

# REPORT ON THE SOCIAL ASPECTS RELATED TO *XIMENIA* HARVESTERS IN EAST-KAVANGO

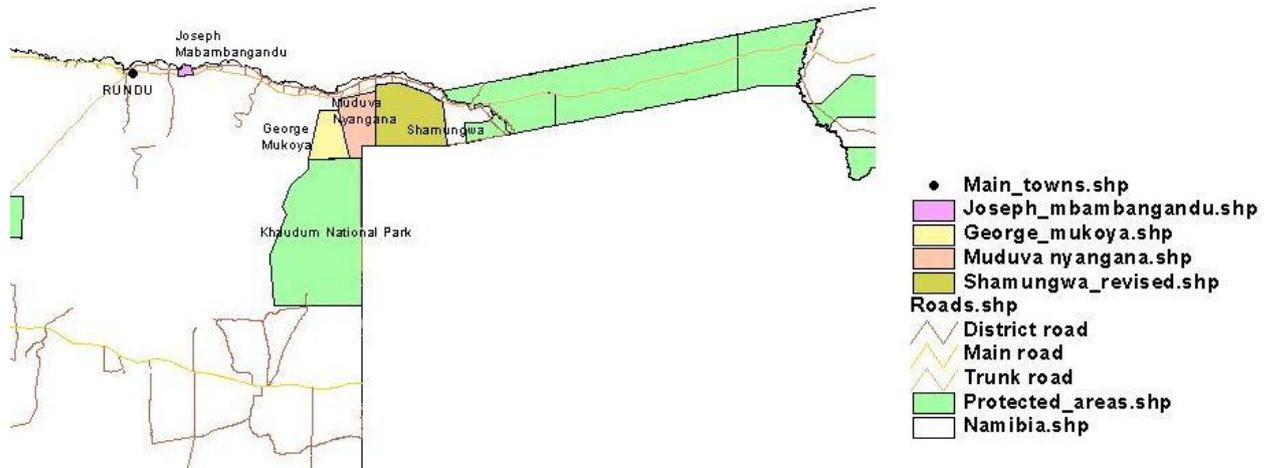
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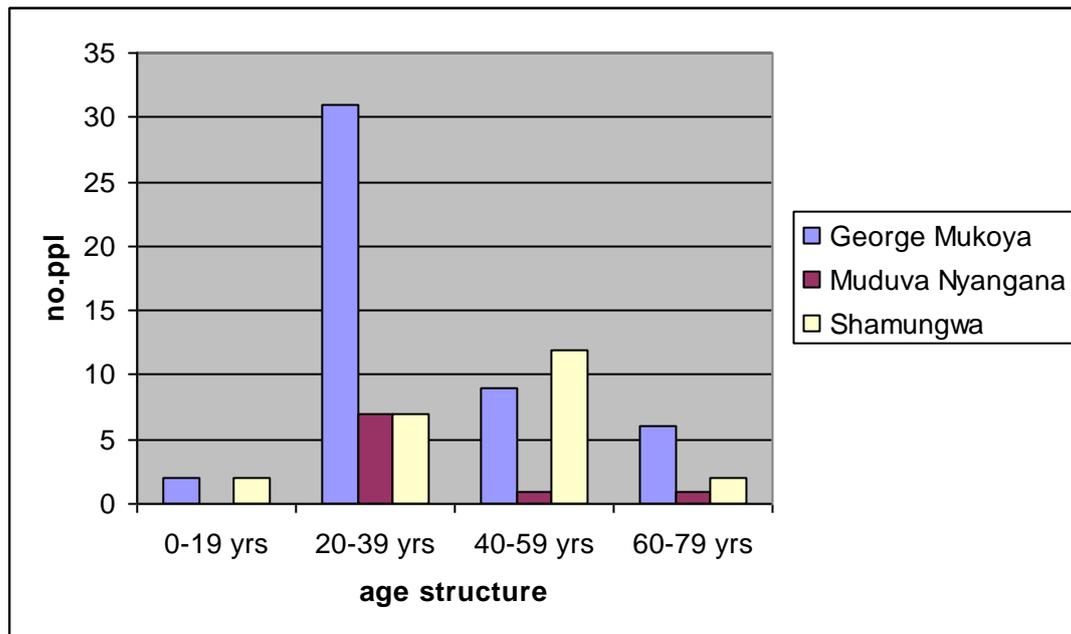
## Background information:

This report is based on data collected by Ximenia Secretaries in East-Kavango late 2008-early 2009 while registering the harvesters of Ximenia fruits. In each village, people who had actively harvested Ximenia during the 2008 harvesting season were encouraged to register as harvesters. They were issued a Harvester Card with a Personal Identification Code and two 20Kg bags in which to store their kernels. In the mean time, they were requested to answer a few questions on their social background. The aim was to get to know them better as well as their expectations related to the income generated by this activity. This report briefly highlights the main outcomes of these questions.



**Outcomes:**

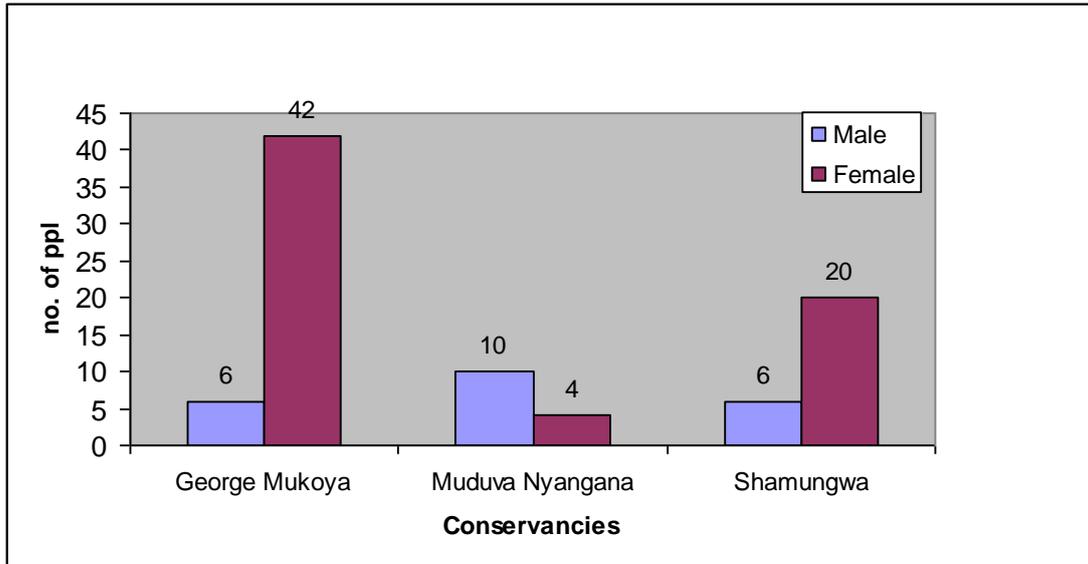
By end of February 2009, a total number of 88 people had registered from 3 different communal conservancies: 48 people in George Mukoya, 14 people in Muduva Nyangana and 26 people in Shamungwa. No harvesters were registered in Joseph Mbambangandu conservancy. The following charts briefly discuss their age structure per conservancy.



**Figure 1:** Age group of people involved in *Ximenia* harvesting.

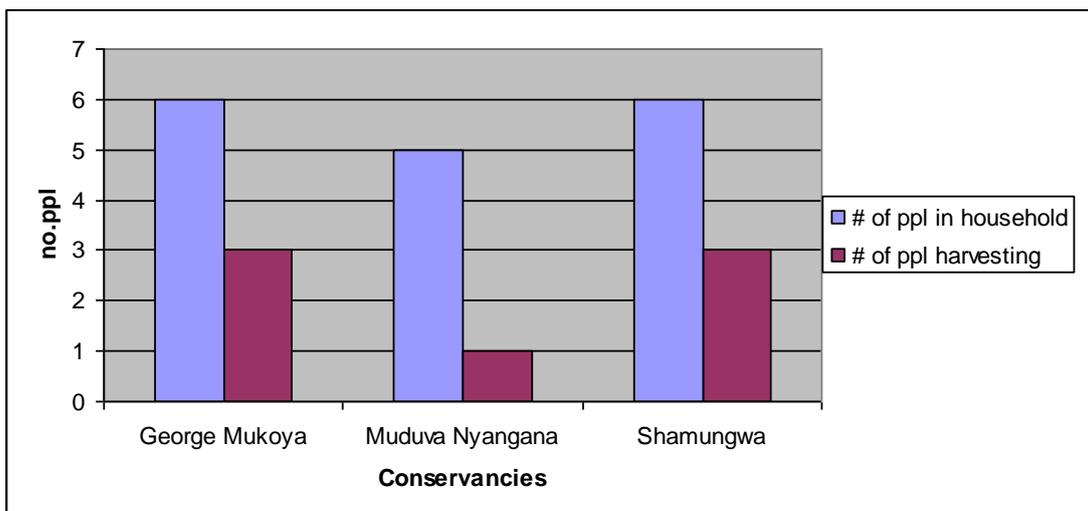
As indicated by the chart, in George Mukoya conservancy, people in 20-39 years age category are much more involved and often very few young people (0-19years) who are actively involved in harvesting. In Muduva Nyangana conservancy, the number of harvesters between the ages of 20-39 years was also high compared to other age groups (40-59 & 60-79) and there were no harvesters under the age of 19 years. In Shamungwa, many harvesters fall between the ages of 40-59 years followed by harvesters between 20-39 years, then by 60-79 years and few people from 0-19 age group respectively.

The youngest harvester for all conservancies is 10 years old while the oldest is 77 years old.



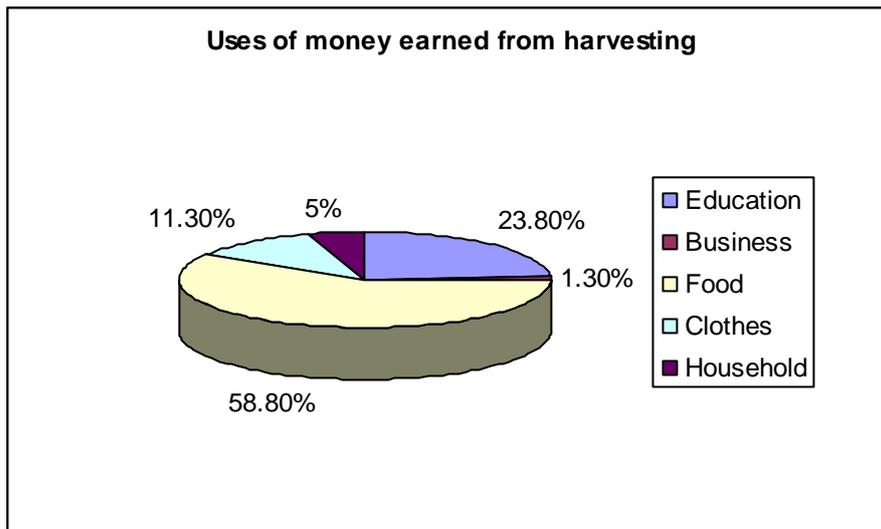
**Figure 2:** Comparison in terms of sex ratio.

In George Mukoya and Shamungwa conservancies, women are much more involved than men in *Ximenia* harvesting (>85%). Whereas in Muduva Nyangana conservancy there are more men (71%) involved in harvesting compared to women.



**Figure 3:** Average number of people per household compared to the average number of people harvesting.

On average, a maximum of 6 to 5 people were found per household. Out of those 6 people, on average 3 people tend to harvest in both George Mukoya and Shamungwa conservancies, whereas in Muduva Nyangana, out of 5 people in a household only 1 person tend to harvest. The maximum number of people per household was up to 12. It is expected that all the people in a household will benefit from the income generated by the selling of *Ximenia* kernels should there be a minimum of one harvester.



**Figure 4:** Intended overall uses of money earned from *Ximenia* harvesting.

The harvesters were requested to indicate on what they were planning to spend the money generated by this activity. A high percentage (almost 60%) of the harvesters replied that they would like to spend their income on buying manufactured **food**, followed by **education** (almost a fourth) through purchasing school uniforms, books and paying the school fees. An additional 11.3% would rather like to spend their income on buying **clothes** and 5% for **household** purposes (i.e. blankets) while only one woman aged 31 years replied that she is planning to invest her income in her business (cuca shop).

Most people (>70%) in Muduva Nyangana and Shamungwa conservancies within the age structure 40-79 replied that they would like to spend their money on education for their children unlike in George Mukoya where people (>90%) indicated to spend their money on manufactured food. The younger ones (0-19 years) also intend to spend their money on education.