

The Namibian Chamber of Environment is a non-governmental membership-based organisation, established as a voluntary association and body corporate separate from its Members (universitas personarum) under Namibian Common Law. This document sets out its objectives, values, programme areas, membership and organisational structure.

## ASPIRATIONAL OBJECTIVES:

- Conserve the natural environment
- Protect indigenous biodiversity and endangered species
- Promote best environmental practices, including habitat rehabilitation
- Support efforts to prevent and reduce environmental degradation and pollution

## OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES:

- Represent the environmental interests of Members
- Act as a consultative forum for its Members
- Engage with policy and law makers to improve the environmental policy setting in Namibia, as well as effective policy implementation
- Build environmental skills in young Namibians
- Support and advise Members on environmental matters and best practices, and facilitate access to environmental information

## THE CHAMBER ESPOUSES THE FOLLOWING VALUES:

- Uphold the fundamental rights and freedoms of the Namibian Constitution and the laws of Namibia. This includes the principles of sustainable use, protection of biodiversity and inter-generational equity
- Encourage compliance with, and uphold and share, best environmental practices
- Develop skills, expertise and mentoring of young Namibians in the environmental sector
- Political and ideological neutrality
- Non-discrimination and inclusiveness

## SPONSORS:

The NCE has four categories of sponsors:

1. GOLD SPONSORS  
- contribute N\$1 million or more per year
2. DIAMOND SPONSORS  
- contribute N\$500,000 or more per year
3. SILVER SPONSORS  
- contribute N\$250,000 or more per year
4. TOURMALINE SPONSORS  
- contribute up to N\$250,000 per year

During its first year of operation, the NCE and its patron Sponsor, B2Gold, will approach all the most prominent, high profile and respected businesses in Namibia and invite them to become Founder Sponsors. The NCE hosts an annual event for its Sponsors to give feedback on the work of the Chamber, to present new projects and innovations and to solicit ideas for fund raising for the environmental sector.

The NCE also encourages sponsor companies to explore linking their support to the number or volume of their products sold in Namibia, e.g. a small amount for each litre or bottle or kg or bed-night, sold. Funds raised are allocated to priority environmental / conservation and to socio-economic projects linked to environmental sustainability and wise use of Namibia's resources.

## MEAN-AND-LEAN:

The NCE has established a small, cost-efficient office with low overheads at 18 Nachtigal Street near Ausspannplatz. All overhead costs as well as seven of the eight Programme areas, are fully funded by the Chamber's patron sponsor. This means that all other funds raised, donations made and financial contributions to projects go directly into the field – no overheads.

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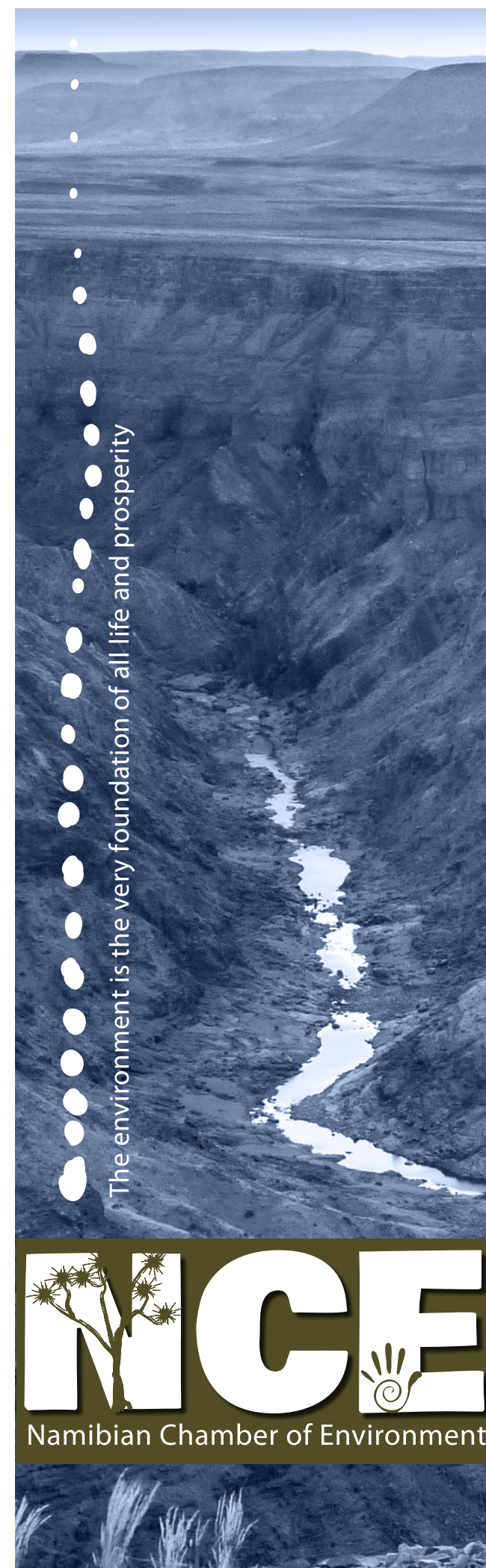
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The NCE has eight (8) strategic programme areas to support its Members, as follows:

### MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT

Provide facilities for particularly field-based NGOs and researchers when in Windhoek – workspace, internet, secure parking, boardroom for meetings and storage space.

### ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY RESEARCH

Establish a policy research Forum to identify, prioritise, research and publish in area of environmental policy and other policies impacting on the environment. There is currently a vacuum in this area and, as a result, environmental planning, policy development and management suffer.

### YOUNG NAMIBIAN TRAINING AND MENTORSHIP

Create an annual internship programme and link to the Environmental Policy Research agenda; create incentives for mentoring young Namibians in the grants application process; explore setting up a bursary scheme for post-graduate studies in environment fields.

### NATIONAL FACILITATION

Organise conferences, symposia and workshops on topical environmental issues and on research themes, and facilitate Member's positions on international negotiations, treaties and conservation priorities.

### GRANTS MAKING

Set up a structured, on-line grants making process, with a grants review forum (pool of experts). The system will provide for transparent on-line grant application, review, management and reporting, with applicants, managers and sponsors being able to "look in" and see progress.

### ADVOCACY

Engage with government on policy and legislative issues, development priorities and budget allocations as well as issues of mutual importance to NCE Members and government.

### FUND RAISING

Support our Founder Sponsors to raise funds within the corporate business sector in Namibia, with overseas business sector, embassies and high commissions in Namibia and international Foundations. Support a well-placed Namibian NGO Member to become accredited with the Green Climate Fund on behalf of all members.

### ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

Build and manage Namibia's Environmental Information Service (the EIS – [www.the-eis.com](http://www.the-eis.com)) comprising an e-library with references and down-loadable publications, reports and data sets – the largest environmental library in Namibia; citizen science data collection via atlas projects (e.g. mammals, carnivores, snakes, invasive alien plant); and a scientific on-line journal (currently under development).



### ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE:

The NCE is a membership-based organisation established as a voluntary association. Its Members constitute the "Council", the highest decision-making organ of the NCE. The Council elects Members to serve on an Executive Committee at an AGM. The Executive Committee has all the necessary power to oversee and give strategic direction to the Chamber.

The current interim Executive Committee comprises representatives of the three Founder Members, being Otjikoto Environmental and Education Trust, the Namibian Environmental and Wildlife Society and Sustainable Solutions Trust. Additional members are the Namibian Association of CBNRM Support Organisations and the Namibia University of Science and Technology.

### THERE ARE TWO CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP:

- (i) **Full Member**, applicable to Namibian registered non-governmental organisations whose main business, or a significant portion of whose business, comprises active participation in or promotion of Environmental Matters; and
- (ii) **Associate Member**, applicable to Namibian and Permanent Resident individuals, and non-Namibian registered non-governmental organisations, whose main business, or a significant portion of whose business, comprises active participation in or promotion of Environmental Matters in Namibia.

### IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO EMPHASISE WHAT THE CHAMBER WILL NOT DO

It will not carry out field work or implement projects, other than those which serve the whole sector and all Members, such as arranging conferences, research symposia, providing an environmental information portal and carrying out policy analysis.

It will thus not compete with the work of its Members.