MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE ACCOUNT NAMIBIA

FACT SHEET

OMAHEKE REGION

POVERTY REDUCTION THROUGH ECONOMIC GROWTH
The Government of the Republic of Namibia and the U.S. Government signed a grant funding agreement, the Millennium Challenge Account Namibia (MCA-N) Compact to the value of US$ 304.5 million (N$ 3 billion) on 28 July 2008. The five-year implementation period for projects in the education, agriculture and tourism sectors commenced on 16 September 2009 and will end on 15 September 2014.

The Compact is funded by the United States Government through the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) and aims to reduce poverty through economic growth by increasing the competence of the Namibian workforce, improving access to quality education as well as increasing productivity of agriculture and tourism enterprises in communal areas.

MCA-N is the programme implementing unit under the National Planning Commission (NPC) and cooperates closely with Government beneficiary sector ministries and agencies, namely the Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (MAWF), Ministry of Lands and Resettlement (MLR), Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET), Namibia Tourism Board (NTB) and the Namibia Training Authority (NTA).

MCA-N has adopted a results and business-oriented approach to successfully execute all project activities within the prescribed implementation period.

April 2014
**Textbooks**

**Objective:**

To improve the learner:textbook ratio and increase the efficiency in textbook procurement and delivery, thereby improving learner performance.

**Achievements:**

- Learners in more than 40 schools in Omaheke Region received 30,077 English, Mathematics, and Science textbooks as well as other learning materials for grades 5 to 12 to the combined value of approx. N$ 2 million. Remaining schools either have lower grades or did not order. Textbooks received in 2010: 15,049; in 2012: 1,831, while 13,194 textbooks were procured in 2014.

- Other support provided by MCA-N under this activity is a new icloud-based Management Information System (MiS) for Learning Support Material (LSM), which was launched in March 2014. This MIS will reduce the time between ordering and delivery of textbooks to schools. Every school in the country with electricity will be linked to the textbook procurement system. LSM MIS was launched in March 2014.

For Omaheke Region learners, this means receiving books well in time and in sufficient quantity to aid their learning.
Continuous Professional Development (CPD)

Objective:

To offer opportunities to teachers, teacher educators, education managers and inspectors, principals and subject advisors as well as HIV/AIDS coordinators to continuously upgrade their skills in order to improve overall quality of education.

Achievements:

- MCA Namibia supported the University of Namibia (UNAM) in establishing a national Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Unit through a grant agreement valued at N$ 14.4 million. Simultaneously, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the joint coordination and future CPD financing was signed between the Ministry of Education (MoE) and UNAM.

- Early training has focused on textbook management training, school management and administration, preventative and other maintenance as well as HIV/AIDS prevention and management.

- CPD Unit trained 200 Master Trainers. These trainers are training relevant teachers in all the regions until June 2014.

Omaheke Region has a Coordinating Committee and learners will ultimately benefit from better skilled teachers and education managers.
Objective:

To address poor quality of school infrastructure and equipment, reduce overcrowding in classrooms and to attract well qualified teachers to remote areas.

Achievements:

MCA-N upgraded, renovated and equipped 3 schools in the Omaheke Region, namely

- Epako Senior Secondary School,
- Gustav Kandjii Junior Secondary School,

Learners at these Omaheke schools now enjoy additional classrooms, new libraries, science and computer laboratories with internet connection.
New Furniture and Equipment

Objective:

To create a better learning environment for both learners and teachers.

Achievements:

- Laptops and Desktop Computers
- ICT teacher laptops
- LCD projectors
- Network Printers
- Chairs combined
- Learner Desks
- Teacher Tables
- Teacher Filing Cabinets

For Oмаheke Region learners, this means that they can learn better and ultimately improve their school performance with these new facilities.
**Objective:**

To redress inequalities in access to knowledge and learning resources, thus contributing to building human capital in disadvantaged regions.

**Achievements:**

- MCA-N constructed and equipped a new 2,465 m² RSRC at Gobabis to cater for and support all constituencies and students in the region to the value of approximately N$ 47 million. The RSRC will provide an alternative to the existing one-room community libraries, which have insufficient space to meet student and learner demands, as well as insufficient collections to support secondary-level and distance students.

- In order to reach remote areas within the region, a Mobile Library Unit was purchased to further help instil a culture of reading in rural communities. The Mobile Library Unit will be equipped with 1,000 books, 1 printer and 6 laptops with internet capability.

**Special specifications:**

- The RSRC is designed to be energy efficient.

- Electricity cost is reduced through the use of green energy produced by 700m² solar panels.

- Computer and Audio-Visual Centre that can accommodate around 80 persons.

- Study spaces for 220 learners.

- A hall that can accommodate 125 persons.

- Total capacity: 600 people.

For Omaheke Region residents, this development means that they now have adequate and improved access to modern learning resources, enabling them to gain general as well as specific knowledge in order to successfully compete on the employment market.
MCA-N
Intervention Areas

EDUCATION
Quality of General Education
- 47 Schools
Vocational and Skills Training
- COSDECs
- Arts and Crafts Centre
Regional Study and Resource Centres
- RSRCS

TOURISM
Improving Etosha Management and Infrastructure
- Etosha National Park
- ENP Staff Village
Marketing Namibia in Tourism
- Arid Eden Tourist Route
- Four Rivers Tourist Route
- Omulunga Palm Tourist Route
Conservancy Development Support Services
- Supported Conservancies

AGRICULTURE
Communal Land Support
- Operational Areas
Community Based Rangeland and Livestock Management
- Rangeland Intervention Areas

Livestock Support
- State Veterinary Offices (SVO)
- Quarantine Camps
Veterinary Cordon fence

Indigenous Natural Products (Supported PPO's)
- Commiphora
- Commiphora & Sarcocaulon
- Devil's Claw
- Marula
- Mopane

MAP PRODUCED BY: LIDWALA CONSULTING ENGINEERS
MAP PREPARED BY: Katie Sassenberg
UPDATED: 2014-03-24
FILE NAME: intervention_map.mxd
Community Skills Development Centre (COSDEC)

Objective:

To alleviate skills constraints to enterprise growth and productivity, and to ensure that disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, school leavers and adult learners acquire competencies that are needed for gainful employment and income earning opportunities.

Achievements:

• The COSDEC was built and equipped to the value of approx. N$ 12 million. To ensure effective management at the new centre, COSDEC staff underwent training in finance, marketing strategies, computerised management information systems and documentation for the registration of courses. It will offer courses such as Office Administration, Brick Laying, Welding & Joinery and Home Economics.

Now the youth in Omaheke Region can enjoy high quality training at modern training facilities with up-to-date equipment to reach a desirable vocational qualification, which makes them more attractive for the employment market.
Livestock Support

State Veterinary Office (SVO)

Objective:

To advance Namibia’s veterinary infrastructure to improve animal health in order to improve the productivity of livestock farmers.

Achievements:

- MCA-N with co-funding from the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (MAWF) constructed the state-of-the-art Epukiro SVO at Epukiro-Pos3 (Omawevozonyanda), which comes with three staff houses and will provide for all relevant veterinary services. The building has several offices, meeting room, laboratory, sterilisation room, freezer and cold rooms, post mortem room, large and small animal treatment areas, theatre rooms, pharmacy as well as kennels and holding pens.

- The SVO valued at N$ 20 million will render services to the Otjinene, Epukiro, Rietfontein, Eiseb and Gam communal farming areas. One veterinarian and 16 supporting staff will be responsible for approximately 188,000 large stock units in the vicinity.

This facility will ensure that state veterinarians in Omaheke Region have modern facilities from which they serve livestock owners to successfully improve their productivity and the quality of their animals.
Indigenous Natural Products (INP)

Objective:
To increase income of harvesters and producers of Indigenous Natural Products (INP) by capacitating Producer and Processor Organizations (PPO) to improve INP production, processing and by training harvesters in sustainable INP gathering.

Achievements:

- In Omaheke Region MCA-N supported Indigenous Natural Product (INP) harvesters with various grants, technical support and trainings on how to harvest their products in a sustainable manner.

- MCA-N signed PPO Service Agreements with Vergenoeg, Gemsbokfontein, Tjaka Ben Hur and Donkerbos/Sonneblom, all involved in Devils Claw harvesting. They benefited from equipment and capacity building under the INP-PPO activity of MCA-N to the approximate value of N$ 2 million.

Harvesters and PPOs in Ohangwena Region are now well-positioned to collect INP more sustainably, process them more effectively and trade their products more economically.
Marketing of Namibia Tourism

Objective:

To increase international awareness of Namibia as a premium destination for tourists, translating into higher tourist numbers and growth of the Namibian tourism sector with all the accompanying benefits such as increased employment.

Achievements:

- Marketing efforts through the Namibian Tourism Board (NTB) improved through the development of a new interactive website for NTB, which also received two vehicles, computers, laptops, a printer and a projector.

- As part of the media campaign under MCA-N’s North American Destination Marketing Campaign, journalists from North America were sourced to visit Namibia and write stories.
TOURISM PROJECT
GROWING THE TOURISM INDUSTRY

- Online and offline marketing of Namibia as a tourist destination achieved accolades during the Adventure Travel World Summit (ATWS) hosted by Namibia in November 2013. In August 2013, a very successful “GoBiGNamibia” online campaign was implemented through international bloggers and well-known Namibian artist Ees told the Namibian story through their blogs, lenses and experiences.

- The “GoBiGNamibia” online campaign was initiated to position Namibia as an adventure destination ahead of the Adventure Travel World Summit and generated a wealth of new photographs and written content for the Namibia Tourism Board. MCA-N rendered support to Team Destination Namibia during ATWS preparation under the theme, “A Summit Never to Be Forgotten.”

These efforts will attract more visitors to Namibia, reaping benefits that extend to Omaheke Region.

Screenshot of the new interactive NTB website developed with funding from MCA-N.
IMPRESSIONS
MCA NAMIBIA PROJECTS IN OMAHEKE REGION

Omaheke Infrastructure

Omaheke Regional Study & Resource Centre.

New Epukiro SVO with loading ramp.

Newly constructed COSDEC at Gobabis.