

## The Namibian Coast Conservation and Management (NACOMA) project.

R. Braby (Project Coordinator)

The Government of the Republic of Namibia (GRN) received an additional grant from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through the World Bank for an amount of US\$ 1.92 million for the NACOMA project in January 2013 to provide a three-year extension of the revised project's closing date from December 31, 2012 to December 31, 2015. The original NACOMA project was funded through a US\$ 4.9 million grant from the GEF to the GRN that was launched in March 2006 and closed in December 2012. The combined Project Development Objective (PDO) and Global Environment Objective (GEO) are to assist the GRN to conserve, use sustainably and mainstream biodiversity of the Namibian coastal zone.

The proposed additional finance will support additional activities required to implement the recently approved National Policy on Coastal Management for Namibia (NPCM) and assist the GRN to set in place the programmes and activities to manage effectively the two protected areas that were established in 2009 and 2010, namely the Namibian Islands' Marine Protected Area (NIMPA) and the Dorob National Park (DNP) with support from NACOMA. This additional finance has been requested by the GRN to the GEF through the World Bank as the implementing agent and a US\$ 1.92 million GEF proposal was approved by the GEF Council in June 2012. Overall performance regarding outcome and implementation of the on-going project over the last 24 months as rated in the Implementation Status Report (ISR) of the World Bank is "Satisfactory".

NACOMA, apart from developing the framework for integrated coastal management also developed and updated coastal profiles, capacity building activities and on-the ground investments in areas of biodiversity importance, which have been designed and implemented by qualified national and international professionals, ensuring a high level of technical soundness and quality assurance. The methodology used to develop the NPCM followed a strict academic approach and at the same time a participatory process to ensure that different views were taken into account. The first project has delivered several management plans in different protected areas along the coast. These plans will guide the design and requirements for this additional finance. Also, the Communication and Awareness Strategy and the Training and Capacity Building Strategy prepared under the first project will strengthen the delivery of awareness raising activities in this phase.

NACOMA's lead GRN Ministry is Environment and Tourism (MET) supported by Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development (MRLGHRD) and Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR). Other key stakeholders are the Ministries of Mines and Energy (MME); Works and Transport (MWT); Lands and Resettlement (MLR); National Planning Commission (NPC); Agriculture, Water and Forestry (MAWF); Safety and Security (MSS); Defence (MoD); Education and Culture (MEC); Youth and Sport (MYS) and their relevant associated parastatals and projects. There is also engagement with various private sectors especially tourism, mining and fisheries.

