



SEA Implementation in developing country Case of Namibia



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Legislative Framework in Namibia

- Environmental Management Act of 2007 includes provisions of relevance to SEA:
 - ‚Organs of state‘ must prepare ‚Environmental Plans‘ for some listed proposals.
 - Environmental Assessments must be conducted for a number of listed activities.



Status of institutionalization

- Environmental Management Act enacted
- Guide to the Environmental Management Act published
- Regulation on SEA / EIA drafted
- Internal procedures for Environmental Commissioner drafted.



Concept elements

- SEA is in the responsibility of the 'Organ of State', i.e. the plan developing agency.
- SEA includes an Environmental Plan.
- SEA Report / Environmental Plan may be reviewed by the Environmental Commissioner and approved by the Environmental Minister.



Envisaged process for SEA

- Screening
- Scoping
- Elaboration of an assessment report
- Public notification
- Review by the Environmental Commissioner (or by commissioned external reviewer)
- Public consultation if required by Environmental Commissioner
- Decision on environmental clearance.



Practical experiences in the country

2 voluntary SEAs:

- SEA for the coastal areas of Erongo und Kunene Regions, commissioned Sept. 2006, published Dec. 2007
- SEA for Uranium Mining in the Erongo Region. Workshop for the ToR design Apr. 2008. Launch of SEA expected for 2009.

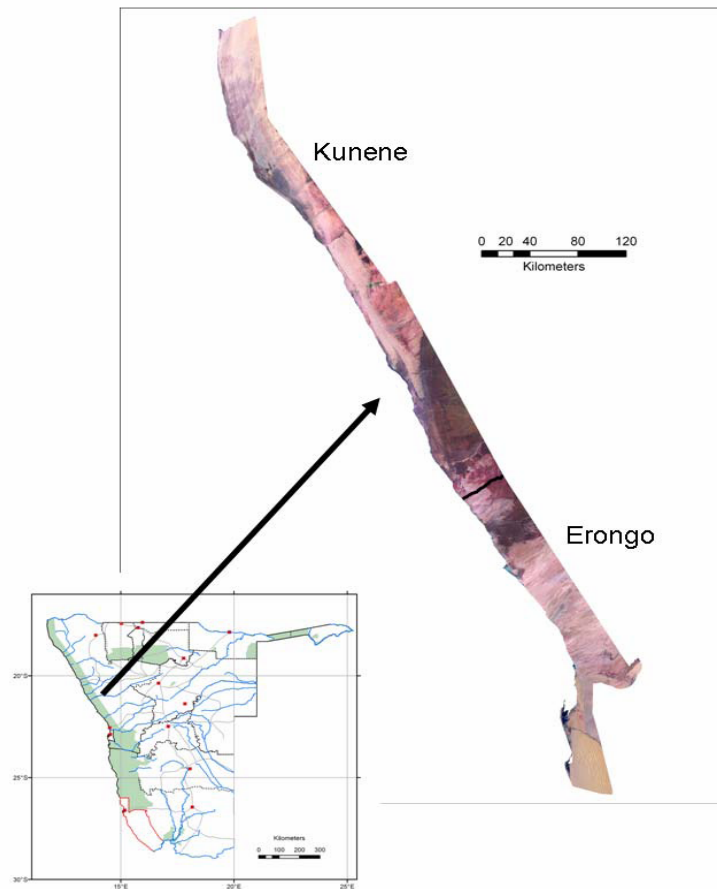


SEA for the coastal areas of Erongo und Kunene Regions

- Commissioned in 2006 by the Namibian Coast Conservation and Management Project (NACOMA = ICZM project of the Government supported by GEF).
- Goals:
 - (i) Decision support for further development of the regions' coastal zones and
 - (ii) support to a GIS-map based Decision Support Tool (DST).



Assessment area





Process

- SEA commissioned to expert team in September 2006
- Stakeholder consultations in Windhoek, Swakopmund, Mariental, Keetmanshoop and Luderitz.
- SEA report launched in January 2008
- Workshops to present SEA findings in Windhoek, Keetmanshoop, Luderitz and Oranjemund



Methodology

- Systematic evaluation of all existing scientific studies for the area.
- Compilation of all knowledge by stakeholders.
- Environmental factors were related to information on exploitable resources (water, minerals), areas for urban development, areas outlined by plans as priority development areas and mapped habitats for conservation.
- Development of list of recommendations (e.g. zoning for conservation areas).



Results

- Agreement amongst conservationists, the public and developers about the need for priority conservation areas.
- Stakeholders have also offered zonation ideas for all the parks and recreation areas.
- It seems likely that previous conflict areas (e.g. beaches and dunes between Swakopmund and Walvis Bay) can be zoned to include all reasonable needs of users and interest groups.



Use of outcomes

- Input for separate regional coastal profiles for Regional Councils.
- Recommendations for development of laws and policies for coastal management in Namibia.
- Input for the Namibia Coastal Conservation and Management White Paper (NACOWP).
- DST used for various decisions of Regional administrations.



Strengths / weaknesses

Strengths

- Systematic compilation and elaboration of all existing data and knowledge.
- Stakeholder involvement and negotiation processes
- Recommendations for future development activities



Strengths / weaknesses

Weaknesses

- No clear connection to a planning / decision-making process
- Too much study type SEA, too little process type SEA.
- Missing procedural steps such as scoping, commenting, monitoring.