Strengthening Environmental Assessment (EA) practices in Namibia

Theme 1: Specialist studies in EIA’s - how to promote a more systematic approach

Good practice in archaeological assessments: John Kinahan
Archaeological Guidelines

Intended for the client, not the specialist:

- Laws without regulations
- Industry without standards
- Promote interest and support
- Opportunity rather than obstruction
- AA/EA is the main (only?) funded research in Namibia
- Research must link with development
Role of the archaeologist

As scientist

• Operate to accepted standards of the discipline

• Retain full records of all fieldwork and analyses

• Consider the “knowledge dividend” i.e. EA must be RESEARCH DRIVEN

As consultant

• Independent of proponent and regulators

• Answerable to proponent i.r.o. confidentiality &c

• Advise proponent as to appropriate mitigation measures
Archaeology – why bother?

- Time depth vs synoptic description
  - Climate change – no buffers
- Landscape systems – time, space and process
  - High density & good precision
- Human response – climate proxy
The last 2000 years