

Rangelands in a changing world

21st Namibian National Rangeland Forum

July 17-19 2017
Otjiwarongo

The German-Namibian research project OPTIMASS is happy to announce the

21st Namibian National Rangeland Forum

Date: July 17th to July 19th 2017

Venue: Otjiwarongo, Out of Africa Lodge

This year the event aims at stimulating the exchange between rangeland managers and researchers and is themed

“Rangelands in a changing world – the management and understanding of Namibian savanna rangelands”

Confirmed keynote speakers are:

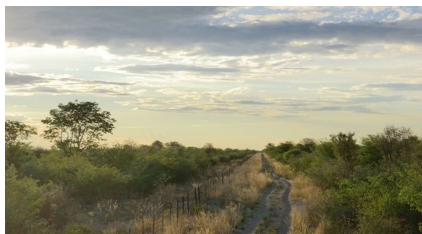
- Prof. Klaus Kellner (Rangeland restoration ecologist, North West University, RSA): *„Restoration of bush encroached Savannas“*
- Dr. Morgan Hauptfleisch (Senior Lecturer Ecology, Namibia University of Science and Technology): *"The function of rangelands in socio-ecological cohesion and conflict"*
- Prof. Florian Jeltsch (Ecologist, University of Potsdam, Germany): *“OPTIMASS – an overview”*

The program will begin at 2 p.m. on Monday, registration will be open from 12 a.m. On Tuesday, the program will end at 6 p.m. followed by a joint braai.

Confirmed speakers:

- Judith Isele (Farmer, Namibia) – *“Rangeland forage biomass production and composition under different grazing regimes on a Namibian organic livestock farm”*
- Dirk Lohmann / Jenny Bischofberger (OPTIMASS, Germany) – *“Rotational herd management – simulation of dynamic management strategies”*
- Aaron Nangolo (Farmer, Otjombinde conservancy) – *„Reseeding of perennial grasses“*
- Allan Kandjai (OPTIMASS, Namibia), Dave Joubert (OPTIMASS, Namibia) – *„ Reseeding Anthephora pubescens and Brachiara nigropedata as a restoration measure at the Waterberg “*
- Niels Blaum (OPTIMASS, Germany) – *“Impacts of shrub encroachment on animal diversity in savanna rangelands”*
- Joe Gaugler (Farmer, Namibia) – *“Take Nature more seriously, when it comes to sustainable Farming*
- Katja Geissler (OPTIMASS, Germany) & Heike Wanke (OPTIMASS, Namibia) – *“Water use by plants and water recharge”*
- Mushokobanji Mwilima (NNFU, Namibia) – *“Access to markets”*
- Dagmar Honsbein (MAWF/GIZ, Namibia) – *“Bush-based animal feed production by the MAWF/GIZ Support to De-bushing Project”*
- Dagmar Honsbein (N-BIG, Namibia) – *“Bio Energy Towards Sustainable Development”*
- Axel Rothauge (AgriConsult, Namibia) – *“Wood value addition in Namibia: some opportunities and challenges*

... and more to come!



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An **open discussion**, moderated by Mr. Mushokobanji Mwilima (Executive Director of NNFU) will allow for exchange between all participants.

A **field excursion** to the Farm Hebron (Gerd Woelbling) is planned for Wednesday, the 19th. It will end about 2 p.m.

Registration for the NRF 2017 is now open and we still have few places left:

We kindly ask all interested participants to register via email at:

namibia.nrf@yahoo.com

and provide the following information:

- name, surname,
- email- address,
- institutional affiliation.
- Please indicate if you are going to participate in the excursion on the 19th or not.
- Also let us know, if you are interested to contribute with a presentation to one of the topics mentioned above (please give a brief description of the suggested content then).

The number of participants will be limited and all participants will be notified via email once their registration has been accepted.

OPTIMASS will cover the cost for lunch, dinner and catering and we will not charge any registration fees. But participants are requested to make their own travel and accommodation arrangement in Otjiwarongo (e.g. at Out of Africa, Village Boutique, C'est Si Bon, Casa Forno). We do kindly ask all registered participants to cancel their registration in time in case they will not be able to participate after all.

Keep updated on program and registration <http://www.optimass.org/21st-namibian-rangeland-forum.html> . If you are interested in contributing a presentation or in case you have any questions regarding the registration please contact our organizing team through optimass@uni-potsdam.de or through Dr Heike Wanke (UNAM) via +264 81 4532005.

We are very much looking forward to meet you in Otjiwarongo!

For the organizing team:

Dave Joubert

Heike Wanke

Dirk Lohmann

Florian Jeltsch

