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**The analysis of the present situation in Management
Planning for the protected areas in Namibia
and potential cooperation between
the Czech Republic and Namibia**

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Bachelor's Thesis

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Abstract

Namibia currently boasts 20 national protected areas and large number of private reserves and communal conservancies. The national Protected Area Network consists of all 20 protected areas, but these areas are neither proclaimed under same law, nor according to any system. New Parks and Wildlife Management Act is awaited to reform the Protected Area Network and to establish new framework for Management Planning for protected areas. Presently there is lack of Management Plans and if these do exist, they miss the characteristics according to the IUCN guidelines. This thesis focuses on the analysis of current situation in the nature conservation management, addresses its problems and suggests suitable solutions on the national and international level. It proposes rapid promulgation of the Parks and Wildlife Management Act, strengthening institutional and personal capacities, preparing Management Plans, and reforming funding system of the protected areas. It also proposes Czech-Namibian Development Assistance in the conservation management education and strengthening capacities. In the final part it analyses suggested actions and predicts future implications in the form of further field research and then realization of the development assistance project between Namibia and the Czech Republic.

Key words: conservation, development assistance, financing protected areas, Management Plan, strengthening capacities, tourism

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Abstrakt

Namibie má v současné době 20 národních zvláště chráněných území a velké množství soukromých rezervací a komunálních chráněných rezervací. Národní síť chráněných území je složena z oněch 20 zvláště chráněných území, které ale nejsou vyhlášeny stejným zákonem, a ani nemají žádný jasný systém. Očekává se, že nový zákon o správě chráněných území a divoké přírody zreformuje síť národních chráněných území a zřídí rámec pro vytváření plánů péče těchto chráněných území. V současnosti je v Namibii pouze několik plánů péče chráněných území a ty většinou postrádají charakteristiky IUCN. Tato práce se zaměřuje na analýzu současného stavu v managementu ochrany přírody, vyjmenovává její problémy a navrhuje vhodná řešení na národní a mezinárodní úrovni. Navrhuje urychlené vyhlášení zákona o správě chráněných území a divoké přírody, posílení institucionálních a lidských kapacit, přípravu plánů péče chráněných území a reformu systému financování chráněných území. Rovněž předkládá návrh česko-namibijské rozvojové spolupráce v oblasti vzdělávání v rámci managementu ochrany přírody a posilování kapacit. V závěrečné části se práce zaměřuje na analýzu navržených opatření a předpovídá budoucí význam práce v terénním výzkumu a následné realizaci rozvojového projektu mezi Namibií a Českou republikou.

Klíčová slova: cestovní ruch, financování chráněných území, ochrana přírody, plán péče, posilování kapacit, rozvojová spolupráce

I declare that I have written this bachelor's thesis only by myself under the supervision of RNDr. Vlastimil Kostkan, Ph.D. and using cited literature only.

In Queenstown, New Zealand, 5th May 2010

Petr Jahn

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List of abbreviations

CBNRM	Community Based Natural Resource Management
DPWM	Directorate of Parks and Wildlife Management
DRFN	Desert Research Foundation of Namibia
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
MET	Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Namibia
METT	Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool
NACSO	Namibian Association of CBNRM Support Organizations
NAMETT	Namibia Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NNF	Namibia Nature Foundation
PA	Protected Area
PAN	Protected Area Network
PWMA	Parks and Wildlife Management Act
SPAN	Strengthening the Protected Area Network Project
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats
TFCA	Transfrontier Conservation Area
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
WCMC	World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP)
WCPA	World Commission on Protected Areas (IUCN)
WRI	World Resources Institute
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

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1. Introduction

Protected areas in the countries of Sub-Saharan Africa have been often managed in an inappropriate way. The main problem is connected with the overall postcolonial situation in Sub-Saharan countries which suffer by lack of good and effective governance, not only in the field of nature conservation, but throughout the state policies. Management Plans for the protected areas in these countries commonly do not exist and if they do, they may omit some of the crucial characteristics of Management Planning. The implementation of such Management Plans is also problematic as conflicts of interests and a weak management framework occur. The preparation process of Management Plans according to the IUCN guidelines is also an important issue, especially concerning the interests of indigenous communities and their participation in drawing and implementation of the Management Plans for protected areas.

Namibia also tackles this complex issue. The country is one of the youngest in Africa; it reached independence from South Africa relatively recently, in 1990. Therefore it has only short time to establish its own institutions and legal system, which still has been evolving. The situation in Namibia is widely influenced by South African and previously German colonial rule, particularly in the legal and state policy area. First protected areas were established, and first environmental laws were enacted, before Namibia became a country. Even though the objectives of conservation efforts then were different to those recent ones, past policies contributed towards keeping many immense and precious wilderness areas of the territory intact.

Natural beauties of Namibia are stunning and due to sparse population and hostile conditions, in a substantial part of the country, these are also little affected by humans. Biodiversity and wildlife in Namibia are too worthy that these cannot stay without effective protection management. Namibia suffers by the widespread conflict of interests between nature conservation, tourism, or poverty alleviation; and therefore needs to seek appropriate state policies to reconcile them. Strict nature conservation approach has lately become more

open, local communities have acknowledged the worth of protected nature, and eco-tourism has been discovered; which all these changes challenge the new system according to the new paradigms.

Namibia is in a transition period on the background of recently achieved independence. It needs support on the way towards good and effective governance and biodiversity protection. Nature conservation, namely protected areas management, needs to be reformed to become more effective and efficient to follow its goals in biodiversity protection. Very important is the Management Planning process, an essential tool for effective management of protected areas, which needs to be focused on during the gradual development of the country.

In the Czech Republic the issue of nature conservation and protected areas is often discussed, but it usually concentrates only on the territory of the Czech Republic or occasionally Europe, whereas the rest of the world remains neglected. Even though there are tools available to contribute towards the protection of globally important ecosystems, these tools, in the form of the Czech Development Assistance, are seldom used. Buffering the Namibian biodiversity is the asset for the global community, which is the Czech Republic part of, and therefore should accept its share of the global responsibility. In this thesis will be outlined the possible action for the Czech Republic and also explained why is this prospective action beneficial and important.

2. Objectives

The central point of this thesis is the nature conservation and its specific aspects in Namibia. The main objectives are: to characterize the system of protected areas in Namibia, to analyze the situation in Management Planning process and the existence of Management Plans; to suggest appropriate actions for future development, and to propose prospective and feasible cooperation between Namibia and the Czech Republic.

In the first part of the thesis should be described the system of terrestrial protected areas in Namibia, both state and non-state conservation areas. Legal background of nature protection ought to be also briefly explained. The second part will concentrate on the analysis of the Management Planning in Namibia. It will outline basic features of the Management Planning process according to the IUCN and its aspects together with the situation in the Management Planning of national protected areas in Namibia.

The third part of this thesis comprises of general suggestions how to improve present situation in Namibia in terms of protected areas management, legislation and state policies that have to be adopted. Then the potential Czech-Namibian cooperation would be proposed, which would reflect current state of the issue and recognized shortcomings. Afterwards the feasibility and assets of the proposal would be analyzed and future implications predicted.

3. Methodology

This Bachelor's thesis is based on the research-compilation method of data gathering in order to conduct a complex analysis of the main topic. According to the accomplished analysis possible actions should be outlined to address prospective shortcomings.

There are various ways of data gathering used in the thesis. The most important source of information is the internet. The majority of relevant organizations and authorities issue their publications on their websites, and thus many essential books and articles are available to be downloaded. Especially the IUCN provides its publications in the electronic version. The Namibian authorities, namely the Ministry of Tourism and Environment, and related organizations, publish also their valuable reports and brochures online. A similar approach has the Czech Development Agency with its electronic publications.

In spite of lack of printed books, some of them were very important source of information, for instance "Sustainable Tourism in Southern Africa: Local Communities and Natural Resources in Transition" by Saarinen et al. (2009) or "Ecology and Nature Protection Handbook" published by the International Business Publications (2009). However "Africa's Top Wildlife Countries" by Nolting (2009) is rather a guide book, it is a worthy information source too.

The other, crucial source of information was the personal communication with Paulus Ashili, a Namibian and a former student of the Environmental Science programme at Palacký University in Olomouc. The other essential information was provided by Dr. Vlastimil Kostkan, the supervisor of this thesis, in the field of nature conservation and Management Planning.

Author's point of view is presented in the final part of the thesis in Chapter 6 – Outcomes, where feasible solutions and guidelines are suggested and particular Czech-Namibian cooperation is proposed; and subsequently analysed in the following chapter.

4. Protected Areas in Namibia

Namibia is one of the most spectacular countries in Africa, located in the southwestern part of Sub-Saharan Africa and distinctively affected by the cold Benguela current. Namibia is well known due to its diverse landscape and wildlife. The Namib, considered to be the oldest desert in the world, boasts astonishing variety of wildlife, including unique desert adapted species, together with the big game of the savanna (Nolting 2009). Namibia is composed of five major terrestrial biomes classified according to vegetation type and climate – Namib Desert; Nama Karoo; Succulent Karoo; tree and shrub savanna; and lakes and salt pans (Ministry of Environment (MET) 2010). The country has remarkable species diversity and a high level of endemism because of its central position in Africa’s arid southwest and its history as an evolutionary hub for certain groups of organisms like succulent plants, solifuges, geckos, and tortoises. There are around 4 350 species and subspecies of higher plants, of which 687 species or 17 % are endemic; 644 avian species have been recorded of which 13 are endemic; 217 species of mammals are found in Namibia, 26 of which are endemic; etc. (ibid.).

Nature conservation is a very important issue in Namibia and the country values its biodiversity and ecosystems very high. It was one of the world’s first countries (Saarinen et al. 2009) and the first African country to incorporate protection of the environment into its national constitution (World Wildlife Fund (WWF) 2007). The Constitution of the Republic of Namibia (1990) progressively obliges the state policy to involve “the maintenance of ecosystems, essential ecological processes and biological diversity of Namibia and utilization of living natural resources on a sustainable basis”. The National Development Plan also aims to achieve the sustainable utilisation of wildlife resources and the maintenance of biodiversity in and outside of protected areas (PAs) which includes mitigating human-wildlife conflict and proclaiming and managing PAs (National Planning Commission (NPC) 2008).

There are three main categories of conservation areas in Namibia: national, state-owned PA; communal conservancy; and private reserve. These represent different conservation management approaches. State PAs are established to satisfy biodiversity conservation objectives and usually protect larger blocks of habitat than is usually possible in a conservancy or a private reserve. In particular, these provide a refuge for large or dangerous animals such as elephants, buffaloes, lions, and predators in general, which are unable to survive in settled areas (MET 2010). Namibia has an impressively high percentage of its land area under state conservation protection, one of the highest of any country in Africa (Barnard et al. 1998; World Resources Institute (WRI) 1996). The national Protected Area Network (PAN) currently covers 140 394 km², 17 % of the country (MET 2009a). There are 20 national PAs in Namibia (Table 1), mostly game parks and nature reserves (MET 2010) proclaimed under the Nature Conservation Ordinance (1975).

Table 1 Summary of Namibian National Protected Areas¹

Name	Type	Designation	IUCN	Establishment²	Area³
/Ai-/Ais-Richtersveld	Game Park	Transfrontier Park	II	2003 (1968, 1988)	6 045
Bwabwata	Game Park	National Park	N/A	2007 (1968, 1989)	6 100
Cape Cross Seal Reserve	Game Park	Reserve	IV	1968	60
Daan Viljoen	Game Park	Game Park	II	1968	40
Etosha	Game Park	National Park	II	1975 (1907, 1967)	22 912
Gross Barmen Hot Springs	Game Park	Recreation Resort	III	1968	1
Hardap	Game Park	Recreation Resort	V	1968	252
Khaudum	Game Park	National Park	II	2007 (1989)	3 842
Mamili (Nkasa Lupala)	Nature Reserve	National Park	II	1990	320
Mangetti	-	National Park	-	2008	422
Mudumu	Nature Reserve	National Park	II	1990	1 010
Namib-Naukluft	Game Park	National Park	II	1979 (1907)	49 768
National Diamond Coast	Recreation Area	Recreation Area	V	1977	50

¹ A compilation according to MET 2010; IUCN and UNEP 2009; Directorate of Parks and Wildlife Management (DPWM)... [updated 2010]); SPAN Project: Namibia's Parks... [updated 2009].

² Additional dates of establishment in brackets represent preceding protected areas, change of status or enlargement.

³ Area units are square kilometres.

National West Coast	Recreation Area	Recreation Area	V	1973	7 800
Naute	Game Park	Recreation Resort	V	1988	225
Popa	Game Park	Game Park	III	1989	0.25
Skeleton Coast	Game Park	National Park	II	1971	16 845
South West	Nature Reserve	Nature Reserve	V	1970	0.04
Sperrgebiet	-	National Park	-	2008	26 000
Von Bach	Game Park	Recreation Resort	V	1972	43
Waterberg Plateau	Game Park	Game Park	II	1972	405

The large system of national PAs was established predominantly during the South African colonial era (1915–1990) and there was little consistency in the use of terms. Hence the PAs designated as national parks, game parks or reserves, and nature reserves exist next to each other without any clear system (Barnard et al. 1998). The applied designation categories have had only proclamation character, these were not created to correspond with the IUCN Protected Area Management Categories, as used elsewhere (MET 2010).

The Nature Conservation Ordinance (1975) established two types of PAs: game parks and nature reserves, with no difference in purpose or management between them. According to this statute any area can be declared as a game park or nature reserve “for the propagation, protection, study and preservation therein of the wild animal life, fisheries, wild plant life and objects of geological, ethnological, archaeological, historical and other scientific interest and for the benefit and enjoyment of the inhabitants of the Territory⁴ and other persons”. Proclaimed national parks in Namibia are mostly game parks with only stricter restrictions of use as in the case of Etosha National Park (Nature Conservation Ordinance 1975). Recreation areas, proclaimed under the Accommodation Establishments and Tourism Ordinance (1973), were established to offer recreational opportunities for the public, and despite the sensitivity of some areas, these are less intensively managed for biodiversity conservation (MET 2010), however, they are still an integral part of the national PAN.

⁴ The Territory of South West Africa – a former colony of South Africa; in present the Republic of Namibia.

The Nature Conservation Ordinance (1975) also provided for the creation of private reserves and over 140 such reserves have been established covering an area of 7 600 km² (MET 2010). Private reserves established on commercial land, often based on scenic and biological diversity, where hunting is not allowed, are potentially less permanent categories of conservation land in Namibia (Barnard et al. 1998). The Nature Conservation Amendment Act (1996), amending the Nature Conservation Ordinance (1975), enabled establishing of a powerful programme, the Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM), to create another type of PA – communal conservancy, mostly by local indigenous communities (Fabricius et al. 2004).

Barnard et al. (1998) defines conservancies as “land units jointly managed for resource conservation purposes by multiple landholders, with financial and other benefits shared between them in some way”. A registered communal conservancy acquires new rights and responsibilities with regard to the consumptive and non-consumptive use and management of wildlife, such as tourism ventures; game for trophy hunting, human consumption, commercial sale of meat; or the capture of game for live sale (MET 2010). Although the main purpose of proclaimed conservancies or private reserves is not primarily biodiversity protection, they are contributing in a significant way to enhancing habitats for numbers of game species, especially those in close proximity to the state PAs, and also could balance the state PAN in terms of ecological representativeness (Barnard et al. 1998). Namibian conservancies are organised in the Namibian Association of CBNRM Support Organisations (NACSO), nowadays there are 59 registered conservancies in Namibia with a total area of 133 092 km² (NACSO... [published 2009]).

Transfrontier conservation areas (TFCAs) are present throughout the region of Southern Africa. In Namibia the well known TFCA /Ai-/Ais-Richtersveld Transfrontier Park exists on the border between Namibia and South Africa. TFCAs are usually managed as a single integrated entity without any barriers, both for wildlife conservation objectives and tourism (Nolting 2009) as it

usually consists of two or more original protected areas. /Ai-/Ais and Fish River Canyon Park and Hun Mountains were amalgamated with South Africa's Richtersveld National Park to form /Ai-/Ais-Richtersveld Transfrontier Park (DPWM... [updated 2010]). According to Saarinen et al. (2009) and Nolting (2009) there exist two other TFCAs in Namibia but these have not been officially proclaimed yet (MET 2010). The first one, Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (Okavango-Upper Zambezi TFCA) spreads across the borders in Caprivi region, in the northeast of the country, and joins the parts of Botswana, Namibia, Angola, Zambia and Zimbabwe into one immense PA. In Namibia it contains Bwabwata, Mamili and Mudumu national parks and it boasts the largest populations of African elephant (Nolting 2009). The other Namibian TFCA is located on the frontier with Angola. Iona/Skeleton Coast Transfrontier Conservation Area will incorporate Namibia's Skeleton Coast National Park and Angola's Iona National Park.

In spite of the relatively large percentage of the territory covered by the state PAN (Figure 1) the representation of all major biomes is highly skewed towards desert and saline desert habitats (International Business Publications (IBP) 2009) as desert parks comprise almost 90 % of the PAN area (Barnard et al. 1998). Three out of four Namibian largest national parks - Namib-Naukluft, Skeleton Coast, and Sperrgebiet - lie in the West of the country, along the coast, in a desert or semi-desert biome. The Namib Desert is thus comprehensively protected. Etosha National Park, the last of the four largest ones, is significantly covered by a saline desert, so it belongs among desert parks too. By contrast, savanna and woodland biomes are somewhat underrepresented in the PAN (ibid.).

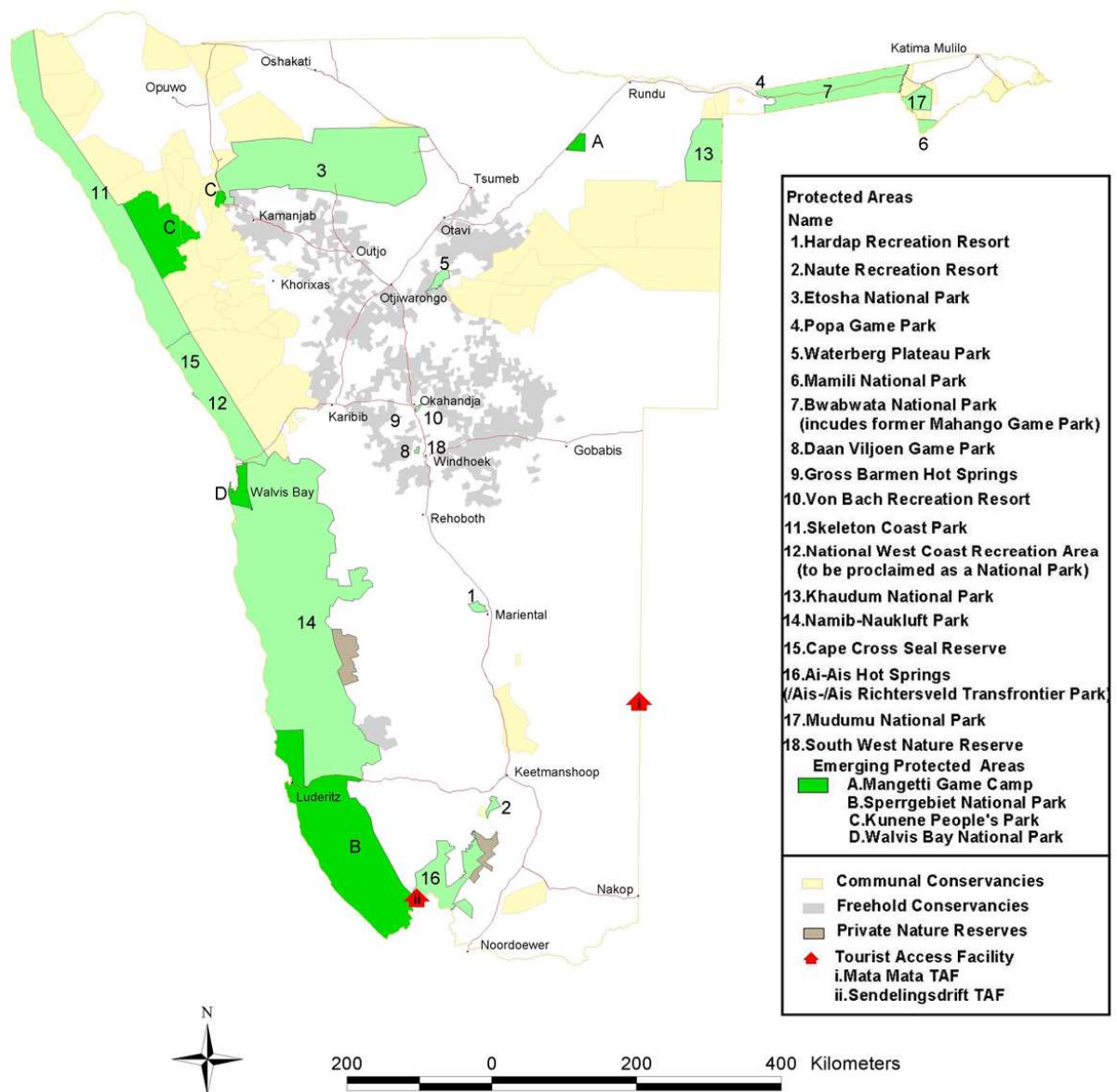


Figure 1 Map of Namibian National Protected Area Network (SPAN Project: Namibia's Parks... [updated 2009])

Southern African PAs in the past were not proclaimed to protect ecosystems and biodiversity richness but were often founded by colonial governments as hunting reserves. Therefore the word “game” came into use as a part of the designation type of the PAs (Nolting 2009). Another important aspect of the establishment of PAs was agriculture. Whereas fertile savannas were parcelled out to white livestock farmers, arid lands too marginal even for pastoralism were set aside for conservation or left as undesignated state land (Barnard et al. 1998). First predecessors of the present national parks in Namibia (earlier Deutsch-Südwestafrika, then South West Africa) were proclaimed in 1907 by German colonial government in the area of national parks Etosha and Namib-Naukluft.

It might be said that independent Namibia inherited a chaotic system of PAs as there exist different types and designations of PAs. This disorder is supposed to be solved by the new Parks and Wildlife Management Act (PWMA) which is still in the legislative process at the MET and therefore kept as an internal document (Ashili P, personal communication, 2010 Apr 19). The awaited promulgation of the PWMA will likely create new PA categories, clarify management objectives for different PA categories and clarify MET’s exact role towards the PAs (MET 2010). The most stringent level of protection will hold a Wilderness Area, the second highest a National Park, and then gradually descending to a Natural Monument, Nature Reserve, Protected Landscape, and Conservation Area (MET 2001 in Saarinen et al. 2009). These new categories (Table 2) are expected to correspond with the PA management categories according to the IUCN guidelines (IUCN 1994) due to tight cooperation between the MET and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in the process of drawing the Parks and Wildlife Management Bill (MET 2010).

Table 2 Categories of protected areas in Namibia (proposed) compared to the IUCN⁵

Namibia	IUCN	
PWMA Draft	Category	Designation
Wilderness Area	I	Strict Nature Reserve / Wilderness Area
National Park	II	National Park
Natural Monument	III	Natural Monument
Nature Reserve	IV	Habitat/Species Management Area
Protected Landscape	V	Protected Landscape/Seascape
Conservation Area	VI	Managed Resource Protected Area

⁵ A compilation according to MET 2001 in Saarinen et al. 2009, and IUCN 1994.

5. Management Planning

The existence of PAs in Namibia does not solely guarantee the effective and sufficient conservation of biodiversity and wildlife. As pressures for harnessing natural assets occur, the importance of capable protection grows. For that reason a crucial role represents the quality, effectiveness and objectives of the management, particularly in the era of mass tourism, hunting and demand for natural resources which are often still kept untouched in these areas.

Management Planning is an essential process towards ensuring the proper management of PAs. The key element of this issue is a Management Plan, which is a “document which sets out the management approach and goals, together with a framework for decision making, to apply in the PA over a given period of time” (Thomas and Middleton 2003) or simply “a tool to indicate how a park is to be protected, used, developed and managed” (Eagles et al. 2002). According to Thomas and Middleton (2003) Management Plans should be “succinct documents that identify the key features or values of the PA, clearly establish the management objectives to be met and indicate the actions to be implemented”.

Management Planning ought to take place in an extensive and comprehensive structure of National Conservation Planning for PAs (Figure 2), which needs to be based on national legislation that specifies the processes of creation, implementation or monitoring of Management Plans. This structure must include more generic and, on the other hand, more specific plans for certain areas. A Management Plan is supposed to be subordinate to more complex national System Plan which examines the country as a whole and should supply a broad framework for Management Plans as providing national level coordination with other planning (Davey 1998). More specific than the Management Plans is a group of other plans and related documents which derive from Management Plans or just support them. These plans are ordinarily found in these categories: operational plans (implementation plans), business

plans, zoning plans, development plans, site management or conservation plans etc. (Thomas and Middleton 2003).

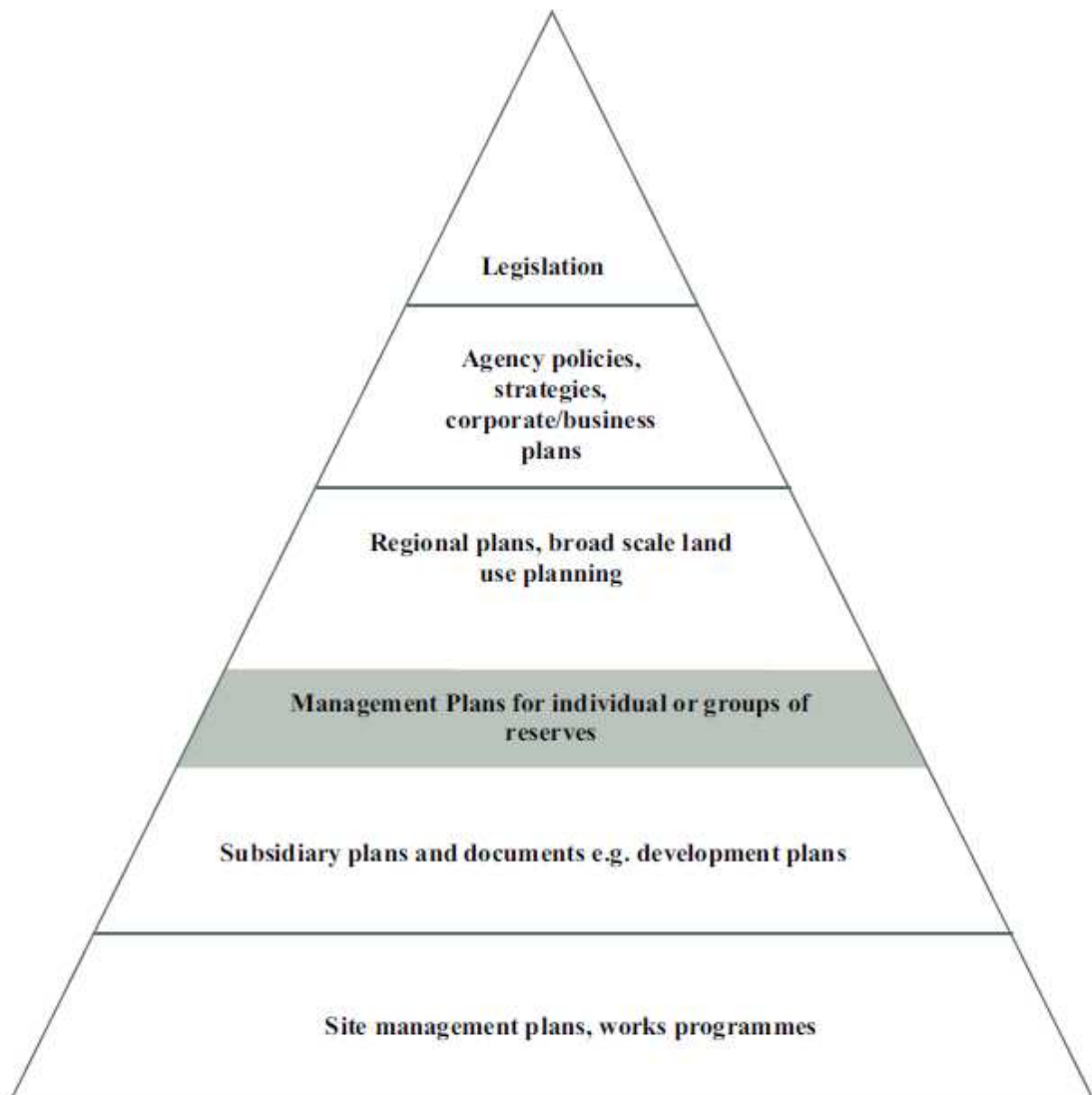


Figure 2 National Conservation Planning structure (Thomas and Middleton 2003)

There are clear benefits of producing Management Plans for PAs. The most important one is the improved management of the PA which ensures that management decisions will be based on a clear understanding of the PA, its purpose, and the important resources and values associated with it (Thomas and Middleton 2003). It should also bring effectiveness, improved use of

financial and staff resources and better communication with the public and all stakeholders (ibid.), who participate or just should participate in the whole issue.

The important pillar of the management planning is a national strategic plan, usually in the form of the National Development Plan which sets out national policies. In Namibia, the National Planning Commission (2008) has issued the Third National Development Plan for the years 2007/2008 – 2011/2012 that in its wildlife sub-sector programme facilitate wildlife management in and outside the PAs. The proposed strategies include the promotion of sustainable utilisation of wildlife in communal and commercial areas; mitigating human-wildlife conflict; proclaiming and managing protected areas; and adopting appropriate policies and regulations and implementing them.

The importance of management plans has recently shifted as the paradigm of PAs changed. According to the IUCN a PA is “a clearly defined geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values” (Dudley 2008). The significant shift occurred in terms of objectives of PAs. In the past PAs were established mainly for conservation and nature protection, whereas social and economic objectives were added recently. Management was focused mainly on spectacular scenic and wildlife protection, and visitors or tourists; nowadays the management planning tackles also local people, particularly from cultural and economic perspectives (Thomas and Middleton 2003). Local people have become an extremely important element of the management planning. PAs ought to be managed to meet the needs of local people who should participate in the whole process (ibid.).

This paradigm shift occurs in Namibia too. Conservation policies have broadened from parks and wildlife focused agenda to the restoration of rural people’s rights over natural resources. As a result the PAN is currently being

augmented with numerous communal conservancies for wildlife management, ecotourism and game hunting (Barnard et al. 1998).

The IUCN suggests the contents of Management Plans to fulfil all its complex goals and vision. Management Plans therefore should adhere to this outlined structure (Thomas and Middleton 2003):

1. Executive summary
2. Introduction
3. Description of the PA
4. Evaluation of the PA
5. Analysis of issues and problems
6. Vision and objectives
7. Zoning plan
8. Management actions
9. Monitoring and review

This structure varies due to different characteristics and objectives of particular PAs but in general corresponds to the management planning process. There are differences in Management Plans to suit each category of PA. Whereas a PA in category I (Wilderness Area/Strict Nature Reserve) is managed predominantly for science or wilderness protection, a PA in category V (Protected Landscape) is managed primarily for landscape conservation and recreation, and category VI (Managed Resource Protected Area) is proclaimed to ensure sustainable use of natural ecosystems (IUCN 1994). Therefore each of the PA categories has a different range of management objectives and priorities, but all the categories should have one feature in common: a proper and sophisticated Management Plan process to ensure that the optimum outcomes in nature conservation are achieved (Thomas and Middleton 2003).

5.1 Management Plans in Namibia

The process of high-quality management planning is still at the very beginning in Namibia. Nature conservation in Namibia suffers by lack of Management Plans of the state PAs. The fact, that such plans do not exist in present for many areas of Namibia, can easily result in overutilization or incorrect utilisation of PAs which is damaging its importance and establishment objectives (IBP 2009). To date, no national parks have approved management plans with recognized legal status. Of the unapproved plans which do exist, most are outdated and lack a clear vision (MET 2010). Past conservation management policies in PAs were focused entirely on the active manipulation of the size and movements of mammal populations, especially herbivores and large carnivores, through fencing, waterpoint provision, animal translocation and selective culling (Barnard et al. 1998).

In Namibia a legal framework for Management Planning is missing. Relevant legislation is represented only by the Nature Conservation Ordinance (1975) and Nature Conservation Amendment Act (1996) which do not deal with this particular issue. Management Planning is expected to be tackled in the prospective Parks and Wildlife Management Act (PWMA) which still has not been promulgated, nor issued as a bill in the Namibian Parliament. The PWMA will bring a standardised approach towards PA management; it will make it mandatory to have a specific Management Plan for each national PA that will be reviewed periodically (MET 2010). It will also clarify the roles and responsibilities of the MET and other stakeholders where collaborative management is anticipated as a PA management strategy (ibid.).

The responsibility to create the Management Plans currently holds the Namibian MET which has been in a process of drawing up Management Plans for a number of PAs, for instance Namib-Naukluft Park or /Ai-/Ais-Richtersveld Transfrontier Park (IBP 2009). According to the MET (2009c) six state PAs have already finalised their Management Plans and three others are developing them but there are also several PAs (Daan Viljoen, Hardap,

Khaudum, Naute, Von Bach) where no Management Plans are being drafted. The draft documents are often unavailable and only the Management Plan for Etosha National Park is available as a final plan. There are also available drafts of the Management Plans for Namib-Naukluft Park and Waterberg Plateau Game Park but no central source with Management Plans exists.

5.2 Process of Management Planning

Competent Management Planning is an essential step towards ensuring the proper management of PAs when moving into increasingly complex planning environments, with higher levels of tourism and PA resource use. Crucial to the planning process is the widest possible consultation with all stakeholders and the development of PA's objectives (Thomas and Middleton 2003). Successful Management Planning is a process which does not finish with issuing of the Management Plan but continues even during its implementation and beyond (ibid.). This process is supposed to have several characteristics which need to be considered and addressed (Table 3).

Table 3 Characteristics of successful Management Planning⁶

Criteria	Planning guidelines
Clarity in plan production	State how the protected area is to be managed.
	State how surprises are to be dealt with.
	State how funding and personnel will be raised and allocated.
	State how monitoring will occur.
	State a specific time frame.
Implementation oriented	Provide for periodic review.
	Make provisions for implementation during the planning process.
	Indicate roles and responsibilities.
Socially acceptable	Work with politicians, interest groups and local communities to ensure implementation.
	Invite input from a large range of interests.
	Use consensus-building processes.
	Use technical planning assistance.
Mutual learning oriented	Social acceptability increases potential for implementation.
	Obtain expectations about anticipated experiences/programmes/facilities from visitors.
	Determine how park plans and business plans affect each other, jointly define the tourism product, and develop marketing plans cooperatively.

⁶ According to Eagles et al. 2002.

	Managers should outline legal mission of the park, implications of different management strategies, and mitigation approaches.
	Scientists should determine cause-effect relationships, and social-environmental consequences of actions.
	Determine importance of benefits and values from citizens.
	Techniques that empower stakeholders to become more aware of the issues increase their ability to generate innovative approaches.
Responsibility and shared ownership	Use many involvement techniques at all stages of the planning process (e.g. workshops, field trips, open houses, focus groups, advisory committees, etc.).
	Create responsibilities for stakeholder groups.
	Encourage stakeholder participation in issue identification, evaluation of alternatives and implementation.
	Share information (e.g. about briefings or meetings) rather than provide information (e.g. displays, draft plans) – this creates more legitimate stakeholder involvement.
Representative of wide interests	Recognise that protected area tourism affects, and is affected by, many political and social interests at national and community level.
	Embody a wide range of values and interests through public participation.
	Conduct a stakeholder analysis to identify the types of values affected by plan.
Relationship building oriented	Use planning process to strengthen relationships, secure community commitment and build support for funding and personnel.
	Demonstrate to local communities how they might benefit from tourism in the protected area.
	Seek information, rather than provide information: this builds greater levels of trust.

During the management plan preparation must be encouraged participatory approach towards stakeholders. Participation should take place as early in the process as possible and continue throughout to create a sense of shared ownership (Thomas and Middleton 2003), to gain greater support for management objectives, and to ensure essential communication. An important issue is to identify and involve key stakeholders, who comprise of park planners and managers; park visitors; park employees; local, native or indigenous communities; landowners; government ministries and agencies; national and international NGOs; business sector; research bodies; media, etc. (Eagles et al. 2002). In Namibia, the important stakeholders also involve neighbouring conservancies and private nature reserves; and neighbouring countries with transboundary agreement on TFCAs (MET 2010).

The sense of ownership is extremely important in the case of existence of a PA in indigenous people's territories, especially at the ancestral lands (Dudley 2008). According to Beltrán (2000), the rights of indigenous and other traditional peoples inhabiting PAs must be respected by promoting and allowing full participation in Management Planning; and governments and PA managers should also incorporate customary and indigenous tenure and resource use as a means of enhancing biodiversity conservation in a particular PA. Therefore PAs ought to recognise indigenous owners or custodians as holders of the statutory powers in their areas, and consequently respect and strengthen indigenous peoples' use of authority and control of such areas (Dudley 2008).

The process of Management Planning should consist of 13 logical stages which provide a more systematic and rational way of identifying and addressing all the factors involved (Thomas and Middleton 2003):

1. Pre-Planning – decision to prepare a Management Plan, appointment of planning team, scoping of the task, defining the process to be used
2. Data gathering – issues identification, consultation
3. Evaluation of data and resource information
4. Identification of constraints, opportunities and threats
5. Developing management vision and objectives
6. Developing options for achieving vision and objectives, including zoning
7. Preparation of a draft Management Plan
8. Public consultation on the draft Management Plan
9. Assessment of submissions, revision of draft Management Plan, production of final Management Plan, submission analysis and reporting on the results of the consultation process
10. Approval or endorsement of Management Plan
11. Implementation
12. Monitoring and evaluation
13. Decision to review and update Management Plan; accountability considerations

At the planning stage there might occur some difficulties. The crucial role in the Management Planning represents trained and educated staff to conduct the planning process. Apart from staff qualification, problems might be also caused by a shortage of funds and equipment; insufficient technical support; negative perceptions of the PA by local communities; external economic pressures, such as pressures to exploit the resources or features of the protected area; and poorly developed communications with the public and other stakeholders (Thomas and Middleton 2003). These problems are often present in developing countries, thus Namibia tackles them as well.

The situation of Management Planning in Namibia is complicated because of missing legal framework, which would standardise approach towards PA management and its planning. Hence there are only fragmented policies followed by weak institutional and human capacities (MET 2010). Current Management Planning is very difficult as the institutional and policy frameworks governing PAs do not also provide guidelines for the management of concessions concerning tourism, hunting and other services; sustainable financing mechanism; cooperative and harmonized management with adjacent land units; adequate measures to prevent impacts from prospecting and mining; or a system to address issues concerning resident communities and illegal settlements in PAs. All of these limitations are expected to be addressed by the new PWMA (ibid.).

One of the most severe problems of Namibian PAs Management Planning is a weak human resource base despite good motivation and capacity of several individuals. Apart from lack of education/experience issues, this problem is exacerbated by the high mortality and morbidity rates of PA staff from HIV/AIDS related illnesses (MET 2010). In the education/training area the difficulty lies in a shortage of educated or trained park staff. The University of Namibia, Faculty of Science, offers Bachelor's programmes in Biology and Ecology since 1986, but Master's programme in Biology (Biodiversity Management & Research) was opened relatively recently, in 1997 (Barnard

1998). The Faculty of Agriculture & Natural Resources, founded in 1996, offers also Bachelor's degree in Integrated Environmental Science and the Polytechnic of Namibia offers Nature Conservation Bachelor's programme, but no Master's one. Although the MET provides annually a few scholarships for park rangers, this number is still profoundly insufficient (MET 2010). A limited number of PA staff has been able to join the training in park management and related issues in South Africa and Tanzania but the whole education and training framework for nature conservation is extremely underfinanced and lacks personal capacities, especially in the branch of applied research geared to site management (ibid.).

5.3 Implementation of Management Plans

The Management Plan sets out actions to be implemented. These actions should be realistic and necessary for the management of the PA and need to correspond to the management objectives (Thomas and Middleton 2003). Detailed annual Operational Plans, derived from Management Plans, should be also prepared repeatedly. Operational Plans ought to be linked to annual budgets and provide an accurate projection of the work to be carried out in a PA each year depending on the Management Plan (ibid.).

A first step within the implementation stage is the communication to all concerned stakeholders. A Management Plan is forwarded to all those involved in the plan or policy's development and implementation to achieve proposed goals (Eagles et al. 2002). A pragmatic approach to communication among stakeholders may result in Management Plan adjustments as these plans are set for long (5-10 years) period. These are due to changes to the PA, to the surrounding area, staffing or financial situation of the managing organisation, or as a result of significant successes or failures (Thomas and Middleton 2003).

The financial issue is extremely important to the implementation process of Management Plans, particularly when concerning the types of governance of PAs. The IUCN recognises four broad types of governance or management authority of PAs: Governance by government, Shared governance, Private

governance, Governance by indigenous peoples and local communities (Dudley 2008). The type of governance is tightly connected with the financial means of a particular PA. Government managed PAs are generally less dependent on the income from tourism than private and community governed reserves.

In the case of Namibia, PAs in the SPAN are governed by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism and thus significantly dependent on the national budget. The governmental subsidies to PAs in Namibia, concerning the total area of the SPAN, are 70 USD/km² (2001), that is substantially lower than in neighbouring South Africa, but higher than in Botswana, Zambia and Angola (2 129; 51; 23; <1 USD/km² respectively) (Eagles et al. 2002). Despite steady political support from country's highest representatives, Namibia's PAN is not receiving sufficient investment from the government to ensure its long term survival and development (MET 2010). Due to these current limited budgetary allocations, PAs fail to achieve their conservation objectives in implementation of Management Plans (Turpie 2005).

During the implementation stage many other (non-financial) problems may occur, that could be based on weaknesses of the Management Plan. Problems often appear when all appropriate stakeholders are not included in the planning process (Thomas and Middleton 2003). A pivotal role may represent a conflict between visitors and managers who are responsible for the protection of PA values and thus must minimise human interference with wildlife habits (Eagles et al. 2002). The other problems can be unrealistic assumptions about the management capacity of the organisation; poorly formulated objectives, vague and unspecific commitments; or impracticality of Management Plans that cannot be used as a basis for action (Thomas and Middleton 2003). These problems take place in Namibia too, in particular in staff and organization capacity area (MET 2010).

Important roles in implementation of conservation objectives play also non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The Namibia Nature Foundation (NNF) has several projects and activities which support PAs management and

biodiversity conservation across the PAs and surrounding landscapes. The NNF manages a small amount of extrabudgetary funding for some PAs such as the Skeleton Coast and the Namib-Naukluft (MET 2010). For instance, the NNF operates the Succulent Karoo Ecosystem Programme to assist the MET in a range of activities in support of the establishment of the Sperrgebiet National Park (NNF... [updated 2006]). Another important Namibian NGO is the Desert Research Foundation of Namibia (DRFN) which aims to “enhance decision-making for sustainable development through research, training and consultancies”. The DRFN incorporates Gobabeb Training and Research Centre in the central Namib as a joint venture partner with the MET (DRFN 2007).

5.4 Monitoring and Assessment

After the Management Plan has been created and the Operational Plans are available to guide its implementation, field staff is then able to put the plan into practice. When implementation is in the process, monitoring need to follow to identify whether the plan is being implemented effectively and the objectives are being met; to learn from observation of the impacts of management; and to adapt the management actions accordingly (Thomas and Middleton 2003). Evaluation or assessment of management effectiveness based on monitoring is recognised as an important component of responsive, pro-active PAs management and its essential tool (Hockings 2006). Unfortunately, current Namibian institutional and policy frameworks governing the PAN do not provide a monitoring regime for its PAs; it is expected to be introduced with the awaited PWMA, as the other tools in preceding stages of the Management Planning process (MET 2010).

The IUCN together with the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) developed the framework for management effectiveness evaluation which deals with the whole issue of monitoring and evaluation of PA management and gives detailed guidance how to design and implement the monitoring and evaluative process (Thomas and Middleton 2003). According to this framework it is possible to decide on either review or update the particular Management

Plan (ibid.). The World Bank and the WWF have built around this framework a series of management effectiveness assessment tools. One of them, the Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) was modified to suit local Namibian conditions and developed into the Namibia Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (NAMETT) (MET 2009c).

The NAMETT is a rapid assessment system which was first conducted in 2004 to evaluate management effectiveness of Namibia's PAs, regardless of existence of Management Plans or their undergoing implementation. The NAMETT is based on field interviews with Park Wardens, and supplemented by discussions with other park employees (MET 2010). The second assessment was conducted in 2009 to assess changes in management effectiveness in the PAs within the five-year period. The results of the 2009 assessment show that, with the exception of Naute Game Park, all PAs' scores in management effectiveness have increased (MET 2009c). The best scores in 2009 gained Waterberg Plateau, Cape Cross Seal Reserve and Sperrgebiet, whereas the worst scores had PAs Naute and Mangetti. The score improvements were partly caused by the development of regular operational (work) plans – documents derived from the Management Plans; and improved staff education and training (ibid.).

6. Outcomes

The current situation in nature conservation and Management Planning for the PAs in Namibia is not satisfactory and does not fulfil its objectives in terms of biodiversity protection and sustainable development of the country. There are several areas in which particular improvements can be achieved, both at national and international level.

6.1 Suggested Namibia Improvements

Overall, Namibia has many ways to improve the current unsatisfactory state in Management Planning. First and crucial area is represented by the Namibian legislation, by the absence of the PWMA in particular. Namibia needs to promulgate the PWMA in the shortest possible time to facilitate the essential steps in Management Planning process, so the MET should considerably intensify the preparation of the draft to allow the further legislative procedure in the Namibian Parliament. The concurrent assistance from the UNDP at the preparation stage stands for a significant asset which will assure the required correspondence between the PWMA and the IUCN guidelines. After the PWMA promulgation, the whole issue of Management Planning and nature conservation needs to be reviewed and appropriate policies have to be adopted and stringently enforced.

Another important issue, which needs to be thoroughly addressed, are weak institutional and personal capacities. The statute of institutions, their rights, duties and responsibilities shall be stipulated by the new PWMA. Namibia should also consider the decentralization of the PAN governance as PAs are at present centrally governed by the Directorate of Parks and Wildlife Management (DPWM) of the MET in Windhoek, country's capital. Hence the PAs cannot be truly effectively managed, especially considering communication with the local key stakeholders or an immediate response to urgent situations when occurred.

Strengthening personal capacities should consist of various actions: recruiting park staff, staff training, tertiary education improvement, scholarships and internships programmes. A sufficient number of park staff will help to achieve management objectives, particularly in terms of wildlife protection and poaching combating. The attention needs to be paid to staff education and training towards effective management of PAs and Management Planning. The DPWM ought to develop its training scheme for its employees to enhance their approach and skills in the environment of upcoming policy changes. The MET should also prioritize tertiary education in nature conservation focused on PA management. The important role play Master's programmes to gain highly qualified specialists who will be able to conduct research projects focused on park management and outlining objectives. There should be also allocated financial means for scholarships and internships and tight cooperation in this field with other African countries, predominantly neighbouring South Africa.

Namibia has to immediately start solving lack of Management Plans for PAs. The MET needs to develop a new framework for the Management Planning, which would correspond to the awaited PWMA. This framework must involve operational policies to carry out the whole Management Planning process, from preparation to implementation, monitoring, and assessment stage. Existing Management Plans ought to be revised to suit into the prospective framework, which is supposed to be similar to the IUCN one. The emphasis is to be put on the collaboration with local communities and indigenous authorities, and the outlining of the common objectives. Apart from the biodiversity protection, these objectives must also incorporate poverty alleviation and sustainable development issues.

As producing of Management Plans takes a substantially long period, it is indeed very important to launch a preparation stage of Management Planning in those PAs, which have not started with the process at all, as soon as possible. These are Daan Viljoen, Hardap, Khaudum, Naute, and Von Bach. It would be also beneficial to engage NGOs, national or international, to participate in

Management Planning as they often manage projects having the same objectives as PAs have. These NGOs might be also recipients of international funding from donor subjects as national development agencies from Europe or elsewhere.

The last but not least issue, which needs to be addressed, is the PAs financing. As Namibia's PAN is seriously underfinanced there must be sought the ways to secure appropriate means to the sector to enable meeting the conservation objectives. Besides the insufficient governmental subsidies, there are two other main sources of funding the PA management: conservation projects financed by the international donors and revenues from tourism. Namibia should focus on both of these sources – seek the international assistance and promote tourism in its environmental-friendly ways by encouraging investments.

6.2 Potential Czech-Namibian Cooperation

The Czech Republic may also participate in Namibia nature conservation and Management Planning issue on the International Development Assistance basis. In this area there are several fields of possible cooperation between the Czech Republic and the Republic of Namibia, which may enhance the current situation. Two main forms of such assistance exist: bilateral or multilateral assistance; a minor role represents trilateral form of assistance. In terms of multilateral assistance, the Czech Republic is present in Namibia through the United Nations (UN) organizations – UNDP, UNEP, World Bank; the IUCN; and the European Union.

For the purposes of entirely Czech-Namibian cooperation the bilateral type of assistance suits this particular issue best. The potential cooperation should focus on the problematic areas mentioned in the previous sub-chapter, particularly on the strengthening institutional and personal capacities. Herein could be achieved distinct improvements with reasonable inputs. This area is represented by three main points of possible cooperation: technical assistance, scholarships, and internships. The project, aimed for strengthening capacities in

nature conservation and PA management, would need to involve all of these points to meet its objectives – improvement of educational and training system in this field; setting out life-long education and training strategy for PA staff; promoting experience and skills exchange to gain higher level of effectiveness and knowledge in the PA Management Planning.

The technical assistance point should concentrate on the improvement of institutional capacities in the education and training system. The objectives of this project part are: improvement of tertiary education programmes in Biology and Ecology with accented PAs Management Planning subjects; development of Master's research programmes; and strengthened cooperation between university bodies and PAs managers to ensure practical oriented tertiary education. The partners of this project would be the University of Namibia, the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Agriculture & Natural Resources; and the Polytechnic of Namibia. The DPWM should also participate to develop its training scheme for its employees. The realization of this project would comprise predominantly of consultancies, know-how exchange, internship programmes, conducting seminars, etc. Czech universities and PA management specialists are expected to collaborate during the whole project cycle, especially in the programming and implementation stage.

The other promising point is a scholarship programme to enable Namibian students gain tertiary education in Management Planning related courses, both in Namibia and in the Czech Republic. Scholarships to South African universities or other African countries should also be considered. The objective is to educate sufficient number of highly qualified staff to work in PA management across Namibia. Scholarships at other than Namibia's universities may secure both substantial number of qualified employees and broader knowledge obtained on several different academic institutions. Scholarships are supposed to cover most of the living costs and tuition fees to make university education affordable for a wide range of Namibians.

An internship and training programme should be focused on current park managers and other managing employees who need to be trained to new approaches towards PA management and Management Planning. This staff, already working for PAs in Namibia, would be given an effective tool to fund internship exchange plans with other Sub-Saharan Africa countries. The main objective of the proposed programme is the facilitation of knowledge and field experience exchange. This programme needs to concentrate on countries with better developed framework for the Management Planning process, for instance South Arica. Both internship and scholarship programme ought to be financed by the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports through the Czech Development Agency.

Another way of the Czech assistance to Namibia might be realized through the trilateral assistance, by funding Namibian NGOs' projects by the Czech Development Agency. In this case should be considered particularly the Namibia Nature Foundation (NNF), which realizes biodiversity conservation projects with the cooperation of PAs management. Funding Management Plans development would be a priority in such projects.

7. Discussion

Namibia's PA system needs massive improvements as presently fails to achieve its conservation objectives (Turpie et al. 2005). The proposals outlined in the previous chapter, to enhance management effectiveness and to stabilise the Management Planning, need to be followed due to the presence of numerous alarming threats. Besides the inappropriate land use and the menace of prospecting and mining (Barnard et al. 1998), the most serious threats are represented by poaching of animals, negative visitor impact, uncontrolled bush fires, small size and isolation of some PAs, or alien species invasion (MET 2010).

The imperativeness of the proposed interventions is illustrated by the current project "Strengthening the Protected Areas Network" (SPAN), managed by the MET, in the period 2006-2016. The project focuses on improving the management effectiveness and sustainability of the PAN through the capacity building, implementation of a new legal and policy framework, restructuring of the PA management bodies of the MET; and testing various management and conservation approaches. In the second phase, the project will focus on consolidating experiences from the first phase; reconfiguring the PA system; strengthening private reserves, including the State's capacity to regulate such areas; and the development of alternative PA management regimes, concentrated on collaboration with local stakeholders (MET 2010).

The crucial aspect of the SPAN project is the promulgation of the PWMA, that still did not happen, but the other parts are being already implemented (MET 2009b). Financial issues are being tackled mostly by the partnership with international organizations. This project is substantially funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through the UNDP. NGOs and international donor agencies also collaborate on the projects (MET 2010). Funding of a few Management Plans will be received from the European Union, Conservation International, and KfW (German Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau/*Reconstruction Credit Institute*), (*ibid.*); whereas the majority of PA Management Planning processes remain without essential funding and thus have not started.

The feasibility of the financing of PAs is not dealt with by the SPAN. Turpie et al. (2005) finds it crucial to fund PAs management by revenues from tourism industry. Investments into nature-based and non-consumptive tourism are highly recommended as it would generate necessary financial resources to cover PAs management costs and help to alleviate poverty in Namibia too. Cost-benefit analysis proves that smart investments will significantly increase revenues from higher numbers of visitors. Potential sources of income are also found in higher visitor (park entrance) fees, tourism royalties and sales of live game. Similar approach declares also Eagles et al. (2002), who stresses merchandise sales or accommodation as an additional source of income. The importance of sustainable/green tourism, in terms of the necessity of its revenues, emphasizes also Nolting (2009), and Saarinen et al. (2009). Prospects of tourism are acknowledged in the MET (2010) too, provided that the right mechanisms in PA management exist.

The potential cooperation between the Czech Republic and Namibia might contribute to overall efforts towards increased management effectiveness of the Namibian PAN for biodiversity conservation. The importance of building and strengthening capacities, particularly in the education/training field, is expressed in the MET (2010). The Czech Republic organizes a substantial part of its development assistance on a bilateral basis. Most funds for bilateral development cooperation are distributed through specific projects, which usually have the form of technical assistance (consulting, know-how transfer, workshops, etc.), and the biggest share by allocated means is represented by the environment sector (Adamcová 2006).

There are several Czech actors engaged in the project implementation process: the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, in cooperation with the Czech Development Agency as its advisory body, other ministries, and implementing organizations - NGOs, universities, state agencies and private sector (ibid.). Although Namibia is not a priority country for the Czech Development Assistance, there have been some projects running between these

two countries. For instance, in 2008 finished the projects “Development of technical-economic programmes at the Polytechnic of Namibia” and “Socioeconomic stabilization of families and communities hit by the HIV/AIDS” (Development Centre 2007). There is also a scholarship programme for citizens of developing countries, which is a traditional and important part of the Czech development cooperation (Adamcová 2006).

The Czech-Namibian collaboration in the field of conservation education and training seems indeed feasible, especially due to the preceding projects, previous cooperation with one of the prospective partner (the Polytechnic of Namibia), existing scholarship programme, or distinct environmental accent. Following basic SWOT analysis draws out additional aspects of the prospective Czech-Namibian assistance project.

Strengths

- Objectives recognized by the recipient
- Strong academic capacities in the Czech Republic
- Previous experiences with projects in Namibia
- Previous cooperation with prospective partners
- Financial feasibility
- Personal contacts based on current scholarship programme

Weaknesses

- Not a priority country
- Limited amount of financial means
- Different PA management experience
- Geographical distance

Opportunities

- Contribution towards protection of globally important ecosystems
- Significant impact on the recipient’s side
- Intensifying of mutual collaboration
- Possibility of university exchange programmes and education

- Gaining broader experience by the implementation bodies
- Building bilateral Czech-Namibian partnership

Threats

- Long funding requirements
- Corruption

There is also possible to fund existing Namibian projects of local NGOs through the scheme of trilateral assistance (Adamcová 2006). In this case should be considered the NNF and its biodiversity conservation projects, or similar Namibian organizations. The Czech Development Agency allocates funds for the trilateral assistance into its budget regularly (Development Centre 2007).

In the terms of multilateral assistance, the Czech Republic has been recently increasing the portion of financial means allocated for multilateral assistance. Major roles play the European Union, the UN organizations and programmes (UNDP, UNEP), and the World Bank. All of these actors are present in Namibia and through their projects is the Czech Republic financially participating (Adamcová 2006).

8. Conclusion

This thesis thoroughly analyses the complex issue of nature conservation, PAs and their Management Planning in Namibia and suggests appropriate actions. According to the gathered information there are many areas that need to be rigorously addressed by the state environmental policies to enhance the current situation. Many actions have been done, for instance the first phase of the project SPAN, but it is necessary to continue in the implementation. Such complex issue demands a system approach and political support, which has been present so far. The crucial will be the financial matters, which decide on the sustainability of proposed changes.

On the basis of this thesis further detailed research should be conducted to enable the programming of the prospective project or to suggest elaborated guidelines for Namibian nature conservation policies. Such research ought to include a field study to Namibia's PAs to gain up-to-date information concerning the Management Planning process and recent progress and needs. Concurrently it should focus on the legislative process and introducing of new PA management policies.

The implications of this thesis and prospective further research should lead towards the improvement of Management Planning and the situation in PA management. The suggested Czech-Namibian cooperation might bring a significant asset in the field of PA staff and its quality and capability. And in spite of certain financial costs, it may help to protect the ecosystems of global significance and support the country's development.

Summary

This Bachelor's thesis focuses on situation in Management Planning for the protected areas in Namibia brings suggest appropriate solutions.

1. It characterizes the system of terrestrial protected areas in Namibia including private reserves and communal conservancies, their status and history.
2. It mentions laws concerning nature conservation in Namibia, including awaited legislation.
3. It tackles Management Planning process in general and its aspects in Namibia.
4. It deals with the issue of Management Plans in Namibia.
5. It explains Management Planning stages, its characteristics in general and the Namibian situation.
6. It addresses problems of Namibia in terms of nature conservation management and Management Planning.
7. It suggests suitable solutions on the national level.
8. It proposes the Czech Namibian cooperation on the International Development Assistance basis.
9. It analyses suggested actions and cooperation.
10. It predicts implications of the thesis in further research and practical implementation.

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