committee
PTB	Permaculture Trust Botswana
RAC	Remote Area Community

RADP	Remote Area Development Programme
RADO	Remote Area Development Officer, District Council
RTA	Regional Technical Advisor
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SARS-CoV-2	coronavirus (COVID 19)
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SECU	Social and Environmental Compliance Unit (UNDP)
SEMP	Strategic Environmental Management Plan
SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan
SES	Social and Environmental Standards (UNDP)
SESP	Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (UNDP)
SRC	San Research Centre (University of Botswana)
SRM	Stakeholder Response Mechanism (UNDP)
SSAHULC	Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Communities (World Bank)
SSG	Special Support Group (Botswana Police)
SYNet	San Youth Network
TFCA	Trans-frontier Conservation Area
TGLP	Tribal Grazing Land Policy
TLA	Tribal Land Act
TOR	Terms of Reference
TSDFB	Tanate Sustainable Development Foundation Botswana
TOR	Terms of Reference
UB	University of Botswana
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRIP	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation
UNICEF	United Nations Childrens Fund
UNMEG	United Nations Environmental Management Group
UNPFII	United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
VDC	Village Development Committee (community)
VIIP	Voluntary Isolated Indigenous Peoples
WKCC	Western Kgalagadi Conservation Corridor
WMA	Wildlife Management Area

Executive Summary

This is the Cultural Heritage Management Plan developed as part of the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for the GEF-UNDP Project titled ‘Managing the human-wildlife interface to sustain the flow of agro-ecosystem services and prevent illegal wildlife trafficking in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem’ (KGDEP). The KGDEP consists of 4 components: Component 1. Coordinating capacity for combating wildlife crime (including trafficking, poaching, and poisoning) and enforcement of wildlife policies and practices at district, national, and international levels; Component 2. Incentives and systems for wildlife protection by communities and increasing financial returns from natural resource exploitation and reducing human-wildlife-conflicts (HWC); Component 3. Integrated land use planning (ILUP) in the conservation areas and sustainable land use management (SLM) in communal lands, securing wildlife migratory corridors, and increasing productivity of rangelands respectively, reducing competition between land uses and increasing ecosystem integrity of the Kalahari ecosystem. Component 4. Gender mainstreaming, traditional ecological and scientific knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), and ensuring the dissemination of project lessons. The project is being conducted in two districts of western Botswana: Ghanzi and Kgalagadi, covering approximately 224,850 km².

The application of the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards Policy Update of 2023 has focused on Standard 4, Cultural Heritage. Both tangible and intangible cultural heritage was examined. It was found that there were numerous archaeological and historic sites in the region. All of the people in the region want recognition and protection of their cemeteries. It was also found that there were important landscapes and natural features with cultural significance (Standard 4, section 18), notably the Okwa Valley runs from west to east from Mamuno on the Botswana-Namibia border into the Central Kalahari Game Reserve (Boocock and Van Straten 1962; Thomas and Shaw 2010:82, 194, 196, 214). Interviews were conducted with residents who identified places of cultural significance, including Great Tsau Hill and its surroundings in north eastern Ghanzi District (Walker 2018). Of great significance in the region were pans where archaeological remains were found, along with associated sip wells and, in some cases, hunting blinds. Approximately 70 pans were identified with important cultural materials. Rock art, specifically petroglyphs, were found in the Mamuno area, and there were rock paintings located in the Okwa Valley. Rock shelters with cultural materials were found in the Oka Valley and at Great Tsau Hill and Little Tsau Hill. Culturally significant places were also found in some of the remote area communities in the region, notably dance floors and places where healing ceremonies were held. Intangible cultural heritage included oral history, songs, dances, stories, and rituals which local people wish to preserve as part of their Cultural Heritage. The report identifies strategies aimed at avoidance of adverse impacts and preservation and protection of cultural heritage in the KGDEP area.

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

This document is a the Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP), which forms part of the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) aimed at mitigating adverse impacts on cultural heritage and at proposing recommendations for preservation and protection of cultural heritage in the KGDEP area of western Botswana.⁶⁰ In accordance with UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES) policy.⁶¹ UNDP projects require that a Cultural Heritage Management Plan be developed in a participatory manner with stakeholders, following the principles of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent where SES Standard 6 on Indigenous Peoples applies.⁶² The KGDEP is a Botswana government-led project which is supported by UNDP and financed through the Global Environmental Facility. The Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, Conservation, and Tourism (MENT) is the main implementing agency in Botswana. This report concerns the Cultural Heritage Management Plan for the region.

1.2 Project Description

As part of the KGDEP work involving a Social and Environmental Management Plan, a Cultural Heritage Management Plan was prepared. This plan is based on (1) information from residents of the region, (2) archival work in the files of the National Museum and Art Gallery, the Kuru Family of Organizations, the Botswana Khwedom Council, First People of the Kalahari, and reports of Cheetah Conservation Botswana (2022a, b) and the Kalahari Wildlands Trust (2022), Archaeological surveys in the region reveal that the Ghanzi and Kgalagadi drylands had a lengthy series of occupations, dating back more than one million years (Cooke 1979; Alec Campbell, personal communication 2011; Nic Walker, personal communication, 2022). Visits were paid to numerous archaeological and historic sites in the region, including the farm belonging to Clive Eaton, where the remains of the home of Hendrik van Zyl are located. There is one national monument in the region, Mamuno, a petroglyph site that was gazette by the government of Botswana in 2006.

The Environmental and Social Management Plan for KGDEP addresses the various social safeguards risks that were identified in the social and environmental screening activities conducted in the project area. Some of these risks relate to concerns over cultural heritage. It turns out that some of the activities being undertaken in the project area, including sand and gravel mining, are having significant impacts on the cultural heritage of the area.

⁶⁰ Government of Botswana and United Nations Development Programme (2017) *Botswana Project Document: Managing the Human-Wildlife Interface to Establish the flow of Agro-ecosystem Services and Prevent Illegal Wildlife Trafficking in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands*. New York: United Nations Development Programme and Gaborone, Botswana: Government of Botswana. UNDP-GEF PIMS ID No. 5590.

⁶¹ United Nations Development Programme (2023) *UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, Policy Update 2023* New York United Nations Development Programme. Particular attention was paid to Standard 4, Cultural Heritage.

⁶² United Nations Development Programme (2017) *UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples*. New York: United Nations Development Programme.

1.3 UNDP Policy and the Level of Project Risk

The UNDP policies regarding social and environmental risk assessment were applied in the case of this ESMP. The Project-level standards which were relevant to this ESMP were as follows.

1. Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resource management
2. Climate Change and Disaster
3. Community health, Safety, and Security
4. Cultural heritage
5. Displacement and resettlement
6. Indigenous Peoples
7. Labor and working conditions.
8. Pollution prevention and Resource efficiency

All of these standards were relevant to the KGDEP project. The project falls squarely into the category of Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resource Management. The project area in the western Kalahari is subject to climate change and has had periodic droughts and other climate-related disasters. Community health, safety, and security issues are raised in situations where anti-poaching operations are on-going, and individuals and communities are at some risk of being impacted by these activities. Cultural heritage is important in the area, with the communities arguing for protection of the culturally significant sites, and protection of intellectual and cultural property rights are paramount. The KGDEP area has had a history of displacement and resettlement going back to the 19th century, and more recent efforts at resettlement have occurred in the 1990s and the new millennium. Some communities, notably Ranyane, experienced involuntary relation in 2013. Some of the communities in the areas where ranches were declared by the Ghanzi and Kgalagadi District Council and Land Boards were displaced. While Botswana does not recognize the category of Indigenous Peoples, UN policy does require accommodation of Indigenous Peoples' rights. The KGDEP area contains 14 groups numbering 27,100 people who fit the UN category of Indigenous People. Labor and working conditions relate to the communities and individuals' involvement in project activities, such as in anti-poaching operations which may put communities at risk. The standard 8 involving pollution prevention is triggered in the case of activities in Kgalagadi District which involve the removal of invasive species of plants.

The overall ranking of the project according to UN criteria is Substantial, which fits into the category of high risk. There is a diverse range of moderate risk and several issues of substantial risk identified in the SESP and in the ESMP. There are high levels of community concern about issues such as cultural heritage which were determined in the FPIC survey work in June-July 2022 (Bradley 2022).

CHAPTER 2: BIOPHYSICAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENTS

2.1 Background and overview

The area where the project is being carried out consists of two districts in western Botswana: the Kgalagadi District (figures range from 105,200 km² to 106,940 km²) and Ghanzi District (117,910 km²). The total area covered by the project is 224,850 km². These two districts make up about 38% of Botswana's total land area of 581,720 km². The region is ecologically diverse, consisting of Kalahari sands and the Ghanzi Ridge, extending from the Botswana-Namibia border northeast to the Tsau Hills. The Ghanzi Ridge made up of calcrete and limestone, and it has a high-water table unlike other areas in the Kalahari.⁶³ It is also characterized by a whole series of pans, low-lying places in the landscape where clays accumulate, and which contain water after rains. These pans have fringing sand dunes, indicating their aeolian origins. From the standpoint of uniqueness, it hosts a diverse wildlife population, some of which migrates seasonally from the southwest to the northeast. The region is important because it provides a set of landscapes which have geomorphological features that are attractive to people, livestock, and wildlife. It also has substantial ground water which was a reason for the area's attractiveness for cattle farmers beginning in the latter part of the 19th century.⁶⁴

2.2 Physiography

From a physiographic standpoint, the southwestern Kalahari region, made up of the Kgalagadi District and southern portion of Ghanzi District, is largely flat or undulating, with the exception of fossil river valleys such as the Okwa. It is characterized in some areas by east-west trending sand dunes and rolling vegetation-covered savanna countryside that is dotted with pans. These pans are shallow depressions formed by wind erosion that tend to have flat, impenetrable basins in which clays, silts, and salts accumulate. The pans are utilized by wildlife seeking salts and other nutritious materials and water in the rainy season.⁶⁵

2.3 Climate and Rainfall

The western and southwestern Kalahari is a relatively dry region, with rainfall being relatively erratic in space and time. Rainfall in the area varies between 150 and 400 mm per annum, with an average of 300 mm but varying both seasonally and on a daily basis. The wet season ('!nāhu in !Xóǀ) lasts from roughly November to April. The highest annual temperatures are reached in early spring (late August-October) between 33° and 43° C. (92°-110° degrees F.). Water loss via evaporation is highest during this time of year. The period of greatest stress for most species in

⁶³ Blair Rains, A. and A.M. Yalala (1972) *The Central and Southern State Lands, Botswana*. Tolworth, Surrey, England: Directorate of Overseas Surveys, Ministry of Overseas Development. Thomas, David S.G. and Paul A. Shaw (1991) *The Kalahari Environment*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

⁶⁴ Gillett, Simon (1969) Notes on the Settlement in the Ghanzi District. *Botswana Notes and Records* 2:52-55.

⁶⁵ Parris, Richard and Graham Child (1973) The Importance of Pans to Wildlife in the Kalahari and the Effect of Human Settlement on These Areas. *Journal of the South African Wildlife Management Association* 3(1):1-8.

the southwestern and western Kalahari is the late dry season, generally in September-October. This is true for humans, animals, plants, and other species.

2.4 Vegetation

The vegetation of the southwestern Kalahari region is characterized as southern Kalahari bush savanna and Central Kalahari bush savanna. The main tree species are *Vachellia* (*Aacacia*) *erioloba*, *Vachellia luderitzii*, and *Vachellia mellifera*, and *Boscia albitrunca* along with some *Terminalia sericea*. Shrubs include various *Grewia* species (e.g., *Grewia flava*, *Grewia retinervis*), *Dichrostachys cenera*, *Ziziphus mucronata*, and *Bauhinia macrantha*. The greatest density of trees and shrubs is on the sand ridges and on the fringes of pans. Some of the grasses include *Eragrostis lehmanniana*, *Aristida uniplumis*, *Schmidtia bulbosa*, *Panicum kalahariense*, and *Aristida meridionalis*. Vegetation zones in the project area include arid shrub savanna, southern Kalahari bush savanna, and central Kalahari bush savanna and tree savanna and northern Kalahari tree savanna.⁶⁶

Vegetation zones in the project area include arid shrub savanna, southern Kalahari bush savanna, and central Kalahari bush savanna and tree savanna and northern Kalahari tree savanna.⁶⁷ The southern Kalahari is dotted with pans, clay-line depressions in which water accumulates for a portion of the year.⁶⁸ The pans have their own kinds of vegetation associations including *Vachellia erioloba*, shrubs (e.g. *Grewia* species, *Ziziphus mucronate*) and grasses (e.g. *Aristida uniplumis*, *Eragrostis lehmanniana*, *Schmidtia bulbosa*, *Panicum kalahariense*). The western Kalahari is relatively flat or slightly undulating. In some places, notably in freehold farms and near old settlements, there are stands of prickly pear cactus (*Opuntia ficus-indica*). While this is an introduced species, it has several useful values, serving as a fallback food for livestock during drought periods. Local people exploit the fruits when they are available. An additional value of prickly pear cactuses is that they support a small insect, cochineal (*Dactylopius coccus*), which is used internationally to make carmine dye that is employed in food coloring and the manufacture of lipsticks. Several of the target communities in the KGDEP area were involved in a cochineal production project in the 1980s and early 1990s (e.g., East and West Hanahai, Groot Laagte, D'Kar), but the efforts failed because of difficulties accessing the international market.⁶⁹ This failure has caused some of the communities to be wary of projects introduced from the outside. Some communities still raise cochineal. This was an issue noted during the Free, Prior, and

⁶⁶ Weare, P.R. and A.M. Yalala (1971) Provisional Vegetation Map of Botswana. *Botswana Notes and Records* 3:131-148. Cole, Monica A.M. and R.C. Brown (1976) The Vegetation of the Ghanzi Area of Western Botswana. *Journal of Biogeography* 3:169-196.

⁶⁷ Weare, P.R. and A.M. Yalala (1971) Provisional Vegetation Map of Botswana. *Botswana Notes and Records* 3:131-148. Cole, Monica A.M. and R.C. Brown (1976) The Vegetation of the Ghanzi Area of Western Botswana. *Journal of Biogeography* 3:169-196.

⁶⁸ Lancaster, I.N. (1978) The Pans of the Southern Kalahari, Botswana. *Geographical Journal* 144(1):81-98.

⁶⁹ Bollig, Michael, Robert K. Hitchcock, Cordelia Nduku, and Jan Reynders (2000) *At the Crossroads: The Future of a Development Initiative. Evaluation of KDT, Kuru Development Trust, Ghanzi and Ngamiland Districts of Botswana*. The Hague, The Netherlands: Hivos.

Informed Consent survey reported on by Bradley in 2022 (Bradley 2022).

2.5 Human population Distribution

Ghanzi District had a population of 57,320 in 2022, while Kgalagadi had a population of 60,767 according to the 2022 Botswana Population and Housing Census.⁷⁰ Of the total of 118,087 people in the project area, approximately 27,100 people are classified as remote area dwellers or RADS. There are 14 groups of people who are seen by the UNDP as indigenous, consisting of 12 groups of San (Basarwa), one group known as the Nama, and another who call themselves Balala, the latter being found primarily in Kgalagadi District. A report on the indigenous peoples in Ghanzi and Kgalagadi has been produced as part of the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework for the KGDEP. There are 30 remote area communities (RACs) in the two districts, which are usually located either in Wildlife Management Areas or on communal (tribal) land. Many of these communities are located adjacent to pans in the area, of which there are hundreds dotting southern Ghanzi and Kgalagadi Districts. The Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework provides a summary of these communities, which are diverse.⁷¹ Some of the people in the region are in towns, including Ghanzi, Hukunsi, and Tsabong. Their livelihoods are diverse, ranging from small scale agriculture to livestock production, and from entrepreneurship to working for mining and safari companies. One can categorize the types of communities involved in the KGDEP as (1) remote area communities (RACs), (2) small communities consisting of people of diverse backgrounds, (3) freehold farm communities, (4) mining communities (e.g., at Kuke in northern Ghanzi District, and (5) towns.,

2.6 Free, Prior, and Informed Consent Survey

During the course of the implementation of the KGDEP, it was decided to target 15 of these communities for purposes of carrying out the Free, Prior and Informed Consent work. These are shown in Table 1. This survey, which was carried out for the KGDEP by James Bradley of Ecosystems for Africa, was done in June 2022 and reported on in July 2022.⁷² A summary of the findings of this report is provided here.

1. All of the target villages where the FPIC was conducted were in agreement with the KGDEP and gave their consent to the project
2. Of these, 12 gave full consent and 3 gave provisional consent. Those that that gave provisional consent asked for further information from the project authorities (West Hanahai, Ka/Gae, and Monong). This information was later supplied by the DWNP and the MENT

⁷⁰ Statistics Botswana (2022) *2022 Botswana Population and Housing Census: Preliminary Results, Volume 2*. Gaborone: Government of Botswana.

⁷¹ Hitchcock, Robert K. (2022) *Kgalagadi Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project (KGDEP) Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework*. Gaborone, Botswana: Government of Botswana and United Nations Development Program.

⁷² Bradley, James (2022) *Kgalagadi Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystem Project (KGDEP) Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Community Stakeholder Consultation-Free, Prior and informed Consent*. Gaborone: Government of Botswana and the United Nations Development Program.

3. The communities expressed a desire for greater communication on the part of the community trusts and for additional information flow from the Project Management Unit regarding plans for livelihood projects by the 6 community trusts identified in the project reset report⁷³
4. The communities wanted additional information about the ways in which they could file complaints about issues they are concerned about and how the Grievance Redress Management (GRM) system will work
5. Some of the community members in the FPIC survey recommended improvements in their relations with the Department of Wildlife and National Parks and said that they wanted to have greater information on the anti-poaching procedures of DWNP.⁷⁴ They said that they wanted to see better human rights training for DWNP and other anti-poaching officers.
6. Some community members in the FPIC survey said that they wanted more information on the Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWCC) strategy and how the various measures to reduce HWC will be implemented.
7. Concerns were expressed in some of the community meetings about the allocation process involving hunting licenses. Community members felt that they should have equitable access to the licenses being advertised.
8. Some responses of community members revolved around the importance of protecting important cultural heritage sites, and they expressed a desire for protection of cultural heritage knowledge and wanted to know how benefits from that knowledge would be shared.
9. Some of the community members expressed concern about access of women and members of vulnerable groups to project benefits and information about community livelihood projects.
10. Concerns were expressed about Cultural heritage issues and how cultural heritage would be protected.
11. The communities all wanted a greater flow of information from government and UNDP regarding how the project was proceeding and what the benefits were that were accruing to local communities and individuals in the Ghanzi and Kgalagadi Districts.
12. It was noted by some of the people who were interviewed in the FPIC survey process that there should be a disaster management plan in place, given the problems that have occurred in the region with drought, floods, and disease (wildlife, livestock, and human)

⁷³ Petersen, Caroline (2022) *Managing the human-wildlife interface to sustain the flow of agro-ecosystem services and prevent illegal wildlife trafficking in the Kgalagadi and Ghanzi Drylands: Re-set Report*. Report to the Government of Botswana and the United Nations Development Programme. 30 March 2022.

⁷⁴ For discussions of anti-poaching activities, see Evans, Segalome (2019) *Rapid Assessment Report for the Department of Wildlife and National Parks, 1 November 2018-8 March 2019*. Gaborone: Department of Wildlife and National Parks. Dikobe, Leonard and Bolt Othomile (2021a) *Evaluation of Botswana National Anti-Poaching Strategy 2014-2019*. Gaborone: Department of Wildlife and National Parks, UNDP and Global Environmental Facility (GEF). Dikobe, Leonard and Bolt Othomile (2021b) *Botswana National Anti-Poaching Strategy 2021-2026 (Zero Draft)* Gaborone: Department of Wildlife and National Parks, UNDP and Global Environmental Facility (GEF).

Table 1 contains a list of the communities that were visited during the FPIC process in June-July 2022.

District	Community	Date of Consultation	Location (Degrees, Minutes and Seconds)	Population (2022)	Land Category
Ghanzi	West Hanahai	6 June 2022	22°6'16"S 21°46'19"E	1,101 (2022)	WMA
Ghanzi	New Xade	7 June 2022	22°7'11"S 22°24'40"E	1,614 (2022)	WMA
Ghanzi	East Hanahai	8 June 2022	22°9'48"S 21°51'16"E	720 (2022)	WMA
Ghanzi	Bere	9 June 2022	22°49'17"S 21°52'30"E	874 (2022)	WMA
Ghanzi	Ka/Gae	10 June 2022	22°51'22"S 22°12'30"E	746 (2022)	WMA
No. Kgalagadi	Monong	13 June 2022	23°39'42"S 21°30'53"E	392 (2022)	Communal
No. Kgalagadi	Ncaang	14 June 2022	23°26'27"S 21°13'15"E	358 (2022)	WMA
No. Kgalagadi	Ukhwi	15 June 2022	23°33'21"S 20°29'58"E	669 (2022)	WMA
No Kgalagadi	Ngwatle	16 June 2022	23°42'33"S 21°4'41"E	461 (2022)	WMA
No. Kgalagadi	Zutshwa	17 June 2022	24°8'28"S 21°14'50"E	613 (2022)	WMA
So. Kgalagadi	Khawa	20 June 2022	26°16'54"S 21°22'7"E	1,299 (2022)	WMA
So. Kgalagadi	Struizendam	21 June 2022 and 23 June 2022	26°40'22"S 20°38'9"E	723 (2022)	Communal
So. Kgalagadi	Bokspits	22 June 2022	26°53'51"S 20°41'32"E	705 (2022)	Communal
So. Kgalagadi	Rappels Pan	23 June 2022	26°49'19"S 20°48'54"E	338 (2022)	Communal
So. Kgalagadi	Vaalhoek	24 June 2022	26°52'5"S 20°42'36"E	588 (2022)	Communal

2.7 Cultural Heritage Materials

There are Numerous Cultural Heritage sites in the KGDEP area. These include the following types of sites and landscapes:

- Hunting blinds (e.g. around pans such as Ukwi in western Kgalagadi)
- Rock art sites (engravings) (e.g. at Mamuno and in the Okwa River Valley)
- Stone Age lithic scatters
- Ceramic scatters
- Cemeteries
- Palimpsests (places with archaeological and zoological materials combined)
- Rock shelters with archaeological materials
- Historic buildings and localities of historic significance (e.g., on Clive Eaton's farm near Ghanzi and in Ghanzi, Tsabong, and Bokspits)
- Battlefield sites (e.g., inside the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, dating to 1907)
- Culturally important trees such as baobabs (*Adansonia digitata*) and Marula (*Sclerocarya birrea*)

A Cultural Heritage Management Plan CHMP was prepared for these sites as part of the social safeguards work for the KGDEP. This CHMP specifies the ways in which the sites will be protected and ways that the project will ensure equitable distribution of benefits from cultural heritage sites. Some places, such as the Okwa Valley, can be considered culturally significant landscapes and greater protection of these landscapes by government is needed as a matter of urgency. Intangible cultural heritage such as indigenous knowledge, stories, oral traditions, healing dances, performing arts, and rituals must be protected, and documentation of the intangible cultural heritage must be shared with the communities in the KGDEP area.

There are two large, protected areas in the KGDEP region – Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park (KTP) and the Central Kalahari Game Reserve. Both of these places exhibit high levels of biodiversity and contain culturally and naturally important sites and materials. There are people living on the peripheries of the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park but not inside of the park. On the other hand, there are some 350 people in five communities living in the CKGR and utilizing resources there. Social and environmental assessments have been conducted by government personnel and researchers in both of the protected areas. Unlike the Okavango Delta and the Tsodilo Hills, neither protected area is considered to be a World Heritage Site (WHS). It will be important to include not only district authorities and non-government organizations in the Cultural Heritage mitigation and protection procedures but also the National Museum and Art Gallery (NMAG).

Effective handling of Grievance Redress Mechanism procedures is also necessary, as there have been complaints about destruction of cultural property coming from communities in both Ghanzi and Kgalagadi District, some of these emanating from road construction and mining activities not directly related to the KGDEP. Additional cultural heritage surveys are needed in order to come up with a definitive inventory of important Cultural Heritage sites in the KGDEP area. It is necessary for there to be a series of training workshops developed and implemented regarding

Cultural Heritage as part of the KGDEP. A cultural heritage management specialist could be appointed to work with individual communities on local cultural heritage management plans. Thought should be given to having a museum of Cultural Heritage in the project area which displays cultural materials, information on the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of resident populations, and ways in which local peoples are involved in Cultural Heritage. The benefits of cultural heritage related activities will need to be documented carefully, and that information made available to local communities and to the public at large, while at the same time ensuring that ritually significant cultural knowledge is kept confidential.

Table 2. Summary of all management plans and procedures for the KGDEP

Step	Responsibility	Timing
Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)	UNDP CO	PPG – done
Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF)	UNDP CO	PPG – done
Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)	UNDP CO	PPG – done
Gender Action Plan (GAP)	UNDP CO	PPG – done
Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) - Livelihood Action Plan (LAP) - Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) - Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) - Cultural Heritage Management plan	UNDP CO	ESMP – done LAP - done IPP – done BAP – done CHMP - done

CHAPTER 3: MITIGATION MEASURES

3.1 Introduction

The application of the UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) identified 17 potential social and environmental risks associated with this Project. The project activities that will trigger each of these risks are in all four of the components of the KGDEP. Mitigation measures are laid out for the various risks that have been identified.

3.2 Application of the Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP)

The application of the UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) identified 17 potential social and environmental risks associated with this Project. Seven of these risks are ranked as Substantial and 10 are rated as Moderate. The project activities that will trigger each of these risks are in all four of the components of the KGDEP. Several of these had to do with Cultural Heritage.

- Poorly informed or executed project activities could damage critical habitats and change landscape suitability for threatened or endangered species and for communities.
- Project activities and approaches might not fully incorporate or reflect views of people with important cultural and biological knowledge, and therefore their information may be missed.
- Project activities involving livestock, human wildlife conflict mitigation (HWC), and corridor formation could result in some people being relocated away from their original territories and their important cultural heritage sites.
- Project activities, if they are delayed, could result in national and district-level land use shifting away from wildlife and human use to commercial ranch and cattle post establishment which would have impacts on the communities and individuals utilizing the project area.
- Project activities could lead to differential access by various segments of communities to benefits, with some individuals, including minorities, the elderly, women and girls, and people with disabilities being potentially excluded.
- There is a risk that cultural and biological heritage knowledge could be documented and not shared with the people who have that knowledge, and that the intellectual and biological property rights of the people who reside in western Botswana might therefore be compromised.
- There is a risk that the project may distribute the benefits and profits from livelihood activities in an unequal, unfair, or inappropriate manner (Component 3)
- There is a risk that the Grievance Redress Mechanism will not be in place in the project in time to ensure that grievances from stakeholders are captured and dealt with appropriately.

The various risks and their ranking are presented in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Potential social and environmental impacts and mitigation measures for the proposed project

Social and Environmental Risk	Ranking	Mitigation measures	Responsible party	Cost (USD)
1. Increased enforcement and new approaches to HWC and anti-poaching could change current access to PAs, buffer zones and resources, potentially leading to economic displacement and/or changes to property rights.	Substantial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct awareness workshops to share with the local community the importance of the anti-poaching campaigns • Creating a confidential system for local community members to share security concerns or information against poaching without disclosing the identity of the source. 	DWNP and PMU	50,000
2. Increased enforcement and new approaches to HWC could change current access to Protected areas, buffer zones and resources, potentially leading to economic displacement and/or changes to property rights (Component 1).	Substantial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure fair and just approaches to anti-poaching and ensuring of non-displacement and protection of property rights 	DWNP and PMU	25,000
3. Local governments and community associations might not have the support to implement and/or coordinate project activities successfully.	Moderate	Provide assistance to local governments and community associations, including community trusts	DWNP and PMU and NGOs	20,000
4. Poorly informed or executed project activities could damage critical habitats and change landscape suitability for threatened or endangered species, some of them crucial for craft production.	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting biodiversity survey before commencement of the project • Conduct a comprehensive baseline survey of the project area during implementation. 	DWNP and NGOs	10,000

Social and Environmental Risk	Ranking	Mitigation measures	Responsible party	Cost (USD)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of the Biodiversity Conservation Plan • Engage a competent and qualified project manager. • Engage a qualified and competent social and environmental safeguards officer to monitor and implement the ESMP 		
5. Project activities and approaches might not fully incorporate or reflect views of women and girls, and thus necessitate the need to ensure equitable opportunities for their involvement and benefit.	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure women and girls views are reflected in the Stakeholder and Gender Analysis plans and that their needs and complaints are heard 	PMU and DWNP	15,000
6. Project activities involving livestock, human wildlife conflict mitigation (HWC), and corridor formation could result in some people being relocated away from their original territories	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of status of communities and individuals in the project area 	PMU and DWNP	10,000
7. Project activities, if they are delayed, could result in national and district-level land use shifting away from wildlife and human use to commercial ranch and cattle post establishment which would have impacts on the communities and individuals utilizing the project area	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of project activities and their impacts 	PMU and DWNP	10,000
8. Project activities could lead to differential access by various segments of communities to benefits, with some individuals, including minorities, the elderly, women and girls, and people with disabilities being potentially excluded.	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of benefit distribution at community level 	PMU and DWNP	10,000
9. There is a risk that cultural and biological heritage knowledge could be documented and not	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Traditional knowledge (TK) and 	PMU and DWNP	5,000

Social and Environmental Risk	Ranking	Mitigation measures	Responsible party	Cost (USD)
shared with the people who have that knowledge, and that the intellectual and biological property rights of the people who reside in western Botswana might therefore be compromised.		assessment of community TK issues		
10. There is a risk that the project may distribute the benefits and profits from livelihood activities in an unequal, unfair, or inappropriate manner (Component 3)	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of livelihood activity reports and GRM findings 	PMU and DWNP	5,000
11. Project activities may be impacted by climate change, political changes, and the coronavirus pandemic, causing delays in consultation, Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), and feedback from communities as well as implementation of livelihood and other projects which local communities have been told that they will benefit from.	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of stakeholder reports and FPIC follow up 	PMU and DWNP	5,000
12. There is a risk that the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will not be in place in the project in time to ensure that grievances from stakeholders are captured and dealt with appropriately	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of GRM status and effectiveness 	PMU and DWNP	5,000

CHAPTER 4: MONITORING

4.1 Introduction

A monitoring and evaluation system needs to be put in place in order to track the changes that occur in the project over time. The various plans that have been laid out will provide the baseline data against which the changes will be measured. The monitoring system identifies the types of monitoring, with

Table 4: Social and Environmental Risks and monitoring strategies

Social and Environmental Risks	Parameter	Methodology	Location	Frequency
1. There is a risk that the project may not implement Stakeholder engagement in a matter that fully engages all stakeholders, particularly marginalized groups, in decisions that affect their land, culture, and rights (Component 2).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of stakeholder meetings • List of attendance to the stakeholder meetings/engagement • Number of complaints raised 	Document review	Area-wide	Monthly however this will be continuously reviewed throughout the project as frequently as the need arises.
2. Indigenous peoples including vulnerable groups might not engage in, support, or benefit from project activities (Component 2).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of IPPF and GRM information 	Document review Field inspections Questionnaire survey	Area-wide	Quarterly and whenever complaints arise
3. Anti-poaching patrols could pose safety risks to local communities if they are not properly trained, managed, or overseen (Component 1).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of trainings conducted • List of attendees for the trainings • Number of complaints recorded • Number of recorded incidents Qualification of the trainers	Document review	Proposed project location.	Monthly however this will be continuously reviewed throughout the project as frequently as the need arises
4. Anti-poaching patrols could face safety risks during encounters with poachers (Component 1).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of trainings conducted • List of attendees for the trainings 	Document review	Area-wide	Monthly

Social and Environmental Risks	Parameter	Methodology	Location	Frequency
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of complaints recorded • Number of recorded incidents • Qualification of the trainers 			
5. Local communities may resist anti-poaching efforts because of a past history of perceived abuse (Component 1).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of complaints recorded • Number of recorded incidents 	DWNP Records review	Area-wide	As the need arises
6. Incorporation of local community members into anti-poaching units or who are encouraged to take part in providing information to the Department of Wildlife and National Parks or the Botswana police or the military (the Botswana Defense Force) could lead to those individuals being ostracized from the community. There is also the chance that the anti-poaching and information-seeking actions may lead to tensions and potential conflicts within communities (Component 1).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of credible intelligence reports received • Number of poaching incidence recorded • Number of complaints recorded • Number of recorded incidents from whistleblowers and anti-poaching recruits 	DWNP Records review GRM records review	Area-wide	As the need arises
7. Increased enforcement and new approaches to HWC could change current access to Protected areas, buffer zones and resources, potentially leading to economic displacement and/or changes to property rights (Component 1).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New HWC approaches introduced • Evidence of displacement • evidence of compromising property rights 	Review of HWC incidents Documentation of resettlement and property rights restrictions	Area-wide	Monthly
8. Local governments and community associations might not have the support to implement and/or coordinate project activities successfully.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengths and weaknesses of local governments and community institutions 	Review community meeting reports	Area-wide	Monthly

Social and Environmental Risks	Parameter	Methodology	Location	Frequency
9. Poorly informed or executed project activities could damage critical habitats and change landscape suitability for threatened or endangered species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of species affected by the proposed project • Number of changes observed in the baseline data • Number of personnel engaged • Qualification of personnel engaged 	Field survey Field experiment Review of ILUMP results	Proposed project sites	Bi-annual and whenever complaints arise
10. Project activities and approaches might not fully incorporate or reflect views of women and girls, and thus necessitate the need to ensure equitable opportunities for their involvement and benefit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender breakdown documentation of women and girls reached by projects 	Field surveys based on gender	Area-wide	Monthly
11. Project activities involving livestock, human wildlife conflict mitigation (HWC), and corridor formation could result in some people being relocated away from their original territories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of project activities, HWC, and corridor conflicts 	Field surveys	Area wide	Quarterly
12. Project activities, if they are delayed, could result in national and district-level land use shifting away from wildlife and human use to commercial ranch and cattle post establishment which would have impacts on the communities and individuals utilizing the project area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of project activities and records of land use • Complaints follow-up 	Field Survey	Area-wide	Quarterly
13. Project activities could lead to differential access by various segments of communities to benefits, with some individuals, including minorities, the elderly, women and girls, and people with disabilities being potentially excluded.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviews of complaints • Community meeting records review 	Community assessments	Area-wide	Quarterly and whenever complaints arise

Social and Environmental Risks	Parameter	Methodology	Location	Frequency
14. There is a risk that cultural and biological heritage knowledge could be documented and not shared with the people who have that knowledge, and that the intellectual and biological property rights of the people who reside in western Botswana might therefore be compromised.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of documented cultural and biological heritage • Number of stakeholder engagement and consultation • Numbers of engagements on Cultural and biological heritage • List of participants in the consultation meetings 	Community Assessments, Traditional Knowledge surveys	Area-wide	Quarterly and whenever complaints arise
15. There is a risk that the project may distribute the benefits and profits from livelihood activities in an unequal, unfair, or inappropriate manner (Component 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefit distribution analysis 	Reviews of records of benefit distributions	Area-wide	Quarterly
16. Project activities may be impacted by climate change, political changes, and the coronavirus pandemic, causing delays in consultation, Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), and feedback from communities as well as implementation of livelihood and other projects which local communities have been told that they will benefit from.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of FPIC communities feedback 	Field survey	Area-wide	Monthly
17. There is a risk that the Grievance Redress Mechanism will not be in place in the project in time to ensure that grievances from stakeholders are captured and dealt with appropriately	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRM Implementation • Number of grievances recorded • Effective resolution of complaints 	GRM status review	Area-wide	Quarterly

CHAPTER 5: CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING

5.1 Capacity Building Plan

The capacity building plan is presented below. The roles and Responsibilities of each implementing partner are presented.

Table 5. Capacity needs for the Environmental and Social Management Plans

Type of training	Training content	Participants	Timeframe	Responsible party	Cost (USD)
Anti-poaching policy	Policy directives from government's anti-poaching policy documents	Government personnel and community members	2021-present	DWNP	\$6,000
Livelihoods	Livelihood plans and guidelines on implementation of these kinds of projects	Community organizations and community members	2021--present	MENT and NGOs	\$10,000
Integrated land use planning	Land use planning methods, policies, and procedures	Government, district councils, land boards, and communities	2021-present	Government ministries and NGOs	\$12,000
Monitoring and evaluation	Procedures for monitoring and evaluation (M&E)	Government, UNDP, NGOs, communities	2021-present	DWNP, PMU	\$8,000
Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP)	Provide information on tangible and intangible cultural heritage and how to mitigate risks and ensure protection	Government, UNDP, NGOs, communities	2023-present	MENT, PMU	\$8,000
Total					\$42,000

CHAPTER 6: CONCLUSION

The ESMP for the KGDEP Project lays out the procedures and plans to be employed in the project's implementation, including the Cultural Heritage Management Plan. Specific tasks need to be undertaken as part of the CHMP, which are spelled out in detail.

There are a sizable number of risks identified in the Cultural Heritage Management Plan. These include the possibility of communities being excluded from places where they obtain crucial cultural heritage materials. The main principle in the Cultural Heritage Management plan is 'do no harm.' Avoidance is not always possible when it comes to cultural heritage issues. Mitigation measures include working with communities to protect cultural heritage sites. Results from the FPIC survey reveal local concerns about cultural heritage and the desire of community members to ensure that both their tangible and incultural heritage is protected. In addition to the MENT, the National Museum and Art Gallery should be involved in identifying and proposing mitigation measures for cultural heritage. Documentation of chance finds should be kept. Cultural heritage experts from the National Museum should be engaged to work with local communities on cultural heritage issues.

This CHMP has outlined the various components of the project, specified the activities to be undertaken, addressed issues such as the Grievance Redress Mechanism, presented information on Monitoring and Evaluation, and has provided a budget for the various activities to be undertaken. Since the project is rated as a high risk project, with both substantial and moderate risks identified, it requires careful stakeholder engagement, the production of an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), a Strategic and Social Environmental Assessment (SESA), a Gender Mainstreaming and Gap Analysis report, a detailed Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) system and a Grievance Redress Mechanism to be in place to capture grievances and their solutions during the course of the project.

The CHMP is designed in such a way to ensure compliance with national level laws and to be in line with international treaties relating to cultural heritage and cultural property. Some of the sites that need to be protected include pans and their associated sip wells which ensure the possibility of water access in times of stress, thus meeting the United Nation's international human right to water. The Botswana government should consider making the Okwa Valley a legally protected cultural heritage area after consulting with local communities regarding their views on the significance of the area to their needs. Groves of high-value trees such as marula should be considered for protection by the Ministry of Agriculture. Finally, a detailed record of cultural heritage should be kept as part of the KGDEP for reference by members of the public, ensuring that confidentiality of informants is ensured.

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ANNEXES

Annex 1: Implementation Action Plan - Timetable Social and Environmental Safeguards Work – Kgalagadi-Ghanzi Drylands Ecosystems Project (KGDEP).

Activity	June 2023	July 2023	August 2023	September 2023	October 2023	November 2023
Free Prior and Informed Consent Report Follow-up	X					
Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Report	X					
Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF)	X					
Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP)	X			X		
Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) Assessment and Updating Responses				X		
Capacity-building and training activities at community level	X	X	X	X		
Cultural Heritage Management Plan				X		
Response to Comments on Closure Report						X
Final Report						X

Appendix Annex 2. Projects under Component 2 of the KGDEP

Responsible Party	Output	Work Package	WMA Block	Trust/s	Village/s	Technical Guidance
Firm/NGO	2.1	Establishment of highway craft center with refurbished supply centres in GH 10 villages and buyer networks	GH10	Wakarusa Community Trust	Kac/gae, East Hanahai, West Hanahai	DWNP with LEA
BTO	2.1	Pan campsite expansion to enable ecotourism and conservation work of Ngwatle community	KD1	Nqwaa Khobe Yeya Trust	Ngwatle	BTO with LEA
Firm/NGO	2.1	Veld product centre in Bere for processing of sustainably harvested and/or cultivated Devil's Claw and other medicinal plants	GH11	Au Shee Xha, Ulu Trust	Bere	DFRR with LEA
BTO	2.1	Expansion of Khawa village campsite in support of community incomes from related ecotourism initiatives	KD15	Khawa Kopanelo Development Trust	Khawa	BTO with LEA
-	2.1	Sustainable expansion of salt production from Zutshwa	KD2	Qhaa Qhing Conservation Trust	Zutshwa	DEA with LEA

Responsible Party	Output	Work Package	WMA Block	Trust/s	Village/s	Technical Guidance
		pan with extracted brackish groundwater (a common property natural resource with measurable value to the community - CBNRM Policy)				
-	3.2	Strengthening of Boravast charcoal and fodder businesses and value chains to enhance ecological and business sustainability	BV	Boravast Trust	Bokspits, Rappelspan, Vaalhoek and Struizendam	DFRR with LEA

Note: Adapted from Petersen (20220; the rough costs for these projects total US\$1.200,000

Figure 1. Grievance Redress Mechanism Process

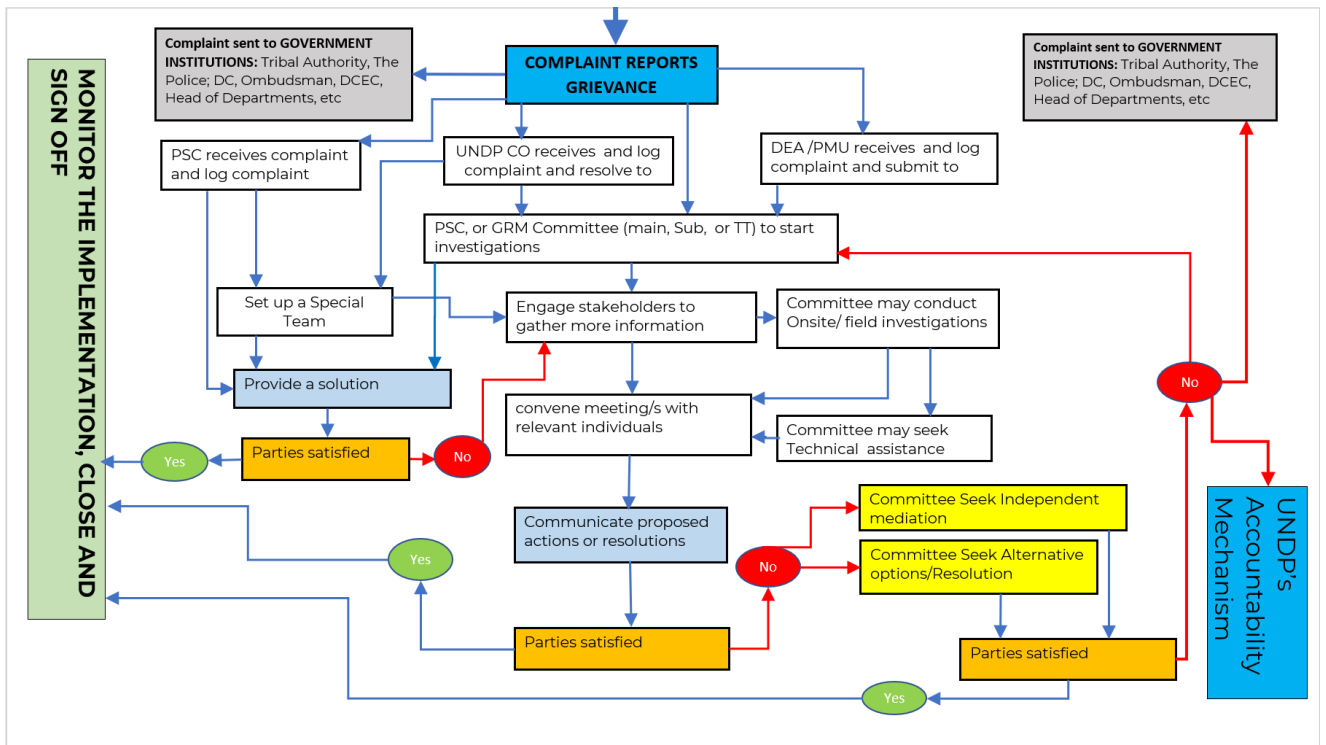


Figure 2. Map Showing part of KGDEP area with GH 10 and GH11 in Ghanzi District

Figure 3. Key Elements in the UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES)

