

Thematic scope

Development Workshop Namibia (DWN) is currently implementing three main programmes:

LAND FOR HOUSING

- The lack of affordable land for housing is the main cause of Namibia’s housing crisis and the continuous rapid growth of informal settlements;
- Through this programme, DWN and the Namibian Chamber of Environment (NCE) support local authorities in the planning, surveying and servicing of land with title;
- Seven extensions with more than 3,000 plots are currently under development and more than 200 beneficiaries have already received their plots.

SANITATION & COVID-19

- Some 50% of informal settlement residents in Namibia do not have access to toilets and practice open defecation. This has massive health and environmental implications;
- The DWN/NCE programme promotes the construction of on-site toilet solutions to assist making areas and towns open defecation free;
- Karibib is a first candidate town to become open defecation free by December 2020;
- The programme includes the Covid-19 emergency programme through tippy tap installation (more than 48,000 tippy taps to date);
- It is implemented in collaboration with UNICEF, UNDP, Ministry of Health and Social Services, Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

- DWN is in the process of mapping all informal settlement kindergartens in Namibia and has initiated a kindergarten support project in Windhoek.

Geographic scope

DWN is currently implementing projects in 17 towns in 11 regions. With 34 staff and headquarters in Windhoek, DWN has permanent representations in eight towns: Opuwo, Okahao, Oshakati, Rundu, Katima Mulilo, Swakopmund, Karibib and Otjiwarongo.

A permanent internship programme supported by the NCE provides 6-8 internship positions. A network of more than 240 volunteers support projects in the various towns.

Activities are implemented in the following towns and regions:

	Region	Town	Land	Sanitation	Covid-19	ECD
1	Karas	Keetmanshoop				
		Oranjemund				
		Luederitz				
2	Khomas	Windhoek				
3	Otjozundiupa	Otjiwarongo				
		Otavi				
		Kalkfeld				
4	Erongo	Swakopmund				
		Walvis Bay				
		Karibib				
5	Kunene	Opuwo				
6	Omusati	Okahao				
7	Oshana	Oshakati				
8	Oshikoto	Oniipa				
9	Kavango West	Nkurenkuru				
10	Kavango East	Rundu				
11	Zambezi	Katima Mulilo				

Key issues

RESULT ORIENTATION

All DWN interventions aim to achieve concrete results:

- Land for housing: to provide sufficient land and housing opportunities to contain informal urban expansion;
- Sanitation: to make towns open defecation free. A first candidate town is Karibib, to become open defecation free by December 2020;
- Early Childhood Development: to support kindergartens in informal settlements to improve services provided to families with young children.



Green shirted sanitation and covid-19 volunteers

GETTING THINGS DONE

Although an NGO and not for profit organisation, DWN puts great emphasis on an entrepreneurial approach and culture. It aims to identify, test and implement artful solutions to complex problems, and strives to get things done on time. The young and energetic University graduates and professionals that constitute DWN’s workforce drive this approach. Considerable efforts go into continuous staff training and efficient organisational management.