Some Lessons learnt in construction monitoring
~ the example of MCA

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BACKGROUND:

- Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) and Namibian Government — agreement
- Millennium Challenge Account Namibia (MCA-Namibia) — manage the process
- 47 Schools Identified (MCA-Namibia & GRN through National Planning Commission) + 3 Resource Centres
PROJECT LOCATION
MCA ~ AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

• Improve the physical conditions and facilities at each school;
• Provide a significant financial and economic injection into the building construction industry of Namibia;
• Create job opportunities;
• Raise awareness about health and safety - construction workers and communities;
• Protect the biophysical environment;
• Comply with legal and environmental requirements.
NATURE OF THE PROJECT & THE EMP

• Construction based activity in a predominantly rural environment

• Main considerations for the EMP:
  • Protection of biophysical environment,
  • Avoidance of negative effects on the social environment,
  • Health and safety of workers, students and communities,
  • Continuous monitoring.
PUBLIC CONSULTATION:
## EMP RECOMMENDATIONS & MONITORING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Recommendations in the EMP</th>
<th>Compliance rating</th>
<th>Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protect biophysical environment</td>
<td>Waste management</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Fines and service fees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Protect trees/vegetation</td>
<td>Relative</td>
<td>Direct or spot fines issued for tree removals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avoid negative social impacts</td>
<td>Prevent direct interaction between workers and school children</td>
<td>Very poor in some instances</td>
<td>Pregnancies - Suspension of guilty individuals from MCA projects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and safety</td>
<td>Induction, awareness training - health, safety, HIV/AIDS.</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Withhold payments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ENSURING EMP COMPLIANCE

Was this effective?

- Withholding payments — very effective
- Suspension of worker — too little too late
- Direct fines — fines too low, opt to pay rather than to rectify
LESSONS LEARNT

• Importance of monitoring.
• Need to be strict and to the point.
• Contractors are overloaded with paper works.
• Need to be as practical and simple as possible.
• Persistency when enforcing the PHPSAP & HAAPP.
• Ineffectiveness of fines and penalties.
• The need for the Resident Engineer to be well informed on EMP issues.