National Agricultural Support Services Programme (NASSP)

Eco-regional satellite centres report No.1

NASSP Report No. 009/2004

Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development
PO Box 86743
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Windhoek
Namibia

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The Programme is complementing the Government of Namibia’s efforts to enhance the livelihood of smallholder households. The Programme has 5 components: institutional support, rural enterprises development and finance, livestock development, crop diversification and mahangu (millet) development.

The Programme is implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water & Rural Development in co-operation with parastatal organisations (Meat Board, Agronomic Board, Meatco), non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and the private sector. Technical assistance to the Programme is provided by Natural Resources International Ltd (NR International) in association with the Natural Resources Institute (NRI) and local co-operation of the Southern Africa Development & Consulting (CRIA-SA-DC) and the Namibian Economic Policy Research Unit (NEPRU).

Disclaimer

Although this report was prepared under EDF funding, the EC bears no responsibility for, nor is in any way committed to, the views and recommendations expressed herein.
Acknowledgements

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Pierre du Plessis and Saskia den Adel
Windhoek
July 2004
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<td>ADC</td>
<td>Agricultural Development Centre</td>
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<td>ARS</td>
<td>Agricultural Research Station</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAET</td>
<td>Chief Agricultural Extension Technician</td>
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<td>CRIAA SA-DC</td>
<td>Centre for Research Information and Action in Africa, Southern African Development &amp; Consulting</td>
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<td>DAPP</td>
<td>Development Aid People to People</td>
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<td>DED</td>
<td>German Development Service</td>
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<td>DEES</td>
<td>Directorate of Engineering and Extension Services (MAWRD)</td>
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<td>DoF</td>
<td>Directorate of Forestry</td>
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<td>ESC</td>
<td>Eco-regional Satellite Centre</td>
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<td>EWC</td>
<td>Eudafran Women's Co-operative</td>
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<td>FSRE</td>
<td>Farming System Research &amp; Extension</td>
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<td>GRN</td>
<td>Government of the republic of Namibia</td>
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<td>IP</td>
<td>Indigenous plant(s)</td>
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<td>IPTT</td>
<td>Indigenous Plants Task Team</td>
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<td>IRDNC</td>
<td>Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation</td>
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<td>KMS</td>
<td>Kalahari Melon Seed</td>
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<td>MADI</td>
<td>Mashare Agricultural Development Institute</td>
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<td>MAWRD</td>
<td>Ministry of Agriculture, Water &amp; Rural Development</td>
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<td>MET</td>
<td>Ministry of Environment and Tourism</td>
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<td>MRLGH</td>
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Introduction

1. The overall objective of the National Agricultural Support Services Project (NASSP) is to enhance the livelihoods of smallholder households in the communal areas of Namibia. This includes increasing the income that farmers derive from the sustainable commercialisation of indigenous plant resources. Specifically, the indigenous plants component of NASSP is expected:
   - To get more people involved with and aware of commercial activities with indigenous plants and fruits
   - To improve commercial output of products like marula and devil’s claw
   - To improve post-harvest and processing techniques
   - To increase demand for products based on indigenous plants and fruits
   - To improve coordination with neighbouring countries on development of indigenous plant resources
   - To have local people capable of managing the production chain for indigenous plant resources

2. Indigenous plants are central to rural livelihoods in all communal areas of Namibia, but their exact role varies from region to region, in accordance with local livelihood strategies. Efforts to promote commercial use of such plants have a much higher chance of success if they take full cognisance of this variability, which is an expression of local abiotic, ecological, cultural and socio-economic conditions. As a response to the inherent market and production uncertainties contained in commercialising new natural products, the Indigenous Plant Task Team (IPTT) has adopted a national “pipeline” promotion strategy for indigenous plants with commercials potential. This entails placing as many species and products as possible under the umbrella of the national programme, starting a “light and wide” assessment of their potential, and adjusting priorities as and when more information becomes available, and circumstances warrant.

3. The main challenge for a national intervention strategy is therefore to strike a balance between eco-regional and socio-economic specificities (which largely determine primary production), and the more general or generic national support structures and policies required for all natural products. A successful strategy must adequately address both the specific and the general in order to have the desired development impacts.

4. For this reason the Indigenous Plant Development Strategy Review conducted during the inception phase of NASSP recommended that:

   NASSP encourages and supports the establishment of (eco-)regional satellite centres which can serve as local foci for indigenous plant promotion. Such satellite centres can be based at GRN experimental farms, ADCs, forestry stations or (where more appropriate) can be hosted by community-level organisations such as conservancies. The aim of this work should be to institutionalise indigenous plant promotion by making it part of the on-going work of such satellite centres (and their existing networks) rather than to create
additional or new structures. NASSP can play an important facilitating role by actively pursuing synergies between indigenous plants promotion and its other components (e.g. grain storage, crop diversification, improved livestock marketing etc.) at both national and local levels. Indigenous plant use is an integral part of rural livelihoods and should therefore also be integrated into the "mainstream" of FSRE, community forestry and other extension initiatives. Regional centres must — by their very nature — adapt national strategies in a participatory manner to suit local needs, circumstances and capacity. In reality each centre is therefore likely to eventually have a unique and evolving set of indigenous plant promotion activities. In general, however, such centres could usefully contribute some or all of the following:

- local expertise about target resources and other aspects (e.g. livelihood strategies, farming systems, grassroots organisations)
- nursery facilities, propagation materials and local cultivation trials/guidance
- training in resource management, post-harvest processing, SME-level value-adding etc.
- venues, payment systems, temporary storage sites and transport assistance for (semi-)commercial intakes (pending the "privatisation" of collation systems)
- venues for pilot processing and technology demonstration
- advice on processing technologies and/or referral service for technology enquiries
- (two-way) information and communication functions (e.g. about markets and prices) through regular networking with local stakeholders
- (interim) cost-recovery sales of bottles, labels, preservatives etc.
- coordination of local-level research activities (e.g. resource surveys, participatory appraisals)
- capacity-building nodes
- regional representation on national structures (and reporting back to local level)

Getting a system of regional centres to function will require good coordination and networking at both national and regional levels.

5. Elsewhere in the *Indigenous Plant Development Strategy Review* the need for a regional outreach effort is explained as follows:

The limited involvement to date of community-level institutions ... has partly been by design: to contain *ex ante* transaction costs and to avoid stirring up too much interest before the project could deal with it ... initial efforts [were] channelled through existing community organisations whenever possible. ... In the next phase(s) of promoting the commercial use of indigenous plants it will become increasingly important to mobilise and liaise with community structures and, by implication, to allocate more resources to doing so. It is recommended that NASSP supports community outreach efforts of the national programme to promote indigenous plants use, specifically by funding systematic contacts with conservancies, FSRE focal groups, women’s groups, traditional healers, traditional authorities and other actual and potential grassroots stakeholders, and ... by financially supporting the participation of representatives of these stakeholders in [IPTT] meetings. Such outreach is closely linked to the (eco-) regionalisation advocated ... above, while regional satellite centres are obvious
conduits for the two-way communication required. The main cost of facilitating such community-level networking is time (and some transport), which can be contained by using interns ... to identify — in the course of their fieldwork, and in close cooperation with local extension staff — community-level groups that would like to get involved in local networks. While it is obviously not sustainable to subsidise the functioning of such groups on an on-going basis, it would contribute greatly to decentralised capacity building if at the least the (public) transport costs of community delegates attending regional meetings, and regional delegates attending national meetings, could be reimbursed by NASSP.

6. The objective of the current consultancy is therefore “to design and implement a system of eco-regional focal points for indigenous plant promotion activities, encourage the active participation of local stakeholders in these focal points, facilitate the participation of focal points in national IP activities, and make recommendations to the IPTT about the information, capacity-building and institutional support needs of regional focal points and their local stakeholders.” (see Terms of Reference in Appendix A)

7. The report comprises of this introduction, providing background information on the IPTT and the concept of Eco-regional Satellite Centres, a summary of key finding and recommendations for further support, and the tasks completed within this consultancy. The appendices include the terms of reference (Appendix A), a report on the field visits (Appendix B), lists of stakeholders in the different (eco-)regions (Appendix C), a simple pamphlet on the IPTT aimed at the general public (Appendix D), and a more detailed document with background information on the IPTT, aimed at potential partner institutions (Appendix E).
Summary of key findings and recommendations

8. During this consultancy, lists of regional stakeholders were finalised, a basic information pack on the aims and activities of the IPTT was prepared and distributed, and national and regional stakeholders were informed and consulted, both telephonically and during field visits.

9. Consultations with both national and regional stakeholders resulted in the identification of the following potential eco-regional satellite centres (ESC):
   - Ben Hur RDC (Omboke Region)
   - The MAWRD Regional Office in Eenhana (Ohangwena Region)
   - The RDC in Ongwediva (Oshana region)
   - The DAPP Tree Planting Project in Outapi (Omusati Region)
   - The DoF office in Rundu (Kavango Region)
   - The DoF office in Katima Mulilo (Caprivi Region)

Other centres that might become ESCs (or sub-ESCs) at a later stage include Tsumis Agricultural College in the Hardap Region, Mannheim ARS and/or Onankale ADC in the Oshikoto Region, and Mashare Agricultural Development Institute (MADI) in the Kavango Region. No doubt the list will expand as the national programme to promote indigenous plants evolves further.

10. Although it was not possible to talk to all the stakeholders in the regions during the field visits, a good start has been made, especially in Ongwediva, Outapi, Rundu, and Katima. However, some immediate follow-up needs to be done in order for the IPTT eco-regional satellite centres to become more than just another concept from just another meeting. Recommended is:
   - The regions to be included in upcoming IPTT activities as soon as and whenever possible (e.g. cultivation and processing under the green leafy vegetable program, using the centres to co-ordinate intakes, making available jam jars or other materials for selling in areas where there was an interest, other). Participation of stakeholders in activities will increase interest and sustainability substantially, and will make the whole idea of eco-regional satellite centres more real.
   - Regular contact by E-mail and telephone to be maintained with the (temporary) co-ordinators in the regions. Discussing arising needs, questions, ideas, meetings, and sending relevant reports and other information on request.
   - Funds that were budgeted but have not been used for the stakeholders meetings to be made available for follow-up meetings organised by the regional co-ordinators to cover costs of local transport, copying, etc.

11. It is furthermore recommended to take a flexible approach in setting up the eco-regional satellite centres. In most regions it may be more practical to spread activities among the different institutions rather have everything taking place at one regional centre. For example MAWRD may have the space, knowledge, and tools that are needed to implement cultivation trials, while an NGO may be better suited to organise an intake, and DoF would be the most suitable place to demonstrate processing technology. Arrangements like this will work as long as there is a strong person acting as a co-ordinator and active communication between all the stakeholders.
12. The most obvious support measure needed is to continue with the process initiated during this consultancy over the next two years, and possibly beyond. Two main ways of delivering this support are proposed: providing resources for regular visits to ESCs by a person who is intimately involved in the national programme, and providing support for representatives of the ESCs to attend periodic IPTT meetings. The resources required to deliver this support are detailed in the budget proposed below.

13. Building up the capacity and momentum of ESCs is obviously going to be a slow and iterative process, requiring regular contact and visits. The estimated annual budget is as follows:

*Telephonic/email contact:*
2 days/month x 12 months: 24 days

*Visits:*
- Omahke 2 days x 4 = 8 days
- NCRs and Kavango “loop”: 6 days x 4 = 24 days
- Caprivi (flying): 2 days x 4 = 8 days

*Reporting*: 8 days

Total local consultancy days = 72 days @ N$2300 each = N$165 600

20 per diems of N$500 each = N$10 000

*Sub-total personnel N$175 600*

*Transport:*
- 4 x Omahke trips at 1000 km each x N$3.50/km = N$14 000
- 4 x “loop” trips at 4000 km each x N$3.50 = N$ 56 000
- 4 x flights to Caprivi at N$1600 each = N$6 400

*Sub-total transport* = N$ 76 400

*Local meeting subsidy (transport and food)*
- 4 meetings x 6 ESCs x N$4 000 each

*Sub-total local meetings N$96 000*

*Support to attend IPTT meetings*
- 6 ESCs x 2 meetings x N$1000 each = N$ 12 000

Sub-total all items N$360 000
15% admin = N$48 000

**TOTAL N$408 000**
Tasks completed

14. **Prepare a basic information pack on IP promotion activities and the aims and activities of the IPTT.** Two publications were prepared and distributed:
   a) A simple pamphlet aimed at the general public describing what the IPTT is and does, with contact details of the Secretary and national coordinator, and space to write in the contact details of local contact persons (Appendix D)
   b) A longer and more detailed document aimed at potential partner institutions, describing the origins of the IPTT and giving some examples of its activities and programmes to date (Appendix E).

15. **Identify and contact local stakeholders in each eco-region.** This was done telephonically and through field visits. The objective of the first field visits were to:
   - Introduce the IPTT, its background, members, and objectives
   - Elaborate on the main achievements of the IPTT up to date, and the need for regional involvement
   - Expand the list of stakeholders in each area
   - Explain the possible functions of an eco-regional satellite centre
   - Explain the basic requirements of an institution for becoming an eco-regional satellite centre
   - Elect, with and among the stakeholders, an eco-regional satellite centre or at least a temporary co-ordinator in each area
   - Initial assessment of needs and expectations for each region

Appendix B contains a more detailed report on field visits and meetings conducted.

16. **Identify at least 3 (and possibly up to 5 if feasible) potential eco-regional centres through consultation.** National and regional stakeholders were consulted telephonically and through field visits, which resulted in the identification of the following potential eco-regional satellite centres (ESC):

   - **Ben Hur RDC, Omaheke Region.** This centre is already engaged in a variety of activities linked to IP promotion and is likely to become even more involved in the near future. It must therefore definitely be included in the programme. However, since Ben Hur is located some 50 km from Gobabis and therefore not conveniently accessible to all stakeholders in the region, it is proposed that a further sub-centre be identified in town for the sake of convenience. At this stage the most likely partner for such a role is the Omaheke San Trust, although the MET office at Gobabis could also be considered.
   - **The MAWRD regional office at Eenhana in the Ohangwena Region.** This centre has played a role before in KMS and Ximenia intakes, is readily accessible and has good facilities available. The DoF office at Eenhana could offer ancillary services as appropriate when required.
   - **The RDC at Ongwediva in the Oshana Region.** This centre has excellent facilities, is conveniently close to the local MAWRD and DoF offices, and its management is in principle supportive of the idea. Furthermore, the RDC could be an effective ESC because of its human resources and current and planned activities.
• The DAPP Tree Planting Project at Outapi in the Omusati Region. This is the only NGO-based centre proposed (as chosen by local stakeholders). DAPP could be a suitable institution to act as an ESC because of its excellent facilities, human resources, and current activities.

• The DoF office at Rundu in the Kavango Region. This centre is centrally located, and has communication, nursery, and some storage facilities. Furthermore, its management has expressed a strong interest in the promotion of the commercial and sustainable use of indigenous fruits.

• The DoF office at Katima Mulilo in the Caprivi Region. This centre would be suitable to act as an ESC because of its physical infrastructure, their current activities with community forests, and the commitment of some individuals within the department.

Other centres that might become ESCs (or sub-ESCs) at a later stage include Tsumis Agricultural College in the Hardap Region, Mannheim ARS and/or Onankati ADC in the Oshikoto Region, and Mashare Agricultural Development Institute (MADI) in the Kavango Region. No doubt the list will expand as the national programme to promote indigenous plants evolves further.

17. **Facilitate cooperation between local stakeholders, between stakeholders and their eco-regional centre, and between the regional centres and the national programme.** This process was started during the field visits and will be continued and expanded during the remaining two years of the consultancy.

18. **Conduct a participatory assessment of the information, capacity-building and institutional support needs of the stakeholders.** This was also done during the field visits and is reported in more detail in Appendix B below. In general the most common need expressed was for information on processing technology and markets.

19. **Report to NASSP, the IPTT and other relevant stakeholders on the support required by satellite centres and propose ways to deliver the support required.** See under recommendations.
Appendix A
Terms of Reference

NASSP Indigenous Plants Development Programme

Extension of IPTT activities to eco-regional satellite centres

Introduction

1. The National Agricultural Support Services Programme (NASSP) has agreed in its annual workplan for 2003/04 to fund the development and initial working of a series of regional groups working on developing sustainable livelihood opportunities from indigenous plants. These 'eco-regional satellite centres' would in turn work with the multi-stakeholder Indigenous Plants Task Team to achieve the stated aims of that group.

2. This activity was recommended in the NASSP inception report, "Indigenous Plants Development Strategic Review" (NASSP report No.004/2003) as follows:

"It is recommended that – in addition to national-level initiatives as detailed below – NASSP encourages and supports the establishment of (eco-)regional satellite centres which can serve as local foci for indigenous plant promotion. Such satellite centres can be based at GRN experimental farms or ADCs, forestry stations or (where more appropriate) can be hosted by community-level organisations such as conservancies. The aim of this work should be to institutionalise indigenous plant promotion by making it part of the on-going work of such satellite centres (rather than to create additional or new structures). In this regard NASSP can – through its various components – play an important networking function."

3. This consultancy will design and initiate such a system of satellite centres and will prepare a plan to ensure their long-term sustainability.

Background

4. The Namibia Indigenous Plants Task Team (IPTT) was initiated by a national stakeholders workshop in 2000. It brings together at a national level stakeholders from both public and private sectors with an interest in sustainably developing the economic potential of Namibia's diverse and in many cases unique plant life. The IPTT has met regularly since 2000 and has coordinated a number of programmes which have led to significant success in developing and marketing natural products. In addition to its coordination role, the IPTT acts as a steering committee to a number of Government and Donor projects, including the MAWRD Promotion of Indigenous Fruit (PIF) project.

5. In the NASSP Indigenous Plants Strategy it is proposed to regionalize the activities of the IPTT and this was motivated as follows:
"Indigenous plant use is an integral part of rural livelihoods and should therefore also be integrated into the "mainstream" of FSRE, community forestry and other extension initiatives. Regional centres must – by their very nature – adapt national strategies in a participatory manner to suit local needs, circumstances and capacity. In reality each centre is therefore likely to eventually have a unique and evolving set of indigenous plant promotion activities. In general, however, such centres could usefully contribute some or all of the following:

- local expertise about target resources and other aspects (e.g. livelihood strategies, farming systems, grassroots organisations)
- nursery facilities, propagation materials and local cultivation trials/guidance
- training in resource management, post-harvest processing, SME-level value-adding etc.
- venues, payment systems, temporary storage sites and transport assistance for (semi-)commercial intakes (pending the "privatisation" of collation systems)
- venues for pilot processing and technology demonstration
- advice on processing technologies and/or referral service for technology enquiries
- (two-way) information and communication functions (e.g. about markets and prices) through regular networking with local stakeholders
- (interim) cost-recovery sales of bottles, labels, preservatives etc.
- coordination of local-level research activities (e.g. resource surveys, participatory appraisals)
- capacity-building nodes
- regional representation on national structures (and reporting back to local level)

Getting a system of regional centres to function will require good coordination at both national and regional levels." (NASSP 004/2003, page 5)

Objective

6. To design and implement a system of eco-regional focal points for indigenous plant promotion activities, encourage the active participation of local stakeholders in these focal points, facilitate the participation of focal points in national IP activities, and make recommendations to the IPTT about the information, capacity-building and institutional support needs of regional focal points and their local stakeholders.

Terms of reference

7. The consultant should complete the following tasks inter alia:

a) Prepare a basic information pack on IP promotion activities and the aims and activities of the IPTT
b) Identify at least 3 (and possibly up to 5 if feasible) potential eco-regional centres through consultation
c) Identify and contact local stakeholders in each eco-region
d) Facilitate cooperation between local stakeholders, between stakeholders and their eco-regional centre, and between the regional centres and the national programme
e) Conduct a participatory assessment of the information, capacity-building and institutional support needs of local stakeholders
f) Report to NASSP, the IPTT and other relevant stakeholders on the support required by satellite centres and propose ways to deliver the support required
g) Provide, for a period of two years, mentorship on a case by case basis as needed by individual eco-regional centres (this activity to be costed until 31st March 2004, thereafter continued inputs would be in the basis of performance and a further service contract)

Scope of services

8. It is envisaged that the activities will be conducted over a period of 22 working days (one person month), including travel within Namibia, consultation with stakeholders, report writing and presentation of findings. However, given the need for mentorship, some of these days may be delivered at a later date up to 31st March 2004.

9. The work will be completed between the period September 2003 to March 2004 according the appropriate seasonal norms for indigenous plants (i.e., at times when stakeholders are available).

10. After the end of the period initial period of investigation, the consultant should present a draft report consisting of not more than 30 pages to the IPTT and NASSP for comment. A further brief final activity report should be completed at the end of February 2004. This report should include recommendations for further NASSP funding if appropriate. All reports should also be delivered in electronic format and be consistent with the NASSP house style.

Outputs

11. The Consultant will prepare two reports, one after the initial activities and one at the end of the first year.

12. The Consultant will be expected to be available for IPTT meetings to discuss progress towards achieving the terms of reference and objectives.

Profile of consultancy skills required

13. The consultant should have extensive knowledge of and experience with indigenous plant development in Namibia. The consultant should be known and respected by a wide range of regional indigenous plants stakeholders.

The consultant should have proven report writing ability in English and experience with participatory methods, group formation and institutional dynamics.
Appendix B

Eco regional satellite centres
Field visits 28/04/04 – 06/05/04
Saskia den Adel

During the field trip, stakeholders meetings were held at 5 possible eco-regional satellite centres in Eenhana, Ongwediva, Otapi, Rundu, and Katima, while PdP consulted with stakeholders in the Omaheke region. The objectives of the initial field visits were to:

- Introduce the IPTT, its background, members, and objectives
- Elaborate on the main achievements of the IPTT up to date, and the need for regional involvement
- Expand the list of stakeholders in each area
- Explain the possible functions of an eco-regional satellite centre
- Explain the basic requirements of an institution for becoming an eco-regional satellite centre
- Elect, with and among the stakeholders, an eco-regional satellite centre or at least a temporary co-ordinator in each area
- Initial assessment of needs and expectations for each region

Eenhana

A stakeholders meeting was held at the premises of MAWRD in Eenhana on 29/04/04. Stakeholders present were:

Ephraim Weyulu (CAET, MAWRD Eenhana)
Festus Nembia (SAET, MAWRD Ongula)
Adreheid Shiyelekeni (Secretary Ohangwena Regional Youth Enterprise Eenhana), and Ndmonoghienda Shinana, Tribe Mangundu, Penehafa Mhanda, and Linda Shikuyele of the EWC Meameno Association in Ondombe.

Although invited, and their attendance confirmed, representatives from the following institutions were absent:

Department of Forestry
Acacia Grassroots Development Network
Ohangwena Forest Trust
Lyendongua Association (EWC Ohangwena)

The IPTT and the idea of eco-regional satellite centres was explained, a list of stakeholders was completed, and among the few stakeholders it was agreed that Mr. Weyulu of MAWRD would act as a temporary co-ordinator. He will at a later stage try to get all the stakeholders together to pass the information on to them and to agree on priorities for the area and on a suitable institution to act as an eco-regional centre for the IPTT. MAWRD Eenhana seems to be a suitable institution mainly because of its facilities (centrally located, storerooms, meeting room, tel, fax, and E-mail facilities) and because they are relatively active in the area with 10 extension offices. Furthermore, some intakes of melon seeds and Ximenia seeds have already taken place at their premises, and MAWRD has more human resources available than the other stakeholders in the area. Mr. Weyulu has at least expressed an interest and willingness
to take the lead for now, whether he will be the most suitable person to take on an active role, remains to be seen.

A specific recommendation for Eenhana would be to buy the melon seeds (200-300 kg) that were left at the MAWRD storeroom after an intake a couple of years ago. There was some miscommunication regarding prices and type of seeds at the time, and even though the seeds can probably not be used, it would help making a clean start with Eenhana if we would buy the seeds.

Ongwediva

A stakeholders meeting was held at the Rural development Centre (RDC) in Ongwediva on 29/04/04, and with the exception of Cosdec Ondangwa, representatives of all invited stakeholders were present. Participants were:

Florence Msati (RDC)
Frans S. Hango (MAWRD)
Theodor Kaambu (DoF)
Anneli Shishome (DoF)
Amwaama Victoire (MET/DoF)
Luise Shimi (Eudafano Women's Co-operative)
Priskilla Nashandi (EWC Nkugoyepongo Association)
Lotto Kuushomwa (Rossing Foundation)
Thomas Niingungo (King Nehale Resource Trust)
Immanuel Amukwaya (Onankali Community Trust)
Shikongo Abraham (Onankali Paper Project)
Got-pen Hamwenye (Tree Planting Project)
Hertha Nghitiwikva (Oontanga Oil Producers)

The fact that almost all invited stakeholders were present at the meeting—some participants even excused themselves from a workshop in Ondangwa to attend this meeting—shows a keen interest of the area in the sustainable development of indigenous plants. Processing technology, training, support to small businesses or community groups that want to get involved in fruit processing, and marketing support were seen as the main priorities for the area.

RDC was seen as the most suitable institution to take a leading role in setting up an eco-regional satellite centre because of its central location, physical infrastructure (storerooms, meeting room, space, communication facilities), human resources, and current and planned activities. Furthermore, the RDC is now under new management, and becoming an IPTT regional centre can positively influence the image of the institution to the communities by initiating new activities. I had a separate meeting with RDC’s training and outreach officer, Gabriel Hangara, and Florence Msati, to explain the idea of eco-regional satellite centres in more detail, and they took the information to the rest of the management team. By fax the management of RDC has confirmed that they are keen and willing to participate in a national program promoting indigenous plant resources, but they are asking some clarification as to what the support of NASSP/IPTT exactly entails.
Outapi

The stakeholders meeting was supposed to be at the premises of MAWRD in Outapi, but both people I had been in contact with had gone to an urgent meeting in Ondangwa, and forgotten to book the board room. The meeting was then conducted at DoF offices on 30/04/04 with only 3 participants:
Fillemon Kayofa (DoF Outapi, and chairperson of the Northern Namibia Forest Committee)
Leila Moseneke (DoF – Namibia Finland Forestry Program)
Laimi Lipinge (Uukwaludhi Conservancy)
Luise Shiimi of Pendapala Association (EWC) had already attended the meeting in Ongwediwa.
Invited, but not present were representatives of:
MAWRD
Mahanene Research Station
DAPP tree planting project
Forest Management Committee
EWC Associations: Okahulo (Onesi) and Gwamiitayi (Onakaheke)

Although the meeting was obviously planned at a wrong time, the discussions among the few participants were very fruitful. Outapi is the base of the Northern Namibia Forest Committee, with Fillemon Kayofa (DoF Outapi) as the chairperson and Celestinus Ndongi (DAPP Outapi) as the secretary. The NNFC holds monthly meetings and is mainly active in the field of environmental awareness and education in the Northcentral regions. All the invited stakeholders are part of the network, and Fillemon Kayofa promised to inform the network about the IPTT and the idea of setting up eco-regional satellite centres at their next meeting. The participants were very convinced that DAPP would be the most suitable place in the area for initiating an eco-regional satellite centre because of its facilities, current activities, and available human resources. It was also said that DAPP already implements a lot of activities on behalf of both DoF and MAWRD. Furthermore, in a separate meeting with the manager of the DAPP Tree Planting Project, Celestinus Ndongi, he showed a keen interest in the idea and the willingness to take a leading role. It should be noted that as an NGO getting funding on project base, human resources necessary for the co-ordinating function and the implementation of an eco-regional satellite centre will need full financial support.

Katima Mulilo

The stakeholders meeting at Katima Mulilo was arranged at the Ministry of Works on 03-05-04, but as the room was double booked we moved to the Forestry offices. The confusion might have caused some stakeholders not to show up. We left messages at the place where the meeting was supposed to take place and tried to phone the invited stakeholders, but without much luck. We proceeded conducting the meeting with people from Forestry only;
Mbongo Werner (DoF – community Forestry)
Aina Andreas (DoF)
Mushito Davis (DoF – horticulture program)
Caren Jakubaschik (DED/DoF – Community Forestry)
Christina Bokun (DED/DoF – horticulture program)
Invited stakeholders that did not have representatives attending the meeting were:
MAWRD
IRDNC
Kafasepco
NAB
Likwama Farmers Union
AWF (?)
Kwandu, Masbi, Mayuni, Wuparo, and Salambala Conservancies

Although the group was small and only people attached to DoF attended, the meeting was very informative and the participants showed a lot of interest. DoF was already pinpointed in telephonic conversations to take a lead in the regionalisation of the IPTT, and during the meeting all participants showed a willingness to take things further. Mbongo Werner was chosen to act as a temporary co-ordinator, and Caren Jakubaschk intended to pass on all the information to a meeting of a revived CBNRM working group that was taking place 2 days after our meeting and involved similar stakeholders. DoF would be suitable to act as an eco-regional satellite centre because of its physical infrastructure, the current activities working with 10 upcoming community forests, and last but not least the enthusiasm and commitment of some individuals within the department. Both in this meeting and during some more informal conversations I had with Peter Weisser, Mbongo Werner, and Christina Bokun, interest was mainly shown in processing technology, product development, SME support, and local marketing. But priorities will be discussed at a later stage with more stakeholders present.

Rundu

A stakeholders meeting was held at MAWRD on 05/05/04. Participants were:
Jonas Mwilkinghi (DoF, acting head)
R.M. Kanupu (DoF)
Patrick Tjikongo (MET)
P.F. Horn (MAWRD-DEES)
A.B. Endunde (MAWRD-DEES)
Ruth Urben (MAWRD-STEAR)
Mirjam Shaduke (Hamoye Forestry Research Station)
Magdalena Joseph (Hamoye Forestry Research Station)
Patrick Hilger (CASOMAP)
Emilie Haiyambo (Kauvi Co-op)
Invited, but absent were representatives of:
NNF
DED
NAB
Lux Development / Madi Development Centre

The IPTT and the idea of eco-regional satellite centers were discussed, and a list of stakeholders completed. It was agreed among the stakeholders that DoF should take a leading role in setting up an IPTT regional centre, as they were already planning to get more involved in promoting the commercial and sustainable use of indigenous fruits as a strategy to protect the forests. Although the acting head of DoF, Jonas Mwilkinghi, came late because he had attended another workshop, I had a separate meeting with him, and he showed a lot of enthusiasm and interest in the idea. He intended to share the
information with absent stakeholders and agreed to act as a co-ordinator. The offices of DoF in Rundu are centrally located, have telephone fax and E-mail facilities, nursery facilities, and a large shaded area outside. There are 2 storerooms, one for tools, and one for confiscated woodcarvings which fills up and empties again after an auction. Support expected from the IPTT was mainly around the marketing of fruits and fruit products, in particular for Strychnos and Guibourtia coleosperma.
### Appendix C

<table>
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<th>EENHANA</th>
<th>[IPPT Eco-regional Satellite Centres – List of Stakeholders]</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Institution</strong></td>
<td><strong>Name</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>MAWRD regional office</td>
<td>Ephraim H. Weyulu Martin Embundie</td>
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<td>Nindelao Weyulu</td>
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<td>Festus Nembia</td>
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<td><strong>Eenhana West</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ongula ADC</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Other extension offices (in total 10) to be contacted through MAWRD Eenhana</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ndili Hango</strong></td>
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<td><strong>MET/DoF also contact for: Omauni Association &amp; Okongo Forestry</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lusa Kayoo</strong></td>
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<td><strong>MRLGH - Community Development Office</strong></td>
<td><strong>Peter Hangula</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Nico Shikongo</strong></td>
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<td>RDC (Rural Development Centre)</td>
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<td>MAWRD</td>
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<td>Tree Planting Project (MAWRD)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MET/District Forestry Office (Also contact for other DoF offices and community forestry groups)</td>
<td>Theodor Kaambu, Anneli Shishome</td>
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<td>Lotto A. Kuushomwa</td>
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<td>DAPP (Tree Planting Project)</td>
<td>Celestinus Ndongo</td>
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<td>Phililemon Ndeutapo, Mr. Nantango</td>
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<td>Fillemon Kayofa, Letla Mosenene (Nam-Finland Forestry Program)</td>
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<td>Conservancies in Kunene region working with DoF:</td>
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<td>Forest Management Committee (community-based)</td>
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<td>Northern Namibia Forest Committee</td>
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<td>Gwamitayi (Onakaheke)</td>
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<td>Mangundu (Okahao)</td>
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Eco-regional satellite centres report No.1
# IPTT Eco-regional Satellite Centres – List of Stakeholders

## KATIMA MULILO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Tel (066-)</th>
<th>Fax (066-)</th>
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<tr>
<td>DoF – District Office Community Forestry CF-Horticulture Project Namibia-Finland FP DoF Bukalo</td>
<td>Mbongo Werner Caren Jakubaschik (DED) Mushitu Davis Christina Bokun (DED) Loice Omoro Christopher Buchane</td>
<td>253244/253143 0812710058</td>
<td>253322</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wmbongo@yahoo.co.uk">wmbongo@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
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<td>MAWRD Katima (also contact for 8 extension offices)</td>
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<td>Likwama Farmers Union</td>
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<td>Kavango Farmers Union</td>
<td>Mr. Kampanda</td>
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### IPTT Eco-regional Satellite Centres – List of Stakeholders

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How can the IPTT help me and my community?

The IPTT does not have funds to help entrepreneurs or community groups set up businesses, but it can provide advice about technology, markets and business planning, and sometimes it can help groups that want to make money from indigenous plants to get assistance from donors or other sources to get started.

The best way to find out what the IPTT can do for you or your community is to contact your local IPTT agent. If there is no local agent in your area, please contact the people listed below at the NBRI or CRIAA SA-DC in Windhoek.

IPTT contact details

Ms Herta Kolberg
Secretary: Indigenous Plant Task Team
c/o National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI)
Private Bag 13184, Windhoek, Namibia
Telephone: 061-2022010
Fax: 061-258153
E-mail: hertak@mweb.com.na

Mr Pierre du Plessis
CRIAA SA-DC
PO Box 23778, Windhoek, Namibia
Telephone: 061-220117 / Cell: 081-2510672
Fax: 061-252293
E-mail: pierre@criaasadc.org

What is the IPTT?

The IPTT is a national body of government departments, research and academic institutions, NGOs and other civil society organisations established in 2000 (it was then called the Indigenous Fruit Task Team) to co-ordinate the development of income opportunities based on indigenous plants.

The main objective of the IPTT is to promote the sustainable utilisation of Namibia's indigenous plant resources for:

- greater household food security;
- income, employment and livelihood opportunities;
- agricultural diversification;
- agro-industrial development.

The IPTT's main task is to develop and co-ordinate the implementation of a national strategy for the promotion of indigenous plants and products derived from indigenous plants.

The IPTT is financed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development through the Namibian Agronomic Board, and from funds provided by the USA for the ministry's Useful Plants Development Project.
IPTT membership

Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development
- Directorate of Agricultural Research and Training
- National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI)
- Directorate of Extension and Engineering Services
- Directorate of Planning

Ministry of Environment and Tourism
- Directorate of Forestry
- Directorate of Scientific Services
- Directorate of Environmental Affairs

Ministry of Higher Education, Training and Employment Creation
- Directorate of Research, Science and Technology

Ministry of Trade and Industry
- Division of Industrial Development
- Directorate of International Trade

Polytechnic of Namibia

University of Namibia

NGOs
- Centre for Research Information Action in Africa – Southern Africa Development and Consulting (CRIAA SA-DC)
- Desert Research Foundation of Namibia (DRFN)
- Namibia National Farmers Union
- Namibian Association of CBNRM\(^1\) Support Organisations (NACSO)

What has the IPTT done since 2000?

- Co-ordinated compilation and publication of a Strategy and Action Plan for Promoting Indigenous Fruit in Namibia.
- Developed a ‘pipeline’ approach whereby the economic potential of many indigenous plants are tightly assessed (through trial purchases, trial processing and trial marketing) before more promising resources are prioritised.
- Started developing processing technology and markets for manula fruit and oil, Kalahari melon seed oil, marketi nuts and oil, makalani fruits, inara oil, bird plum (eembe), sour plum (eemheke), jackal berry (eenyandl), baobab (omakua) and other fruits.
- Initiated or supported programmes on Hoodia and other succulents, indigenous vegetables, domestication of indigenous fruit trees, and cultivation of Kalahari truffles (but not Devil's Claw, which is covered by the Devil's Claw Working Group convened by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism).
- Joined PhytoTrade Africa, a regional trade association supporting the development of markets for products based on indigenous plants.

What does the IPTT plan to do next?

- Continue promoting commercial use of the plants listed above.
- Extend its activities to regional centres all over Namibia.
- Add more plants and products to its technology and market development 'pipeline'.
- Encourage and support the domestication of useful indigenous plants and their inclusion in Namibian farming systems.
- Promote increased private sector participation in the natural products industry.

The IPTT can co-opt more members. Interested parties are encouraged to contact the Secretary to be placed on the mailing list.

Invitations to attend meetings as observers can be arranged.

\(^1\) Community-based Natural Resource Management
Appendix E

National Agricultural Support Services Programme (NASSP)

Eco-regional Satellite Centres for Indigenous Plant Promotion: An Introduction for Potential Partners

Indigenous Plant Task Team
Promoting the Sustainable Utilisation of Namibia's Indigenous Plant Resources

compiled for
Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development
PO Box 86743, Government Office Park, Windhoek, Namibia

by
Pierre du Plessis
CRIAA SA-DC
22 Johann Albrecht Street, PO Box 23778, Windhoek, Namibia
Tel: 220117/225009 Fax: 232293 e-mail: criaaawk@iafrica.com.na
April 2004
1 Introduction

Namibia's Indigenous Plant Task Team (IPTTT), with support from the National Agricultural Support Programme (NASSP), has started an outreach programme aimed at developing a system of eco-regional satellite centres for indigenous plant promotion activities in Namibia. This initiative is based on the following recommendation from the Indigenous Plant Promotion Strategy Review conducted during the inception phase of NASSP:

It is recommended that NASSP encourages and supports the establishment of (eco-)regional satellite centres which can serve as local foci for indigenous plant promotion. Such satellite centres can be based at GRN experimental farms, ADCs, forestry stations or (where more appropriate) can be hosted by community-level organisations such as conservancies. The aim of this work should be to institutionalise indigenous plant promotion by making it part of the on-going work of such satellite centres (and their existing networks) rather than to create additional or new structures.

Indigenous plant use is an integral part of rural livelihoods and should therefore also be integrated into the "mainstream" of FSRE, community forestry and other extension initiatives. Regional centres must – by their very nature – adapt national strategies in a participatory manner to suit local needs, circumstances and capacity. In reality, each centre is therefore likely to eventually have a unique and evolving set of indigenous plant promotion activities.

In general, however, such centres could usefully contribute some or all of the following:

- Local expertise about target resources and other aspects (e.g. livelihood strategies, farming systems, grassroots organisations)
- Nursery facilities, propagation materials and local cultivation trials/guidance
- Training in resource management, post-harvest processing, SME-level value-adding etc.
- Venues, payment systems, temporary storage sites and transport assistance for (semi-)commercial intakes (pending the "privatisation" of collation systems)
- Venues for pilot processing and technology demonstration
- Advice on processing technologies and/or referral service for technology enquiries
- (Two-way) information and communication functions (e.g. about markets and prices) through regular networking with local stakeholders
- (Interim) cost-recovery sales of bottles, labels, preservatives etc.
- Coordination of local-level research activities (e.g. resource surveys, participatory appraisals)
- Capacity-building nodes
- Regional representation on national structures (and reporting back to local level)

2 Background to IPTT

The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development (MAWRD), through its Directorate of Agricultural Research and Training (DART), and with assistance from the Namibian Agricultural Board (NAB) and CRIAA SADC, organised the Promotion of Indigenous Fruit Workshop on 17 and 18 April 2000. This workshop brought together a wide range of national stakeholders, who mandated the formation of the Indigenous Fruit Task Team (IPTTT) and charged it with overseeing the development of a Strategy and Action Plan for Promoting Indigenous Fruit in Namibia (see details below).

In the course of its work the IPTTT found a need to deal with indigenous resources that were not fruit. At the Second National Workshop on Indigenous Fruit held in Tsumeb in May 2003, stakeholders therefore agreed that the IPTTT should become the IPTTT – Indigenous Plant Task Team.

The current members of the IPTTT are:
- Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development
- Directorate Agricultural Research and Training
- National Botanical Research Institute
- Directorate Extension and Engineering Services
- Directorate of Planning
- Ministry of Environment and Tourism
- Directorate of Forestry
- Directorate Scientific Services

Eco-regional satellite centres report No. 1
Ministry of Trade and Industry  
Division of Industrial Development  
Directorate of International Trade  
Polytechnic of Namibia  
University of Namibia  
CRIAA SA-DC  
Desert Research Foundation of Namibia  
Namibia National Farmers Union  
NACSO

OBSERVERS / INVITED GUESTS  
Namibian Agronomic Board  
French Co-operation  
JCC  
NAU  
Lux-Development  
Oontanga Oils  
Ben Hur RDC

The IPTT meets about once every six weeks to share information and discuss activities. Non-members can arrange an invitation to attend meetings by contacting the IPTT Secretary, Ms Herta Kolberg, at the National Botanical Research Institute in Windhoek.

As an example of the matters considered by the IPTT, the agenda from the last meeting was as follows:

AGENDA  
36th INDIGENOUS PLANT TASK TEAM MEETING  
Friday, 2 April 2004 AT 9:00  
BOARD ROOM, NAMIBIAN AGRONOMIC BOARD

1. Welcome
2. Attendance & Apologies
3. Adoption of Minutes of the Last Meeting
4. Extension of Agenda
5. Matters Arising from the Minutes  
   5.1 Naro book launch (8.1)  
   5.2 IPTT Terms of Reference (5.1)  
   5.3 Letter to MAWRD Management (5.2)  
   5.4 Copies of IFUP proceedings (5.3)  
   5.5 Commiphora (5.4)  
   5.6 UPDP reports at NAB (5.5)  
   5.7 Indigenous Leafy Vegetable consultancy (5.6)  
   5.8 DCWG minutes (5.7)  
   5.9 Ximenia project report (5.9)  
   5.10 PIF Phase 1c finances (5.11)  
   5.11 Omaha Environmental Youth Club (8.5)  
   5.12 UPDP reports & minutes - US Embassy (6.5)  
   5.13 Sale of marula presses (6.9)  
   5.14 MAWRD policy update meeting (8.2)
6. Report-back on Activities  
   6.1 PIF Project  
   6.2 NBRI Useful Plants Project  
   6.3 Melon Seed Oil Trial  
   6.4 Hoodia  
   6.5 UPDP  
   6.6 DoF / FAO Project  
   6.7 NASSP  
   6.8 Devil's Claw Working Group  
   6.9 NACSO
3 Namibia’s “pipeline” strategy

The Strategy and Action Plan for Promoting Indigenous Fruit in Namibia outlines following steps in the promotion of indigenous fruits, which can be extended to plants generally:

a) Use a consultative and transparent process to establish an institutional framework that can co-ordinate a promotion programme based on long-term goals shared by stakeholders.

b) Analyse traditional, existing and potential uses of indigenous plants; identify useful, favoured and/or under-utilised species with agricultural and/or formal-market potential.

c) Organise a trial commercialisation of plants pre-selected for promotion, and use these trial purchases to assess the extent of various resources, to monitor the socio-economic and ecological effects, and to determine the harvesting and procurement logistics.

d) Use wild-harvested plant material obtained during commercialisation trials for essential chemical and nutritional analyses, and for laboratory studies of processing characteristics such as juice/oil content, texture, flavour etc.

e) Conduct small-scale processing trials to identify potential processing technologies for, and products from, selected species. Procure/manufacture appropriate material technologies (machines and equipment), test productivity under actual conditions, identify and solve production and management bottlenecks.

f) Introduce samples of promising products to appropriate markets to assess response, potential demand and possible prices (phytosanitary and health regulations should be adhered to, especially when targeting the export market). Expand markets for successful products.

g) Build the capacity of harvesting communities to organise themselves, to manage and sustainably use their resources, and eventually to take full control of the processing and marketing of their production.

h) Combine the financial and technical data on raw materials, processing and markets into bankable business plans backed up by a marketing plan, adequate training and institutional support.

i) Select high-yielding or otherwise desirable genotypes of species with commercial and cultivation potential and study their propagation, domestication and management; use results of these trials to propagate desirable strains (and cross-breed improved varieties). Encourage farmers to grow selected improved varieties of indigenous plants with commercial potential.

j) Use intellectual property rights (IPRs) to maximise benefits to producers.
k) Monitor for results, consequences and deviations and re-plan each of these steps as necessary.

These activities are largely, but not necessarily, sequential — in order to deliver the best possible results as quickly as possible some of them can and must proceed in parallel. Nor are they all equally applicable to the promotion of all resources. At all stages there is a need to carefully evaluate the economic implications of the decisions taken.

Taken together, these strategic steps constitute a "promotion pipeline" that allows Namibia to evaluate the economic potential of indigenous plant resources, prioritise species for action, and allocate funds to their development according to the established priorities. Species currently in the pipeline include:

Marula (oil, juice/pulp, jam/jelly/cordial)
Manketti (oil, nuts, spirits)
Kalahari Melon Seed (oil)
Nana (seed, oil, fruit pulp)
Makalani (fruit, spirits)
Baobab (fruit pulp, seed oil)
Ximenia spp. (seed oil, fruit)
Kigelia africana (fruit)
Mopane (seed for essential oil)
Barchemia discolor, eemme or bird plum (fruit, oil)
Strychnos spp. (fruit, oil)
Diospyros mespiliformis (fruit)
Vangueria infausta (fruit)
Kalahari truffles
Grewia spp (fruit)
Zielisus macronota (fruit)
Tylophora escuclenta (nuts)
Cucumis melo(Jeimsens) (fruit)
Dialium engleranum (fruit)
Guthorfia coleosperma (seeds and seeds)
Ochna pulchra (oil)
Croton gratissimus (essential oil)
Bitterbush (essential oil)
Terminalia serricea (rootbark)
Hoodia spp. (medicinal use)
Ornamental succulents
Devil's Claw

4 PIF Phase One summary

The first phase of the Promoting Indigenous Fruit project was implemented by CRIAA SA-DC on behalf of the IPTT. The executive summary from the PIF Phase One Final Report is reproduced here:

Phase 1 started in March 2001 and Draft Final Report was circulated November 2002

Promotion strategy = "product development pipeline"
- ID resources with potential (literature, market developments)
- Assess supply (ecological and socio-economic)
- Trial purchases (costs, availability, logistics)
- Trial processing (samples)
- Market assessment (potential, "right-sized")
- Product development partnerships
- Scale up if and when successful (as appropriate for each resource)

This work is:
- on-going (clients cannot wait for project budgets to become available)
PIF Phase 1 had 3 main components:
- trial purchases
- trial processing
- trial marketing

PIF 1 priority spp:
- marula
- manketti
- melon seed
- manzelani
- lnara

Second team:
- Berchemia discolor (seembe, bird plum)
- Ximenia spp (sour plum, seembeke)
- Diospyros mespiliformis (jackal berry, eeyandl)
- Adansonia digitata (baobab, omakwa)

"Light and wide" initial assessment of other resources

Main achievements

Kalahari Melon Seed (KMS) exports to UK for use by The Body Shop
- procurement, cleaning (which included designing and building a mechanical cleaner), packaging and export of KMS from the NCRs to the UK
- more than 44 tons in 2001 (turning over N$352 000 of which N$95 000 (27.25%) was paid out in cash to primary producers
- around 50 tons in 2002 (despite the drought)
- further orders for 2003
- processing and refining by a specialist oil processor in UK
- formulated into a skin lotion and launched in international markets (48 countries) as Melon Seed Body Butter
- additional products launched by The Body Shop
- serious commercial interest from other buyers
- private-sector processor in Ondangwa (Yetu Cosmetics/Dontanga Oil Factory) landed an order for a few tons of KMS oil on the back of these Community Trade exports
- there is now a formal market for about 150 tons of KMS a year (at N$2/kg worth N$300 000 to farmers) which is expected to grow rapidly over the next few years

Small marula presses (juice and oil)
- 10 small hydraulic presses (designed and manufactured at KAP) disseminated in NCRs (cost about N$4000 each, plus N$1200 for optional oil pressing equipment)
- presses far exceeded expectations under field conditions (up to 200 litres a day)
- only minor technical problems, rectified in improved design (2003)
- inspired RDC (Ongwedve) to develop an alternative design for such a press
- provided access to enough fruit, press is a viable SME technology
- further growth depends on extent of local and national informal markets for marula cider (omsongo)
- 12 such presses used for larger processing trial in March/April 2003
- solar batch pasteuriser (developed for PIF by Rolf Behringer of the Solar Stove Project at Valombola VTC) used to prove the principle of solar pasteurisation of marula juice
- combined with the small juice press theoretically capable of producing around 50 litres of pasteurised marula juice a day, so producers can sell omsongo in local or national markets at any time of the year

Ximenia oil production
- production of Ximenia oil in Namibia was systematically studied for the first time (initially under the Sids/NNF-funded X-ose project, continued under PIF)
- samples of this unusual oil were made available to research and commercial partners for evaluation
- no formal export market yet, but serious interest
- Ximenia oil extraction is technically difficult
- using a rotav seed roaster designed at KAP oil yield was increased from less than 10% to around 25%
INDIGENOUS PLANT TASK TEAM

Promoting the Sustainable Utilisation of Namibia's Indigenous Plant Resources

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- trial purchases
- trial processing
- trial marketing

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- manketti
- melon seed
- makalani
- Inta

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- Ximenia spp (sour plum, eemheke)
- Diaprysis meguliformis (jukali berry, eynandl)
- Adansonia digitata (baobab, omakwe)

"Light and wide" Initial assessment of other resources

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- samples of this unusual oil were made available to research and commercial partners for evaluation
- no formal export market yet, but serious interest
- Ximenia oil extraction is technically difficult
- using a rotary seed roaster designed at KAP oil yield was increased from less than 10% to around 25%
- improving the technology depends on feedback not yet provided by the research partner
- need better understanding of the distribution and potential production of Ximenia in Namibia
Markettli oil promotion continued
- CRIAA SA-DC started promoting markettli oil in 1997
- PIF 1 provided funding to continue
- fresh oil samples were produced and supplied to research partners
- active R&D interest in markettli oil
- not yet translated into substantial market demand
- also SANProTA focal species
- eventually large high-value market niches

!Nara oil production
- cold-pressed!nara oil was produced for the first time (by KAP) and packaged for local marketing
- remains unclear whether the!nara resource is big enough to interest export markets
- local oil processing could add significant additional value for harvesters
- community-owned oil pressing enterprise will face considerable management challenges and might not attain the necessary economies of scale
- advisable to out-source processing services at least until a bigger market has been secured

Active participation in SANProTA
- 1st workshop stressed need for regional cooperation
- participation in SANProTA initially supported from PIF funds
- has opened additional opportunities and sources of funding
- CRIAA SA-DC has secured an R&D grant of US$12 000 to further investigate processing of melon seed and markettli, and DoF NFRG has been granted US$2 000 to collect samples
- cooperation with other SANProTA members can potentially open up market channels through which to commercialize Namibia’s limited back and!nara resources

Marula oil product launch by The Body Shop
- not part of the PIF project as such, but major result from earlier national efforts to promote indigenous fruit commercialization
- first consumer products containing Namibian marula oil (produced by Eudafans Women’s Cooperative)
- took six years to bring this new natural product to formal markets

Inconclusive advances

Formulating liqueurs based on indigenous fruits
- using marula, Strychnos (omama) and Berchemia (zembe)
- system needed to deal with seasonal and regional variations in fruit quality
- initial results suggest it would be worthwhile spending additional money on product development and packaging design
- private sector partnerships need to be investigated more systematically

Formal markets for marula juice/pulp
- serious formal-market interest in marula pulp (from European cosmetics sector and South African juice manufacturers)
- practicalities of larger-scale marula processing investigated in 2003 (Ministry of Trade and Industry)
- enough information to design practical production system, but fruit supply might be problematic
- further cooperative research being planned with CIRAD of France and other Namibian partners

Jams, chutneys etc. from various fruits
- processing trial results have been inconclusive
- some of the products are good enough to find acceptance in formal markets, but not clear that any such enterprise beyond SME scale would be economically viable under Namibian market conditions
- hard for such products to break into regional markets, and almost impossible to penetrate developed-country markets
- major constraint on development of SMEs of this type is difficulty in obtaining suitable bottles and labels
- KAP has started stocking and selling on a cost-recovery basis two different types of jam jars (complete with lids and already packed into cardboard boxes of 24 to ease transportation and marketing) – this needs promotion and expansion

Markettli nut processing

Eco-regional satellite centres report No. 1
- demonstrated on very small scale that manketti nuts can be manually removed from their hard pericarp in an economically viable manner
- has to be done under supervision (for quality control and health reasons) at a central location
- samples produced so far have been too small to allow market testing
- whole nuts as snacks can create many additional employment opportunities and diversify manketti product range
- further work on this — which should include trials of improved manual technologies— should be designed into an integrated manketti processing pilot project
- two models of an improved spring steel blade for manketti dehulling were designed and field-tested (under the Ekoka Activation Drive (EAD) project funded by the Sida/NWF Swedish Local Environment Small Grants programme)
- 30 copies of the preferred model have been manufactured for dissemination in manketti-producing areas

Mapane seed essential oil
- small samples have been produced through laboratory-scale steam distillation
- additional analyses needed to determine if it is sufficiently unique to warrant further production efforts
- a large and unutilized resource
- further work justified to establish whether large-scale collection and processing would be an economic proposition

Strengthening CBOs
- trial and commercial-scale purchases strengthen community interest in indigenous natural resources
- income opportunities have contributed significantly to strengthening CBOs
- need for much more support to such emerging groups, especially in the form of organisational and business training

Truffle preservation
- preservation trials with Kalahari truffles have yielded promising results
- highly seasonal (rainfall-dependent) resource
- CRIAA SA-JC collaborating with Israeli researchers to study co-cultivation of truffles with melons

Other issues and activities
- PIF project has contributed to the national debate around access and benefit-sharing related to genetic resources — this is a matter that must be carried forward by a national institutional (GRN) stakeholder as a matter of urgency
- PIF project established all non-fruiting plants and non-fruit products from indigenous plants, which made it hard to respond to market enquiries for these products (and alternative natural products from non-indigenous plants that can be marketed through the same channels)

Constraints and problems
- failure to secure more active, enthusiastic and effective participation by Unam
- distillation trials have yielded — with a few exceptions — rather disappointing results — further work recommended in this regard
- very limited opportunities for detailed resource surveys not regarded as a serious short-term obstacle, but should be addressed in future, preferably by involving DoF/MAWRD fieldworkers in the compilation of a more detailed national description of the distribution and density of various species of commercial interest

Other spp.
- *Adansonia digitata* (baobab)
- *Eugenia africana* (sausage tree)
- *Hyphaene petersiana* (mukaleni palm, omulangs)
- *Berchemia discolor* (zembe, bird plum)
- *Strychnos* spp. (onimalu, magualu)
- * Diospyros mespiliformis* (emusa, jackal berry)
- *F guarded* (wild medlar, emba)
- *Grewia* spp. (onche)
- *Ziziphus mucronata* (omuketake, buffalo thorn)
- *Tynsetom esculentum* (morama bean)
- *Cucumis meloferus* (African horticultural cucumber, eesoshva)
- *Diospyros engleriana* (chosumba, thimbo, Kalahari pod-berry)
- *Guilbournia coleasperma* (nossivi, yapalwood, false mopane)
5 NASSP Indigenous Plant Strategy Review

In 2003 a review of the indigenous plant promotion strategy and activities was conducted as part of the inception phase of NASSP. The report made the following recommendations:

Summary of recommendations

The recommendations below are presented roughly in order of priority. Indicative budget figures and timeframes are provided. In some cases (notably cultivation of devil’s claw, Hoodia, succulents and indigenous vegetables) it would be highly desirable to source continued funding (from national sources or donors) before the support of NASSP ends in 2005/6.

A. It is strongly recommended that NASSP:
   a. funds the forthcoming national workshop in May
   b. styles this meeting as a national workshop on Indigenous plants promotion
   c. promote and supports a decision at this workshop to transform the IFTT into the Indigenous Plants Task Team (IPTT)
   d. helps the task teams to secure high-level endorsement of an appropriately expanded mandate and terms of reference

Budget: N$200 000
Duration: Workshop 8-9 May 2003, proceedings by July 2003

B. It is recommended that — in addition to national-level initiatives as detailed below — NASSP encourages and supports the establishment of (eco-)regional satellite centres which can serve as local fool for Indigenous plant promotion. Such satellite centres can be based at GRN experimental farms or ADCs, forestry stations or (where more appropriate) can be hosted by community-level organisations such as conservancies. The aim of this work should be to institutionalise Indigenous plant promotion by making it part of the on-going work of such satellite centres (rather than to create additional or new structures). In this regard NASSP can — through its various components — play an important networking function.

Budget: Consultations to be included in other NASSP components
Duration: On-going

C. It is further recommended that NASSP prioritises and actively supports a systematic investigation into technologically and environmentally appropriate cultivation of devil’s claw (both species).

Budget: N$200 000/a x 3 years
Duration: 5 years starting mid-2003

D. It is also recommended that NASSP supports a systematic consultation among stakeholders (including foreign buyers) aimed at improving marketing and/or local value-adding of devil’s claw (either through declaring it a controlled product in terms of the Agronomic Industry Act, or through a voluntary industry association, or by simply closing Namibia’s borders to imports of unprocessed material).

Budget: N$100 000
Duration: 2 months (3rd quarter 2003)

E. It is recommended that NASSP provides funding to NBRI for the continuation and expansion of its Hoodia and Indigenous succulent programme, including employing a horticulturist to act as Project Coordinator.

Budget: N$350 000/a x 3 years

F. It is recommended that NASSP supports the establishment of an Indigenous vegetables programme at NBRI, focusing initially on leafy vegetables and adding other types later.

Budget: N$100 000/a x 3 years
Duration: Late 2003 on

G. NASSP should also consider supporting the emergency dissemination — through agriculture and forestry
exclusion workers as well as the mass media — of sustainable devil’s claw harvesting guidelines (especially in areas where this has not been done before, such as the parts of the NCAs where H. cycperi is harvested).

Budget: N$75 000
Duration: Asap, until February 2004

H. It is recommended that the Devil’s Claw Working Group (DCWG) continues to operate as a separate and distinct institution, but that it considers measures that would facilitate better interaction with other initiatives around Indigenous plants (primarily so that these initiatives can be systematically informed about and learn from the much more developed devil’s claw industry).

Budget: None (except for NASSP TA involvement in both DCWG and IFTT)
Duration: On-going

I. It is recommended that NASSP convenes a meeting between LuxDev, MADI management, relevant MAWRD and DoF staff members and the PIF project coordinator to clarify the opportunities and constraints around a marketable pilot project based at Maseke Agricultural Development Institute.

Budget: Depends on contribution from Lux Development
Duration: Mid-2003

J. The training approach proposed for the Indigenous components is for NASSP to sponsor an internship programme for four recent Unam or Polytechnic graduates, who will be attached to CRILAA SA-DC on 6-month renewable contracts, during which time they will be systematically exposed to and tutored in a wide range of activities related to the commercialization of Indigenous resources.

Budget: N$40 000/intern x 4 plus N$120 000 management costs – N$280 000/a
Duration: Mid-2003 to mid-2004, renewable if successful

K. It is recommended that NASSP supports community outreach efforts by the national programme to promote Indigenous plants use, specifically by funding systematic contacts with conservanciers, FSRE focal groups, women’s groups, traditional healers, traditional authorities and other actual and potential grassroots stakeholders, and (provided extending the task team is endorsed by the national workshop) by financially supporting the participation of representatives of these stakeholders in IFTT (or IFPT) meetings.

Budget: N$150 000/a
Duration: 3 years

6 Consolidated priority list

The following is a consolidated list of priorities for action approved by the IFTT:

This consolidation and prioritization of recommendations has been compiled at the request of the IFTT. The document combines recommendations about Indigenous plants promotion from the Indigenous Plan Promotion Strategy Review conducted for the National Agricultural Services Support Project (NASSP) with those made in the PIF Phase One Final Report. Both sets of recommendations have been endorsed by national stakeholders — at the NASSP Inception Workshop and the 2nd National Workshop on Indigenous Fruit Promotion, respectively. The continuation of the “pipeline approach” recommended by the 2nd National Workshop on Indigenous Fruit Promotion is unpacked in more detail. Other Indigenous plant promotion activities known to the author have been included to the extent that they are relevant to the larger purpose of the exercise, which is to facilitate rational use of limited financial and human resources for maximum impact. Devil’s Claw activities under NASSP are included for the record only.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>ESTIMATED BUDGET</th>
<th>SOURCE OF FUNDING</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>00</td>
<td>Ad hoc project coordination</td>
<td>N$72 000</td>
<td>NASSP</td>
<td>Guided by Devil's Claw Working Group; occasional verbal reports on highlights to JPTT; high potential for synergy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00</td>
<td>Market liaison</td>
<td>N$150 000</td>
<td>UPDP</td>
<td>Overarching priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00</td>
<td>Contingency (&quot;process&quot;) funding for emerging priorities</td>
<td>???</td>
<td>UPDP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00</td>
<td>Useful Plants database</td>
<td>N$140 000 (CSIR)</td>
<td>UPDP</td>
<td>Urgently requires resolution of confidentiality issue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Feasibility study and business plan (incl. promotion to investors) for a private-sector commercial entity to incubate, operate and sell viable natural product enterprises</td>
<td>N$120 000</td>
<td>PIF</td>
<td>Must include some primary producer equity; key to sustainability after GRN support ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Manus juice and pulp: - continue pilot-scale production in 2004 (MIP3 Phase Two) - CIRAD to refine and build pilot-scale technology for producing stabilised pulp</td>
<td>N$300 000</td>
<td>PIF</td>
<td>- Repeat larger-scale trial purchases in 2004 to prove sufficient fruit supply - Try to cut costs and/or attract separate funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Continue support to melon seed market and trade development</td>
<td>N$60 000</td>
<td>PIF</td>
<td>Supply network, cultivation and seed extraction to be improved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Encourages and supports the establishment of (eco-regional satellite centres for indigenous plant promotion, and support community outreach efforts - by funding systematic contacts with rural and potential grassroots stakeholders - by financially supporting participation of stakeholders in JPTT meetings</td>
<td>N$125 000 (2003-04) [N$150 000/a budgeted]</td>
<td>NASSP</td>
<td>If GEF SCP proposal is unsuccessful, substantial additional funds for fieldwork will be required to support coordination and advice to emerging satellite centres and grassroots stakeholders (UPDP?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Continue and expand the &quot;pipeline&quot; approach for resources that cannot yet be spun off as separate projects: - Ximenia oil processing - Baobab pulp (and oil) processing trials</td>
<td>N$35 000</td>
<td>PIF</td>
<td>- Ximenia: 2t seed in stock, tentative order for 300 kg oil, technology needs improvement - Baobab: alolhe market for organic pulp; need partners - Liquor: rationale</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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6 Indigenous vegetables programme

The IPTT oversees many diverse programmes and activities. One of them is an Indigenous vegetables programme. As an illustration of an IPTT programme the budget from VIVA (Vigorous Indigenous Vegetables from Africa) is reproduced below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NASSP INDIGENOUS VEGETABLES PROGRAMME BUDGET 2004-2006</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Item</td>
<td>Cost 2004-2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1) Cultivation trials, Klaus Pietzner, Mannheim</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1) Casual labour</td>
<td>3 x N$38.59/day x 4 mths (90 days)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2) Materials</td>
<td>Lamp sum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Cultivation trials and seed collection, Pendahevi Amunyela, Ben Hor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1) Fencing and drip irrigation</td>
<td>Lamp sum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2) Casual labour</td>
<td>Lamp sum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Seed collection, NCRs, PeR Kastie (Uham Ongono)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1) Fencing and labour</td>
<td>4 plots x N$5'000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2) Transport</td>
<td>Lamp sum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) Climate seed harvesting, Omahheke San Trust, Omahheke</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1) Casual labour</td>
<td>Lamp sum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 7 How to get involved

The IPIT is reaching out to stakeholders around the country and inviting them to get involved in the promotion of economic opportunities based on indigenous plants in their respective regions, and nationally.

You have probably received this document because you are a potential partner and participant.

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact:

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