



PEOPLE



PLACES

# community conservation in Namibia

a status summary of communal conservancies community forests and other CBNRM initiatives

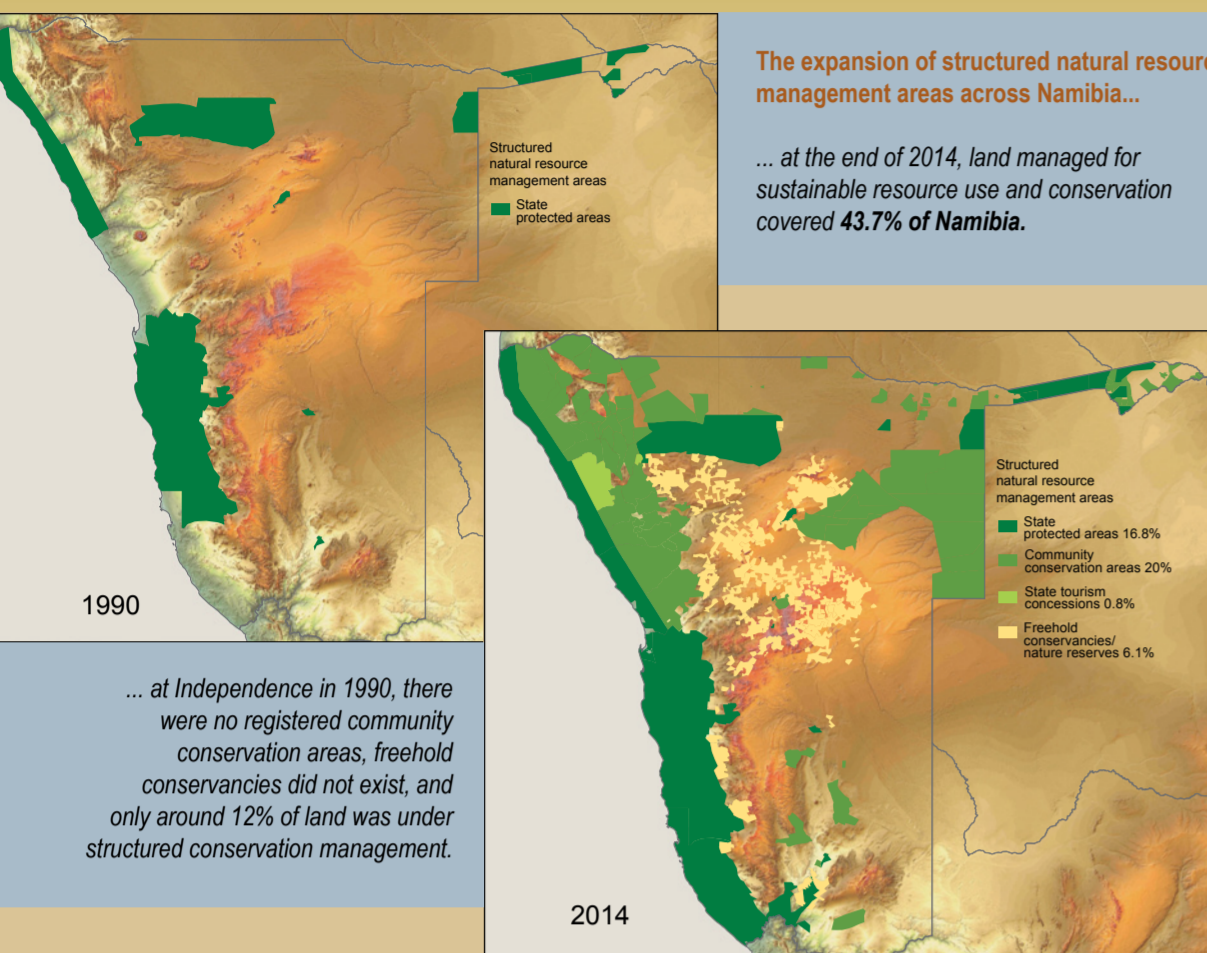


WILDLIFE

Erongo-Kunene Community Conservation Area



summary 2014/15



## at a glance

### At the end of 2014 there were...

- 82 registered communal conservancies
- 1 community conservation association in a national park (Kyaramacan Association, managed like a conservancy)
- 17 concessions in national parks or on other state land held by 20 conservancies (some shared concessions)
- 32 registered community forests
- 66 community rangeland management areas
- and 2 community fish reserves

in Namibia

### What's being achieved?

#### Community conservation...

- covers over 165,182 km<sup>2</sup>, which is about 53.9% of all communal land with about 184,000 residents (another about 5,400 members of the Kyaramacan Association live in Bwabwata National Park)
- of this area, conservancies manage 162,030 km<sup>2</sup>, which is about 19.6% of Namibia
- community forests cover 30,827 km<sup>2</sup>, 90% of it overlapping with conservancies
- community rangeland management areas cover 4,004 km<sup>2</sup>, much of it overlapping with conservancies
- from the beginning of 1990 to the end of 2014, community conservation contributed about N\$ 4.15 billion to Namibia's net national income
- during 2014, community conservation generated about N\$ 91.2 million in returns for local communities
- community conservation facilitated 5,808 jobs in 2014
- 57 conservancies had a total of 184 enterprises based on natural resources in 2014
- community conservation supports wildlife recoveries and environmental restoration
- Namibia's elephant population grew from around 7,500 to around 20,000 between 1995 and 2014
- Namibia has an expanding free-roaming lion population outside national parks

#### New in 2014:

- 3 new conservancies were registered

#### The biggest challenges?

- countering the pressure (based on urban moral ideals) to ban the legal and well-controlled sustainable use of wildlife
- countering the increase in the commercial poaching of rhino and elephant
- enabling optimum conservancy governance capacities, effective decision-making and wise leadership

## living with wildlife

### to live with wildlife...

... means striving for balanced land use and a healthy environment. Game does not need to be eradicated from a landscape because it may pose a threat to crops or livestock. Wildlife can create a great range of returns that far exceed its costs. Game - and all natural resource use - can be integrated with other rural livelihood activities for the benefit of the people and the land...



## managing resources



Dehorned rhino cow with calf, Erongo-Kunene Community Conservation Area

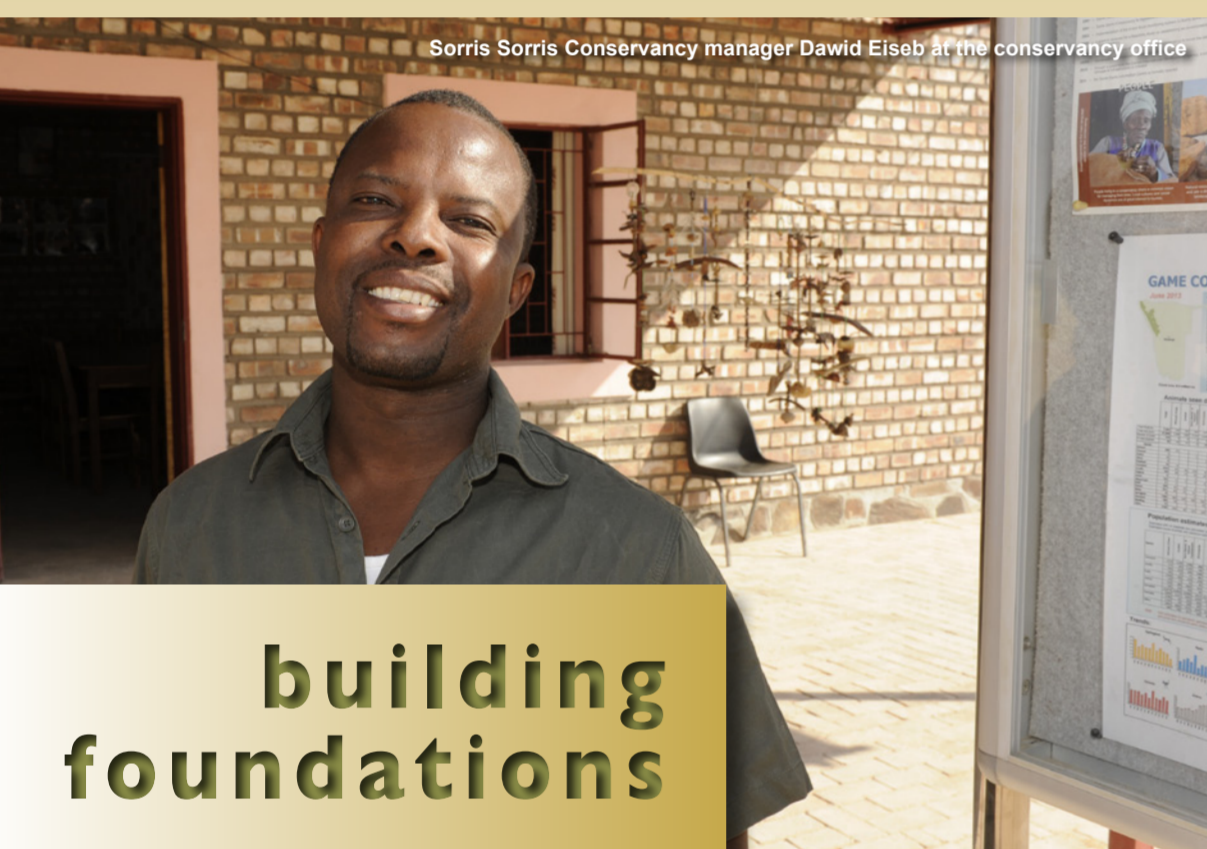
### to manage resources...

... means ensuring that they are used wisely so that the resource base (the natural environment) stays healthy and maximum returns are generated without negative impact...

### Natural resource management at a glance:

#### At the end of 2014 there were...

- 83 conservancies using the Event Book monitoring tool
- 52 conservancies conducting an annual game count
- 4 national parks undertaking collaborative monitoring with conservancies
- 38 conservancies directly involved in tourism activities
- 70 conservancies holding quota setting feedback meetings
- 70 conservancies with own-use harvesting quotas
- 48 conservancies with conservation hunting concessions
- 20 conservancies with shoot & sell harvesting contracts
- 45 conservancies with a wildlife management plan
- 40 conservancies with a zonation plan
- 532 game guards working in conservancies (figures include 3 unregistered, emerging conservancies & the Kyaramacan Association)



## building foundations

### to build foundations...

... means creating structures that enable wise and effective governance, and that empower rural people to control their environmental policies, actions, affairs and resources for a common, sustainable good...

### Governance at a glance:

#### At the end of 2014 there were...

- 45 management plans in place
- 20 sustainable business and financial plans in place
- 50 annual financial reports presented
- 60 annual general meetings held
- 15% female chairpersons
- 39% female treasurers/financial managers
- 35% female management committee members
- and 30% female staff members in communal conservancies in Namibia

Gustaph Tjiundukamba, Kunene Region Community Conservancy Association Chairman



## improving lives

**Total returns to conservancies and members...** The total cash income and in-kind benefits generated in conservancies (incl. Kyaramacan Ass.) grew from less than N\$ 1 million in 1998 to more than N\$ 87 million in 2014. This includes all directly measurable income and in-kind benefits being generated, and can be divided into cash income to conservancies (mostly through partnerships with private sector operators), cash income to residents (mostly through employment and the sale of products), as well as in-kind benefits to residents (mostly the distribution of harvested game meat).



### to improve lives...

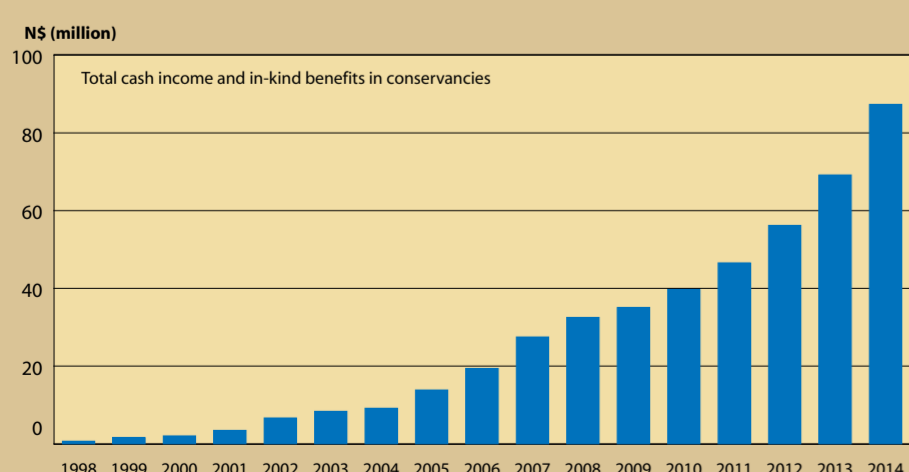
... means facilitating economic opportunities and empowering people to make their own choices from amongst a range of livelihood options that enable a healthy and dignified existence...

### CBNRM returns at a glance:

#### At the end of 2014 there were...

- 40 joint-venture tourism enterprises with 708 full time and 230 part time employees
- 48 conservation hunting concessions with 134 full time and 108 part time employees
- 32 small/medium enterprises (mostly tourism/crafts) with 156 full time and 40 part time employees
- 680 conservancy employees
- 905 conservancy representatives receiving allowances
- 2,082 indigenous plant product harvesters
- and 765 craft producers

in communal conservancies in Namibia (part time employment includes seasonal labour)



The Namibian CBNRM Programme is based on strong partnerships between the Namibian government, international donor agencies, local and international NGOs, the private sector and community conservation organisations

more information at [www.nacso.org.na](http://www.nacso.org.na)