

# Desert Research Foundation of Namibia

## Annual Report 2001



*"enhancing decision-making for  
sustainable development"*

*The Desert Research Foundation of Namibia is dedicated to furthering understanding and competence to appropriately manage arid environments for sustainable development*

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# Executive Summary

The slogan for the DRFN, "enhancing decision-making for sustainable development" has turned out in practice to mean "never a dull moment".



Twenty-nine staff members and associates were part of the DRFN for the entire period, and our numbers varied between 39 and 43. Fourteen people left for study or other positions, and 14 new people joined the organization. On top of these were interns, exchange students, MSc or PhD students and other shorter-term associates, all of whom made a very substantial contribution to DRFN activities and represent a key component of our overall programme.



In addition to the staff and implementation partners, the DRFN worked with a number of rural communities. Interactions in projects, planning development activities and just plain being friends were all part of the business.

The DRFN, together with its consortium partner the Namibian Economic Policy Research Unit (Nepu), implemented the community interaction and support component of Namibia's Programme to Combat Desertification (Napcod). A rewarding highlight of the interaction was the award by the Namibia Nature Foundation to Sarah Bock (*left*) from Nico-Nord, one of the Napcod pilot sites. This recognised her outstanding contributions to sustainable development, and served as proof that rural communities can indeed push back poverty by diversifying their livelihood and reversing the trend of land degradation.

*Sarah Bock, winner of the 2001 NNF Award for her outstanding contribution to sustainable development. Although not a DRFN employee, her home community of Nico Noord near Gibeon is one of the Napcod pilot sites.*

DRFN was proud to see Charlie Shanyengana (*right*) obtain his Ph.D for his work over the last 3 years on groundwater salinisation, fog collection and desalination, conducted at Gobabeb.



DRFN's sphere of influence during 2001 was spread countrywide and across many sectors of the environmental and economic stage in Namibia. The projects, which covered issues such as desertification, waste management, renewable energy and management of river basins, demonstrate the diversity of the organisation's interests. At the same time, they are all directed towards one main goal, to help the country develop sustainably within the realities of our arid environment.



Preparations for the Desertification 2000 – 2002 Conference Process 'Alternative ways to combat desertification – connecting community action with science and common sense', took up a lot of time and energy during 2001 in the lead up to the main Conference in April 2002. None of this was wasted, as the Conference was very successful and productive.



Delegates of the concluding Synthesis Workshop held at Gobabeb, April 2002

Funding from eight organisations was secured, which allowed for thorough preparations with the communities that were involved, and for assisting delegates from many countries in Africa and the rest of the world to participate. The overall conclusion of the Conference was that connecting community action with science *is* possible and *is* necessary, but it doesn't happen automatically nor easily. It takes time, funding and dedication, as the preparations for the Conference amply showed.

**Water - related projects**



*The Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Topnaar farmers and municipalities of Walvis Bay and Swakopmund are just some of the parties using the water resources of the Kuiseb River.*

A basin-wide approach to water resource management is being tested in the DRFN project entitled Environmental Learning and Action in the Kuiseb (ELAK). This started in October 2001, and is one of two pilot projects testing this component of the draft Water Resources Management Act. Initial moves to bring agreement on a common vision for the river basin, from a diverse array of stakeholders, were very successful. Early results of this project have highlighted the value of integrated and cross-sectoral planning, and how an environmental organisation can act as a facilitator in this process.

The projects "Every River has its People" and "Water and Ecosystem Resources in Regional Development" also emphasise the basin-wide approach in water resources management, in this case of the Okavango River Basin. The Communications Unit of DRFN was involved in materials production for these two projects.



*A community meeting at Sesfontein discussing use of natural resources in the area with the help of a large 'map' drawn on the ground.*

The Hoanib River Catchment Study ended in June 2001, with the final 4 months of the project devoted mainly to writing up and telling the communities in the study area about the findings. Concerns are rising about the heavy extraction of groundwater in the small towns of Erwee and Sesfontein, which is affecting downstream settlements.

**Waste**

The State of the Environment Report on Waste Management and Pollution Control was concluded in July 2001. This project was undertaken by the Namibian Global Research consultancy group (NGRcc), advised and assisted by the DRFN. The head of the NGRcc has since gone on to develop his own advisory group focused on waste management in north-central Namibia.



*Audit of the composition of domestic waste being carried out in Windhoek. A finding of the study was that most local authorities keep no records of the quantity or composition of the waste they generate, making it difficult to implement any proper management.*

**Energy**

During 2001, the renewable energy interests of the DRFN received a boost with integration of the Renewable Energy Information Network of Namibia (Reinnam) into the DRFN while remaining housed in the Polytechnic of Namibia. Several projects directed at the Gobabeb Centre and our Communications Unit flowed from this association. The Ministry of Mines and Energy has emerged as an important partner for the DRFN.

**Training and research**

The DRFN at Gobabeb (Drago), representing one of two founding partners of the Joint Venture forming the Gobabeb Training and Research Centre, coordinated research and training at the Gobabeb Centre during the year under review. Particular progress was made by the !nara project wherein numerous international researchers are integrated into the ongoing !nara resource management programme identified by the Topnaar Community Foundation.



*Newly erected buildings at the Gobabeb Centre were designed to make optimum use of renewable energy, as these solar panels demonstrate.*



*Students on the Namibian Environmental Education Certificate course interviewing wood carvers on the issue of deforestation.*

↓ Working closely with the international NGO, Ibis, under the Namibian Institute for Education Development (Nied), and in collaboration with Rhodes University, the DRFN is responsible for developing an Environmental Education Certificate. This qualification, now accredited by the Polytechnic of Namibia, equips school leavers and higher-level students with environmental knowledge that can be brought into various curricula.

↓ The Summer Desertification Programme (SDP) undertook its tenth summer training programme with students from the country's tertiary education institutions. In conjunction with the Department of Water Affairs, students investigated the implications of supplying water to livestock in north-central Namibia via the Etaka Canal rather than providing purified piped water. The general state of the environment was assessed and correlated with socio-economic information, to provide recommendations to Water Affairs and the local communities.



*Students on the Summer Desertification Project investigating water issues on the Etaka Canal, north-central Namibia.*

### Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development

Early in 2001, the DRFN was appointed to serve as the NGO Secretariat for Namibia's preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development. In this role, the DRFN carried out a number of awareness and other activities in conjunction with the Directorate of Environmental Affairs, the Namibia Nature Foundation and other stakeholders.

*The WSSD Secretariat for Namibia. DRFN members are labelled, the others are Sem Shikongo (top) and Teo Nghitiila (both DEA) and Catherine Odada (UNDP).*

*Margareth Gustavo, Awareness Campaign Coordinator*      *Jefta Goreseb, NGO Liasson Officer*



*Anna Matros, Project Coordinator*

### Networking and other activities

A good feature in Namibia is the close collaboration between government departments and non-governmental agencies, something that is rare elsewhere in Africa. This 'role-model' approach is being promoted beyond our borders through the SADC-DRFN Desertification Interact project (SDDI), which started in October 2001. The objective is to enhance communication throughout the SADC region amongst government and NGO focal points implementing National Action Plans under the UN Convention to Combat Desertification.

In addition to all the projects described above, staff members were involved in a wide variety of smaller projects, projects organised by various partners and in networking locally and internationally. This participatory approach supports existing projects and helps to identify new and different avenues of contributing to sustainable development.



### Core functions and activities

Core functions of the DRFN are designed to support ongoing programmes and projects and address the long term sustainability of the organisation itself. Core functions were organised as Administration (with a human resource function), Finance, Marketing and Communications Units, and an Information Technology (IT) Committee. Consolidating the various training programmes into a training unit is still underway.

*Mandine van Wyk, always busy taking phone calls and coordinating messages and day-to-day logistics of the DRFN.*

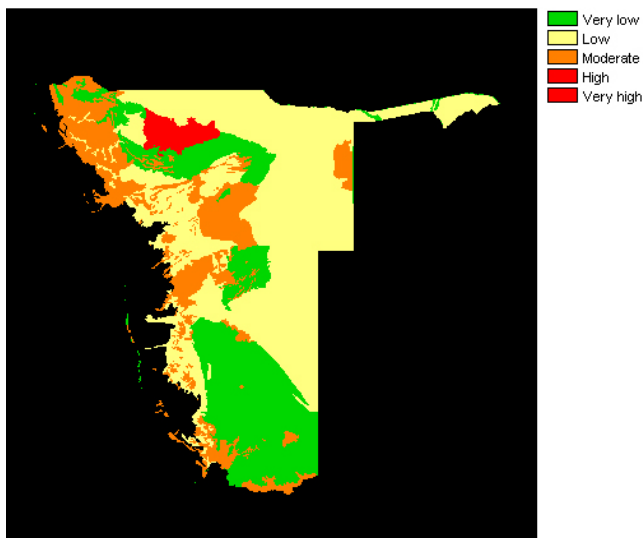
For the DRFN, the year under review was a busy one. Closing the Hoanib and Waste projects and starting up ELAK, SDDI and environmental education projects meant some turnover in staffing and minor changes in direction. Capacity building remains, nevertheless, a central focus both for our staff and for the natural resource managers and users with whom we work. The Board of Trustees supported us throughout this dynamic period and contributed advice and new directions when these proved to be essential for the well being of the DRFN.

# Namibia's Programme to Combat

*Napcod supports selected resource users and user groups to manage their renewable natural resources sustainably, with the aim of combating desertification and improving the livelihoods of rural Namibians.*

## Major accomplishments and outputs

➤ Four primary desertification indices were developed resulting in a degradation risk map for Namibia. Annual risk maps for the period 1970 - 2001 were produced.



*Map of Namibia showing the severity of risk to desertification, compiled by Napcod as part of the national-level desertification monitoring system.*

➤ Considerable success was achieved in raising awareness among Service Organisations about the need for integrated service provision to communities and resource users. For example, various Service Organisations are directly involved in Integrated Planning with Community Based Organisations in Grootberg and Oskop.

➤ Oskop Conservancy elaborated an integrated workplan with relevant service providers for the first quarter of 2002. Important service providers reflected in this workplan were Napcod, Directorate of Extension and Engineering Services (DEES) and the Namibia Development Trust (NDT). This workplan will be used as the basis for monitoring and assessment of progress.

*A rangeland survey being carried out in the Onkani area, with the involvement of Napcod staff and community members.*



# Desertification (Napcod)



➤ Several exchange visits were organised between communities in the different project areas. Both the Onkani and Oskop communities visited the Grootberg Conservancy during 2001 and gained valuable knowledge and experience from each other. A Grootberg community member (Gabes Goagoseb) acted as the resource person during the Oskop Integrated planning in December 2001. Exchange visits between Namibian and South African rural communities took place as part of the Desertification 2002 initiative.

➤ Training courses on various topics including hospitality, conflict resolution, development of management plans and financial and business management, were provided to communities.

➤ Communities learned more about the bio-physical and socio-economic conditions in their own areas through their participation in baseline studies that were done in Grootberg, Onkani, Oskop, Nico, Tsub/gaus and Blankenese.



*Grootberg community members involved in assessing their livestock as part of their improved rangeland management programme.*

➤ Napcod contributed a resource paper and facilitated a workgroup at the Environmental Monitoring and Indicator Network (EMIN) annual workshop held at Mitgard in June 2001.

➤ Patrik Klintonberg participated in a workshop "Implementing the UNCCD - past experiences and future challenges", held in Denmark in February 2002.

➤ A successful evaluation of Napcod was done by the BMZ towards the end of 2001. The final report is still being awaited. A planning session is scheduled for May 2002 to plan the possible extension of the project into a next phase.

➤ A Napcod documentation centre was established and is operational.

## Capacity building

Staff member	Training received
Sigi Gustafson	QuickBooks Pro
Gabes Nawaseb	Conflict Management, First Aid, Hospitality, Tourguiding.
Arnold Gaseb	First Aid, Hospitality, Tourguiding, Project Proposal Writing.
Nickey Gaseb	Project Proposal Writing, First Aid
Vazembua Muhurukwa	Left for Holland in September 2001 to undertake an M.Sc in Natural Resource Management.

## Funding

Napcod is funded through a grant from the Federal Republic of Germany through GTZ, which amounted to N\$ 1.3 million.

# Desertification 2000 - 2002

***The UN Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD) focuses heavily on participation of communities, and less on scientific research. Even though information from research can and does help communities in their immediate activities to improve their livelihoods and preserve their environment, there is no appropriate framework to accommodate this type of knowledge exchange.***

***The main aim of this project was to enhance the exchange of knowledge between scientists and communities, in a Conference Programme entitled 'Desertification 2000 - 2002: Connecting Community Action with Science and Common Sense'.***

## Major accomplishments and outputs

- Activities during 2001 focussed on preparing selected Namibian, Zambian and South African communities for their participation in the Conference Programme.
- The entire Conference Process enhanced the awareness of desertification by involved communities. Capacity building was done with six communities, through exchange visits in May 2001 (involving exposure to other communities and their projects), a communication workshop at the Gobabeb Centre in November 2001 and hospitality training at their own settlements. Also, these communities improved their tourism capacities by upgrading of facilities (April 2001, January/February 2002).

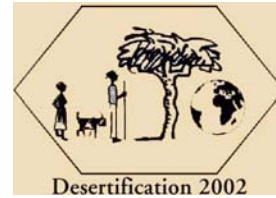


*Exchange visits between communities have proved to be very successful in spreading ideas and introducing different forms of livelihood. Here, Kuiseb visitors to the Paulshoek community, South Africa, help with a garden project during a community exchange visit in May 2001, as part of the preparations for the Desertification Conference.*

*Meetings were held with selected communities to facilitate their active participation during the Conference Process.*



# Conference Process



*Desertification Secretariat representative Petra Moser (second from left) working with Grootberg community members.*

➤ The Desertification 2002 Secretariat held three planning visits to all the communities to establish and clarify the programme and the roles of the communities, identify communication channels and focal persons, and to assist in the review and production of information brochures.

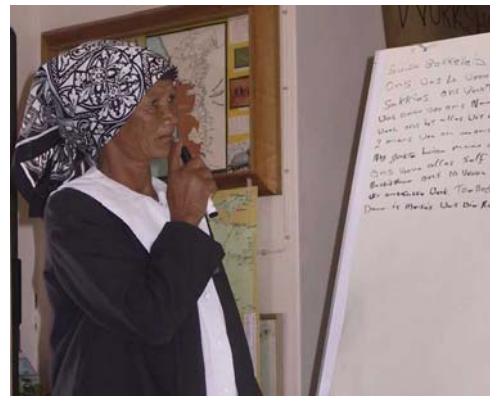
➤ The Third Announcement of the Conference was distributed timeously, giving ample promotion of the Conference worldwide.

➤ Funding was sought and secured for all the community activities and the Conference itself, through writing proposals and actively following them up (see list below).

➤ Selection of posters and papers was done to keep the presentations within the theme of the Conference. A data-base of all the participants and their involvement was established and kept up to date.

➤ Newsletters were produced documenting the community exchange visits and other preparatory activities, thus keeping all the communities and the other involved people up to date. All the involved communities were fully committed to the Conference Process by the end of February 2002, just 5 weeks prior to the start of the activities.

➤ A webpage was developed and kept up to date, so that information from the Conference Process would be accessible to an international audience.



*Katrina Scheepers of Suid Bokkeveld, RSA presents group work at the Communication Preparation Workshop at Gobabeb in November 2001.*

## Funding sources & budget

Funding, for helping international participants to attend, community preparation and training, totaled N\$ 5 million. This was received from:

Canadian International Development Authority (CIDA),  
Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA),  
Desert Research Foundation of Namibia (DRFN),  
Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA),  
Directorate of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT),  
Global Mechanism to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (GM),  
United National Development Programme (UNDP),  
US Agency for International Development (USAID).

In-kind support was received from the six participating rural communities, as well as :  
Directorate of Environmental Affairs (DEA),  
Desert Research Foundation of Namibia (DRFN) and its Napcod and Elak programmes, and the SA National Botanical Institute (NBI).

# Environmental Learning and

*ELAK was established to implement and test a new approach to facilitate communication and cooperation amongst all decision-makers within the Kuseb River Basin. It focuses on information and data sharing, education and outreach, and facilitation of community involvement.*



*A workshop with the Topnaar Community at the #Aonin Campsite in the Kuseb riverbed near Walvis Bay.*

## Major accomplishments and outputs

- ↓ ELAK is the first project addressing Basin Management in Namibia and requires major new relationship building involving all levels of government and other stakeholders. The Kuseb stakeholders forum was established and roles of the different stakeholders were identified. All the stakeholders agreed on a common vision: A healthy Kuseb River Basin.
- ↓ A Stakeholder Planning Workshop was held at Gobabeb, where stakeholders were updated on each others' activities. The workshop also included planning for the establishment of a Basin Management Committee.
- ↓ The full support of the Namibia Water Resources Management Review was given to the ELAK project and its role to establish a Kuseb Basin Committee.

*A strong flow in the lower Kuseb River - an important event for the livelihood of people and animals far beyond the extent of the floodwaters.*



# Action in the Kuiseb (ELAK)

↓A one-day community workshop was held in the Kuiseb Valley. As a consequence, the Topnaars' perception regarding the DRFN is changing and they expressed their appreciation for the DRFN's efforts to assist them. They regard ELAK as a vehicle through which the community will be able to raise their concerns to a wider forum. Future training needs that will be addressed through the project were identified.

↓The Gobabeb Centre, as a founding member of the Environmental Observatory Network of Namibia (EONN), plays an important role in ELAK, monitoring aspects of climate change, people, plants and animals throughout the Kuiseb basin. Monitoring of hydrology, productivity and other biophysical factors, that have been started at Gobabeb, were continued under the ELAK programme.

↓A brochure was developed and distributed, aimed at keeping stakeholders, communities and interested parties informed of project activities.

↓A poster on ELAK, and a powerpoint presentation, were compiled for the Gobabeb Centre, to inform visitors of the project's objectives and activities.

## Partners and Stakeholders

The following people and organisations have a potential influence on the water resources of the Kuiseb River basin. They are all stakeholders in the Elak programme:

- Topnaar community
- Commercial farmers
- Ministry of Environment and Tourism
- Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development:
  - Department of Water Affairs
  - Department of Rural Water Supply
  - Directorate of Extension and Engineering Services
  - Namibia Water Resources Management Review
- Walvis Bay Municipality
- Swakopmund Municipality
- NamWater
- Rossing mine
- Erongo and Khomas Regional Councilors
- Gobabeb Training and Research Centre

## Capacity building activities of staff

Staff member	Activity
André Botes	Maastricht School of Business: Executive MBA, 18 months up to February 2002
Jefta Goreseb	UNAM: 3-week GIS training course

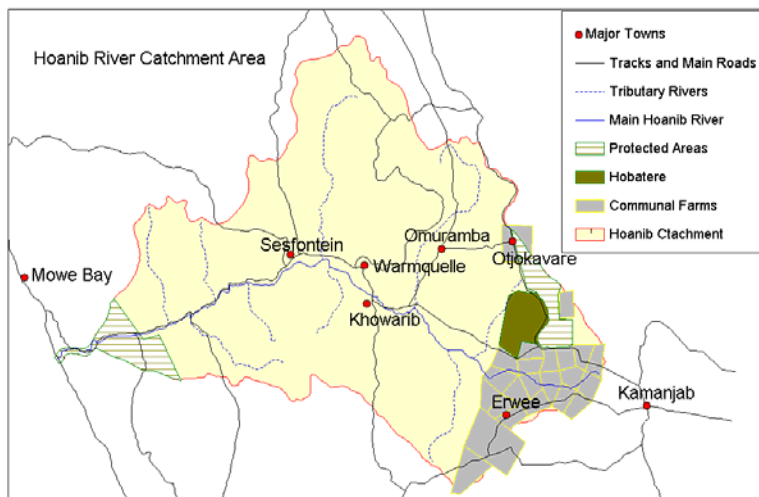
## Funding

ELAK is funded by the European Commission and the DRFN. The 2001 project budget was N\$1,3million, of which the EU contributed 55%.

# Hoanib River Catchment Study

*The study examined the socio-economic and biophysical situation, as well as government policy, on environmental issues important for sustainable use of natural resources and development in the Hoanib River Catchment. It examined present land uses and living conditions, and suggested alternatives to existing demands and expectations.*

Water is the single most important natural resource in the dry north-west. Essential natural resources such as grazing and browse are limited by the amounts, spatial distribution and timing of the rains. These resources are required for survival by communities, their domestic stock and wildlife. Water was the major focus of the study: where it comes from, how the catchment works and who is using it.



This was a 4-year project that was concluded in mid-2001, and which involved government ministries and departments and local NGOs.

Local communities were an integral part of the project, as a collaborative process was used to collect data, identify problems and disseminate results.

## Major achievements and outputs

Water occurs in the area in seasonal and permanent springs and their associated wetlands, in the ephemeral flows of the rivers, and in boreholes. While water supplies are obviously limited, it is not water *per se* that limits the occurrence of wildlife and domestic livestock, but the availability of grazing and browse for them.

However, rising water consumption in the catchment is a growing concern. People living in rural areas, who fetch and carry their own water, use about 15 litres per person per day. By comparison, consumption in the settlements of Erwee and Sesfontein, where piped water is available, was found to be about 60 l/p/d, and these urban centres are growing. Already, the impacts of this rising extraction of water is noticeable in the catchment. Wetlands in the Hoanib that were permanent until the early 1990s, are now seasonal.



Wildlife in this barren area, especially elephants, rhino and giraffe, as well as gemsbok, springbok and Hartman's zebra, form a major part of the tourism attraction in this area. With the exception of elephants and zebra, these animals are not heavily dependant on open water for their survival, but they all tend to concentrate in the Hoanib River bed and in the tributaries during the dry season, when grazing is limited.

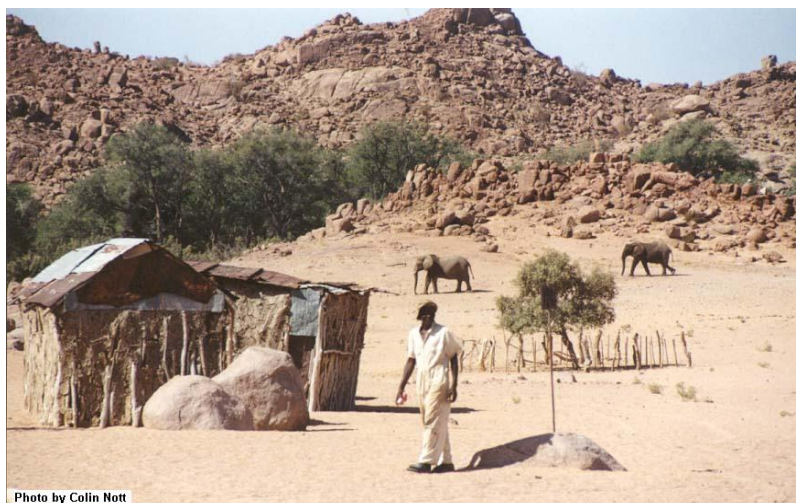


Photo by Colin Nott

Elephants can and do pose problems to local communities, as they can damage water points and raid the meagre crops that are cultivated. Professional hunting of elephants and culling of 'problem' individuals are matters that need to be resolved by the conservancy committees in conjunction with local concession holders and officials in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism.



*Soil erosion occurs by natural processes of wind and water, but is exacerbated by human impacts such as livestock trampling and off-road vehicle use.*

Other potential conflicts in the area include escalating and uncontrolled tourism and its impacts on this fragile landscape; interactions between and among NGOs, government ministries and local people of different language groups; and rising expectations of local residents.

### **Capacity building**

Community researchers received training in use of GPS, report writing, wildlife identification and English language skills. Furthermore, brochures and pamphlets were produced in English, Afrikaans, Otjiherero and Damara, presenting the outcomes of the study and other information on the region.

### **Funding**

The study was funded by Sida and the final budget was N\$ 2 793 412 over the 4-year period.

# Environmental Education

***The overall objective of the Supporting Environmental Education in Namibia (SEEN) project is to implement the environmental education policy in the educational sector in Namibia. DRFN's role during 2001-2002 was to develop and implement a professional development course, that would be provided to educators in the informal sector.***

## Major accomplishments and outputs

↓ DRFN staff member Georgie Frohlich is Chairperson of the Namibian Environmental Education Network (NEEN). In 2001 she started implementing a Namibian Environmental Education Certificate course for adults.

The model for the course is the 'Rhodes/Gold Fields Participatory Course in Environmental Education', which has been 'Namibianised'. The Polytechnic of Namibia, in conjunction with Rhodes University (SA), has subsequently accredited the course.

↓ Georgie's visit to Rhodes University in October 2001 to attend a research methodology course strengthened the linkages between DRFN and Rhodes, as well as other organisations such as the SADC Regional Environmental Education Centre.

↓ Nailoke Shilunga attained her advanced certificate in EE from Unisa in February 2002. She also started attending the Namibian Environmental Education Certificate course in early 2002, with a view to becoming a tutor in 2003.



*A candidate on the Namibian Environmental Education Certificate course gathering information on use of natural resources as part of the course requirements.*

## Partners and Stakeholders

Ministry of Basic Education, Sport and Culture  
Ibis

Namibian Environmental Education of Namibia (NEEN)

Rhodes University

Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa

Polytechnic of Namibia

Stakeholders in the project include all government ministries, non-governmental and community-based organisations, and industries within the informal sectors who work with environmental education or within environmental fields.

## Funding

Danida/Danced funds the project to a total of N\$1,544,415.00 over 3 years.

# Summer Desertification Programme (SDP)

*The SDP gives training in research and environmental problem-solving for tertiary students and recent graduates in Namibia. The main aim is to provide future decision-makers with tools to address environmental challenges to sustainable development.*



The theme of SDP10 (2001/2002) was to investigate water use and environmental conditions along the Etaka Canal in north-central Namibia. This was to address a request from the Department of Water Affairs to assess the option of providing water to livestock in the area of Lake Oponono via the Etaka Canal, rather than providing purified piped water.

To do this, the students had to develop an understanding of the water balance of the Etaka Canal system. They also had to assess settlement and livelihoods in the area, which brought a social perspective to the study.

## Major achievements and outputs:

It was found that settlement has recently increased greatly in the area, with the population almost doubling between 1996 and 2001. This was because of the availability of good grazing and unoccupied pieces of land. Now, however, there is clear evidence of overgrazing and deforestation.

In future, residents will probably be charged for using pipeline water, and therefore they may want to look for other sources of freely available water. Olushandja Dam, which feeds the Etaka Canal, loses much of its water from evaporation. Although the Etaka Canal also suffers losses from evaporation, less would be lost if water was released into the Canal for it to be used for livestock and other purposes.

Report-backs were given to the communities that were involved, technical staff of the DWA and dignitaries and interested parties that attended the January 2002 Gobabeb Information Weekend. The process of doing the physical work and analyses increased the understanding of the issue for the graduates, and this was passed on to the community members and decision-makers. A full paper, to be published in the Occasional Papers of the DRFN series, is being prepared.



## Partners

Department of Water Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development  
 Namibia's Programme to Combat Desertification  
 Ministry of Environment and Tourism  
 University of Namibia; Polytechnic of Namibia; College of Agriculture  
 Grinnell College, USA  
 Gobabeb Training and Research Centre  
 Swedish International Development Authority  
 OIKE and Interviewees: 50 rural residents

# DRFN at Gobabeb (Drago)

*The DRFN at Gobabeb coordinates training and research undertaken at the Gobabeb Training and Research Centre on behalf of the Gobabeb Centre.*

## Major accomplishments and outputs

↓ Successful training courses were conducted for student groups from the University of Namibia, the Polytechnic and various Colleges of Education, as well as from other international universities. Formalised relationships with research and training institutions were maintained, and documented curriculae were developed for Namibian tertiary education courses.

↓ Namibian and international intern trainees were accommodated, supervised and evaluated.

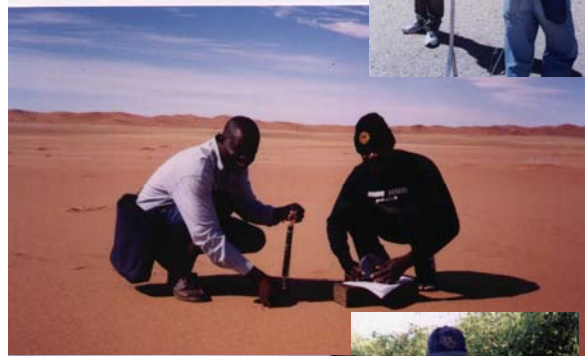
↓ Similar support and supervision was provided to visiting researchers, film teams and journalists when necessary.

↓ The good working association that had been built up in previous years with the Topnaar community was maintained, especially with regard to the Inara project.

↓ Several project proposals were written and negotiated. For instance, Danced projects on alternative energy use at Gobabeb are now going ahead.

↓ Gobabeb is the first established site for Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) in the Environmental Observatories Network of Namibia (EONN). EONN projects such as monitoring of meteorological data, dune movement and population studies of fauna and flora were continued at Gobabeb and satellite sites.

↓ DRFN's Joh Henschel, the Chairperson of EONN and of the Environmental Long-Term Observatories of Southern Africa (ELTOSA), participated in various international conferences and workshops related to EONN activities.



*Examples of various environmental monitoring activities undertaken at Gobabeb by DRFN staff.*



**Visiting scientists/ film teams**

<b>Person involved</b>	<b>Area of interest</b>
Nina Gruntkowski	Cognition of landscape and environment, and how this relates to resource use by the Topnaars living along the Kuiseb
Markus Müller & Carolin Mayer	!nara groundwater relations
Kazuharu Mizuno	Relationship between environmental change and human activity
Allan Muth	Population biology of lizards
Clarke Scholtz	Neuroptera and Scarabaeoidea of the southern Namib
Heather Viles	Geomorphological weathering
Klaus Birkhofer	White lady spiders
Mathew Baddock	Dynamics of interdune and dune areas
Phil Brownell	Scorpions
Michael Smith	Prehistory of deserts
Jennifer Lalley	Lichen management
Bernadette Gilbertas	Natural history of the Namib (journalist)
John Carathers	Natural history of the Namib (journalist)
Graeme Coulson	Behavioural ecology
Anja de Jong	Gobabeb station buildings (artist & photographer)
BBC	Natural history - dunes
Claudia Gack	!nara
John Blair, Alan Knapp, David Hartnett, Tony Joern	LTER
Amelia Hunt	Lichen ecophysiology
Thomas Nørgaard	White Lady spider navigation
Rüdiger Wehner	spider and ant navigation
Berit Hachfeld	Namib plant community ecology
Sonja Iwanek	resource management by Topnaar households
Markus Oetjens	Inselberg geography
Sonya Gowtge	carnivore disease transmission
Guy Cowlshaw	baboon resources and social organisation
Petra Moser	!nara
Nigel Bennett	golden moles
Kathleen Weathers	fog water quality
Charlie Shanyengana	renewable water source management
Jane Waterman & Jim Roth	ground squirrels
Grant Kirkman	NO flux in Namib soils
Sue Armstrong	Gobabeb in action (journalist)
Pia Busch	Gobabeb in action (film)
Kabel-1 Fernsehen	Namib dunes

The researchers in this list represented universities and research institutions from all over the world, according to the following breakdown:

South Africa	2 institutions
Europe	17
USA	7
Australia and Japan	3

**Budget**

The DRFN at Gobabeb ran on a budget of approximately N\$ 500 000 during 2001-2002.

# SADC - DRFN Desertification Interact (SDDI)

*All 14 SADC countries are implementing the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), with varying degrees of success. SDDI aims to enhance the ability of these countries to systematically exchange information and experience concerning their National Action Plans and Sub-Regional Action Plans, to improve implementation of the Convention.*

## Major accomplishments and outputs

- ↓ An inception workplan was drafted for the period October 2001 – April 2002.
- ↓ Core partners (GTZ-CCD, SADC-ELMS, SADC Hub and DRFN) took part in a joint planning meeting in early November 2001.
- ↓ The project was promoted amongst National Focal Points (NFPs) and NGOs in SADC through information dissemination. Face-to-face meetings were held with NFPs in 3 countries: Botswana, Swaziland & Mozambique.



## Partners and stakeholders

Partners	Role/Relationship
SADC-Environment and Land Management Sector (ELMS)	Give sub-regional legitimacy to the project
14 UNCCD National Focal Points in SADC member states	beneficiaries
GTZ-CCD	Donor providing financial support and advice
SADC Hub	Increase awareness of the countries' National Action Plans among donors
Global Mechanism	Provide support and help mobilize resources for the National Focal Points

## Funding

The project is funded through the German government's GTZ-CCD, totalling Euro191,904.00 from October 2001 - ??

# World Summit on Sustainable Development



***As the Secretariat for Namibia's preparation for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), DRFN aimed to improve the ability of social organisations and NGOs to work together with government, prior to the Summit. This would serve to place social, economic and environmental issues and solutions on the world agenda in ways favoring both the poor and the environment.***

## Major accomplishments and outputs

↓ DRFN was chosen by the Namibian NGO Forum (Nangof) to act as Secretariat for Namibia's Preparation for the World Summit, in August 2001. The Preparation Committee included 3 DRFN members as well as two representatives from the Directorate of Environmental Affairs (Sem Shikongo and Theo Nghitila) and Catherine Odada from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

↓ Anna Matros (pictured right), the PrepCom Coordinator, travelled widely to share information and to ensure Namibia's concerns would be properly presented.



↓ The Secretariat arranged for the President to act as Patron for the WSSD preparation process. Also, it secured an NGO position on the official delegation that would attend the Summit. These actions ensured a high profile for the WSSD preparation and created the channel for communication of the views of Namibian civil society.

↓ The Secretariat established working relationships with stakeholders for WSSD, and acted as the information centre for all interested parties. A website (address) was created for this purpose. Close contact, mainly via email, was maintained with all partners at national and SADC level, and with the African Steering Committee.

↓ By workshoping with other civil society groups, pertinent Namibian issues for the Summit were identified, early drafts of the National Assessment report were compiled, and the Namibian Civil Society Position for WSSD was developed.

## Funding

Ibis committed N\$464 000 from June 2001 to May 2003, for the purpose of increasing participation and political influence of civil society prior to the Summit.

# Networking

**Staff in all DRFN programmes and projects and in project-support roles are involved in networking. In certain projects (eg SDDI) this is their main function. The strong emphasis on networking is to enhance communication and exchange amongst partners within Namibia, the southern African region and globally.**



*Skill in explaining and communicating the findings of a project are as important as the results themselves. Information is disseminated from the DRFN through its many links with other people and organisations. Here, two delegates at the Desertification 2002 Conference discuss the situation at Paulshoek, one of the South African communities that participated in the Conference.*

Activity	Outputs
Biodiversity Task Force: - Biota Liaison Working Group - Biotrade Working Group - Environmental Observatories Network of Namibia, - Terrestrial Monitoring Group, - Mountain Ecosystem Group, - Finance Committee.	Contributions to discussion Contributions to discussion Chair of EONN contributing to design and development Contributions to discussion Contributions to discussion Contributions to discussion
Namibia Biomass Energy Management Programme  - Study on biomass energy - Study on energy and gender - Technical report on kitchen management - Market survey - Monthly Steering Committee meetings - Pilot projects in north-central	Secretariat; organised SADC Programme for Biomass Energy Conservation for SA countries, regional Steering Committee Report Report Report Report Minutes Report
Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency	Proposal and funding acquired for application to GTZ-funded construction
Sustainable Rural Energisation: the Gobabeb Renewable Energy and Energy Efficient Demonstration Project	Contribution to design of proposal and funding acquired
Wind measurements for energy application	Report
Ecological Society of America	Member; poster presentations
Environmental Long Term Observatories of Southern Africa	Chair of ELTOSA, contributing to networking
Environmental Updates	Regular information for Namibian Parliament

Table continued on next page

# Networking

Activity	Outputs
Forum for Integrated Resource Management; through Nappod, Grootberg, promotion in Gibeon area and Onkani	Capacity building of rural communities who now manage their own development
Global Water Partnership	Member
Gobabeb Training and Research Centre	Board of Trustees & Management Committee
Grinnell Fellows programme	Contributions to DRFN Communications Unit and at Gobabeb
Hoanib Catchment Study project	Various reports; this was a major project concluded in 2001
International Long-term Research programme	Member and participant in ILTER programme
Indigenous Fruit Tree Task Force	Contributions to discussions; !nara development programme
IUCN Species Survival Commission	Member of Hyaena Specialist Group
Minor Field Studies, MSc and PhD course supervision	Students from universities are supervised and carry out programmes with DRFN
Namdeb Environmental Committee	Member
Nangof; Namibia's NGO Forum	Member of executive committee
National Monuments Council of Namibia	Member of Scientific board
Namibian Environmental Education Network	Contributions to various activities of NEEN
NetWise a major project concluded in 2001	Website and reports
Namibian Water Resources Management Review	Contributions to draft Water Resources Management Act & Co-Chair of Task Force,
Namibian World Heritage Site Committee, MBEC; formed under UNESCO directive	Identify and declare potential areas/places in Namibia as World Heritage Sites.
Organisation of Biological Field Studies	Member
Sperrgebiet Conservation Planning	Committee member
Stockholm University Geography Excursion	Plan and implement 3 week field course
Technical Committee, Tree Planting Project	Contribution to implementation plans
Good practice in biodiversity conservation	Two case studies for TWNSO
Vision 2030 core team member	Contribution to oversight of programme
Water Association of Namibia	Member
Water Presentation to Franco-Namibian Cultural Centre	Contribution to Namibia Water Week
Water short-lecture course at Polytech	Lectures for land measurers
Every River has its People	Materials development to support capacity building of Okavango river water users
Water and Ecosystem Resources in Regional Development	Study of Okavango River and its shared resources
Wild Silk Working Group.	Contributions to discussions
Namibia Young Scientists competition	Judging in preliminary, regional and national

## Funding

For many of our activities, participation by DRFN is not remunerated. For some, expenses are reimbursed or a nominal fee is involved eg Vision 2030. The transaction costs for DRFN are high in some instances, particularly where partners are government employees.

# Renewable Energy Information Network of Namibia (Reinnam)

*Reinnam collects, monitors and disseminates information regarding developments in Namibia's energy sector.*

## Major accomplishments and outputs

- ↓ The Spring Energy Fair was organised in conjunction with Namibia's Young Scientist Exhibition in September 2001. Reinnam also organised and hosted the "Boost your Energy Business" short course on behalf of the Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft (CDG), a German training institution.
- ↓ A study, '*Promotion and macro-economic analysis of solar water heating systems in Namibia*' was concluded and written up. Reinnam was the local consulting partner in the DANCED study "*Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Capacity Building in Namibia*".
- ↓ Discussions were initiated and meetings held to organise a Solar Workshop for the University of Namibia. Reinnam also initiated and supervised implementation of a solar module anti-theft campaign for Telecom Namibia
- ↓ A discussion workshop on thermal efficiency in buildings at the Gobabeb Centre was held.
- ↓ SchoolNet Namibia, a programme which is connecting rural schools to the Internet, used Reinnam's expertise as technical advisor and external reviewer for the programme.
- ↓ NamPost's "*Renewable Energy Resources in Namibia*" stamp series, developed in conjunction with REINNAM from March 2001, was launched.
- ↓ REINNAM helped to submit 10 proposals for projects on renewable energy to the Ministry of Mines and Energy. Five have been shortlisted and the authors are compiling Terms of Reference.
- ↓ Reinnam participated in various workshops and meetings held towards the establishment of Namibia's Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Institute (now called R3E Bureau).

## Partners and Stakeholders

As a DRFN project, Reinnam provided a link to other organisations promoting renewable energy, especially:

Polytechnic of Namibia	Physically hosted Reinnam at the new engineering building, Windhoek.
GARUEN	Group for the Advancement of the Rational Use of Energy in Namibia (GARUEN) at the Polytechnic.
OPET SADC	The Organisation for the Promotion of clean Energy Technologies, a regional energy information network.

## Funding

Reinnam was self-financed, by providing a chargeable service to national and international energy stakeholders. Major clients were Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft (Germany), Ramboll (Denmark), SchoolNet and the Polytechnic of Namibia. Total value: N\$81 129.

# State of the Environment Report on Waste

*The report documenting the state of waste management and pollution control in Namibia was compiled for the Directorate of Environmental Affairs, with a view to improving practices and legislation in the sector.*

The project was undertaken in collaboration with Namibia Global Research cc, headed by Eneas Emvula.

## Major accomplishments and outputs

↓The team undertook an audit of domestic waste in Windhoek by sampling the quantity and composition of waste from dustbins on the collecting rounds of the Municipality. We also investigated waste management procedures in the towns of Otjiwarongo and Oshakati-Ongwediva-Ondangwa, as well as smaller settlements such as Klein Aub and Ovitoto. Information on waste procedures was gathered from 50 towns in Namibia, by interviewing the Local Authorities by phone.

↓We investigated the scope and extent of recycling of waste materials such as glass, metals and paper by recycling businesses in the country.

↓The status of waste and pollution created by mines, both existing and closed-down, was assessed.

↓Hazardous waste, such as used vehicle oil, factory and tannery effluents, medical waste and agricultural poisons, were also investigated.

↓The State of the Environment Report on Waste Management and Pollution Control, detailing all of the above, was submitted to the Directorate of Environmental Affairs, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, in August 2001.

*Paper and cardboard recovered from the Kupferberg landfill outside Windhoek, and destined to be recycled in South Africa.*

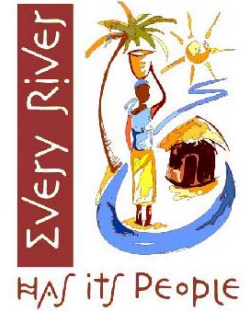
*The potential for income generation from recycling is barely tapped in Namibia. Handling processes, awareness of the potential and development of markets are all part of the challenge to recycling as an approach to waste reduction.*



## Capacity building

All team members gained experience in data gathering, interviewing, computing and compilation of results.

# Every River has its People



***This project aims to achieve sustainable use of natural resources in the Okavango River Basin for the benefit of basin residents and states. This is done by promoting and facilitating effective participation of basin stakeholders in natural resource decision-making and management, particularly related to water resources.***

'Every Rivers' is a multi-partner project that runs from 2000 – 2003. It hopes to achieve its aims by increasing the capacity of communities and other local stakeholders, and developing mechanisms to involve them, in decision making about natural resources in the environment of the Okavango River Basin. The focus is on water resources, and integration of decision-making at local, national and basin-wide level is the target, although it has been difficult to involve any Angolan counterparts. DRFN's role is the production of educational and training materials for all the different stakeholders from community-level upwards, using information generated by the project.

## **Major achievements and outputs**

Two major socio-ecological surveys conducted by NNF in the Kavango Region of Namibia and in the Panhandle and Delta regions of Botswana were completed during 2001. The reports were produced, circulated and posted on the project website. The Botswanan project partners held two workshops for stakeholders to validate the results of the surveys, and they held the first Basin-Wide community workshop in October 2001.

Three different workshops were held between March 2001 and February 2002

April 2001	Community Stakeholder Workshop
September 2001	Ngamiland chiefs
October 2001	Basin-Wide Community Workshop (Country Reps for the the Basin-Wide Forum were elected).

Namibia Nature Foundation (NNF), the main Namibian project partner, prepared a number of posters illustrating the major issues arising from the socio-ecological surveys.



## **Funding sources**

The project is funded by Swedish Development Assistance (SIDA), with the Educational and Training Materials Budget totalling US\$ 118,197.00 from July 2000 - April 2002.

# Water and Ecosystem Resources in Regional Development (WERRD)

*Balancing societal needs and wants and natural resource systems  
sustainability in international river basin systems.*

WERRD is a three year, multi-disciplinary, multi-partner project, with the objectives to:

1. Develop an understanding of how the livelihoods of Okavango River Basin communities can be improved without compromising environmental concerns.
2. Evaluate the relevant policies that concern land and water.
3. Assist in formulation and execution of key basin-wide policies.

The project intends to achieve these objectives through

- ↓ Improving and developing scientific methods for monitoring hydrological and ecological variables.
- ↓ Articulation of local knowledge and relating this knowledge to other dimensions of knowledge.
- ↓ Linking components of the natural resource system to socio-economic dynamics and to national and international water policy.
- ↓ Creation of an interactive web-site.

The project has been conceptualised as 7 inter-linked work packages. DRFN is responsible for two of these:

- ↓ assessing the socio-economic structure, which is being done with Dr Wolfgang Werner of Nepu
- ↓ producing materials such as scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals, books, reports and mass media dissemination of research results.

## **Partners**

Linköping University, Sweden

IHE, The Netherlands

University of Sussex, UK

Harry Oppenheimer Okavango Research Centre, Botswana

University of Pretoria, South Africa.

# Environmental Evaluation

*EEAN represents one income-generating arm of the DRFN. It provides the vehicle for DRFN staff and associates to become involved in environmental consulting work, giving the opportunity to put sound environmental management into practice in the business world.*

## Major accomplishments and outputs

Undertaking the Pre-Feasibility Study for Tree Planting Project in the Southern Grasslands of North-Central Namibia on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development constituted a major project during 2001, enhancing interaction with a variety of stakeholders and partners.

Facilitation of numerous training modules and workshops for a variety of clients was also a major accomplishment.

## Clients and Partners

Africon Namibia Consulting Engineers;  
 Bicon Consulting Engineers;  
 City of Windhoek;  
 Earthlife Namibia;  
 Lund Consulting Engineers;  
 Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural  
 Development:  
     Department of Water Affairs,  
     National Botanical Research Institute;  
 Ministry of Higher Education and Job Creation;  
 Ministry of Works, Transport and Communication;  
 Ministry of Environment and Tourism:  
     Directorate of Environmental Affairs;  
 Ministry of Basic Education, Sport and Culture;  
 Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources;  
 Namibia Agricultural Union;  
 Namibia National Farmers' Union;  
 Namibia Nature Foundation;  
 GTZ.



## Capacity building

The experience gained by carrying out the diverse activities of EEAN contributes to enhanced capacity of all participating staff.

# Associates of Namibia (EEAN)

## Major consultancies undertaken

Activity	Outputs
Evaluation of biomass energy conservation programme	Report
Realignment of Coastal Road – Walvis Bay/ Swakopmund	EIA report
Kavango Region rural water supply development plan	Report on environmental component;
Environmental impact assessment for a wind park at Lüderitz	Internal review
Development of annual workplan for the Gobabeb Training and Research Centre	Annual workplan
Facilitation of a Land Reform Workshop for NNFU and NAU	Workshop report
Facilitate Strategic Planning workshop for MBESC on liberation struggle and de-colonialisation process in Namibia	Workshop report
Bio-physical and socio-economic impact of bush encroachment in communal areas for Bush Encroachment Research, Monitoring and Management Project (BERMMP) in the DEA.	Report
Analysis of and contributions to chapters for NDP2	Report
Environmental impact assessment of realignment of Sam Nujoma Drive at Klein Windhoek River Crossing - with Africon for City of Windhoek	Report on environmental component & public consultation
Environmental impact assessment of new powerline into Windhoek central business district – with Bicon for City of Windhoek	Report
Pre-Feasibility Study for Tree Planting Project in Southern Grasslands of North-Central Namibia; presentations: Minister, Traditional Authorities, Technical Committee and Stakeholder Forum	Pre-feasibility report
Facilitate ZOPP planning workshop on HIV/AIDS for GTZ	Report
Facilitate an Environmental Monitoring and Information Network (EMIN) workshop for DEA	Report written by client
Facilitate annual workplan development of Namibia-Finland Forestry Project for Directorate of Forestry	Report
Facilitate planning workshop to plan a long term Black Rhino Development Plan for Namibia for MET	Client wrote report
Facilitate Fisheries sectoral aids committee planning workshop	Workshop report
Facilitate Earthlife Africa Workshop	Report

### Budget

Each of the above consultancies had its own funding source. The total income generated by EEAN (Pty) Ltd during 2001 was approximately N\$ 327 000.

# Administrative Section

*The Administrative Section ensures administrative support to the organisational core of DRFN as well as to all of its programmes, projects and activities. This support includes asset management, interface with the public, general procurement and record keeping. The Human Resource function deals with staffing and staff development.*

## Major accomplishments and outputs

- ↓ Administrative work largely goes unnoticed if it operates efficiently. This section carried out its usual activities, including:
  - ↓ A pleasant and professional reception desk;
  - ↓ Vehicle and equipment maintenance and inventories;
  - ↓ Postage and courier requirements;
  - ↓ Travel arrangements;
  - ↓ Internal billings, in collaboration with the Finance Section;
  - ↓ Recruitment and orientation for new staff;
  - ↓ Procurement of all materials;
  - ↓ Book sales and distribution
- ↓ In addition to these duties, the Section provided essential support to preparations for the Desertification 2002 Conference Process.
- ↓ Renovation of buildings was carried out.



*Catherine Matthew, DRFN's Human Resources Manager in the Administrative Section.*

## Capacity building

Staff member	Activity
Justine Kamati	Polytechnic of Namibia: Diploma in Information Administration (2002 to 2004), Secretarial (6 months) completed
Hambeleleni Abasai	Overseas during 2001 to study for a Masters degree in Human Resources Management
Catherine Matthew	Polytechnic of Namibia: Diploma in Human Resource Management (2002 to 2004)

# Consolidating and Enhancing the Role of the DRFN at National and Regional Levels (CERD)

*The purpose of CERD is to enhance the capacity of the DRFN to better achieve its mission within Namibia and the SADC region.*

## Major accomplishments and outputs

- A long term financial plan was developed and approved by the Board of Trustees, and is in the process of implementation.
- A new DRFN organisational structure was designed that makes provision for stronger mid-level management. This has freed up the top management of the DRFN for more strategic management functions.
- Marketing of the DRFN is taking place in a much more organised and focused manner.
- Open-ended and longer-term contracts have been offered to DRFN staff from 2002 onwards.
- New remuneration packages and career paths for staff were developed and are being implemented.
- A new and much more streamlined performance appraisal system for staff was developed and implemented.
- Important links were established with regional and international collaborators.
- The internal data management capacity of the DRFN was considerably improved.

## Funding

CERD was funded through a grant from the Royal Norwegian Government amounting to N\$ 2 129 130.

# Finance Section

*The Finance Section ensures financial support to the core functions as well as to programmes, projects and partners. This support includes financial planning and management, interface with the public, general procurement payments and record keeping.*

**Major accomplishments and outputs:**

- ↓ Financial service support was provided to the multi-donor Desertification 2002 Conference Process.
- ↓ Improved organisation of books and other sellable items was implemented. Book sales were recorded manually, while all stock items and sales were computerized with a built-in stock register.
- ↓ New salary structures were introduced, and the Section assisted in preparing new contracts.
- ↓ Group Insurance for employees was introduced, and a draft Internal Affirmative Action document was completed.
- ↓ The Gobabeb Centre's fiscal management was handed over to DRFN.
- ↓ All normal responsibilities were met:
  - ↓ Vat claims processed;
  - ↓ tax certificates provided timeously;
  - ↓ sound fiscal management of donor accounts and provision of finances to projects;
  - ↓ creditor and debtor payments;
  - ↓ petty cash journals;
  - ↓ general fiscal control was carried out.



*Maria Kambazembi, Finance Clerk, busy with her ledgers.*

**Capacity building**

Staff member	Activity
Geraldine Cupido	Day Refresher course: VIP Tax Year end, Polytech, Sectr.
Sigi Gustafsson	Quickbooks
Maria Kambazembi	Quickbooks, Polytech National Diploma.
Rauna Nawa	In service Training QB, Basic Accounting
Laura Moncho	In service Training QB, Basic Accounting
M. Niewoudt	In service Training QB, Basic Accounting

# Information Technology (IT)

*The Information Technology Committee maintains and updates all the computer hardware and software and the electronic network of the DRFN, and gives technical support and training to staff.*

## Major accomplishments and outputs

- ↓DRFN established its own webserver, allowing us to host all our websites on our own server.
- ↓IT support to the Desertification 2002 Conference Process was put in place.
- ↓Basic Software for Cooperative Work (BSCW) was set up on the DRFN network, allowing easier collaborative work on documents shared between many users.
- ↓The computer network was set up at Gobabeb, improving the link between DRFN staff in Windhoek and Gobabeb. Also, through providing competent, virus-free computers there, visiting students and researchers at Gobabeb could be charged for the service, thus building the IT fund.
- ↓Routine maintenance was carried out:
  - ↓computer hardware, software and server maintained;
  - ↓access control to user accounts was maintained;
  - ↓DRFN websites were maintained and updated;
  - ↓Control register put in place for repairs and maintenance;
  - ↓Anti-virus updates provided and virus problems solved.



*DRFN's computer boffins, Aubrey Prinz and Patrik Klintonberg*

# Marketing Section

*DRFN established the Marketing Section in July 2001, with the main objective of promoting the organisation and raising funds for DRFN core functions. The aim is for the DRFN to be better known in Namibia, all SADC countries and internationally. The marketing section also provides support to other sections and projects regarding public relations and press releases.*

## Major accomplishments and outputs

- ↓ A slogan competition was run within the organisation, resulting in the choice of our present slogan: "Enhancing Decision Making for Sustainable Development".
- ↓ The "Information Weekend" at Gobabeb at the end of January 2001 was a major success. DRFN projects, the SDP 10 Final Report and Gobabeb Centre were showcased to some 100 invited guests.
- ↓ From November to February thirteen articles on the DRFN and its projects were published in local newspapers. Several radio interviews took place informing the nation about DRFN, WSSD, Desertification 2002, SDP and Napcod.
- ↓ Together with the 'Comms' Unit, we initiated a social club to promote team building amongst staff and to strengthen links with our partners. We organised a fun day last year September and invited other NGOs and partner organisations to join in the fun.
- ↓ The Marketing Section developed a new DRFN Folder and new brochures with more information, updated staff pictures and project activities.
- ↓ Liaison was initiated and maintained with donors (eg SIDA, Spanish Embassy, Embassy of Finland, UNDP), the National Planning Commission and some corporations (eg Namdeb, Standard Bank). These people were informed and updated on activities and new developments at the DRFN.
- ↓ Support was provided to the Desertification 2002 Conference Process in the form of press releases and radio talks.
- ↓ Marketing and business plans were drawn up for the Gobabeb Centre.

## Capacity building

Staff member	Activity
André Botes	Maastricht School of Business: Executive MBA, 18 months as of February 2002
Margareth Gustavo	Windhoek: Basic course in Journalism, 1 week
	Windhoek: Advanced course in Journalism, 1 week
	Durban: Project planning course, 1 week

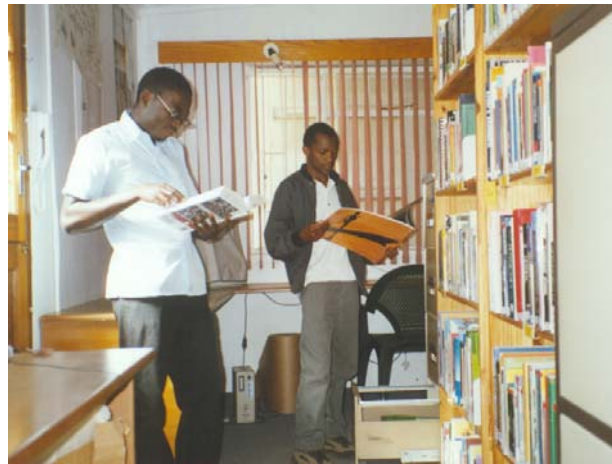
# DRFN Library

***Knowledge of today is based on knowledge of the past. Therefore a well organised library is instrumental to a research and development organisation.***

The DRFN houses two reference libraries:

- the well established library at Gobabeb, focussing on desert-related literature. This is the most advanced and developed library on desert biology in southern Africa, possibly on the whole continent;
- the reference library at the Windhoek office, which concentrates on broad environmental and development literature for Namibia.

*DRFN Junior Researchers Tufikifa Nakale and Komeine Natanga browsing in the DRFN Library.*



Both libraries are administered by Inge Henschel (left), a full time DRFN staff member, and the collections are computerised. Capturing of the 'grey literature' reports in the library database is ongoing.

Interns at the Gobabeb Centre make a valuable input by keeping the library in good shape and order.

# Communications Unit

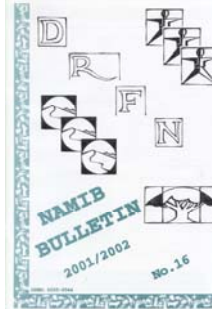
*'Comms' is the unit that produces the physical materials to "enhance decision-making for sustainable development". The materials publicise and carry the message of the projects of the DRFN. This includes written publications such as booklets and pamphlets, electronic media such as web pages on the internet and media releases to the press. We are closely linked to the activities of the Marketing Section.*

## Major accomplishments and outputs

### Publications:

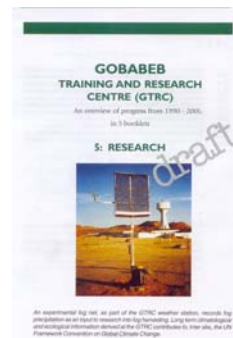
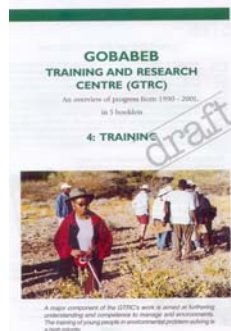
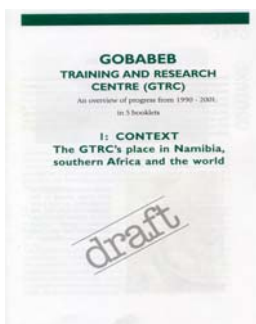
Namib Bulletin 2001

Updates – Briefing on aspects of sustainable development in Namibia.



Edition	Date	Title
Edition 6, No 1	March 2001	Alternative sources of water
No 2	March 2001	Economic and environmental benefits of solar water heating
No 3	April 2001	The Okavango River Basin – the Namibia / Botswana connection
No 4	April 2001	A silk purse from a cow's fear
No 5	July 2001	The Windhoek aquifer – essential water supply for the capital
No 6	August 2001	Solar water heating – Namibia can do more!
No 7	October 2001	The World Summit on Sustainable Development

Series of 5 promotional booklets on activities and facilities at the Gobabeb Centre.



# Communications Unit

## Major outputs

Project/Activity	Outputs
Rural Electrification	Rural electrification magazine for MME produced
Water Awareness Workshops	Workshops organised and run in Karibib and Swakopmund
Donation of DRFN books to Parliament	
!Nara Project	!Nara brochure compiled and translated
Hoanib Project	Occasional Papers 14 - 16
NAMBESP	Tsotso Stove Market Survey and report completed Brochures, poster and banner produced for Northern Namibia Trade Fair
SDP	Reports on SDP9 & 10 edited
SOER Waste	Final report compiled, edited, printed
Poster on bush Encroachment for DEA	Bush Encroachment poster compiled and completed
Reinam and Spring Energy Fair	Reinam posters, demonstrations, info and brochures at Spring Energy Fair, organisation of competition in Namibian and Republikein, logistical organisation of event
Biodiversity workshop, DEA	Workshop minuted, Proceedings compiled
Photo filing system updated	Accessible photo library for staff
Reinam	Solar Water Heating report compiled
Occasional Papers	Numbers 14-17 compiled and made available
Regional Water Books	Omaheke, Karas and Hardap, and South Kunene books Omaheke book (OtjiHerero) Northern Kunene book (in OtjiHerero) Otjozondjupa book finished and delivered
Every Rivers Project	Attended meetings in Gaborone, Ghanzi, Popa Falls Started art competition for Botswana schools Started production of posters on Okavango Basin Distribution of Preliminary Profile on Kavango Region
Namib Bulletin	Compiled and produced
Information weekend	Folders compiled and produced, (containing programme, map, DRFN profile, name tags)
JWSSD	Materials for Fundraising Dinner, including invitations, certificates, brochures and logistics
Business cards	Business cards for all staff who need them
Hoanib Tourist Brochure	Compiled and edited but not published
ELAK	Compilation of brochure
Des 2002	Preparations for activities in April 2002; Database of participants compiled; Production of certificates for donors, sponsors, support organisations, as well as banner, gift cards; Together with IT, creation of Des2002 website; Compilation of Abstracts, Des 2002 map; Planning and prelim drafts of community brochures ; Proceedings of November Workshop; T-shirts, caps,
Preparations for Information Weekend	Successful Information Weekend at Gobabeb on 1-3 Feb

## Capacity building

Angi van Wyk	Journalism course, 2 weeks, certificate accredited by Univ of Stellenbosch
Alie Thaniseb	In-service training on Pagemaker layout design; Course on English Communication for Public Administration Diploma, Polytech.
Emily Larson	In-house Pagemaker training
Aubrey Prinz	IT course for JWSSD in London



Otilie Amaambo



Cecilia de Klerk



Margareth Gustavo



Jeftha Goroseb



Gunnar Gustad



Arnold Gaseb



Gabes Nawaseb



Petra Moser



Andre Botes



Nickey Gaseb



Salamon Boois

NAPCOD

DES 02

MARKETING

ELAK



Patrik Klintenberg



Maria Kambatuku



Sigi Gustafson



Lorraine Kasuto

FINANCE



Aubrey Prinz



Louis Opperman



Geraldine Cupido

COMMS



John Pallett



Kate Wolf



Alie Thaniseb



Bertus Kruger



Angi van Wyk



Emily Larson



Mary Seely

WSSD



Anna Matros

SDDI



Karl Aribeb

EE



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