

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP NAMIBIA

August 2018

Projects update

KARIBIB PROJECT HAS TAKEN OFF!!

A Memorandum of Understanding between Development Workshop Namibia (DWN) and the Karibib Town Council was signed on 16th August by Karibib CEO Mr Lesley Goreseb, the Chairperson of the Management Committee Ms Monalisa Karimbue, and Beat Weber, Director of DWN. The signing ceremony took place at Karibib Town Council. The mayor of Karibib and numerous Councillors attended the ceremony. In the course of the ceremony Mr Goreseb mentioned that many of his CEO colleagues across Namibia are interested in collaborating with this programme and would like to implement similar projects in their respective towns.

The project in Karibib will develop 350 erven with costs ranging between approximately N\$ 10,000 to N\$ 25,000 per erf, depending on the level of services provided. The project area will be divided into 3-4 blocks with different service levels, according to demand and affordability. The development will be done in phases of approximately 100 erven, this in order to minimise the risk exposure of the project and to ensure that there is sufficient demand of the provided erven.

The ministerial approval for '30 (1) t clearance' by the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development (MURD) will be done in parallel with project implementation. According to Mr Goreseb, the Council has taken this approach before, in order not to delay project implementation.



Discussing and adjusting the Memorandum of Understanding before the signing ceremony at Karibib Town Council.

Okahao project: preliminary engineering and service cost estimates

During August, project partner Urban Dynamics has revised the layout for the Okahao project site, increasing the density of residential erven with the objective to lower the servicing costs. Knight Piésold Consulting subsequently revised the servicing costs, and finalised preliminary engineering designs and cost estimates.

The preliminary cost per erf is N\$ 16,563, including domestic water connections, levelled roads, and all town planning, land surveying, engineering, and project management costs. Alternative sanitary options are currently being looked at as the provision of standard water born sewerage would cost more than N\$ 20,000 per erf, turning it

unaffordable for the urban poor and defeat the main objective of the project.

The preliminary engineering report from Knight Piésold has been sent to the Town Council for further discussion.



Layout displaying the preliminary design of water reticulation in the project area.

Oshakati project – pending 30(1) t clearance

The delays caused by the pending ministerial approval for the ‘30(1) t clearance’ are becoming a major concern. While Oshakati Town Council is actively investigating the cause of the delay, DWN has requested an audience with Hon. Derek Klazen, Deputy Minister of MURD. The audience is planned to take place in the week of 10th September. While seeking his intervention for the immediate issue of the clearance, DWN further will provide an update on current activities and explore ways how to avoid administrative delays as observed with this clearance.

Project on affordable sanitation

On 17th August, DWN signed an agreement with the Global Environment Facility’s (GEF) Small Grants Programme for the implementation of a project on affordable sanitation. The project will continue the work on sanitation that has been funded by the NCE from May to July.

Until the end of September, DWN will finalize the assessment on existing affordable sanitary systems in Namibia and international experiences. Following, DWN and its partners will improve the construction designs and functionality of the most promising existing sanitary systems as identified by the report. Specific systems (such as improved pit latrines) will be built and tested, and then integrated into current and future projects of the DWN/NCE land programme.

Policy Support and Funding

Funding for the Land Programme

Beside administrative hurdles, funding remains the biggest constraint of the land programme. While responses from local authorities have been positive in general, the leveraging of additional funds for the programme remains a major challenge. For the time being, DWN is therefore not contacting any additional local authorities.

To date, DWN has distributed more than 50 funding request packages to local corporate sector companies. Two companies have responded positively (B2Gold and Air Namibia) and a major bank has also pledged support, however without a specific commitment to date. Several companies responded negatively, mostly pointing out existing CSR commitments.

While DWN continues distributing funding requests to additional corporate sector companies, it is also pursuing longer term financing options with two major international development institutions.