

	Unit ID: 691
Domain	CIVIL SOCIETY: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
Title:	Assist local communities to manage community based natural resources
Level: 5	Credits: 10

Purpose

This unit standard specifies the competencies required to assist local communities to manage community based natural resources. It includes procedures for assisting the community to develop and implement an action plan and for establishing monitoring and evaluation procedures. This unit standard is intended for those who work as community facilitators and/or business advisers in civil society environmental management activities.

Special Notes

1. Assessment evidence may be collected from a real workplace, or simulated real workplace or an appropriate simulated realistic environment in which community based natural resource management operations may be carried out.
2. Glossary of terms:
 - *'Assist'* means helping the community by doing some of the work and by providing information so that, in time, the community can manage its own resources.
 - *'Community based natural resources'* include, but are not limited to, land, plants, crops, minerals, wildlife, cultural traditions and crafts and historical artefacts.
 - *'CBNRM'* means the broad spectrum of new management arrangements and benefit sharing partnerships for the involvement of and by people who are not agents of the state, but who, by virtue of their collective location and activities, are strategically placed to safeguard and enhance the present and future status of natural resources and their own well being. These new arrangements include for example Integrated Conservation and Development (ICD), Community Based Conservation (CBC), Community Wildlife Management (CWM) and Collaborative or Co-Management (CM). (adapted from Barrow and Murphee 2001).
 - *'CBNRM'* stands for Community Based Natural Resource Management.
 - *'CBOs'* are Community Based Organisations and in the context of CBNRM include but are not limited to conservancies, water point committees, village development committees, NGOs, not for profit organisations, communal farmers, traditional authorities, Communal Land Boards, formal and informal co-operatives.
3. Regulations and legislation relevant to this unit standard include the following:
 - Constitution of the Republic of Namibia 1990 Article 95:1 CBNRM Policy 1995
 - Convention on Biological Diversity 1992, ratified 1997
 - Amendment of the Nature Conservation Ordinance 1996
 - Adoption of the Parks and Neighbours Policy 1998
 - National Land Policy 1998
 - Land Reform Act No. 6 of 1995
 - Communal Land Reform Act No 33 to 37 of 2003
 - Forestry Act Amendment No. 13 of 2005
 - Resettlement Policy 2000/2005

- Inland Fisheries Resource Act No. 1 of 2003
- Water and Sanitation Policy (WASP) 1993
- Territorial Sea and Exclusive Economic Zone 1990, and amended 1991
- Multinational Environmental Agreements (MEAs)
- National Development Plans (NDPs)
- Namibia Vision 2030, Office of the President 2004
- Ministry of Environment and Tourism Policy Document “Wildlife management, utilisation and tourism in communal areas” June 1995
- Ministry of Environment and Tourism Policy Document “Community based tourism development” June 1995
- Nature Conservation Amendment Act No. 5 of 1996
- Ministry of Environment and Tourism Amendment of Regulations Relating to Nature Conservation, Government Notice No. 304 of 1996

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.

Elements and Performance Criteria

Element 1: Describe the principles of CBNRM.

Performance Criteria

- 1.1 CBNRM is defined in both the Namibian and Southern African contexts.
- 1.2 The origins of CBNRM are listed in terms of their impact on Namibian developments.
- 1.3 Property rights regimes and their associated rights and responsibilities are described in the context of Namibian CBNRM.
- 1.4 Key policies and legislation in the evolution of natural resource management are described in terms of Namibian developments.

Element 2: Assist the community to establish CBNRM mechanisms.

Range

The constitution of a CBO must include but is not limited to information on the broad aims and objectives, membership and election procedures, mechanisms for accountability, any devolution of rights and responsibilities to smaller units, roles and responsibilities of members and office bearers, management plans, equitable benefit distribution plans, dispute resolution procedures and dissolution procedures.

Performance Criteria

- 2.1 A stakeholder analysis is undertaken which identifies all existing and potential individual and organisational stakeholders.
- 2.2 A social, economic, legal and ecological inventory is undertaken which identifies the starting point of development.
- 2.3 Assessments and forecasts are made of all possible income generating activities.
- 2.4 A CBO is established which is appropriate to the size, basis and diversity of the natural resources , and which has taken cognisance of the existing social and civic structures.
- 2.5 The constitution of the CBO is written and adopted by stakeholders.
- 2.6 The CBO is registered in an appropriate way and with all registration requirements in place.

Element 3: Assist with the development and implementation of management and benefit distribution processes.

Range

Adaptive management incorporates research into conservation (natural resource management) action. Specifically, it is the integration of design, management and monitoring to systematically test assumptions in order to adapt and learn from them.

Personnel means all people associated with the running of an organisation including Board members, management, staff and volunteers.

Performance Criteria

- 3.1 Namibia's ecology and environmental challenges are described and related to Namibia's development objectives on the macro level and to community development on the micro level.
- 3.2 Adaptive management is defined and explained in terms of its relevance to CBNRM.
- 3.3 The importance of alleviating human-natural resource conflict and of law enforcement is described in terms of medium and long term benefits and in terms of changing behaviour.
- 3.4 The event book system is described and appraised in terms of its strengths and weaknesses.
- 3.5 Financial management policies and procedures are described in terms of business management, accountability and transparency.
- 3.6 The importance of adhering to ethical business practice is described in terms of social, community, marketing, financial and environmental success.
- 3.7 Human resource management policies and procedures and the roles and responsibilities of all personnel associated with the CBO are described in terms of their inter-relationships and their contributions to the organisation's success.
- 3.8 Policies and procedures are described for distributing benefits in equitable and transparent ways.

Element 4: Establish monitoring and evaluation procedures.

Performance Criteria

- 3.1 Specific targets and goals are set which facilitate assessment of the CBO's performance.
- 3.2 Policies and procedures related to monitoring and evaluation are designed and implemented that are appropriate to the natural resources being managed and to the type of CBO.
- 3.3 A performance management system is in place and explained in terms of how it leads to staff evaluation and financial appraisal.

Registration Data

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