



Meeting Minutes

Environmental Scoping Report for the Proposed Water Supply Systems to Support Community Irrigation Demonstration Plots in the Kavango West Region

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Development Aid from People to People

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1 Public Consultation

Section 21 of the EIA Regulation requires the undertaking of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to follow a robust and comprehensive public consultation. This is an important process, because it gives members of the public, especially the Interested and Affected Parties to comment or raise concerns that may affect their socio-economic or general environment because of the project. Further, it solicits crucial local knowledge that the Environmental Assessment Practitioner may not have.

The Public Participation Process (PPP) was focused on members of the community. While competent and or regulatory authority such as Ministry of Environment Forestry and Tourism (MEFT), Ministry of Agriculture Water and Land Reform (MAWLR), were consulted during the project development phase for application for the ECC.

1.1 Kayeura Village Consultation

A community meeting for Kayeura PO in the morning of 31 March 2026 at Kayeura Village (see Figure 22).



Figure 1 Community Meeting at Kayeura Village, on 30 March 2026 (Source: Red-Dune Consulting 2026).

- At Kayeura Village, the meeting was attended by 35 people, 20 women and 15 men including The DAPP Senior Program Organizer from Oshakati, Climate Change Action Centre (CCAC) Leader for ADSWAC project of Kavango West and other staff members of DAPP and a consulting team of Red Dune Consulting.
- Mr. Francis Chimudzi, the CCAC leader of the ADSWAC project in the Kavango West Region, presented the background of the project and outlined the objectives of the meeting. He explained that the establishment of Project Organiser (PO) demonstration plots, together with the development of surface water abstraction systems from the Kavango River, is intended to address the impacts of climate change in the area. He further highlighted that the project aims to reduce human–wildlife conflict, particularly incidents involving hippopotamus and crocodile, while also strengthening community resilience, promoting capacity building, and supporting overall community development.
- He assured the meeting that, the proposed water development is a community project and no land will be required to be allocated to an individual or an institution.
- Red-Dune presented the meeting objectives, particularly the requirement of the Environmental Social Safeguards (ESS) as outlined in the project’s Environmental Social Management Plan (ESMP).
- The meeting was informed that the proposed surface water abstraction system will be developed by DAPP Namibia, with funding support from the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS). The initiative is intended to support communities in the Kavango West Region by improving access to water, thereby helping to reduce human–wildlife conflict (HWC) and strengthen resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- OSS require that the money is spent wisely and accounted for to the benefit of the communities and ensure that project implementing agencies observe the highest standard of Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) which aims to ensure that the project is environmental and social sustainability.
- The meeting was informed that, the ESS requirement does not support projects if amongst many red-flags, if it involves:
 - Displacement of people
 - Destroying heritage sites
 - Damaging critical biodiversity habitat
 - Causing conflict in the community

- Furthermore, the meeting was informed that, the proposed site must not be on an occupied land.
- The meeting was further informed that the protection of the environment is provided for under the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) (EMA) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation 2012 where EMA has listed Water Resource Developments activities, such as drilling of boreholes not to be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).
- To obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment has to be undertaken, which is one of the core components of the consultation.
- Lastly the meeting was informed that, a consent letter is one of the requisites for the project to be implemented. This consent letter, called ‘Free Prior Informed Consent’ (FPIC) represent the community in understanding and agreeing to the proposed water development project. The FPIC was explained to the project as follows;
 - **FREE** refers to a consent given voluntarily and absent of coercion, intimidation or manipulation.
 - **PRIOR** means consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities
 - **INFORMED** means that community was well informed about the project and they know all information about the project.
 - **CONSENT** refers to the collective decision made by the rights-holders and reached through the customary decision-making processes of the affected peoples or communities.
- Free Prior Informed Consent was verbally obtained from the meeting by show of hands and a FPIC letter was drafted in the presence of the community, read and signed by Kayeura village headman.
- The community enquired the following;
 - How long will it take for the water abstraction to start since they have waited for long?
 - DAPP Namibia informed the meeting that once the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) prepared by Red-Dune Consulting are submitted and the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) is obtained, implementation will proceed without delay. The

organization further assured stakeholders that a contractor is already on standby, and if all approvals are secured on time, the community can realistically expect access to water before the end of the year.

- The community expressed concern about the safety of the water abstraction infrastructures, mainly the solar panel, hence the PO members planned to have a guarding team amongst themselves at the site.
- The Kayeura, Village Chairperson thanked the meeting and the donors and encourage for speedy implementation of the project.
- The meeting adjourned with a prayer, and a site assessment with the community was undertaken.

1.2 Rupara PO Consultation

A community meeting for PO in the afternoon of 30 March 2026 at Rupara Village (**Figure 23**).



Figure 2. Community Meeting at Rupara Village, on 31 March 2026 (Source: Red-Dune Consulting 2026).

- The meeting was attended by 36 people, 22 women and 14 men.
- Mr. Francis Chimudzi, the CCAC leader of the ADSWAC project in the Kavango West Region, presented the background of the project and outlined the objectives of the meeting. He explained that the establishment of Project Organiser (PO) demonstration plots, together with the development of **Borehole** water abstraction system, is intended to address the impacts of climate change in the area. He further highlighted that the project aims to reduce human–wildlife conflict, particularly incidents involving hippopotamus and crocodile, while also strengthening community resilience, promoting capacity building, and supporting overall community development.
- Red-Dune presented the meeting objectives, particularly the requirement of the Environmental Social Safeguards (ESS) as outlined in the project’s Environmental Social Management Plan (ESMP).
- The meeting was informed that the proposed **Borehole** water abstraction system will be developed by DAPP Namibia, with funding support from the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS). The initiative is intended to support communities in the Kavango West Region by improving access to water, thereby helping to reduce human–wildlife conflict (HWC) and strengthen resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- OSS require that the money is spent wisely and accounted for to the benefit of the communities and ensure that project implementing agencies observe the highest standard of Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) which aims to ensure that the project is environmental and social sustainability.
- The meeting was informed that, the ESS requirement does not be support projects if amongst many red-flags, if it involves:
 - Displacement of people
 - Destroying heritage sites
 - Damaging critical biodiversity habitat
- Furthermore, the meeting was informed that, the proposed site must not be on an occupied land.
- The meeting was further informed that the protection of the environment is provided for under the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) (EMA) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation 2012 where EMA has listed Water Resource

Developments activities, such as drilling of boreholes not to be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

- To obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment has to be undertaken, which is one of the core components of the consultation.
- Lastly the meeting was informed that, a consent letter is one of the requisites for the project to be implemented. This consent letter, called 'Free Prior Informed Consent' (FPIC) represent the community in understanding and agreeing to the proposed water development project. The FPIC was explained to the project as follows;
 - **FREE** refers to a consent given voluntarily and absent of coercion, intimidation or manipulation.
 - **PRIOR** means consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities
 - **INFORMED** means that community was well informed about the project and they know all information about the project.
 - **CONSENT** refers to the collective decision made by the rights-holders and reached through the customary decision-making processes of the affected peoples or communities.
- Free Prior Informed Consent was verbally obtained from the meeting by show of hands and a FPIC letter was drafted in the presence of the community, read and signed by Rupara village headman.
- The meeting outcomes;
 - The community members raised concerns about the delay as they had been waiting for the water in their PO so they commence with production.
 - Red-Dune informed the meeting that this work involves drilling a new borehole for crop production in the PO demo plots.
 - A tap will be installed outside to avail water to the community for their daily household use.
 - The village chairperson extended gratitude to the project team and expressed appreciation for their efforts. Access to water remains a significant challenge for both their livestock and them. This initiative promises to enhance their livelihoods.
 - The meeting concluded with a prayer, followed by a community site assessment.

1.3 Siurungu PO Consultation

A community meeting for Siurungu PO in the Morning of 31 March 2026 at Rupara Village (Figure 3).



Figure 3 Community Meeting at Siurungu Village, on 31 March 2026 (Source: Red-Dune Consulting 2026).

- The meeting was attended by 26 people, 18 women and 8 men.
- Mr. Francis Chimudzi, the CCAC leader of the ADSWAC project in the Kavango West Region, presented the background of the project and outlined the objectives of the meeting. He explained that the establishment of Project Organiser (PO) demonstration plots, together with the development of **Surface** water abstraction system, is intended to address the impacts of climate change in the area. He further highlighted that the project aims to reduce human–wildlife conflict, particularly incidents involving hippopotamus and crocodile, while also strengthening community resilience, promoting capacity building, and supporting overall community development.
- Red-Dune presented the meeting objectives, particularly the requirement of the Environmental Social Safeguards (ESS) as outlined in the project’s Environmental Social Management Plan (ESMP).
- The meeting was informed that the proposed **surface** water abstraction system will be developed by DAPP Namibia, with funding support from the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS). The initiative is intended to support communities in the Kavango West Region by improving access to water, thereby helping to reduce human–wildlife conflict (HWC) and strengthen resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- OSS require that the money is spent wisely and accounted for to the benefit of the communities and ensure that project implementing agencies observe the highest standard of Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) which aims to ensure that the project is environmental and social sustainability.
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 - Displacement of people
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- Furthermore, the meeting was informed that, the proposed site must not be on an occupied land.
- The meeting was further informed that the protection of the environment is provided for under the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) (EMA) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation 2012 where EMA has listed Water Resource

Developments activities, such as drilling of boreholes not to be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

- To obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment has to be undertaken, which is one of the core components of the consultation.
- Lastly the meeting was informed that, a consent letter is one of the requisites for the project to be implemented. This consent letter, called 'Free Prior Informed Consent' (FPIC) represent the community in understanding and agreeing to the proposed water development project. The FPIC was explained to the project as follows;
 - **FREE** refers to a consent given voluntarily and absent of coercion, intimidation or manipulation.
 - **PRIOR** means consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities
 - **INFORMED** means that community was well informed about the project and they know all information about the project.
 - **CONSENT** refers to the collective decision made by the rights-holders and reached through the customary decision-making processes of the affected peoples or communities.
- Free Prior Informed Consent was verbally obtained from the meeting by show of hands and a FPIC letter was drafted in the presence of the community, read and signed by Siurungu village headman .
- The meeting outcomes;
- Community members raised concerns regarding the routing of the water pipelines, particularly because there is a nearby mahangu field at the PO site. They noted that if the pipes pass through cultivated areas, they could be damaged during ploughing and other farming activities.
- In response, Red-Dune advised that the community should collectively decide on the most suitable route for the pipelines, whether through the field or along its boundaries, to ensure both protection of the infrastructure and minimal disruption to farming activities.
- Community members at the PO expressed concern that the prolonged delay in accessing water has led to growing frustration, with some participants considering withdrawing from

the project due to loss of interest. They emphasized the need for prompt installation of the water infrastructure to maintain participation and confidence in the initiative.

- The community further inquired about the timeframe for obtaining the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). In response, Red-Dune Consulting CC explained that the ECC is issued after the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) reports have been reviewed and approved by the relevant authority.
- The village chairperson conveyed sincere appreciation to the project team for their efforts and acknowledged the positive impact the initiative is expected to bring. He noted that access to water remains a major challenge for both the community and their livestock and expressed optimism that the project will significantly improve their livelihoods.
- The meeting was then formally closed with a prayer, after which Red-Dune proceeded to conduct a site assessment.

1.4 Mbambi and Makambu POs Consultation

A community meeting for Mbambi and Makambu POs in the Afternoon of 31 March 2026 at Makambu Village (Figure 4).



Figure 4 Community Meeting for Mbambi and Makambu POs at Mbambi, on 31 March 2026 (Source: Red-Dune Consulting 2026).

- The meeting was attended by 35 people, 24 women and 11 men in total.
- Mr. Francis Chimudzi, the CCAC leader of the ADSWAC project in the Kavango West Region, presented the background of the project and outlined the objectives of the meeting. He explained that the establishment of Project Organiser (PO) demonstration plots, together with the development of **Surface** water abstraction system, is intended to address the impacts of climate change in the area. He further highlighted that the project aims to reduce human–wildlife conflict, particularly incidents involving hippopotamus and crocodile, while also strengthening community resilience, promoting capacity building, and supporting overall community development.
- Red-Dune presented the meeting objectives, particularly the requirement of the Environmental Social Safeguards (ESS) as outlined in the project’s Environmental Social Management Plan (ESMP).
- The meeting was informed that the proposed **surface** water abstraction system will be developed by DAPP Namibia, with funding support from the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS). The initiative is intended to support communities in the Kavango West Region by improving access to water, thereby helping to reduce human–wildlife conflict (HWC) and strengthen resilience to the impacts of climate change.

- OSS require that the money is spent wisely and accounted for to the benefit of the communities and ensure that project implementing agencies observe the highest standard of Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) which aims to ensure that the project is environmental and social sustainability.
- The meeting was informed that, the ESS requirement does not support projects if amongst many red-flags, if it involves:
 - Displacement of people
 - Destroying heritage sites
 - Damaging critical biodiversity habitat
- Furthermore, the meeting was informed that, the proposed site must not be on an occupied land.
- The meeting was further informed that the protection of the environment is provided for under the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) (EMA) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation 2012 where EMA has listed Water Resource Developments activities, such as drilling of boreholes not to be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).
- To obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment has to be undertaken, which is one of the core components of the consultation.
- Lastly the meeting was informed that, a consent letter is one of the requisites for the project to be implemented. This consent letter, called 'Free Prior Informed Consent' (FPIC) represent the community in understanding and agreeing to the proposed water development project. The FPIC was explained to the project as follows;
 - **FREE** refers to a consent given voluntarily and absent of coercion, intimidation or manipulation.
 - **PRIOR** means consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities
 - **INFORMED** means that community was well informed about the project and they know all information about the project.
 - **CONSENT** refers to the collective decision made by the rights-holders and reached through the customary decision-making processes of the affected peoples or communities.

- Free Prior Informed Consent was verbally obtained from the meeting by show of hands and a FPIC letter was drafted in the presence of the community, read and signed by Mbambi and Makambu village headmans.
- The meeting outcomes;
- Community members reported incidents of theft at the PO sites, particularly involving produce taken by local children. As a result, they requested assistance with improved and more secure fencing to better protect their plots.
- The team from DAPP Namibia acknowledged the concern and responded positively, noting that the matter has been recorded. They indicated that, based on reports from their farming instructors, appropriate measures will be considered to address the issue.
- A community member from Mbambi inquired whether any materials for the project infrastructure had already been procured or they are going to be bought after acquiring the ECC?
- DAPP Namibia assured the community that funding for the project materials has already been secured. They explained that procurement and installation will commence as soon as the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) is obtained.
- The village chairperson conveyed sincere appreciation to the project team for their efforts and acknowledged the positive impact the initiative is expected to bring. He noted that access to water remains a major challenge for both the community and their livestock and expressed optimism that the project will significantly improve their livelihoods.
- The meeting was then formally closed with a prayer, after which Red-Dune proceeded to conduct a site assessment.

1.5 Tuguva PO Consultation

A community meeting for Tuguva POs in the Morning of 01 April 2026 at Tuguva Village (Figure 5).



Figure 5 Community Meeting at Tuguva Village, on 01 April 2026 (Source: Red-Dune Consulting 2026).

- The meeting was attended by 29 people, 16 women and 13 men.
- Mr. Francis Chimudzi, the CCAC leader of the ADSWAC project in the Kavango West Region, presented the background of the project and outlined the objectives of the meeting. He explained that the establishment of Project Organiser (PO) demonstration plots, together with the development of **Surface** water abstraction system, is intended to address the impacts of climate change in the area. He further highlighted that the project aims to reduce human–wildlife conflict, particularly incidents involving hippopotamus and crocodile, while also strengthening community resilience, promoting capacity building, and supporting overall community development.
- Red-Dune presented the meeting objectives, particularly the requirement of the Environmental Social Safeguards (ESS) as outlined in the project’s Environmental Social Management Plan (ESMP).
- The meeting was informed that the proposed **surface** water abstraction system will be developed by DAPP Namibia, with funding support from the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS). The initiative is intended to support communities in the Kavango West Region by improving access to water, thereby helping to reduce human–wildlife conflict (HWC) and strengthen resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- OSS require that the money is spent wisely and accounted for to the benefit of the communities and ensure that project implementing agencies observe the highest standard of Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) which aims to ensure that the project is environmental and social sustainability.
- The meeting was informed that, the ESS requirement does not be support projects if amongst many red-flags, if it involves:
 - Displacement of people
 - Destroying heritage sites
 - Damaging critical biodiversity habitat
- Furthermore, the meeting was informed that, the proposed site must not be on an occupied land.
- The meeting was further informed that the protection of the environment is provided for under the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) (EMA) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation 2012 where EMA has listed Water Resource

Developments activities, such as drilling of boreholes not to be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

- To obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be undertaken, which is one of the core components of the consultation.
- Lastly the meeting was informed that, a consent letter is one of the requisites for the project to be implemented. This consent letter, called 'Free Prior Informed Consent' (FPIC) represent the community in understanding and agreeing to the proposed water development project. The FPIC was explained to the project as follows;
 - **FREE** refers to a consent given voluntarily and absent of coercion, intimidation or manipulation.
 - **PRIOR** means consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities
 - **INFORMED** means that community was well informed about the project and they know all information about the project.
 - **CONSENT** refers to the collective decision made by the rights-holders and reached through the customary decision-making processes of the affected peoples or communities.
- Free Prior Informed Consent was verbally obtained from the meeting by show of hands and a FPIC letter was drafted in the presence of the community, read and signed by Tuguva village headman.
- The meeting outcomes;
- Community members raised concerns regarding the routing of the water pipelines, particularly because there is a trench nearby the PO site.
- In response, Red-Dune Consulting CC advised that the community should collectively agree on the most suitable route for the pipelines, ensuring that the infrastructure is well protected while minimizing disturbance to the surrounding environment.
- The community emphasized the need for prompt installation of the water infrastructure.
- The community further inquired about the timeframe for obtaining the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

- In response, Red-Dune Consulting CC explained that the ECC is issued after the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) reports have been reviewed and approved by the relevant authority.
- The village chairperson thanked the project team and welcomed the initiative, noting that water shortages affect both people and livestock, and expressing hope that the project will improve their livelihoods
- The meeting was then formally closed with a prayer, after which Red-Dune and some participants from the village proceeded to conduct a site assessment

1.6 Katwitwi PO Consultation

A community meeting for Katwitwi PO in the Afternoon of 01 April 2026 at Katwitwi Village (Figure 6).



Figure 6 Community Meeting at Katwitwi Village, on 01 April 2026 (Source: Red-Dune Consulting 2026).

- The meeting was attended by 33 people, 24 women and 9 men.
- Mr. Francis Chimudzi, the CCAC leader of the ADSWAC project in the Kavango West Region, presented the background of the project and outlined the objectives of the meeting. He explained that the establishment of Project Organiser (PO) demonstration plots, together with the development of **Surface** water abstraction system, is intended to address the impacts of climate change in the area. He further highlighted that the project aims to reduce human–wildlife conflict, particularly incidents involving hippopotamus and crocodile, while also strengthening community resilience, promoting capacity building, and supporting overall community development.

- Red-Dune presented the meeting objectives, particularly the requirement of the Environmental Social Safeguards (ESS) as outlined in the project’s Environmental Social Management Plan (ESMP).
- The meeting was informed that the proposed **surface** water abstraction system will be developed by DAPP Namibia, with funding support from the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS). The initiative is intended to support communities in the Kavango West Region by improving access to water, thereby helping to reduce human–wildlife conflict (HWC) and strengthen resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- OSS require that the money is spent wisely and accounted for to the benefit of the communities and ensure that project implementing agencies observe the highest standard of Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) which aims to ensure that the project is environmental and social sustainability.
- The meeting was informed that, the ESS requirement does not be support projects if amongst many red-flags, if it involves:
 - Displacement of people
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- Furthermore, the meeting was informed that, the proposed site must not be on an occupied land.
- The meeting was further informed that the protection of the environment is provided for under the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) (EMA) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation 2012 where EMA has listed Water Resource Developments activities, such as drilling of boreholes not to be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).
- To obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be undertaken, which is one of the core components of the consultation.
- Lastly the meeting was informed that, a consent letter is one of the requisites for the project to be implemented. This consent letter, called ‘Free Prior Informed Consent’ (FPIC) represent the community in understanding and agreeing to the proposed water development project. The FPIC was explained to the project as follows;
 - **FREE** refers to a consent given voluntarily and absent of coercion, intimidation or manipulation.

- **PRIOR** means consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities
 - **INFORMED** means that community was well informed about the project and they know all information about the project.
 - **CONSENT** refers to the collective decision made by the rights-holders and reached through the customary decision-making processes of the affected peoples or communities.
- Free Prior Informed Consent was verbally obtained from the meeting by show of hands and a FPIC letter was drafted in the presence of the community, read and signed by Katwitwi village headman.
 - The community meeting outcomes;
 - Community members noted that, as per traditional arrangements, Project Organiser (PO) members are expected to pay a fee to the traditional authority after official allocation of land. However, they raised concern that since production has not started due to lack of water, they are unable to make the required payments and sought guidance on how this should be communicated to the traditional authority.
 - DAPP Namibia responded that consultations will be held with the traditional authority to address and clarify the issue.
 - Community members also expressed that the PO demonstration plots may need to be expanded, as more people are likely to join the initiative once reliable water supply is established.
 - The community emphasized the need for prompt installation of the water infrastructure.
 - The community further inquired about the timeframe for obtaining the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).
 - In response, Red-Dune Consulting CC explained that the ECC is issued after the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) reports have been reviewed and approved by the relevant authority.
 - The village chairperson thanked the project team and welcomed the initiative, noting that water shortages affect both people and livestock, and expressing hope that the project will improve their livelihoods

- The meeting was then formally closed with a prayer, after which Red-Dune and some participants from the village proceeded to conduct a site assessment

1.7 Kahenge and Siyena POs Consultation

A community meeting for Siyena and Kahenge POs in the Afternoon of 02 April 2026 at Kahenge Village (Figure 7).



Figure 7 Community Meeting at Kahenge Village, on 02 April 2026 (Source: Red-Dune Consulting 2026).

- The meeting was attended by 55 people, 15 people from Siyena, 11 women and 4 men and 40 people from Kahenge, 12 men and 28 women including DAPP and Red-Dune Members as shown for Kahenge and Siyena.
- Mr. Francis Chimudzi, the CCAC leader of the ADSWAC project in the Kavango West Region, presented the background of the project and outlined the objectives of the meeting. He explained that the establishment of Project Organiser (PO) demonstration plots, together with the development of **Surface** water abstraction system, is intended to address the impacts of climate change in the area. He further highlighted that the project aims to reduce human–wildlife conflict, particularly incidents involving hippopotamus and crocodile, while also strengthening community resilience, promoting capacity building, and supporting overall community development.
- Red-Dune presented the meeting objectives, particularly the requirement of the Environmental Social Safeguards (ESS) as outlined in the project’s Environmental Social Management Plan (ESMP).
- The meeting was informed that the proposed **surface** water abstraction system will be developed by DAPP Namibia, with funding support from the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS). The initiative is intended to support communities in the Kavango West Region by improving access to water, thereby helping to reduce human–wildlife conflict (HWC) and strengthen resilience to the impacts of climate change.

- OSS require that the money is spent wisely and accounted for to the benefit of the communities and ensure that project implementing agencies observe the highest standard of Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) which aims to ensure that the project is environmental and social sustainability.
- The meeting was informed that, the ESS requirement does not support projects if amongst many red-flags, if it involves:
 - Displacement of people
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- Furthermore, the meeting was informed that, the proposed site must not be on an occupied land.
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- To obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be undertaken, which is one of the core components of the consultation.
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 - **CONSENT** refers to the collective decision made by the rights-holders and reached through the customary decision-making processes of the affected peoples or communities.

- Free Prior Informed Consent was verbally obtained from the meeting by show of hands and a FPIC letter was drafted in the presence of the community, read and signed by Kahenge and Siyena village headmen.
- The community meeting outcomes;
- The community emphasized the need for prompt installation of the water infrastructure.
- The community further inquired about the timeframe for obtaining the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).
- In response, Red-Dune Consulting CC explained that the ECC is issued after the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) reports have been reviewed and approved by the relevant authority.
- The village chairperson thanked the project team and welcomed the initiative, noting that water shortages affect both people and livestock, and expressing hope that the project will improve their livelihoods
- The meeting was then formally closed with a prayer, after which Red-Dune and some participants from the village proceeded to conduct a site assessment

1.8 Kahenge, Nankudu, Nambi, Sitopogo and Mukekete POs Consultation

A community meeting for Kahenge, Nankudu, Nambi, Sitopogo and Mukekete POs was held in the Afternoon of 02 April 2026 at Kahenge Village (Figure 8).



Figure 8 Community Meeting for Kahenge Nankudu, Nambi, Sitopogo and Mukekete POs, on 02 April 2026 (Source: Red-Dune Consulting 2026).

- The meeting was attended by 44 people, 26 women and 18 men.
- Mr. Francis Chimudzi, the CCAC leader of the ADSWAC project in the Kavango West Region, presented the background of the project and outlined the objectives of the meeting. He explained that the establishment of Project Organiser (PO) demonstration plots, together with the development of **Surface** water abstraction system, is intended to address the impacts of climate change in the area. He further highlighted that the project aims to reduce human–wildlife conflict, particularly incidents involving hippopotamus and crocodile, while also strengthening community resilience, promoting capacity building, and supporting overall community development.
- Red-Dune presented the meeting objectives, particularly the requirement of the Environmental Social Safeguards (ESS) as outlined in the project’s Environmental Social Management Plan (ESMP).
- The meeting was informed that the proposed **surface** water abstraction system will be developed by DAPP Namibia, with funding support from the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS). The initiative is intended to support communities in the Kavango West Region by improving access to water, thereby helping to reduce human–wildlife conflict (HWC) and strengthen resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- OSS require that the money is spent wisely and accounted for to the benefit of the communities and ensure that project implementing agencies observe the highest standard of Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) which aims to ensure that the project is environmental and social sustainability.
- The meeting was informed that, the ESS requirement does not support projects if amongst many red-flags, if it involves:
 - Displacement of people
 - Destroying heritage sites
 - Damaging critical biodiversity habitat
- Furthermore, the meeting was informed that, the proposed site must not be on an occupied land.
- The meeting was further informed that the protection of the environment is provided for under the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) (EMA) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation 2012 where EMA has listed Water Resource

Developments activities, such as drilling of boreholes not to be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

- To obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be undertaken, which is one of the core components of the consultation.
- Lastly the meeting was informed that, a consent letter is one of the requisites for the project to be implemented. This consent letter, called 'Free Prior Informed Consent' (FPIC) represent the community in understanding and agreeing to the proposed water development project. The FPIC was explained to the project as follows;
 - **FREE** refers to a consent given voluntarily and absent of coercion, intimidation or manipulation.
 - **PRIOR** means consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities
 - **INFORMED** means that community was well informed about the project and they know all information about the project.
 - **CONSENT** refers to the collective decision made by the rights-holders and reached through the customary decision-making processes of the affected peoples or communities.
- Free Prior Informed Consent was verbally obtained from the meeting by show of hands and a FPIC letter was drafted in the presence of the community, read and signed by Nankudu, Nambi, Sitopogo, and Mukeke village headmen.
- The community meeting outcomes;
- The community emphasized the need for prompt installation of the water infrastructure.
- The community further inquired about the timeframe for obtaining the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).
- In response, Red-Dune Consulting CC explained that the ECC is issued after the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) reports have been reviewed and approved by the relevant authority.
- How long will it take to finish the project?
 - DAPP Namibia responded that once the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) is obtained, project implementation will commence immediately. They

further indicated their intention to complete the project as soon as possible, ideally before the end of the year.

The village chairperson thanked the project team and welcomed the initiative, noting that water shortages affect both people and livestock, and expressing hope that the project will improve their livelihoods

The meeting was then formally closed with a prayer, after which Red-Dune and some participants from the village proceeded to conduct a site assessment

1.9 Katara and Konke POs Consultation

A community meeting for Katara and Konke POs was held in the Afternoon of 07 April 2026 at Katara Village (Figure 9).



Figure 9 Community Meeting at Katara Village, on 07 April 2026 (Source: Red-Dune Consulting 2026).

- The meeting was attended by 41 people, 35 women and 6 men.
- Mr. Francis Chimudzi, the CCAC leader of the ADSWAC project in the Kavango West Region, presented the background of the project and outlined the objectives of the meeting. He explained that the establishment of Project Organiser (PO) demonstration plots, together with the development of **Surface** water abstraction system, is intended to address the impacts of climate change in the area. He further highlighted that the project aims to reduce human–wildlife conflict, particularly incidents involving hippopotamus and crocodile, while also strengthening community resilience, promoting capacity building, and supporting overall community development.
- Red-Dune presented the meeting objectives, particularly the requirement of the Environmental Social Safeguards (ESS) as outlined in the project’s Environmental Social Management Plan (ESMP).
- The meeting was informed that the proposed **surface** water abstraction system will be developed by DAPP Namibia, with funding support from the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS). The initiative is intended to support communities in the Kavango West Region by improving access to water, thereby helping to reduce human–wildlife conflict (HWC) and strengthen resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- OSS require that the money is spent wisely and accounted for to the benefit of the communities and ensure that project implementing agencies observe the highest standard

of Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) which aims to ensure that the project is environmental and social sustainability.

- The meeting was informed that, the ESS requirement does not support projects if amongst many red-flags, if it involves:
 - Displacement of people
 - Destroying heritage sites
 - Damaging critical biodiversity habitat
- Furthermore, the meeting was informed that, the proposed site must not be on an occupied land.
- The meeting was further informed that the protection of the environment is provided for under the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) (EMA) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation 2012 where EMA has listed Water Resource Developments activities, such as drilling of boreholes not to be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).
- To obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be undertaken, which is one of the core components of the consultation.
- Lastly the meeting was informed that, a consent letter is one of the requisites for the project to be implemented. This consent letter, called 'Free Prior Informed Consent' (FPIC) represent the community in understanding and agreeing to the proposed water development project. The FPIC was explained to the project as follows;
 - **FREE** refers to a consent given voluntarily and absent of coercion, intimidation or manipulation.
 - **PRIOR** means consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities
 - **INFORMED** means that community was well informed about the project and they know all information about the project.
 - **CONSENT** refers to the collective decision made by the rights-holders and reached through the customary decision-making processes of the affected peoples or communities.
- Free Prior Informed Consent was verbally obtained from the meeting by show of hands and a FPIC letter was drafted in the presence of the community, read and signed by Katara and Konke village headmen.

- The community meeting outcomes;
- The community emphasized the need for prompt installation of the water infrastructure.
- The community further inquired about the timeframe for obtaining the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).
- In response, Red-Dune Consulting CC explained that the ECC is issued after the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) reports have been reviewed and approved by the relevant authority.
- Is there any age limit for PO members in the project?
 - DAPP answered: Child labour is prohibited by law, and all participation must respect safety, dignity, and legal requirements.
 - The Katara village headman requested permission to draw water from the project storage tank via the pipeline to supply his personal garden.
 - DAPP Namibia stated that PO use is guided by rules, but the community can agree on arrangements collectively.
 - Community members asked where and how they could market their produce and whether support could be provided to access markets.
 - DAPP Namibia responded that agencies such as Agro-Marketing and Trade Agency can assist with marketing and access to markets.
 - The community raised concerns about possible crop damage by animals.
 - DAPP Namibia responded that the community should take responsibility for protecting their PO sites, including organizing contributions among members, as the plots belong to them collectively
 - The village chairperson thanked the project team and welcomed the initiative, noting that water shortages affect both people and livestock, and expressing hope that the project will improve their livelihoods
 - The meeting was then formally closed with a prayer, after which Red-Dune and some participants from the village proceeded to conduct a site assessment.

1.10 Matava and Kambumbu POs Consultation

A community meeting for Matava and Kambumbu POs was held in the Afternoon of 07 April 2026 at Matava Village (Figure 10).



Figure 10 Community Meeting at Katara Village, on 07 April 2026 (Source: Red-Dune Consulting 2026).

- The meeting was attended by 41 people, 35 women and 6 men.
- Mr. Francis Chimudzi, the CCAC leader of the ADSWAC project in the Kavango West Region, presented the background of the project and outlined the objectives of the meeting. He explained that the establishment of Project Organiser (PO) demonstration plots, together with the development of **Surface** water abstraction system, is intended to address the impacts of climate change in the area. He further highlighted that the project aims to reduce human–wildlife conflict, particularly incidents involving hippopotamus and crocodile, while also strengthening community resilience, promoting capacity building, and supporting overall community development.
- Red-Dune presented the meeting objectives, particularly the requirement of the Environmental Social Safeguards (ESS) as outlined in the project’s Environmental Social Management Plan (ESMP).
- The meeting was informed that the proposed **surface** water abstraction system will be developed by DAPP Namibia, with funding support from the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS). The initiative is intended to support communities in the Kavango West Region by improving access to water, thereby helping to reduce human–wildlife conflict (HWC) and strengthen resilience to the impacts of climate change.

- OSS require that the money is spent wisely and accounted for to the benefit of the communities and ensure that project implementing agencies observe the highest standard of Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) which aims to ensure that the project is environmental and social sustainability.
- The meeting was informed that, the ESS requirement does not support projects if amongst many red-flags, if it involves:
 - Displacement of people
 - Destroying heritage sites
 - Damaging critical biodiversity habitat
- Furthermore, the meeting was informed that, the proposed site must not be on an occupied land.
- The meeting was further informed that the protection of the environment is provided for under the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) (EMA) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation 2012 where EMA has listed Water Resource Developments activities, such as drilling of boreholes not to be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).
- To obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be undertaken, which is one of the core components of the consultation.
- Lastly the meeting was informed that, a consent letter is one of the requisites for the project to be implemented. This consent letter, called 'Free Prior Informed Consent' (FPIC) represent the community in understanding and agreeing to the proposed water development project. The FPIC was explained to the project as follows;
 - **FREE** refers to a consent given voluntarily and absent of coercion, intimidation or manipulation.
 - **PRIOR** means consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities
 - **INFORMED** means that community was well informed about the project and they know all information about the project.
 - **CONSENT** refers to the collective decision made by the rights-holders and reached through the customary decision-making processes of the affected peoples or communities.

- Free Prior Informed Consent was verbally obtained from the meeting by show of hands and a FPIC letter was drafted in the presence of the community, read and signed by Katara and Konke village headmen.
- The community meeting outcomes;
 - The community emphasized the need for prompt installation of the water infrastructure.
 - The community further inquired about the timeframe for obtaining the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).
 - Red-Dune Consulting CC explained that the ECC is issued after the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) reports have been reviewed and approved by the relevant authority.
 - Is there any age limit for PO members in the project?
 - DAPP answered: Child labour is prohibited by law, and all participation must respect safety, dignity, and legal requirements.
 - The Katara village headman requested permission to draw water from the project storage tank via the pipeline to supply his personal garden.
 - DAPP Namibia stated that PO use is guided by rules, but the community can agree on arrangements collectively.
 - Community members asked where and how they could market their produce and whether support could be provided to access markets.
 - DAPP Namibia responded that agencies such as Agro-Marketing and Trade Agency can assist with marketing and access to markets.
 - The community raised concerns about possible crop damage by animals.
 - chairperson thanked the project team and welcomed the initiative, noting that water shortages affect both people and livestock, and expressing hope that the project will improve their livelihoods
 - The meeting was then formally closed with a prayer, after which Red-Dune and some participants from the village proceeded to conduct a site assessment.

1.11 Kakoro and Rugcugva POs Consultation

A community meeting for Kakoro and Rugcugva POs was held in the morning of 08 April 2026 at Kakoro village (Figure 11).



Figure 11 Community Meeting at kakoro Village, on 08 April 2026 (Source: Red-Dune Consulting 2026).

- The meeting was attended by 42 people, 29 women and 13 men.
- Mr. Francis Chimudzi, the CCAC leader of the ADSWAC project in the Kavango West Region, presented the background of the project and outlined the objectives of the meeting. He explained that the establishment of Project Organiser (PO) demonstration plots, together with the development of **Surface** water abstraction system, is intended to address the impacts of climate change in the area. He further highlighted that the project aims to reduce human–wildlife conflict, particularly incidents involving hippopotamus and crocodile, while also strengthening community resilience, promoting capacity building, and supporting overall community development.
- Red-Dune presented the meeting objectives, particularly the requirement of the Environmental Social Safeguards (ESS) as outlined in the project’s Environmental Social Management Plan (ESMP).
- The meeting was informed that the proposed **surface** water abstraction system will be developed by DAPP Namibia, with funding support from the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS). The initiative is intended to support communities in the Kavango West Region by improving access to water, thereby helping to reduce human–wildlife conflict (HWC) and strengthen resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- OSS require that the money is spent wisely and accounted for to the benefit of the communities and ensure that project implementing agencies observe the highest standard of Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) which aims to ensure that the project is environmental and social sustainability.
- The meeting was informed that, the ESS requirement does not be support projects if amongst many red-flags, if it involves:

- Displacement of people
- Destroying heritage sites
- Damaging critical biodiversity habitat
- Furthermore, the meeting was informed that, the proposed site must not be on an occupied land.
- The meeting was further informed that the protection of the environment is provided for under the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) (EMA) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation 2012 where EMA has listed Water Resource Developments activities, such as drilling of boreholes not to be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).
- To obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be undertaken, which is one of the core components of the consultation.
- Lastly the meeting was informed that, a consent letter is one of the requisites for the project to be implemented. This consent letter, called ‘Free Prior Informed Consent’ (FPIC) represent the community in understanding and agreeing to the proposed water development project. The FPIC was explained to the project as follows;
 - **FREE** refers to a consent given voluntarily and absent of coercion, intimidation or manipulation.
 - **PRIOR** means consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities
 - **INFORMED** means that community was well informed about the project and they know all information about the project.
 - **CONSENT** refers to the collective decision made by the rights-holders and reached through the customary decision-making processes of the affected peoples or communities.
- Free Prior Informed Consent was verbally obtained from the meeting by show of hands and a FPIC letter was drafted in the presence of the community, read and signed by Kakoro and Rugcuva village headwoman.
- The community meeting outcomes;
- The community emphasized the need for prompt installation of the water infrastructure.

- The community further inquired about the timeframe for obtaining the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).
- Red-Dune Consulting CC explained that the ECC is issued after the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) reports have been reviewed and approved by the relevant authority.
 - Community members expressed concern that water infrastructure should have been prioritized earlier, noting that by now they could have already been producing and selling their crops if water had been available.
 - The Rucguva community further raised concern about their reliance on a seasonal runoff stream from the Kavango River, which often dries up. They emphasized the urgent need for a reliable water supply to support both farming and daily use.
 - The village chairperson welcomed the initiative and thanked the project team, noting that water shortages affect both people and livestock, and expressing hope that the project will improve their livelihoods.
 - The meeting was formally closed with a prayer, after which Red-Dune Consulting CC and some community members proceeded to conduct a site assessment.

1.12 Nzinze PO Consultation

A community meeting for Nzinze PO was held in the morning of 08 April 2026 at Nzinze Village (Figure 12).



Figure 12 Community Meeting at Nzinze Village, on 08 April 2026 (Source: Red-Dune Consulting 2026).

- The meeting was attended by 42 people, 29 women and 13 men.
- Mr. Francis Chimudzi, the CCAC leader of the ADSWAC project in the Kavango West Region, presented the background of the project and outlined the objectives of the meeting. He explained that the establishment of Project Organiser (PO) demonstration plots, together with the development of **Surface** water abstraction system, is intended to address the impacts of climate change in the area. He further highlighted that the project aims to reduce human–wildlife conflict, particularly incidents involving hippopotamus and crocodile, while also strengthening community resilience, promoting capacity building, and supporting overall community development.
- Red-Dune presented the meeting objectives, particularly the requirement of the Environmental Social Safeguards (ESS) as outlined in the project’s Environmental Social Management Plan (ESMP).
- The meeting was informed that the proposed **surface** water abstraction system will be developed by DAPP Namibia, with funding support from the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS). The initiative is intended to support communities in the Kavango West Region by improving access to water, thereby helping to reduce human–wildlife conflict (HWC) and strengthen resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- OSS require that the money is spent wisely and accounted for to the benefit of the communities and ensure that project implementing agencies observe the highest standard

of Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) which aims to ensure that the project is environmental and social sustainability.

- The meeting was informed that, the ESS requirement does not support projects if amongst many red-flags, if it involves:
 - Displacement of people
 - Destroying heritage sites
 - Damaging critical biodiversity habitat
- Furthermore, the meeting was informed that, the proposed site must not be on an occupied land.
- The meeting was further informed that the protection of the environment is provided for under the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) (EMA) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation 2012 where EMA has listed Water Resource Developments activities, such as drilling of boreholes not to be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).
- To obtain an ECC, a Social and Environmental Impact Assessment must be undertaken, which is one of the core components of the consultation.
- Lastly the meeting was informed that, a consent letter is one of the requisites for the project to be implemented. This consent letter, called 'Free Prior Informed Consent' (FPIC) represent the community in understanding and agreeing to the proposed water development project. The FPIC was explained to the project as follows;
 - **FREE** refers to a consent given voluntarily and absent of coercion, intimidation or manipulation.
 - **PRIOR** means consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities
 - **INFORMED** means that community was well informed about the project and they know all information about the project.
 - **CONSENT** refers to the collective decision made by the rights-holders and reached through the customary decision-making processes of the affected peoples or communities.
- Free Prior Informed Consent was verbally obtained from the meeting by show of hands and a FPIC letter was drafted in the presence of the community, read and signed by Nzinze village headmen.

- The community meeting outcomes;
 - The community emphasized the need for prompt installation of the water infrastructure.
 - The community further inquired about the timeframe for obtaining the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).
 - Red-Dune Consulting CC explained that the ECC is issued after the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) reports have been reviewed and approved by the relevant authority.
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- The community raised concern about declining soil fertility, noting that past harvests have been poor. They suggested that a soil sampling and assessment be conducted to better understand soil conditions and guide improvements.
 - Community members from the Nzinze PO raised concern that one of the members withdrew from the project after encountering a hippopotamus at the riverbank while collecting water for irrigation. The incident highlighted the safety risks associated with direct access to the Kavango River and reinforced the need for safer and more reliable water supply systems.
 - The village chairperson welcomed the initiative and thanked the project team, noting that water shortages affect both people and livestock, and expressing hope that the project will improve their livelihoods.
 - The meeting was formally closed with a prayer, after which Red-Dune Consulting CC and some community members proceeded to conduct a site assessment.