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|                 | <b>Unit ID: 683</b>   |
| <b>Domain</b>   | <b>CIVIL SOCIETY IN DEVELOPMENT</b>   |
| <b>Title:</b>   | <b>Conduct basic participatory research<br/>as part of civil society management</b> |
| <b>Level: 4</b> | <b>Credits:10</b>   |

### **Purpose**

This unit standard specifies the competencies required to conduct basic participatory research. It includes demonstrating knowledge of participatory research methods, implementing them and feeding back information to the research team. This unit standard is intended for people working or wishing to work in civil society, and will increase the use of participatory approaches and so help empower communities.

### **Special Notes**

1. Assessment evidence may be collected from a real work place, a simulated workplace or an appropriate simulated realistic environment in which participatory research is carried out.
2. Glossary of terms:
  - *'Participatory research'* refers to the involvement of people in the transformation of their reality through investigation, self education and action.

### **Quality Assurance Requirements**

This unit standard and others within this subfield may be awarded by institutions which meet the accreditation requirements set by the Namibia Qualifications Authority and the Namibia Training Authority and which comply with the national assessment and moderation requirements. Details of specific accreditation requirements and the national assessment arrangements are available from the Namibia Qualifications Authority and the Namibia Training Authority. All approved unit standards, qualifications and national assessment arrangements are available on the Namibia Training Authority website [www.nta.com.na](http://www.nta.com.na).

### **Elements and Performance Criteria**

#### **Element 1: Demonstrate knowledge of participatory research methods.**

#### **Range**

Methods may include but are not limited to Participatory Poverty Appraisal (PPA), Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA), Community Capacity Enhancement (CCE) and Public Participatory Survey (PPS).

Benefits may include but are not limited to relation building, understanding people's lifestyles, poverty reduction, improved local infrastructure, greater civic participation, acquisition of skills and confidence, awareness building, greater access to opportunities, empowerment, information giving, realistic analysis and information gathering.

Pitfalls may include but are not limited to purely data collection, over-researching, insensitive handling and emphasis of people's living conditions and misinformation.

### **Performance Criteria**

- 1.1 Participatory research methods and procedures are identified. This will include an appraisal of which methods and procedures are appropriate for different situations.
- 1.2 The benefits and potential pitfalls are described both in general and in relation to specific research projects.

### **Element 2: Implement participatory research procedures.**

#### **Performance Criteria**

- 2.1 The method chosen for the research is understood and carried out. This will include explaining the choice of method, describing particular practical difficulties and how they were overcome.
- 2.2 The researcher's role as a facilitator is demonstrated. This will include, for example, obstacles faced and overcome or how the role differed from other research projects.
- 2.3 Participants' views and comments are recorded in appropriate ways. For example, written records are not always suited to the community involved; alternatives chosen are described or shown and substantiated.

### **Element 3: Feed back all information to the research team.**

#### **Performance Criteria**

- 3.1 All research findings are reported and discussed with the research team and the community, and the choice of reporting and communication methods for so doing are explained.
- 3.2 Results are documented in appropriate format and languages.

## **Registration Data**

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| <b>Subfield:</b>                     | Civil Society Management      |
| <b>Date first registered:</b>        | 27 May 2010                   |
| <b>Date this version registered:</b> | 27 May 2010                   |
| <b>Anticipated review:</b>           | 2014                          |
| <b>Body responsible for review:</b>  | The Steering Group for CSMT&A |