SPERRGEBIET CONSERVATION PLANNING

Questionnaire

In "big words" the main objectives of this questionnaire are to contribute to:

- 1. finding approaches and mechanism for implementing a multi-use protected area in the Sperrgebiet (Diamond Area 1)
- 2. discussing required institutional structures and process
- 3. determining financial mechanism to implement the proposed strategy and
- 4. developing indicators of success for implementing the strategy.

The information obtained during workshops and from this questionnaire will be incorporated in the implementation strategy (general aspects) and work plan (finer detail) for the Sperrgebiet. This will be presented at a follow-up workshop in September / October 2002.

Question 1 How should the proposed protected area be administered and managed?

Conventionally protected areas in Namibia fall under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism. However, due to considerable interests of other land users, land use planning in the Diamond Area to date has been carried out under the umbrella of three line ministries, namely Environment and Tourism, Mines and Energy, and Lands, Resettlement and Rehabilitation. This is an unusual situation which offers an opportunity to pioneer a workable structure for an unique area that is of paramount importance to the country for both, biodiversity conservation and mining.

The **Sperrgebiet Land Use Plan** proposes the area to be proclaimed as a National Park under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET). While the day to day management is to be undertaken by MET, a management advisory committee is proposed to provide strategic advice on matters such as land use changes, environmental assessments, tourism concessions, etc. The management advisory committee is to be composed of representatives from four line ministries (Environment, Mines, Lands and Fisheries) as well as Regional Government, Namdeb, Chamber of Mines, National Botanical Research Institute and Southern Tourism Forum.

What are your views on a **workable** administrative and management structure for the Sperrgebiet?

Your suggestion?

Question 2 How can the proposed protected area be financed?

Maintaining adequate staff and infrastructure to equip a fledging, new park is costly. Traditionally government funds are allocated to provide the basics. Hardly ever are these funds adequate to implement and maintain all planned activities and infrastructure. Also the centralised government budget allocation system prevents that revenues are directly poured back to where they have been generated. In this area it is evident that revenue generated through conservation and tourism activities can never match those generated by the mining industry in the medium-term. Hence additional sources have to be found.

A new initiative in global conservation, called **conservation concessions** is currently pioneered in areas where financial returns from conservation and sustainable land uses that conform with conservation goals cannot match those generated from resource depleting activities such as mining and unsustainable logging. In simple terms, governments that are willing to "sacrifice" areas with high financial returns from non sustainable land uses for the benefit of conservation, are compensated through international funding for the projected "losses" to the national economy.

Some ways of generating revenue for conservation:

- Tourism and hunting concessions
- Park entrance fees
- Park accommodation, restaurants and shops
- Game auctions and sale of other renewable resources
- Fees for commercial filming
- Levies from non-sustainable land uses in a protected area (compensation)
- International funding
- Conservation concessions
- Private investment

How do you think conservation activities in the Sperrgebiet could be funded?

Can you think of other **innovative ways** to generate funds for a protected area? How could these be used in the context of the Sperrgebiet?

Question 3 Given that proclamation of the area as a National Park is imminent, which activities can be allowed within the proclaimed zones?

Modified IUCN (World Conservation Union) categories are proposed in Namibia's Parks and Wildlife Management Bill. These categories will apply to the new park and were included in the Sperrgebiet Land Use Plan, as follows:

Parks and Wildlife Management Bill	IUCN	Description and guidelines for activities
Wilderness area	Category 1	 Strict nature reserve and wilderness area: to be set aside for scientific study low usage core area no or minimal mechanised access no permanent structures
National park	Category 2	 National park: low usage area managed for conservation and tourism mechanised access no permanent structures?
Protected landscape	Category 5	 Protected landscape/seascape managed for conservation and sustainable, traditional resource use and recreation permanent structures private vehicle access
Conservation area	Category 6	 Managed resource protected area managed for sustainable use of natural ecosystems
Natural monument	Category 3	Natural monument conservation of specific feature
Nature reserve	Category 4	 Habitat and species management area: managed for conservation to ensure maintenance of habitats and species of ecological importance

Examples for typical land uses and activities are:
 agriculture (irrigation, livestock and crop farming)

- agriculture (ii
 conservation
- filming

Please list below which activities

compatible with each proposed zone,

keeping overall guiding principles

environment of the area in mind.

and land uses you feel are

and the unique and sensitive

- mining (open cast, underground)
- prospecting
- research
- tourism (balloon safaris, guided 4x4 tours, guided hikes, guided horse and camel trials, self-drive tours, hunting)

Zoning category	Proposed activities
Wilderness area	
(1 – no or minimal	
mechanised access)	

National park (2 – controlled	
mechanised access)	
Protected landscape	
(5 – recreational use)	
Conservation area	
(6 – managed resources)	
Natural monument (3)	
Nature reserve (4 – species/ habitat protection)	

Other comments:

Question 4 How can the proposed "rules" for each zone be enforced most effectively?

Different ways to monitor and control the impact of activities are likely required in different zones. The Sperrgebiet is at present not accessible to the public. However, as a park, parts of the area will eventually be accessible and there need to be practical ways to ensure all land users "stick to the rules". The Sperrgebiet is a vast area and adequate numbers of law enforcement officers on the ground or sophisticated surveillance are at present a dream for the future.

Examples for direct and indirect means to "enforce" conservation regulations

- legislation
- law enforcement officers
- awareness and education
- Environmental Impact Assessments
- no or strictly controlled accessincentives for "environmentally sound" behaviour

Please **provide your creative ideas** how traditional law enforcement could be supplemented. Where applicable, list for specific zones, otherwise for "all zones".

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Zoning category	Proposed enforcement
All zones	
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mechanised access)	
National nonly	
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meenamsed access)	
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Conservation area (6	
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resources)	
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this page):	

Thank you, for your contribution!