



DEVELOPING THE BIODIVERSITY ECONOMY IN SELECTED LANDSCAPES IN NAMIBIA

As of: May 2021

The livelihood of 70% of the Namibian population is dependent on natural resources – but biodiversity and protected areas are under increasing pressure from population growth, unsustainable farming practices and climate change. The project builds on Namibia's success story in nature conservation. The protected areas of the country encompass more than 40% of the land area, but these areas are fragmented and there is a lack of coordination between funding and the different types of protected areas. The project transforms the protected areas into a system of well-coordinated landscapes and gives them a conservation value through sustainable economic use. The focus is on sectors that are directly dependent on the conservation of biodiversity, such as tourism. At the national level, the project supports the institutionalisation of the biodiversity economy approach, enabling broad-based implementation and its financing.

State of implementation/results

- COVID-19 reveals that a diversification of Namibia's biodiversity economy is necessary to minimize the risk of loss of income.
- Tourism, the most important source of income for financing nature conservation measures, has almost completely stands still in Namibia. At the landscape level, a central pillar of income for the local population and nature conservation is lost.
- Especially digital applications in this context have potential for biodiversity-based value chains and will be developed with the support of the project. The project also gives priority to the revitalization of nature tourism and other affected biodiversity-based sectors and value chains.
- The Project Steering Committee has selected four target landscapes to support the economy of biodiversity: Brandberg Landscape, Landscape West and South of Etosha National Park (EWS), Ombonde People Park (OPP), and Waterberg Landscape.

PROJECT DATA

Country/Countries:

Namibia

Implementing organisation:

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Political partner(s):

- Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET)
- Namibia

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BMU grant:

€ 5,000,000

Duration:

08/2019 till 07/2023

