PARLIAMENT OF NAMIBIA-NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

REPORT ON THE VISIT TO THE CLIMATE CHANGE FUNDED PROJECTS

7-20 AUGUST 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is a privilege for me to table this report of the Natural Resources Committee to the Environmental Investment Funded projects before the August house. The visit was undertaken between the period from 7-20 July 2023. The Committee visited six regions, namely Kunene, Ohangwena, Kavango West, Kavango East, Zambezi and Karas regions, respectively. The visit was undertaken mainly to conduct oversight on interventions made by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism on climate change projects as stipulated in the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), assess progress made in the implementation of projects aimed at increasing the country's adaptation and mitigation measures, and to also understand the impact of the projects towards meeting the Paris Accord and benefits to the communities thereof and to appreciate efforts made by the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism and the EIF to fully utilize the climate funding avenues to help bring to reality resilient initiatives.

All beneficiary communities and the regional leadership were engaged. And sites were visited. The report discusses highlights of the visits and end with key conclusions in light of visit, and giving strategic recommendations for better implementation of climate change adaptation interventions as a way forward.

Chairperson's foreword

In accordance with decision 1/CP.20 of the conference of parties, Namibia submitted its intended National Determined Contributions (INDC) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change before October 1, 2015, in order to advance the Convention's overarching goal as stated in Article 2. The submission of the INDC is conclusive evidence that Namibia is committed to battling climate change and that the country does, in fact, take climate change issues seriously. In order to achieve this, the nation has implemented policies and initiatives to deal with the negative effects of climate change.

In line with the Committee recommendations made at the awareness workshop with the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism which was held between 23-24 October 2020 in Otjiwarongo, the recommendation read in part that in order for the Committee to understand the impact and efforts that government had put in place to address climate related changes, the Committee ought to visit the regions which benefited from the climate fund. Accordingly, the committee considered to undertake field visits to six (06) regions, namely Kunene, Ohangwena, Kavango West, Kavango East, Zambezi and Kharas regions, respectively, in order to fully comprehend the impact and efforts government has put in place to address climate change and related effects. These visits were undertaken from 7-20 July 2022.

During the said period and in preparation of the final report, the Committee was assisted by representatives from the Environmental Investment Fund (EIF) and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry Tourism: Climate Unit.

Acronyms

CBNRM	Community Based Natural Resource Management in Namibia
EDA	*Enhancing Direct Access*
CRAVE	Climate Resilient Agriculture in the three Vulnerable Extreme northern crop growing regions
HA	Hectare
EIF	Environmental Investment Fund
INDC	Intended National Determined Contributions
NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
IREMA	Improving Rangeland and Ecosystem Management Practices for Smallholder Farmers under conditions of climate change
MAWLR	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform
GCF	Green Climate Fund
DEBOUT	Design, Build, Operate and Transfer
AMTA	Agro-Marketing and Trade Agency
NAB	Namibia Agronomic Board
NILALEG	Namibia Integrated Landscape Approach for Enhancing Livelihoods and Environmental Governance to Eradicate Poverty
PCLD	Small scale community farmers

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

In conformity with decisions 1/CP.20 of the conference of parties, Namibia submitted its intended National Determined Contributions (INDC) to the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change towards achieving the ultimate objective of the Convention as set out in Article 2 before the 01 October 2015. Namibia indeed takes climate change issues seriously and the submission of INDC is a clear testimony that the country is committed to fight climate change. To this end, the country has put in place policies and strategies to deal with adverse impacts of climate change.

In line with the recommendations made at the awareness workshop with the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism which was held between 23-24 October 2020 in Otjiwarongo, the recommendation read in part that in order for the Committee to understand the impact and efforts that government had put in place to address climate related changes, the Standing Committee considered to undertake field visits to six (06) regions, namely Kunene, Ohangwena, Kavango West, Kavango East, Zambezi and //Karas regions, respectively, in order to fully comprehend the impact and efforts government has put in place to address climate change and related effects. The Committee was assisted by representatives from the Environmental Investment Fund (EIF) and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry Tourism: Climate Unit in the preparation of the final report.

2. MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE

The Standing Committee on Natural Resources has the duty to;

(a) Consider any matter it deems relevant with regard to the Offices, Ministries, Agencies, and all State-owned Enterprises and Parastatals responsible for the following category of affairs which shall, inter alia, include: Agriculture, Water and Forestry; Environment, and Tourism; Fisheries and Marine Resources; Mines and Energy and Land Reform.
(b) Monitor, enquire into, and make recommendations to the Assembly on matters that may directly or indirectly affect the natural resources of the Republic of Namibia and its people;
(c) Operate with a vision to promote sustainable utilization of Namibia's natural resources;
(d) Review and advice the National Assembly on the activities and matters related to the agriculture, water and forestry;
(e) Ensure that government put restraint on environmental degradation and protect the environment;

(f) Review and advice the National Assembly on matters related to mines and energy sectors;
(g) Ensure a fair distribution of farming land and productive utilization of it in Namibia;

2.1 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Standing Committee on Natural Resources has 23 Members of Parliament.

3. METHODOLOGY

All projects visited are funded by the Green Climate Fund through the Environmental Investment Fund and Global Environment Facility with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform being the executing entity while the one funded by the Adaptation Fund, is executed by NamWater, individually. Therefore, for the Members to obtain all the necessary information and evidence relevant to the projects the Committee resolved to undertake field visits to Fransfontein horticultural production and infrastructure development, Sorri Sorris lodge – green technology solar plant, Warmquelle green scheme, and the Seven day fodder production plant including small stock production – Ehirovipuka conservancy in Kunene region, Okongo Community forest – horticultural production (food security) in Ohangwena region, individual farmers garden, Sigone Demo site, Shankara Demo site and Ncamagoro community Forest in Kavango West, Salem horticultural production (food security and agribusiness) in Kavango East, Kopano farmers, Makanga Demo site, NILALEG small stock supporting project and Saili Demo site/individual farmers in Zambezi and lastly a pilot rural desalination plant using renewable power and the membrane technology and the //Gamaseb & !Gawachab horticulture production in //Kharas regions, respectively.

The visits entailed meeting with direct beneficiaries and with open to the community members and the Media. All beneficiaries were consulted without prejudice and requested to make either a presentation to the Committee or avail any supporting evidence, documentation to strengthen their stance on the projects. All substantiating documents received will form part of the report as annexures.

4. OBJECTIVES OF THE VISIT

The Main objectives of conducting these field visits was for the Committee to

1. conduct oversight of the interventions as stipulated in the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

2. Assess progress made in the implementation for the projects aimed at increasing the country's adaptation and mitigation measures;
3. Understand the impact of the projects towards meeting the Paris Accord and benefits to communities;
4. Financing of the projects, accountability in producing audit reports on expenditure;
5. Appreciate efforts made by the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism and the EIF to fully utilize climate funding avenues to help bring to reality resilient initiatives;
6. Involvement of Regional leadership, community members in the project identification to ensure collective ownership;
7. Render encouragement, motivation and political will and support for the projects;
8. Challenges/difficulties faced by the projects with a view to finding solutions to overcome them.
9. recommend strategies for better implementation of climate change adaptation interventions;

5. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of the report is to inform the National Assembly of the Committee's Findings and recommendations on the visit to climate change funded projects for discussion and adoption.

6. DISCUSSIONS AND FINDINGS

6.1 COURTESY CALL ON THE GOVERNOR: KUNENE REGION

The Mayor of Khorixas Town, who stood in for the Governor, welcomed the delegation. She expressed gratitude to the delegation saying she was thankful to learn that the community was being addressed by Members of Parliament. The Mayor said that for many years the region was hard hit by persistent drought, consequently, farmers lost massive livestock, accompanied by an attack on the flora and fauna from the increase in weather patterns and heat waves. All these made production a mammoth challenge. Therefore, she pleaded with government to align itself with international conventions on climate change and see to it that funded projects, yield positive results, with everyone playing their part in advocating for a greener and eco-friendly environment. Khorixas Town Council was ready to play its part in conjunction with the leadership.

6.2. FRANSFONTEIN – HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT – IREMA PROJECT

In addressing climate driven challenges, specifically, in the Kunene region, the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR) in partnership with the Environmental Investment Fund (EIF), implemented a twelve million Namibia dollar (N$ 12,000,000.00) project titled "Improving Rangeland and Ecosystem Management Practices for Smallholder Farmers under conditions of climate change (IREMA). After the Regional and Traditional Authority availed the land, gardening at Fransfontein started operating in 1895 to 1897, then the Regional Council under the resettlement office took over the land, with a right to use given to the community for agriculture production to address food security.

At the Committee visit, the project had already delivered tangible crops, however, most of them were still seedlings with a few harvestable produce. The project infrastructure at the garden features include installation of a 400m3 water reservoir, the rehabilitation of two boreholes, bulk water pipelines, solar plant, drip irrigation systems, a shade net and solar powered electric fence to deter marauding elephants from invading the property. The garden is currently under production and the bumper harvest is expected during the third week of October 2022. Water is sourced from a nearby fountain; however, its yielding capacity was said to be too small. Alternative option to boost water supply is established and consideration is underway to rehabilitate 3 nearby boreholes, this will be done in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Land Reform.

It was worth noting that the Fransfontein project is a sister project to two other projects in the region, namely Sesfontein Community Garden and Warmquelle Green Scheme and all three areas are serviced through various climate change interventions. In the Fransfontein settlement, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) invested over twelve million to upgrade a sixteen (16) hectares community garden and rehabilitate 9 boreholes to the amount of 9,5million. Situated 27km north of Khorixas is Fransfontein garden, of the sixteen hectares' land only 10 ha is under production with 600 square meter under shade net.

The garden grows onions, tomatoes, spinach, carrots cabbage and maize in both the greenhouse and outside the greenhouse. It is expected to yield fresh produce for both own consumption and the market with the expected harvesting date to be in October. Electric fence was erected to deter stray wild animals, especially elephants.

6.3. SORRI -SORRIS LODGE – GREEN TECHNOLOGY (SOLAR PLANT) – EDA PROJECT

Conservancies have enabled equitable natural resource use, which did not exist prior to their formation.

The Joint-venture lodges and conservation hunting concessions are based on formal agreements, which oblige operators to share profits and to employ and train local staff. In return, conservancies provide eco-services such as the management of wildlife habitat and anti-poaching activities, which benefit the private sector.

Handed over to the Conservancy in early 2020, the Sorri-Sorris solar plant is one of the grants funded under the Community Based Natural Resource Management in Namibia (CBNRM) *Enhancing Direct Access* (EDA) Project. The CBNRM EDA Project secured 10 million USD funding from Green Climate Fund. The solar plant was constructed at the cost of approximately N$ 5.2 Million. The project was initiated in 2015 through the Ministry of Environment and Tourism which facilitated in securing funds from the Green Climate Fund. The plant is expected to generate about N$400 000 worth of electricity bought directly for the plant and realize an increase of 5% annually, of which the incremental amount will go directly to the conservancy, the Committee was informed.

6.4 WARMQUELLE GREEN SCHEME IREMA PROJECT

Built on a fifteen (15) hectare land, Warmquelle is an IREMA five year funded project implemented in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land reform with a funding of 17 million. It is very challenging to fund and promote projects that benefits government directly, but given the Kunene landscape the Environmental Investment Fund managed to develop and operationalize under the Green Scheme policy and guided modalities, what is soon to become a Climate-Smart Learning Center in the Kunene region. It was built under the DEBOUT model meaning (Design, Build, Operate and Transfer) project to the community once complete. The project is currently at the build stage were development and renovation of production infrastructure, are underway in Kunene. The project started in 2019 and is expected to complete by the year 2024, however, with the year 2024 fast approaching, it is anticipated that the project will be extended for a year at no cost.

The center showcases the best agricultural practices which will transfer knowledge to the communities so that they are able to produce food at household level despite the challenges of climate change.

The center has seven greenhouses, one fresh produce storage facility, staff accommodation, solar powered pumps, a dam and bulk pipelines for open irrigation. The Committee Members echoed the complexities of work on the ground however, they expressed satisfaction and applauded the scheme on the installation of the greenhouses in general.

Critical in this area is the water source, which is currently from Ongongo fontein, some 6 kilometers from the green scheme. However, the project was busy rehabilitating the earth dam, solar and 7 green house, 3 green shade nets, warehouse, as well as accommodation facilities for workers. The centre has 111 small scale farmers as beneficiaries who utilizes an area of 502 square meters. For the farmers, producing fresh produce comes in bulk but, the challenge is with the market and the preservation of fresh produce in a cold storage after production. AMTA and NAB are also on board, however, only on an advisory capacity.

Through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with EIF and the World Food program the two entities identified 10 eligible schools for a school feeding programme to complement market access of fresh produce.

6.5 OTJOKOVARE - EHIROVIPUKA CONSERVANCY– EDA_CBNRM PROJECT

Otjokovare-Ehirovipuka is production of fodder through the use of hydroponic technology which is aimed at strengthening the resilience of vulnerable small-scale livestock farmers in Ehi-Rovipuka Conservancy funded at an amount of N$ 4,500,000.00. The implemented initiative is an innovative project that has the potential of improving the lives of the farmers in Otjokovare if the sustainability element is addressed. The project procured small stock which operates as a revolving scheme to empower and restock for the community. A seven-day fodder production system has potential to sustain the small stock on site and trade to other farmers to generate income for the conservancy.

The project is halted by nonfunctional water pump contributing to shortfall of seven days' pastures production and to date the project lost about 56 goats due to drought. Water supply to the hydroponic fodder system requires urgent attention. The project has been completed and handed over to the community members who run the project on their own. Within the conservancy is a lodge which is owned by white Germans, the lodge rents from the conservancy an undisclosed little rental fee which is used to buy few items for the conservancy

6.6 COURTESY CALL ON THE GOVERNOR: OHANGWENA REGION

The Governor briefed the Committee on the situation in the region, describing it to be calm. He said on the socio economic sphere the region is classified as one of the poorest in the country but has many potentials for small scale farmers. However, the region experiences a critical water supply shortage, with some sites experiencing severe shortages and not able to apply irrigation as an adaptation measure.

Places such as Okongo, Oshikunde, Epembe and nearby areas struggle with portable water supply too, with Okongo affected the worst because there is no

portable water fit for either human or animal consumption. This is due to the current water set up whereby Okongo is not connected to the national water supply system however, a few boreholes have been drilled through the public procurement policy but the system is very rigid and unable to accommodate precarious and dire community needs.

For the small scale farmers, irrigation system for their plants still leaves a lot to be desired. This was attributed to a combination of factors such as low water pump pressure whilst at other sites, projects had no provision for drilling boreholes due to environmental social safeguards issues for the project. At Okongo Community forest, he said, farmers are producing, however access to the market after production is very limited for the small-scale farmers to sell their products despite the bumper harvest resulting from EIF supported activities.

At the same engagement, the EIF provided an indication that there is a project proposal in the pipeline for the Ohangwena aquifer that is aimed at addressing the water shortage in Ohangwena Region. Also the decentralization policy was not working for the regions, especially when it comes to the distribution of national resources and resource mobilization. An example of the aquifer was given, where Ohangwena region was found to have underground water source, but a study was done by the government of Germany to try and extract this water but halted due to the costs. Therefore, the region gets water supply from Oshikoto region but at a very small scale. With this said, the Committee was requested to emulate what Angola has done. Angola constructed massive dams and canals which were unveiled in July, unfortunately, these dams were not built to flow into Namibia, and Namibia must therefore build its own.

6.7. OKONGO COMMUNITY FOREST HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTION (FOOD SECURITY) – EDA CBNRM PROJECT

The Okongo community forests was lauded to be one of the few good initiatives in the country that should be replicated in other regions. It had yield positive results in a short period of time after inception.

Agriculture in the region carries a higher risk due to increasing drought, irregular flooding and wildlife conflict. Economic diversification to include the sustainable use of indigenous resources such as wildlife, which is drought-resilient, and naturally occurring indigenous plants, can mitigate the impact.

Built on a 7500 hectare including a quarantine, the Okongo community forest aims to keep cattle grazing fields and create employment too many community members, including the san people. It has a wood carving plant, grazing area, a beehive, guinea fowl farm and horticultural activities.

The small scale farmers (SCF) take precedence, as they produced from the community garden crops like tomatoes, cabbage, water melon, onions, green pepper and carrots. However, water supply was in critical shortage and farmers are not able to apply irrigation as an adaptation measure. This was attributed to a combination of factors such as low water pump pressure, lack of drilling provision for boreholes due to safeguards measures of the project. There was lack of market for SCF to sell their products despite the bumper harvest which was as a result of supported activities. The project has since introduced an online irrigation system which is currently on autopilot, with community members capacitated to take over once completed.

SCF indicated that pricing was also a challenge as it was not regulated, and often retailers determine the selling price which turns out to be very low for the SCF. This situation puts a burden on the farmer's operational costs because a result, a large amount of perishable produce goes to waste which further impacts negatively farmers' incomes

The Forest's income has also been affect after government place a moratorium on cutting of timber. The project wishes to consider acquiring a 10 000liters water tanks and a weighting scale.

6.8 **NDEVAHOMA'S BUSH KRAAL – Livestock marketing Project in Okongo**

The Namibia Integrated Landscape Approach for Enhancing Livelihoods and Environmental Governance to Eradicate Poverty (NILALEG) are projects which aims to promote an integrated landscape management approach in key agricultural and forest landscapes, reducing poverty through sustainable nature-based livelihoods, protecting biodiversity and restoring forests as carbon sinks, and promoting Land Degradation Neutrality. It has instilled a paradigm shift in both the Ohangwena and Zambezi rural communities especially on the targeted landscapes, and subsequent positive project impacts for all regions where it is being implemented.

The project is unique in many ways because it firstly utilizes a landscape approach in addressing environmental and climate induced threats to Namibian livelihoods. This approach seeks to provide tools and concepts for managing land to achieve social, economic, and environmental objectives in areas where agriculture, forest management, and other productive land uses compete with environmental and biodiversity goals.

A state of the art kraal managed by community members was launched under the PCLD (Small scale commercial farmers). The kraal received a grant of 730,000 for a total revamp of the complex, apportioned to various activities like awareness, material, feasibility study, adverts, exchange visits for the farmers, and refurbishment which cost an extra N$600,00.

It came after the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Land reform introduced a leasehold agreement. The kraal serves people who are also outside the poly, state and community. When production is ongoing, on a normal scale, income generation of the kraal is divide between the state, community and employee. The challenge the community has is the marketing of its stock within the Ohangwena region but it is a predominate area in cattle farming in the region.

The project started off as a loading pen, which used poles for loading and auction ploy. When NILALEG intervened, it helped the project transform from an ordinary kraal to an auction pen. It also helps community members who want to help themselves. For the past two auctions, the association doubled their trading figures from around N$600 000 to N$1.7 million worth of livestock traded.

6.9 COURTESY CALL ON THE GOVERNOR: KAVANGO WEST REGION

The Governor briefed and applauded the Committee for going to his region. She said the region is endowed with vast natural resources, and that there was a need to utilize or nurture it in order to improve the livelihood of the communities. The year 2018 was identified agriculture as a key sector for the country, however, with the prolonged drought that has been prevailed for the past 3 years, it was very difficult to achieve this. She said there were 6 horticultural farms within the Kapako constituency in Kavango West, with 2 small scale farmers and Ncamagoro funded by EIF. She also mentioned the embargo on timber to be a hindrance in community income generating project, as they yield close to nothing.

She also said, she was worried there has been an influx of Committee visits to her region, however, no report is shared with her office in regard to the Committee visits or recommendations.

6.10 SIGONE DEMO SITE – HORITICULTURAL PRODUCTIONS - CRAVE PROJECT

Sigone, registered through the Traditional Authority of Mbunza, the land was cleared in 2016 with the assistance of different stakeholder. In 2018 COVID-19 hit the world and Namibia in March, during that year work was halted but managed to resume in 2021. With 30,000 litres per cubic meter per hour, the pipeline at the project pumps 2 km from the river to the garden. If was funded to an amount of 2.9 million with most of it utilized to set up the solar plant, purchase pumps, water tanks and drip irrigation pipes.

This project is a far hybrid horticulture production commenced and have generated about N$ 9000 in revenue. While the management Committee is now fully functional. It is an employer of 38 small scale farmers. In the same year the project managed to collect an amount of N$1205 of green produce, 25 kg bags of mahangu under dryland production, etc. The farmers managed to generate an amount of N$5500 from mahangu harvest.

6.11 COURTESY CALL ON THE GOVERNOR: KAVANGO EAST REGION

The Kavango East Governor shared some of the challenges the region faces, like that of prevailing high level of poverty and non-performance of some of the green schemes in the region. He called on Members to engage in productive deliberations with every farmer and try to map solutions to their problems upon return to the national Assembly.

He informed that delegation that he was so disturbed to learn through social media that Kavango region is rated as the poorest region in the country, but surprisingly, both Kavango East and Kavango West are home to eleven green schemes. The Governor was appreciative that government has invested in green schemes which have provided employment to many in the region. However, he was not happy with status quo of Uvungu vungu dairy project, which he said was lying idle, after government spent so much money putting up expensive machinery. He said, the region is endowed with natural resources with a fertile soil landscape, a conducive climate, with enablers also provided to grow plants. He further said, Kavango west, Kavango East and the Zambezi regions have the potential to become Namibia's breadbasket for the country if only they can be provided with the right infrastructure and funded equitably compared to other regions.

The Governor concluded by saying that poverty, if not properly defined and addressed, has the potential to create instability in the country. Hence national leadership should look at the needs and potential of a region when distributing the funds.

6.12 SALEM HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTION (FOOD SECURITY AND AGRIBUSINESS) CRAVE PROJECT

Established some 4 decades ago, with forty-three beneficiaries with the aim of demonstrating a sustainable crop practice, climate smart technologies application to improve yield and roll out to Climate Conservation Agriculture (CCA) adaptation practices. Salem demonstration site is built on the edge of the Kavango river within the Shambyu Traditional Authority (TA) covering a fifty-three (53) Hectares (HA). The community has been engaging in horticulture production for the past 40 years.

At inception, the garden had no functional water pump and nursery to produce seedlings. Then CRAVE project came in, it boosted the demonstration site with climate smart technologies and targeted beneficiaries to be able to improve adaptive capacities with respect to climate change. A two hundred and fifty (250) square meter nursery and 124 kilowatts solar water pump with 266 solar panel modules were installed. Ultimately the system promotes the use of water conservation and energy efficiency technologies for agricultural production.

Furthermore, a 53HA fence perimeter was installed to protect the production on site. To ensure sustainability of site interventions the site is currently advocating for the facilitation of the finalization of farmers' Association and Management plan.

The demonstration site has 80 beneficiaries, forty-six (46) direct and one hundred and eighty-four (184) indirect beneficiaries. With the ongoing project, 65 jobs were created during the development of the infrastructure for people to work on fencing, irrigation system and the installation of the solar pumps. Thirty-four hectares is under production prepared with improved organic soil through the application of organic fertilizers such as manure and bio char. It produces crops like sweet potatoes, cabbage, water melon, carrot, beetroot, onion, spinach, garlic, green pepper, tomato, eggplant, pumpkin, mutate (a local spinach), sugar cane, lettuce and green maize. At the site at least 43 beneficiaries empowered through participation in activities on the horticulture production, conservation agriculture, solar system operation and marketing training.

To strengthen the adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risks, increase yields per hectare and contribute to the increase in the horticulture market shares, a thirty-four hectares' area is under production with a contract based model facilitated through AMTA and Namibia Agronomic Board (NAB).

6.13. SHANKARA DEMO SITE - CRAVE PROJECT

The members were taken through the site which is under production mainly female members indicated that the project's productivity is encouraging to see specially the number of employments it created for the local community. The revenue generated by the project can being increased tremendously if new markets are secured for the farmers. Market access tend to be a challenge every year as local shelves in Rundu cannot absorb all produce. There is a need to expand on the number of supply contracts currently in place, this can be done by securing assistance from the line Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform in this regard.

6.14 NCAMAGORO COMMUNITY FOREST - EDA PROJECT

The CBNRM EDA funded project has and continue to positively affect the lives of the Ncamagoro Communities and neighboring communities by enabling access to vegetables. The confiscated logs are losing value due to harsh weather conditions (sun and rainfall) that they are subjected to.

6.15 COURTESY CALL ON THE GOVERNOR: ZAMBEZI REGION

The Governor thanked the delegation for coming, especially that they were on a visit looking as ways to enhance food security in the country. Concerns were shared around national interest matters such the current prevailing challenges on human and wildlife conflicts and dragging implementation on some projects

6.16 KOPANO FARMERS: CRAVE PROJECT

Located on a 25 HA that lies along the Mighty Zambezi river but in the proximity of Katima Mulilo Town, Kopano Community Vegetable, Fruit and Poultry Project (KCFVPP) started operating 16 years ago under irrigation and individually on dry land farming in their respective villages. Kopano had twelve members of which 5 are males and seven are females. From the above number, six are CRAVE beneficiaries (4 males and two females). From the six beneficiaries only 3 receive materials funded by the project, namely three submersible sola pumps though they were not working properly from inception. Eighteen solar panels are divided among the three beneficiaries. However, all members benefitted from the ripping and ploughing services for land preparations. The remaining three members only received left over materials from Saili demonstration project after a waiting period of five years. Such materials were seven drip irrigation pipes, two hundred connectors, two fustigation tanks (small), 8x 40 mm black pipes and one submersible water pump.

CRAVE beneficiaries received training on crop productions from nursery to harvest, training on fertilizer application diseases and pesticides, exposure visits to Tsumeb farms, Olushandja and Outapi and finally a value addition training on products produced from the gardens.

The CRAVE project aims at directly targeting 3000 SSF on a 5000 HA, while adopting, adapting and up taking both the practices and alternative technologies such as minimum tillage, maximum soil cover, crop rotation and or intercropping, combined with improved access to sustainable water and renewable energy. These are to be achieved through four complimentary components and sub outputs beginning with the Mashare Climate Resilient Agriculture Center of Excellence (MCRAVE) facility, Small-scale farmer's exposure and vulnerability to climate risks and effects reduced and 3, 3 crop insurance scheme set up.

Alternative sustainable access for off-grid solar energy technology widely promoted, adopted and applied and the last component is cross cutting elements, including learning, best practice, replication and knowledge management.

6.17 MAKANGA DEMO SITE - CRAVE PROJECT

Makanga has fourteen villages on both east and west of the conservancy. In 2017 the regional leadership approached the Linyanti Traditional Authority to avail land to be used as a demo site for the production of fresh produce under the CRAVE project. The garden was envisaged to benefit the people of Makanga from all fourteen villages and their surroundings. A ten (10) HA land was granted in 2019, debushing and fencing of the site was done the same year. This garden is not operational. The ten HA was subdivided into 9 plots for production after community members were trained on seed planting, weeding etc. The site was planned for a dry land production of which all these promises were unfortunately never fulfilled.

Given that the project is in its last year of implementation Farmers are no longer sure if the promised infrastructure will ever be provided. EIF is to engage the community on the future of Makanga demo site.

6.18 GUNKWE COMMUNITY FARMERS ASSOCIATION – NILALEG PROJECT

Kalumba community project is about 25 kilometers outside Katima Mulilo, it is a sister project to the NDEVAHOMA'S BUSH KRAAL – Livestock marketing Project in Okongo, equally a NILALEG project. Beneficiaries were envisaged to be from vulnerable groups in the community however due to delayed implementation processes, this is yet to be realised. The project was informed that they would receive 550,000 grant, which were disbursed, and continue to be disbursed in phases, however, the livestock is yet to be delivered. Livestock's have been procured and a borehole was drilled using own funds of the Chairperson of the farmers.

6.19 SAILI DEMO SITE/INDIVIDUAL FARMERS - CRAVE PROJECT

Saili demonstration site is built on a nine (9) HA land although not all 9 HA are being utilized, it has a membership of twenty-two individual farmers who are direct beneficiaries. The site sits on the brink of the Zambezi River in the MaSubia (Veekhuhane) Traditional Authority. The project was to commence earlier in 2017 but because of a lack of coordination among community members there was a delay at implementation date and also there were conflicts of land ownership between community members, and the same community members were urged to approach the traditional authority to intervene and address these conflicts.

At the launch, the site had individual farmers planting and fetching water from the river for irrigation. After obtaining assistance from Red Cross in the form of water pipes in early 2012 the demonstration site progressed well but the watering process was still very hard until end of 2012 when CRAVE stepped in with assistance.

CRAVE bought for qualifying individual farmers a tractor, solar panels, water pumps, drip irrigation etc, however, the quality of the irrigation pipes is of very poor quality and it was advisable that Engineers carry out assessment of materials before they are delivered to the site for quality assurance. There is also more of human wild life conflict on the site than any other crime, hence the need to install more water tanks to avoid wild animals competing for water with human beings. The site has dripper nor electric fence to protect crops from the marauding elephants and other wild animals. The demo site is involved in growing horticultural produce like sweet potatoes, cabbage, carrot, beetroot, onion, spinach, garlic, green pepper, tomato, egg plan, pumpkin and maize. The project is said to have been set up at a cost of 1.4 million Namibian dollar.

There is a lack of communication between the Project Management Unit of EIF and community members. While on the site, the Committee observed that there is a huge difference in regional experiences with different regions experiencing different challenges, be it on the lay out of the site, funding, land tenure, EIF certificates, obtaining of land and relevant documentations. The latter experience disputes however, such disputes are unhealthy and counterproductive, they bring activities at the project site to a complete halt. On site the Committee also learnt that EIF hires a site contractor, who is supervised by the EIF contracted engineering project manager, in turn the contractor also hires an onsite engineer. This arrangement needs proper coordination to avoid miscommunication between the parties. This practice was found to lead to mal-administration of projects. At Saili demo site a serious leakage on the filter and overflow on the breathers which carries a 20 solar panel plant was observed. An iron angel is much needed for security of the premises to protect the solar panel.

6.20 PILOT RURAL DESALINATION PLANT USING RENEWABLE POWER AND MEMBRANE TECHNOLOGY - NAMWATER

The desalination plant is located in Bethanie, Karas region. The water supply scheme consists of two production boreholes with a recommended total abstraction of 900 m^3 per day. Boreholes are located in the Konkiep River, 50 m apart and approximately 2.85 km away from the main reservoir. A 150 mm diameter, 2 850 m long pipeline with a design capacity of 1 527 m^3per day connects the two boreholes to the main reservoir.

The main reservoir is a concrete ground level reservoir with a capacity of 750 m^3, which collects the water from the boreholes and from there it is lifted by two booster pumps to the WTP.

The estimated water demand is 487 m3 per day. Namibia has Water Quality Guidelines states that the water quality reference standards to be used are provided by NamWater and describes two different ranges for drinking water, namely the ideal guideline value and the acceptable standard. The ideal guideline is stricter and describes the ideal concentration of a number of variables to protect human health. The acceptable standard is more lenient and describes water quality which is deemed "acceptable" for human consumption. This is important as Namibia is an arid environment and water is scarce. Therefore, availability of water supply will dictate the required treatment options, final quality and price.

6.21 //GAMASEB & !GAWACHAB HORTICULURAL PRODUCTION - EDA PROJECT SITE

The //Gamaseb and !Gawachab conservancies are two conservancies under one joint funding, however being more than 180 kilometers apart, jointly received 3-million-dollar funding but due to distance and capacity the project if stalling. The community said they need assistance in terms of contracts to meet donor funding criteria. They said, different stakeholders were involved in the project, together they made up the //Gamaseb & !Gawachab horticultural production. However, the garden is located in //Gamaseb.

In 2019 there were negotiations with the conservancy till 2020 more important was that in the year 2020 when the conservancy got funding from EIF, the implementation was gracefully supported by the Climate dynamic as a supporting agency, however, there was a lot of technological work and not just the school work. Since then //Gamaseb and !Gawachas were set up in the //Kharas region, the first of its kind using technological climate resilient technics. The two conservancies were jointly trained but at implementation, due to the distance between the two communities, lack of transport and accommodation for the furthest community members, in this instance (the !Gawachab), the two conservancies could not reach consensus as to how to move forward. The two communities were at logger heads with the project implementation activities as to who has to bear which costs and who not.

At the beginning of the project, few youth members availed themselves, however without payment, the process gradually became difficult and many youths left the site citing transport and food at the facility to be a challenge, even work without payment became impossible. The project is currently dormant with well-established and high Tech infrastructure as a result no production is envisaged.

7. FINDINGS

The Committee's main findings were that:

- The funding allocation is not clearly defined;
- progress was being made in the implementation of the EIF projects aimed at increasing the country's adaptation and mitigation measures;
- Financing of regional projects, accountability on expenditure reports is a challenge;
- Allocation of resources does not take regional needs, landscape and number of beneficiaries into consideration;
- There is minimal information to the beneficiaries regarding the allocation of funds, and involvement of Regional leadership,
- Absence of direct identification of community members in the project to ensure collective ownership;
- There is a lack of strategies for better implementation of climate change adaptation interventions according to the regions; There are no decentralized services of the EIF services in the regions

8. CONCLUSION

The visit provided the Committee with an insight on green climate funded projects through the EIF in the six regions, namely, Kunene, Ohangwena, Kavango West, Kavango East, Zambezi and Karas. The visit also afforded Members of the Committee an opportunity to engage all the relevant stakeholders and solicit from the engagement valuable involvements by community members to assist and address food security in Namibia. It is the Committee's conviction that the objective of the visit was executed in accordance with section 59 (2) of the Standing Rules and Orders that it was in an open, impartial and apparent fashion relative to the INDC. The Committee also learnt that in general the EIF of Namibia was allocated a capital investment worth more than N$ 540 million dollars from the Green Climate Fund. It is currently undertaking projects in the country which once completed, will have a huge transformative impact on the livelihood of Namibians in drought-stricken regions. Therefore, action should be taken today, because without action today, adaptation will be costlier and more difficult for the next generations.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform:

- to assist to expand on the number of supply contracts

Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism:

- To removal the timber moratorium

Environmental Investment Fund:

- to identify best modality to operationalize the Southern region project

AMTA :

- to ensure access to marketing for small scale farmers

NAB:

- Increase market shares of horticulture produce in the country

MEMBERS SIGNATURES

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Hon. Agnes Mpingana Kafula, Deputy Chairperson ----------

Hon. Gotthard Kandume ----------

Hon. Herlinde Tjiveze ----------

Hon. Dr Tangeni Iijambo ----------

Hon. Johanna Kandjimi ----------

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