WORKSHOP TO IMPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EMA & REGULATIONS

MRLGHRD PERSPECTIVE
MRLGHRD MANDATE

• The Minister of RLGHRD is, by virtue of powers vested in him through various acts and ordinances, the Controlling Authority related to town and regional planning matters.

• The Minister is, i.t.o the above planning legislation, responsible to ensure the co-ordinated and harmonious development in Namibia in such a way that will promote the health, safety, order, amenity, convenience and general welfare of all their inhabitants.

• The Minister is also responsible for the efficiency and economy in the process of development, i.e N&D considerations, township establishment, control of development, subdivision of land, municipal services provision, strategic spatial planning, land management, regional & local government, rural development and housing.
Applicable bodies

- NAMPAB
- Townships Board
- Local Authorities
- Regional Authorities
- Coordinating committees
- Housing & Habitat

All affected by environmental legislation
MRLGHRD’s **NDP4 RESPONSIBILITY**

- MRLGHRD has been tasked through NDP4 to address the creation of an enabling environment, job creation, and eradicating poverty by:
  - Amending outdated legislation
  - Ensuring efficient land delivery;
  - Ensuring access to serviced land;
  - Providing a robust & effective housing delivery
DEVELOPMENT DEMAND

- **NAMPAB** applications to Minister for period May 2012 to May 2013 = 138

- **Townships Board** applications to Minister for period February 2012 to December 2012 = 248
CHALLENGES & CONSTRAINTS

• **Lengthy procedures before delivery:**
  - process starts at local authority with public participation and local authority decision (±6-12 months);
  - process continues at Townships Board (±2 to 6 months); or prior to that
  - process requires Minister’s approval through NAMPAB (±4-12 months)
  - process for surveying and registration follows (±6-12 months)

  ❖ EMA will inevitably cause further (unnecessary) delays, thereby impacting on efficient delivery
CHALLENGES & CONSTRAINTS (2)

• **Budget Constraints**
  - Decentralized planning function places burden on local authorities and individuals who now have to budget for EMA’s apart from planning expenditure

• **Duplication**
  - A further public participation process is prescribed by the EMA, which is not only a duplication of funds and time, but also has the potential to restrict and even bring to a standstill any development
SOLUTION PROPOSALS

• NITRP input on amending EMA & Regulations
• MET to compile a SEA for Namibia
• MET to engage further discussion, especially sub-national governments
• MET to budget for financial assistance to compile SEA’s for local and regional structure plans