

# SPERRGEBIET CONSERVATION PLANNING

## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

# DRAFT



Compiled for

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by

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## SUMMARY

Conservation International's Global Conservation Fund currently supports a study to investigate the feasibility of establishing a new protected area in the Sperrgebiet (Diamond Area 1), Namibia. This northern tip of the succulent Karoo biome in southern Africa has been identified as a biodiversity hotspot of international significance (Myers et al. 2000).

This report, one in a series of documents prepared for this study, outlines the implementation strategy and as such describes the main topics that need to be addressed to implement a protected area in this part of Namibia.

This report comprises:

- Implementation framework
- Assessment of conservation options and needs
- Work plan and
- Financial requirements.

Three main assumptions had to be made to provide an overall assessment. These are:

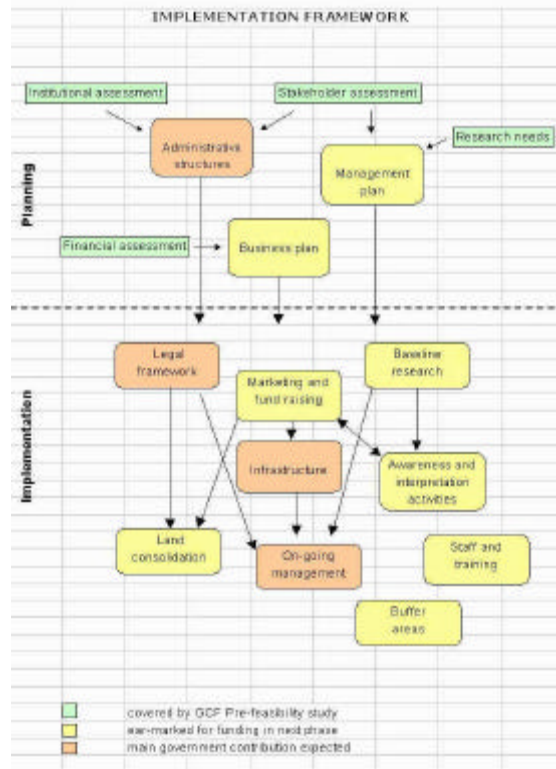
- the Sperrgebiet will be proclaimed as a multiple zone National Park
- government – private sector partnerships will be feasible in Namibia and
- the political and investment environment in Namibia will remain stable.

To date the area has received effective protection as access has been restricted because of the diamond industry. As a significant contributor to Namibia's economy mining interests will need to be accommodated in the proposed new protected area. It is envisaged that two Ministries (Environment and Tourism (MET) and Mines and Energy (MME) ) will resume joint management over this area.

MET/MME resuming responsibility over this area will likely go hand-in-hand with a gradual opening up of the area. Significant financial and staff resources are hence required to guarantee sound management of this hitherto well protected, fragile wilderness area. This implementation strategy asks for significant investment by international donors, the Namibian government and private sector to support the development of this new protected area.

The following main topics require funding:

- Administrative structures
- Management plan
- Business plan
- Legal framework
- Marketing and fund raising
- Baseline research
- Infrastructure
- Awareness and interpretation
- Staff and training
- Land consolidation
- On-going management and
- Buffer areas.



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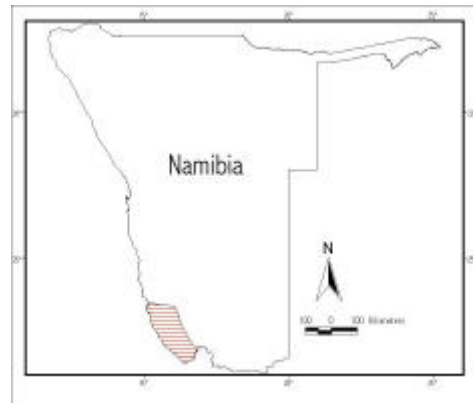
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## THE SPERRGEBIET CONSERVATION PLANNING STUDY

### Setting the scene

Conservation International's Global Conservation Fund currently supports a study to investigate the feasibility of establishing a new protected area in Namibia. This pre-feasibility study is undertaken for the Sperrgebiet (Diamond Area 1), the northern tip of the succulent Karoo biome. In a global review the succulent Karoo biome in southern Africa has been identified as a biodiversity hotspot of international significance (Myers et al. 2000).

Most of the area has to date been well protected through security restrictions for the diamond industry.



This report, one in a series of documents prepared for this study, outlines the implementation strategy, i.e. describes the main topics that need to be addressed to implement a protected area in this part of Namibia.

This report comprises six main chapters:

- The Sperrgebiet conservation planning study
- The implementation framework
- Options for conservation and subsequent needs
- The work plan
- Finance requirements and funding mechanisms and
- Time frame.

The chapter "Sperrgebiet conservation planning study" provides an introduction, describing the necessary background and approach to this study. The "implementation framework" presents the main topics in form of a logical flow chart, illustrating the linkages and logical sequence of proposed events. The chapter on "options for conservation and subsequent needs" is the core part of the report providing an assessment of individual topics. The "work plan" details proposed activities, including time frame and budget requirements. A financial assessment is provided in "finance requirements and funding mechanisms", while the overall time frame elaborates on proposed phases for implementation.

### What has been done to date?

This implementation strategy is based on an extensive consultative process involving specialists in the area, all main stakeholders and the broader public and has been reviewed by an experienced park manager in Namibia.

Further an institutional review, research needs and financial assessment were undertaken.

The consultation process included:

- 2 workshops with technical working group to derive methodology for management zoning
- 1 stakeholder workshop discussed administrative arrangements, financing mechanisms and activities in adjacent areas
- individual interviews with key stakeholders (Ministries of Environment and Tourism, Mines and Energy, Namdeb and others)

- 1 workshop with technical working group to discuss technical details of implementation strategy
- 1 stakeholder workshop to present implementation strategy

There are several documents that report in more detail on the different components of the this study:

Date	Report	Content
June 2002	Summary report	Assessment of opportunities for conservation concessions by E. Niesten (CI economist)
July 2002	Progress report July 2002	Amongst others... proceedings of two technical working group workshops
July 2002	Research needs assessment	Description of research needs, including documentation of consultation process (returned questionnaires, input received in written format, etc.)
August 2002	Summary of National Implementation Workshop	Proceedings of stakeholder's National Implementation Workshop, 13.8.02
September 2002	Stakeholder assessment report	Summary of stakeholder assessment and public participation

Information from these earlier reports has been incorporated in this implementation strategy.

## Overall assessment

Three main assumptions had to be made to provide an overall assessment. These are:

- the Sperrgebiet will be proclaimed as a multiple zone National Park
- government – private sector partnerships will be feasible in Namibia and
- the political and investment environment in Namibia will remain stable.

In order to establish a new protected area, significant financial and staff resources are required. This is particularly important in an area that has to date been well protected through the security restrictions for the diamond industry and thus comprises vast tracts of unspoilt wilderness area that as been inaccessible to the public for nearly a century. Since prospecting for new mines is presently underway and a partial opening of the area to tourism is envisaged, a well endorsed park management plan supported by adequate infrastructure and staff is critical in this highly fragile desert environment. This implementation strategy asks for significant investment by international donors, the Namibian government and private sector to support the development of this new protected area.



This is likely not going to be met by the government's budget allocation for conservation in Namibia. Potential revenue from tourism can provide a contribution, but these are not expected to cover the costs of establishing a new protected area.

Hence a partnership between the private sector and government to develop this new conservation area is proposed, with investment by private conservation organisations and international donors in areas where most support is needed.

The most feasible areas for private sector involvement are:

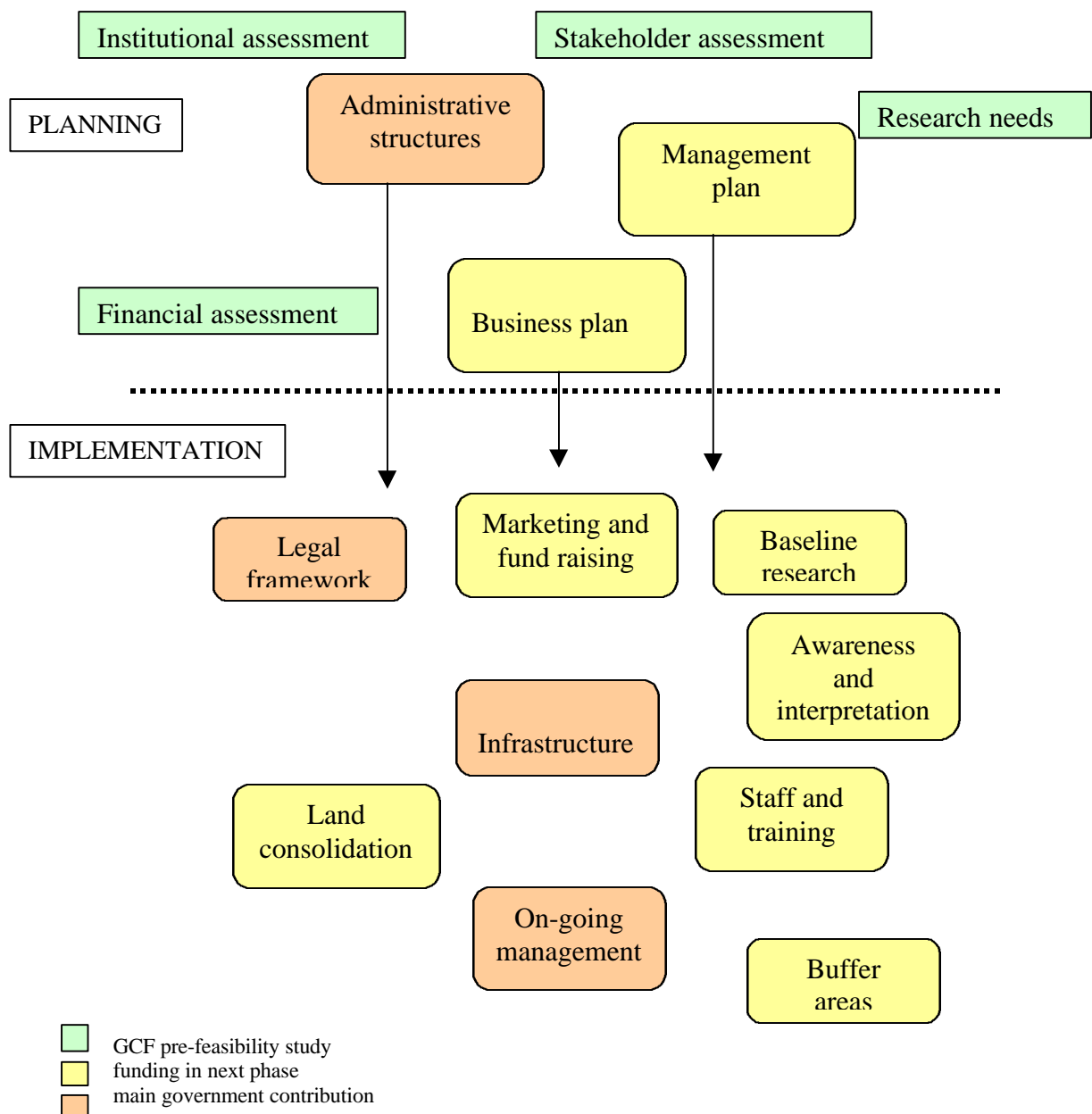
- (a) areas within the proposed protected area where most investment is needed, by considering these as pilot areas for conservation concession (e.g. all areas presently zoned as "strict reserve" following the precautionary principle for areas where environmental information is inadequate for park planning) and
- (b) buffer zone and corridor development.

At present government staff in the responsible ministries (Environment and Tourism and Mines and Energy) is sceptical about private sector involvement in this area. In the light of this, a phased approach to investment by international funding agencies is proposed. While keeping the overall implementation framework and strategy in mind in the long-term, there should be an initial phase further exploring the possibilities for private sector involvement and a follow-up phase with more significant investment, should conditions be favourable (see time frame).

## THE IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

Figure 1 presents the main aspects of the Sperrgebiet implementation strategy in form of a flow chart, illustrating the linkages and some sequence of proposed events, although several activities can happen concurrently. The main topics are divided into topics that form part of the planning process (upper section of flow chart), and those that are implementing activities (lower section of flow chart). The topics are colour coded according to proposed main funding sources and responsibility.

Administrative structures, legal framework, infrastructure and on-going management are largely allocated to the lead authorities (i.e. Ministry of Environment and Tourism, and to some extent Ministry of Mines and Energy), with the main in-kind (i.e. staff, logistic support) and financial contribution originating from government sources. However, that does not mean that additional funding for some tasks cannot be sourced through donor support.



## OPTIONS FOR CONSERVATION AND SUBSEQUENT NEEDS

This chapter is the evaluation section of this report. The main topics are assessed in detail by drawing on the institutional, stakeholder and research needs assessment that were undertaken during the first phase of this pre-feasibility study.

In order to apply a systematic procedure during the evaluation, the following questions were asked for each topic and presented in table form:



- What are the options (where applicable)?
- What is the rationale for the proposed activity?
- Assessment of option(s) or current situation
- What are the tasks and requirements emanating from the most feasible option?




The assessment of option(s) or current situation outlines opportunities and constraints, and suggests a solution to overcome these constraints (e.g. division of responsibility, allocation of external support), where appropriate. The tasks are described in more detail in the work plan.

The topics have been divided into planning and implementation tasks.




## Planning tasks

### Administrative and institutional arrangements



<p><i>Options</i></p> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sperrgebiet Joint Management Authority between Ministries of (a) Environment and Tourism and (b) Mines and Energy, advised by Sperrgebiet Advisory Committee representing other ministries, parastatal institutions and private sector (for detail see pp. 7 proceedings of National Implementation workshop – Burke 2002).</li> <li>2. Sperrgebiet conservation concession administered by non-governmental entity.</li> <li>3. Government providing an administrative and institutional framework and regulatory authority (similar to 1.) with provision for private sector conservation activities (e.g. conservation concessions) in certain areas.</li> </ol>
<p><i>Rationale</i></p> <p>?</p>	<p>Workable institutional and administrative arrangements are essential to guarantee effective, long-term conservation. Due to the importance of the area for conservation and mining to Namibia and to balance potentially conflicting views, the two ministries representing these sectors will need to have adequate input and regulatory control to the administration and management of this area. Government funding is not expected to be adequate to provide the required staff and logistic support to fulfil all management and monitoring responsibilities in this highly sensitive area (with reference to both, diamond security and protection of biodiversity).</p>
<p><i>Assessment</i></p> 	<p><b>Option 1</b> (sole government control and responsibility) was developed in detail during the stakeholder assessment workshop, largely by representatives of government institutions. However, there was strong resistance to this approach by the remaining participants of the workshop, as well as expressed in questionnaires. Problems with management in some Namibian parks and delays in the proclamation of the Sperrgebiet as a National Park, point towards constraints related to inadequate budget and staff within the ministry responsible for conservation in Namibia.</p> <p><b>Option 2</b> (sole private sector control), using a conservation concession approach for the entire area (i.e. compensation for lost revenue from mining and prospecting) met with strong resistance by government representatives. This also proved impractical as (a) the largest mine in the country would be affected, and (b) determining foregone revenue from prospecting will be very difficult and likely far beyond the amount normally agreed on in Conservation Concessions.</p> <p><b>Option 3</b> (partnership between government and private sector) offers an opportunity for government to retain their mandate and most control and at the same time an opportunity to secure additional funding for the area. This would enable the Namibian government to fulfil their obligations to the constitution, national and international community and to sustainable development. At the same time international funds can help to build adequate local capacity to eventually enable the Namibian government to take full responsibility of the new conservation area.</p> <p>While the development of administrative structures is the responsibility of government, private sector involvement is a new concept and requires lobbying amongst government institutions. Explaining the benefits of this approach and outlining the procedures and conditions of potential agreements may eventually remove some of the government resistance to this approach.</p>

<p><i>Summary of assessment</i></p> 	<p>Partnership(s) between government and private sector, under the umbrella of a government-based Joint Management Authority and its Advisory Committee, offer a solution of sustained financing, combined with government control. Depending on the details of negotiated agreements this may be feasible, but requires lobbying for government support.</p>
<p><i>Tasks</i></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further explore options for private sector partnerships: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• feasibility of conservation concession approach within areas of the Sperrgebiet (e.g. conservation concessions for areas presently zoned as strict reserve due to lack of adequate information – these could overlap with areas requiring compensation for prospecting rights or otherwise areas that require significant financial resources; or areas suitable for corridors to existing conservation areas).</li> <li>• feasibility of compensation agreements for prospecting licences</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Further develop administrative and management structures proposed at National Implementation workshop.</li> <li>• Develop procedures for joint administrative and management structures.</li> <li>• Determine required staffing to implement joint administrative and management structures.</li> <li>• Discuss access control procedures, including principles of access (security of diamonds, exclusive rights versus public access) and develop procedures acceptable to the diamond mining industry, the Namibian Nation and private sector.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Requirements</i></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administrative coordinator (to help with the process of drafting administrative structures, and at the same time exploring possibilities for private sector partnerships and to coordinate other components of the Sperrgebiet implementation strategy).</li> <li>• Establishment of government drafting committee</li> </ul>

## Management plan




<p><i>Rationale</i></p> <p><b>?</b></p>	<p>A good management plan is critical to be able to evaluate the effectiveness of conservation and implement management activities. It is a principal requirement for all conservation areas and should be based on adequately detailed ecological information. Park management plans in Namibia are the responsibility of the Directorate of Parks and Wildlife Management in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism.</p>
<p><i>Assessment</i></p> <p></p>	<p>While most parks in Namibia have park management plans, many are outdated, and only partially implemented. Critical aspects of resource use with wide-ranging implications, for example water recharge and usage in some of the prime parks, such as Etosha, are apparently not monitored. Insufficient ecological background information and shortage of adequately trained staff is the main constraint in the development and implementation of park management plans in Namibia.</p> <p>In the Sperrgebiet, where conservation and mining interests can be in conflict in certain areas, adequate ecological information is essential to come to an agreement over activities allowed within certain management zones. Similarly, careful monitoring of human activities, including tourism, impacting on the environment is essential in this highly fragile arid wilderness.</p> <p>While management plans for conservation areas are at present in the process of development at the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, these could take many years to complete. Once the Sperrgebiet is proclaimed and controlled access becomes a reality, a management plan has to be in place. Additional funding would accelerate its development.</p>
<p><i>Summary of assessment</i></p> <p></p>	<p>Inadequate environmental information for some areas in the Sperrgebiet has to date hampered the finalisation of management zoning. An effective and feasible park management plan for the Sperrgebiet is essential to meet long-term conservation goals.</p>
<p><i>Tasks</i></p> <p></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fill data gaps of critical environmental information (see also baseline research).</li> <li>• Finalise management zoning, i.e.:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• re-zoning of presently “set-aside” areas due to lack of information and</li> <li>• refining/definition of managed resource protected area (IUCN category 6).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Agree on time frame for “re-zoning”.</li> <li>• Further develop objective process of determining environmental sensitivity (also to be used in “buffer” areas bordering the Sperrgebiet).</li> <li>• Compile environmental sensitivity map or similar planning document for management purposes.</li> <li>• Finalise activities compatible with management zones.</li> <li>• Develop effective park management plan, including zoning and practical and effective monitoring programme.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Requirements</i></p> <p><b>\$</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☞ Research coordinator (to facilitate filling of critical ecological information gaps in a systematic manner and assist the compilation of a practical park management plan based on ecological information)</li> <li>☞ Should the appointment of a research coordinator be delayed, consultancy to assist with the development of park management plan in consultation with Ministry of Environment and Tourism</li> <li>☞ Funding for critical baseline research (track map, soil and vegetation map and special sites)</li> <li>☞ Funding for workshops</li> </ul>

## Business plan

<i>Rationale</i> <b>?</b>	Taking a business approach to conservation is a new concept that finds wide application around the globe today. In order to sustain a reliable stream of funding to a fledging, new conservation area by international donors, a sound business plan is critical.
<i>Assessment</i>	So far no parks in Namibia have a business plan, although initial steps have been taken to develop these for some parks. It is unlikely government will make the necessary funds available to undertake this task.
<i>Summary of assessment</i>	A business plan is required to secure donor funding.
<i>Tasks</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Valuation of assets.</li> <li>• Analysis of cost and revenue.</li> <li>• Financial analysis.</li> <li>• Strategies for investment.</li> </ul>
<i>Requirements</i>	 Consultancy to compile business plan (ideally undertaken by a resource manager/ecologist with experience in drawing up business plans)

## Implementation tasks




### Legal framework and land tenure

<i>Rationale</i>	The proclamation of a new protected area requires clarity on land tenure and an appropriate legal framework.
<i>Assessment</i> 	The core of tasks related to legal and land tenure issues during the proclamation of a new protected area is government responsibility. There are doubts that adequate funds have been allocated by government to cover these tasks in the immediate future. However, should private sector involvement (e.g. conservation concession approach) be pursued, facilitating this process may offer opportunities to create a favourable environment for private sector involvement during the development of the legal framework.
<i>Summary of assessment</i>	Some donor assistance to help with finalising the legal framework is expected to accelerate this process.
<i>Tasks</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation of legal documents.</li> <li>• Resolve eastern boundary discrepancy.</li> <li>• Survey boundary.</li> <li>• Collate background information on private ownership within the Sperrgebiet boundary.</li> <li>• Legal instruments to implement guidelines for activities in different management zones.</li> <li>• If applicable, development of conservation concession agreements.</li> </ul>
<i>Requirements</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☞ Legal advisor to facilitate drafting of legal documents</li> <li>☞ Funds to survey boundary</li> <li>☞ If exploratory phase is successful, legal expertise to develop conservation concession agreements</li> </ul>




### Marketing and fund raising

<i>Options</i> 	There are many options for financing mechanisms ranging from international, national to private sector (see also pp. 9, Proceedings of the National Implementation Workshop – Burke 2002).
<i>Rationale</i> 	To raise additional funds from the private sector a professional marketing strategy is necessary. Today most donor-based financing mechanisms require matching funds or “in-kind” contributions from the applicant to demonstrate some commitment to the project for which funds were requested. Other funding sources are only available to non-governmental and private entities. To be able to access some of the financing mechanism and develop sound financial proposals professional assistance would be advantageous.
<i>Assessment</i>	Depending on the details of financing mechanisms developed in the business plan, continued support for marketing and fund raising after completion of the business plan may be required.
<i>Summary of assessment</i> 	To guarantee a continued flow of funds to the protected area and to potential conservation concessions within this area, support with marketing and fund raising will be important.
<i>Tasks</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of Sperrgebiet Trust Fund.</li> <li>• Market analysis.</li> <li>• Development of instruments for private sector investment in the Sperrgebiet.</li> <li>• If applicable, financial administration and fund raising for conservation concessions.</li> </ul>
<i>Requirements</i>	☞ Marketing and fund raising advisor



## Baseline research

<p><i>Rationale</i></p> <p><b>?</b></p>	<p>Some ecological baseline research is essential for effective park planning and management. There are, for example, areas in the Sperrgebiet where no biological inventories have ever been undertaken. In an area with many species with extremely limited distribution this is problematic, and prevents informed decisions about management zoning and subsequent activities that are compatible with certain management zones.</p>
<p><i>Assessment</i></p> <p></p>	<p>While ideally all activities that were outlined in the research needs assessment should be implemented, there are several priorities of direct relevance to park management planning (for more detail, see research needs assessment – Burke 2002). These are mapping of critical environmental baselines such as soil, vegetation and existing tracks.</p> <p>Mining has converted and is continuing to convert a portion of the area to sterile habitats or at most to habitats undergoing secondary succession. Some habitats may eventually show natural recovery, others are probably disturbed beyond repair. On the part of the mining companies, rehabilitation has so far largely been limited to general clean-up of infrastructure with little attention to facilitating the natural recovery of disturbed habitats. Although sentiments are changing and now projects try to incorporate new ideas on rehabilitation, there are many disturbed areas that may remain sterile forever. The Southern Namib Restoration Ecology project (Namibian National Biodiversity Programme) has provided a framework for restoration research and thus a more systematic approach to tackling the enormous rehabilitation liability. However, this project has not yet been able to implement activities due to the lack of institutional support and funds.</p> <p>Resource economics can contribute greatly to develop realistic values of the benefits of biodiversity conservation. Particularly non-tangible variables such as ecosystem services are often not included because of the difficulty of their assessment. Due to the nearly pristine condition of ecosystems in this area (i.e. an excellent “ideal situation” baseline), developing methods to derive costs would perhaps be feasible.</p> <p>There are no government funds available to undertake these tasks.</p>
<p><i>Summary of assessment</i></p> <p></p>	<p>To fill most critical ecological information gaps for planning, funds are required firstly for soil, vegetation and track map, and secondly for completing other baseline inventories and surveys of special sites.</p>
<p><i>Tasks</i></p> <p></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete most urgent baselines required (during planning): soil, existing tracks (check with Chamber of Mines), vegetation</li> <li>• Complete further baselines (during implementation): completion of biodiversity inventories and special sites (e.g. springs)</li> <li>• Explore means to determine economic value of resources and ecosystem services.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Requirements</i></p> <p><b>\$</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☞ Research coordinator (see also management plan)</li> <li>☞ Funds to undertake most critical baseline research</li> <li>☞ Resource economist</li> </ul>




## Infrastructure and support facilities

<i>Rationale</i>	Park infrastructure is required to manage a protected area.
<i>Assessment</i> 	<p>At present very basic offices with limited facilities, few vehicles and limited staff housing are available at Lüderitz and Aus. This is not sufficient to effectively manage the Sperrgebiet. More facilities, vehicles and field equipment are needed.</p> <p>Research field bases will facilitate efficient baseline surveys and later monitoring. There are two potential stations available, one of which will require negotiation with the current owner. Mining and prospecting companies in the area have shown an interest in providing some basic facilities for this purpose and as patrol shelters.</p> <p>Weather stations provide essential background information feeding into monitoring programmes of climate change, range assessments and ecological processes.</p> <p>While core management facilities (office accommodation, vehicles and field equipment) are the government's responsibility, there is no budget in the immediate future to cater for the needs of the new protected area.</p>
<i>Summary of assessment</i> 	<p>While park infrastructure is clearly one of the most urgent requirements, this is also where government has the main responsibility. Support for some critical infrastructure (e.g. staff accommodation and new offices in Oranjemund), should, however, be considered.</p>
<i>Requirements</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☞ Park headquarters</li> <li>☞ Staff accommodation</li> <li>☞ Satellite conservation office in Oranjemund (Rosh Pinah and Aus?)</li> <li>☞ Patrol shelters</li> <li>☞ Vehicles</li> <li>☞ Field equipment</li> <li>☞ Research field bases (negotiation with Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources)</li> <li>☞ Weather stations</li> <li>☞ Should conservation concessions become reality, basic office facilities, vehicles and field equipment will also be needed for these.</li> </ul>




## Awareness and interpretation activities

<p><i>Rationale</i></p> <p><b>?</b></p>	<p>Awareness and interpretation activities are essential tools (a) to lobby for support (financial or otherwise) for effective conservation of the area and (b) to educate people in environmental ethics and behaviour in this highly sensitive desert environment.</p>
<p><i>Assessment</i></p> <p></p>	<p>There is a fair amount of information available since the compilation of the Sperrgebiet profile by Namdeb in 1995. This information has not been consolidated in an accessible, user-friendly format. This includes publicising important environmental information in scientific form (e.g. climate data, baseline research) as well as translating this information to practical guidelines for management purposes. These guidelines should be further summarised to provide user-friendly versions for broader distribution.</p> <p>There are various avenues to create awareness and educate people. Distribution and publicising information on the Sperrgebiet environment and biodiversity in book form and on the internet, as well as an interpretation centre are two obvious means.</p> <p>There are no government funds to contribute to these tasks.</p>
<p><i>Summary of assessment</i></p>	<p>To assist fund raising and effective management, support for compilation of semi-popular and popular environmental information on the area is essential.</p>
<p><i>Tasks</i></p> <p></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consolidation and publicising of available ecological information (climate, geomorphology, ecology, etc.; published in semi-popular user-friendly format and on the internet).</li> <li>• “Media tour” (i.e. radio, TV, journalists) through the area.</li> <li>• Booklets with environmental guidelines for different aspects.</li> <li>• Field guides to plants and potentially other suitable groups of biota.</li> <li>• Interpretation centre (Sperrgebiet museum) at Lüderitz, Aus, Rosh Pinah or Oranjemund.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Requirements</i></p> <p><b>\$</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☞ Funds for compilation and printing of information documents, field guides and semi-popular books</li> <li>☞ Funds to compile information for the internet</li> <li>☞ Funds for public relations trip (press and media)</li> <li>☞ Funds to establish an interpretation centre for the Sperrgebiet</li> </ul>





## Staff and training

<p><i>Rationale</i></p> <p><b>?</b></p>	<p>It is evident that more and adequately trained park management staff will be required to effectively manage this biodiversity asset. Also local field biologists to first assist with biodiversity inventory work and then undertake monitoring, are required.</p>
<p><i>Assessment</i></p> <p></p>	<p>While existing park management staff may be adequate to patrol and manage the presently still strictly controlled area, increased prospecting activity and in future a likely, gradual opening of the area to low volume, guided tourism will require substantially more staff for law enforcement and monitoring.</p> <p>Also existing staff within the Ministry of Environment and Tourism will require training in wilderness management to become aware of the sensitivity of this area and set an example in environmental ethics and behaviour to all visitors.</p> <p>Current recruitment procedures practised by government hamper identifying suitable trainees and have resulted in either many vacant positions or a large turn-over.</p> <p>Conservation scientists, field biologists and perhaps “parataxonomists” (i.e. interested laymen trained to undertake basic inventory work) will be needed to undertake biodiversity inventory and monitoring work. This form of training should be coupled with the development of standard, simple methods for biodiversity assessments applicable to this area.</p> <p>While some lower management level positions assigned by government for this area are vacant, filling these positions will not be sufficient. A new office is to be established in Oranjemund and perhaps Rosh Pinah. This will need to be incorporated in government planning for the future. In the interim external funding should be considered to staff this office in the short-term.</p>
<p><i>Summary of assessment</i></p> <p></p>	<p>Increased monitoring requirements associated with the new park will likely not be met by the existing staff complement. Although new positions would in the long-term need to be firmly established within government structures, interim staffing and particularly training need to be considered for outside funding.</p>
<p><i>Tasks</i></p> <p></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wilderness management course for all staff working in the area.</li> <li>• Identification and recruitment of suitable trainees.</li> <li>• Development of standard method for biodiversity assessment and monitoring applicable to monitoring programmes in the Sperrgebiet.</li> <li>• Training of junior field biologists to undertake ecological monitoring.</li> <li>• Training of “parataxonomists” to assist with invertebrate surveys.</li> <li>• Coordination of additional functions (database, restoration, etc.)</li> <li>• Staff for Oranjemund and Rosh Pinah satellite conservation office.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Requirements</i></p> <p><b>\$</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☞ Training courses for wilderness management</li> <li>☞ Support for “voluntary” internships as part of the recruitment process</li> <li>☞ Training of field biologists</li> <li>☞ Consultancy to develop standard method for biodiversity assessment</li> <li>☞ Staff for Oranjemund and Rosh Pinah base: 2 wardens, 4 rangers and 14 support staff</li> <li>☞ Two conservation scientists (ideally 1 plant and 1 wildlife biologists)</li> <li>☞ Database officer</li> </ul>






## On-going management and monitoring

<p><i>Rationale</i></p> <p><b>?</b></p>	<p>Although general management and maintenance tasks will be similar to other parks in Namibia, the implementation of effective monitoring programmes will be critical to ensure that the conservation goals of this national asset are met and controlled and that opening up the area does not result in irreversible damage.</p>
<p><i>Assessment</i></p> <p></p>	<p>Traditionally most park management in Namibia focuses on maintenance of infrastructure (tourist facilities, fences, etc.). In the Sperrgebiet there is also a fair amount of clean-up of old (non-historic) infrastructure remaining from prospecting activities and emergency grazing to be undertaken. Presently prospecting and mining companies, the business community in Lüderitz and Raleigh International have made financial or in-kind contributions to help with these clean-ups.</p> <p>Research staff within the Ministry of Environment and Tourism is inadequate to handle ecological, resource use and impact monitoring in conservation areas in Namibia according to the obligations to international conventions on Biological Diversity, Climate Change and Desertification (for more detail on proposed monitoring see research needs assessment – Burke 2002). Apart from the monitoring task <i>per se</i>, this information also needs to be regularly analysed, evaluated and publicised.</p> <p>Restoration research not only requires investigation of appropriate rehabilitation methods (see baseline research) but also requires monitoring of disturbed habitats to determine their natural recovery potential. Recovery potential is an important aspect to be included in management planning.</p> <p>Environmental Impact Assessment, soon to become a requirement for any new development, would also apply to the regulating body (Ministry of Environment and Tourism) for their own developments. So far no internal budgets have been allocated for this purpose.</p> <p>On-going management within parks is clearly the mandate of government, but inadequate resources (staff and budget) have resulted in shortcomings in the existing parks.</p>
<p><i>Summary of assessment</i></p> <p></p>	<p>Although largely the responsibility of government, the most pressing shortfalls in the future park are expected to be related to monitoring activities, if no additional support is granted. These, however, are critical to sustain the conservation of these large tracts of wilderness area into the future.</p>
<p><i>Tasks</i></p> <p></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal and clean-up of old infrastructure.</li> <li>• Maintenance of infrastructure.</li> <li>• Law enforcement.</li> <li>• Monitoring of resource use and pressures (e.g. water use and recharge, population status of key wildlife species, habitat change at impact sites)</li> <li>• Weather monitoring.</li> <li>• Database development, ecological assessment methods and indicators.</li> <li>• Determination of recovery potential of habitats.</li> <li>• Environmental Impact Assessments.</li> <li>• Determination of “limit of acceptable change” or similar measure to determine the “carrying capacity” at tourism impact sites.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Requirements</i></p> <p><b>\$</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☞ Funding for monitoring tasks</li> <li>☞ Funds for environmental impact assessments</li> <li>☞ Staff to coordinate additional functions (database, restoration)</li> </ul>

## Land consolidation

<p><i>Options</i></p> 	<p>As the entire eastern boundary of the Sperrgebiet borders commercial farmland, there are opportunities for creating buffer areas (see also below), corridors or increasing the present proposed conservation area.</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i></p> <p>?</p>	<p>Buying up tracts of land to secure an effective conservation network is an attractive option for investment in conservation. The southern escarpment (Huib-Hoch plateau) forms the natural (eastern) boundary of the southern Namib and would so provide the ideal boundary for the protection of a confined geographic unit. The area, so enlarged, would more likely guarantee the protection of large-scale ecological gradients, such as coast-inland and altitude as well as wildlife migration routes.</p>
<p><i>Assessment</i></p> 	<p>Creating a buffer area and providing corridors to other existing conservation areas are both effective conservation tools, provided that they are matched by adequate staff and funds for management. The Sperrgebiet adjoins the existing Namib-Naukluft Park to the north, but private land adjoins the eastern boundary. A large buffer area along the eastern boundary of the Sperrgebiet could also be achieved by supporting recently emerging conservation initiatives amongst the land owners (see below).</p> <p>A link to the Trans Frontier Conservation Area Ai-Ais-Richtersveld, however, would be a very effective way to re-open and guarantee the protection of migration routes of large mammals from these mountain areas into the Sperrgebiet. Such a formed corridor could be considered as a pilot study for a potential conservation concession approach. MET, with assistance by the Peace Park Foundation, is currently investigating the establishment of this corridor.</p> <p>Owing to historic peculiarities there are several private farms within the Sperrgebiet, one in the north-east corner, four within the current licence area of the local diamond mine (Namdeb – subsidiary of DeBeers). While the north-east corner is private land, the farms within Namdeb's licence area are owned by the company, or the company is a shareholder. These would need to be bought eventually, once mining ceases in this area.</p> <p>At present no government funds are available for land consolidation.</p>
<p><i>Summary of assessment</i></p> 	<p>Since the creation of a buffer area along the eastern boundary of the Sperrgebiet could be negotiated with conservation-oriented land owners, linking the Sperrgebiet to the Ai-Ais-Richtersveld Trans Frontier Conservation Area could be considered for funding, should the current initiative fail.</p>
<p><i>Tasks</i></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purchase farm to re-align north-east boundary (e.g. part of Tsiirub?)</li> <li>• Purchase farms in corridor to Ai-Ais-Richtersveld Trans Frontier Conservation Area (e.g. Zebrafontein, Spitskop and perhaps Namuskluft?).</li> <li>• Explore conservation concession approach for the creation of corridor.</li> <li>• Purchase private land within Sperrgebiet, once Namdeb mining licence expires (Pomona, Daberas, Marmora and Oyster Cliffs).</li> </ul>
<p><i>Requirements</i></p>	<p>☞ Funds to purchase private land</p>

## Creation of buffer areas

<p><i>Options</i></p> 	<p>The entire eastern boundary of the Sperrgebiet borders on commercial farmland. Hence there are opportunities for creating buffer areas.</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i></p> <p>?</p>	<p>Buffer areas around a conservation area are effective means to increase the chances for successful conservation.</p>
<p><i>Assessment</i></p> 	<p>During the stakeholder assessment many of the land owners bordering the Sperrgebiet indicated a willingness to participate in conservation initiatives.</p> <p>Namibian government policies related to resource use and ownership provide a favourable legal framework to support such initiatives. Conservancies (i.e. agreements between land owners to support conservation goals) have been established throughout the country in commercial as well as communally owned land. A constitution to support conservation objectives and management guidelines are some of the pre-conditions for the successful establishment of such conservancies. Recently, due to the current insecurity in commercial farm land tenure in Namibia, the idea of forming conservancies has also been taken up by previously less conservation inclined land owners.</p> <p>Although there is some government support to farmers who would like to establish conservancies, many of the currently registered conservancies have been established with support from several non-governmental organisations, such as Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation (IRDNC) and Save the Rhino.</p> <p>Lobbying for a conservancy approach with land owners that are currently not pursuing conservation-friendly activities on their land, and providing logistic support to those that are, to e.g. facilitate the registration process, would be an effective means to create a buffer area around the future park.</p>
<p><i>Summary of assessment</i></p> 	<p>Some lobbying for formally established conservation-oriented land management (e.g. in form of conservancies) as well as support to facilitate the process would be beneficial to take advantage of the currently positive climate for such activities.</p>
<p><i>Tasks</i></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support to conservation oriented initiatives on farms bordering the Sperrgebiet.</li> <li>• Management plan for buffer area based on environmentally sound management zoning.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Requirements</i></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☞ Funds to provide logistic support to fledging conservancies</li> <li>☞ Funds to produce awareness material for conservation friendly activities</li> <li>☞ Funds to assist with compilation of management plan for a greater buffer area bordering the Sperrgebiet's eastern boundary</li> </ul>

## WORK PLAN

This work plan is structured according to the same broad topics used in the implementation framework and evaluation. Hence the “tasks” and “requirements” from the evaluation have been transferred and more details regarding responsibility, cost, timeframe, funding sources have been added. The logic sequence (“logic”) provides a priority ranking for activities within each broader task. Costs have been estimated to provide a rough figure, but will need to be determined accurately through detailed proposals. Salaries are gross costs including benefits, tax, etc. The allocation of potential funding sources assumes that Namibia’s Environment Investment Fund will be operational within the next 6 months and that significant investments particularly in infrastructure as well as on-going management costs can be covered by this fund. (MET = Ministry of Environment and Tourism, MME = Ministry of Mines and Energy, DSS = Directorate of Scientific Services, DPWM = Directorate of Parks and Wildlife Management).

## Planning

Administrative and institutional arrangements						
Activity	Requirements	Responsible	Cost (N\$)	Time frame	Funding sources	Logic
Further explore options for private sector partnerships: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>feasibility of conservation concession approach within areas of the Sperrgebiet (e.g. conservation concessions for areas presently zoned as strict reserve due to lack of adequate information, and development of corridor)</li> <li>feasibility of compensation agreements for prospecting licences</li> </ul>	Administrative coordinator  (based in Keetmans or Windhoek, reporting to MET Regional office)	Private conservation organisation(s), international donors	200 000  (part-time over 12 months, plus office costs, travel and administrative support)	2003 – 2004	GCF Phase 2	1
Develop administrative and management structures proposed at National Implementation workshop	Establishment of government drafting committee	MET and MME: Director DSS and Director DPWM of MET and Director Geological Survey			Namibian government (salaries, existing facilities)	
Develop procedures for joint administrative and management structures						
Determine required staffing to implement joint administrative and management structures						
Discuss access control procedures acceptable to the diamond mining industry, the Namibian Nation and private sector						

Management plan						
Activity	Requirements	Responsible	Cost (N\$)	Time frame	Funding sources	Logic
Develop effective park management plan	Workshops	MET: Kolberg DSS and Lane DPWM	60 000	2002- 2003	GCF Phase 2	1
Finalise management zoning and list of activities compatible with management zoning	Research coordinator, to be phased into permanent conservation scientist position	MET Kolberg DSS and Lane DPWM	first: 72 000 (part-time over 6 months)	2003- 2006	GCF Phase 2	1
Agree on time frame for re-zoning						
Develop objective process of determination of environmental sensitivity			later: 150 000/a (full-time, government)		Namibian government	2
Compile environmental sensitivity map or similar planning document						

Business plan						
Activity	Requirements	Responsible	Cost (N\$)	Time frame	Funding sources	Logic
Valuation of assets	Consultancy (corporately minded ecologist/resource planner with experience)	private conservation organisation and international donors	60 000	2002- 2003	GCF Phase 2	1
Analysis of cost and revenue						
Financial analysis						
Strategies for investment						

## Implementation

Legal framework and land tenure						
Activity	Requirements	Responsible	Cost (N\$)	Time frame	Funding sources	Logic
Preparation of legal documents	Legal advisor	MET and MME  Private conservation organisation(s), international donors	100 000  (part-time over 12 months, plus office costs and administrative support)	2003 – 2004	GCF Phase 2	1
Collate background information on private ownership within Sperrgebiet						
Develop legal instruments to implement guidelines for activities in different management zones						
Resolve eastern boundary discrepancy		MET			Namibian government, Environment Investment Fund	2
Survey boundary		MET Cooper DPWM via Surveyor General	270 000	2003		3
If applicable, develop conservation concession agreements	Conservation agreements advisor	Private conservation organisation(s)	?	2004-2006	GCF Phase 2	4

Marketing and fund raising						
Activity	Requirements	Responsible	Cost (N\$)	Time frame	Funding sources	Logic
Establish Sperrgebiet trust fund	Marketing and fund raising advisor  (to be phased into permanent position)	Private conservation organisations(s)	first short-term contract (6 months?): 120 000  later full-time: 200 000 /a	2003-2004	GCF Phase 2	1
Undertake market analysis						2
Develop instruments for private sector investment						3
If applicable, financial administration and fund raising for conservation concession						4

<b>Baseline research</b>						
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Requirements</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Cost (N\$)</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Funding sources</b>	<b>Logic</b>
Complete most urgent environmental baselines required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• track map (all existing tracks and plan for closure and maintenance in collaboration with MET and Namdeb)</li> <li>• vegetation map</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research coordinator</li> <li>• Funds to undertake baseline research</li> </ul>	MET: DSS and DPWM	72000 (temporary)	2003 – 2004	GCF Phase 2 Namibian government (MAWRD)	1
Complete further baselines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• completion of biodiversity inventories and special sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• botanically under-collected areas</li> <li>• springs and archaeology</li> <li>• invertebrate survey</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		Private conservation organisation(s) international donors	20 000 70 000 ?			
Explore means to determine economic value of resources	Consultancy	Private conservation organisation(s) , international donors	100 000	2005-2006		3

### Infrastructure and support facilities

Activity	Requirements	Responsible	Cost (N\$)	Time frame	Funding sources	Logic
Park management	Park headquarters	MET: Director DPWM, Chief Warden and Chief Control Warden (Cooper, Lane)	1 000 000	2003- 2005	Namibian government Environment Investment Fund, GCF Phase 2?	3
	Staff housing		8 000 000			1
	Satellite conservation office in Oranjemund, Rosh Pinah, Aus		1 500 000			4
	Patrol shelters		30 000			2
	Vehicles and field equipment		4 000 000			5
	Research field bases	MET	50 000	2003- 2005	Namibian government GCF Phase 2	6
	Weather stations	MET	200 000	2003- 2007	Environment Investment Fund GCF Phase 2	6
	If applicable, office, vehicles and field equipment for conservation concession offices	Private conservation organisation(s)	2 000 000 per concession ?	2005- 2007	GCF Phase 2	7

<b>Awareness and interpretation activities</b>						
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Requirements</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Cost (N\$)</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Funding sources</b>	<b>Logic</b>
Media awareness (“public relations” field trips)	Funds	Private conservation organisation(s), international donors in collaboration with MET: DSS and DPWM	200 000	2003-2005	International donors (CEPF?)	1
Glossy brochures and pamphlets	Funds for compilation and printing		500 000	2003-2005		Namibian National Biodiversity Programme
Consolidate and publicise available ecological information in user-friendly format and on internet (e.g. Ecosystem profile, update/reprint Namdeb Sperrgebiet Profile?)	Funds for compilation and printing		200 000	2003-2005	Environment Investment Fund	2
Compile booklets with environmental guidelines			100 000	2003-2005	Namibian National Biodiversity Programme	3
Establish interpretation centre (i.e. Sperrgebiet Museum)	Funds		2 000 000	2005-2010	Environment Investment Fund	4

### Staff and training

Activity	Requirements	Responsible	Cost (N\$)	Time frame	Funding sources	Logic
Wilderness management course for MET staff working in the area	Wilderness training consultant	MET: DPWM, Control Warden Southern Parks	100 000	2003-2005	GCF Phase 2	1
Internship "bursaries" and support for field-based recruitment process	Funds for fieldtrips and bursaries/ training camps	Private conservation organisation(s), international donors	300 000	2003-2005	GCF Phase 2	1
Additional staff for Oranjemund, Aus and Rosh Pinah bases	Funds and suitable staff	MET	800 000/a per station?	2004 onwards	Namibian government, initially Environment Investment Fund?	2
Development of standard methodology for biodiversity assessment and monitoring	Consultancy	Private conservation organisation(s), international donors	75 000	2003-2004	GCF Phase 2 / CEPF?	3
Training of field biologists and parataxonomists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bursaries</li> <li>• In-field training course</li> </ul>	Namibian government	500 000	2003-2006	Environment Investment Fund International donors?	3
Two conservation scientists for Sperrgebiet	Funds and suitable staff	Namibian government	200 000/a	2004 onwards	Namibian government, with initial support from international donors?	4

### On-going management and monitoring

Activity	Requirements	Responsible	Cost (N\$)	Time frame	Funding sources	Logic
Removal and clean-up of old infrastructure	Funds	MET: DPWM (Cooper)	100 000	2002-2004	Namibian government and private donors	1
Maintenance of infrastructure and law enforcement	Funds and staff	MET: DPWM	?	2002 onwards	Namibian government	2
Environmental Impact Assessments	Funds	MET, private developers	600 000/a for MET	2003 onwards	Namibian government, Environment Investment Fund	2
Monitoring of resource use and pressures (including weather monitoring)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff and funds,</li> <li>• Initial consultancy to assist with development of appropriate programmes</li> </ul>	MET, private conservation organisation(s), international donors	1 000 000/a	2004 onwards	Namibian government, Environment Investment Fund, international donors	3
Database development, development of appropriate ecological indicators and assessment methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Database/GIS officer</li> <li>• Initial consultancy to help with set up</li> </ul>	MET, private conservation organisation(s), international donors	200 000/a 100 000	2004 onwards	Namibian government, Environment Investment Fund, international donors	4
Rehabilitation/restoration and determination of recovery potential of habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funds for rehabilitation and restoration research</li> <li>• Restoration coordinator</li> </ul>	MME, private conservation organisation(s), international donors	200 000 start-up funds 200 000/a	2003 onwards	Restoration trust fund with contributions from mining and prospecting companies and Environment Investment Fund	5

<b>Land consolidation</b>						
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Requirements</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Cost (N\$)</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Funding sources</b>	<b>Logic</b>
Purchase farm Tsirub to re-align north-east boundary	Funds	MET, private conservation organisation(s), international donors?	900 000 ?	2004	Namibian government, Environment Investment Fund	1
Purchase farms in corridor to Ai-Ais-Richtersveld Transfrontier Conservation Area to establish conservation concession	Funds, if current initiative fails	private conservation organisation(s), international donors	if current initiative fails: 4 000 000	2004-2006	only if current initiative fails: GCF Phase 2	1
Purchase private land within Sperrgebiet, once mining licences are relinquished	Funds	MET, MME	?	2020 onwards	Namibian government	2

<b>Creation of buffer areas</b>						
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Requirements</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Cost (N\$)</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Funding sources</b>	<b>Logic</b>
Support conservation oriented initiatives on farms bordering the Sperrgebiet	Funds to provide logistic support to fledging conservancies	MET and private conservation organisation(s), international donors	200 000/a	2003 onwards	International donors, CEPF?	1
Management plan for buffer areas based on environmentally sound management zoning	Funds for consultancy ?	MET assisted by private conservation organisation(s), international donors	200 000	2004	International donors, CEPF?	2

## FINANCE REQUIREMENTS AND FINANCING MECHANISMS

### Summary of financial requirements

The table below provides a summary of financial requirements according to major categories and allocated for two proposed phases. The costs are coarse estimates. Annual salaries have been estimated providing total cost (incl. benefits, leave, etc.).

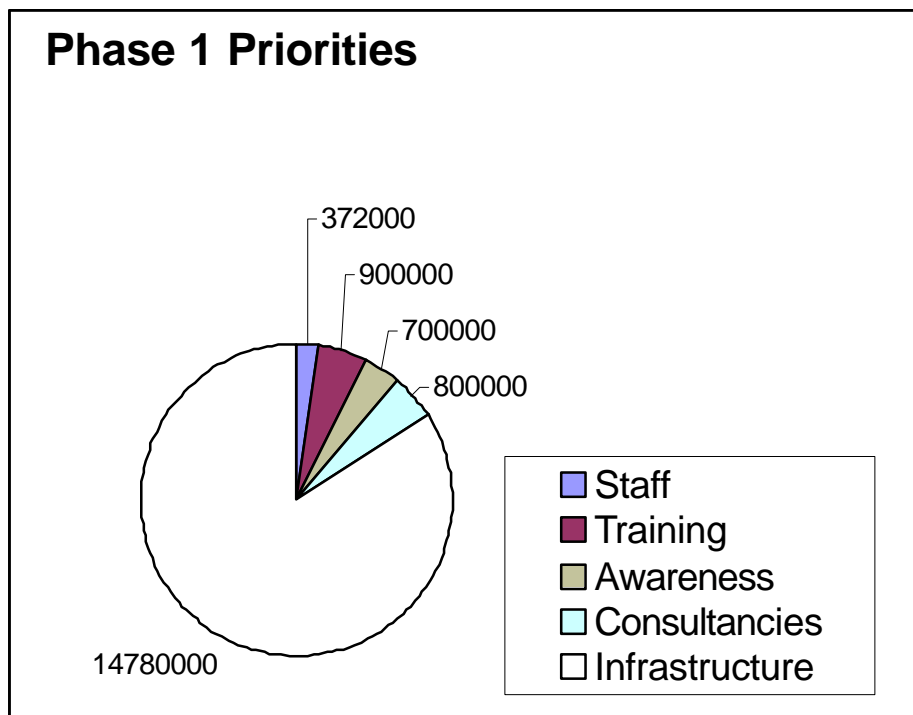
	Phase 1 (2003-2004)	Costs (N\$)	Phase 2 (2005-2010)	Costs (N\$)
<b>Staff</b>	Administrative coordinator	200 000	Marketing and fund raising advisor	200 000/a
	Legal advisor	100 000	Research coordinator	150 000/a
	Research coordinator (temporary)	72 000	2 conservation scientists	200 000/a
			Staff satellite office Database/GIS officer	800 000/a 200 000/a
<b>Training</b>	Wilderness management	100 000		
	Internship "bursaries"	300 000		
	Field biologists and parataxonomists	500 000		
<b>Awareness</b>	Media awareness trips	200 000	Booklets environmental guidelines	100 000
	Brochures and pamphlets	500 000		
<b>Consultancies</b>	Business plan	60 000	Economic value of resources	100 000
	Boundary survey	270 000	Standard biodiversity assessment	75 000
	Baseline map of tracks	20 000	Database set-up	100 000
	Vegetation map	70 000	Management plan for border areas	200 000
	Ecosystem profile	200 000		
	Park management plan	60 000		
<b>Expertise</b>	Marketing and fund raising	120 000		
	Conservation agreements advisor	?	Support to fledging conservancies	200 000/a
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Patrol shelters	30 000	Interpretation centre	2 000 000
	Staff housing	8 000 000	Conservation concession office	2 000 000
	Weather stations	200 000		
	Park headquarters	1 000 000		
	Satellite conservation offices	1 500 000		
	Vehicles and field equipment	4 000 000		
	Research field bases	50 000		
<b>Land consolidation</b>	Farm Tsirub	900 000	Private land within Sperrgebiet	?
	Farms in corridor to Ai-Ais-Richtersveld	4 000 000		
<b>On-going management</b>	Clean-up of infrastructure	100 000	Monitoring resource use and pressures	1 000 000/a
			Rehabilitation fund	200 000/a
			Environmental Impact Assessments	600 000/a

## Financial assessment

The following topics were identified as priorities for funding in phase 1:

- Staff: Administrative coordinator, legal advisor and research coordinator
- Training: Wilderness management, internship “bursaries”, training of field biologists and parataxonomists
- Awareness: Media awareness, brochures and pamphlets
- Consultancies: Business plan, boundary survey, baseline of tracks, vegetation map, ecosystem profile and similar publications, park management plan, marketing and fund raising
- Infrastructure: Patrol shelters, staff housing, weather station, park headquarters, satellite conservation offices, vehicles and field equipment and research field bases.

A total of N\$ 17 552 000 is estimated to be required for the most urgent tasks during the first phase of establishment of the new protected area. Summarised below according to the main topics, close to 15 million N\$ would be allocated to infrastructure, the remaining 2.7 million to staff, training, awareness and consultancies.

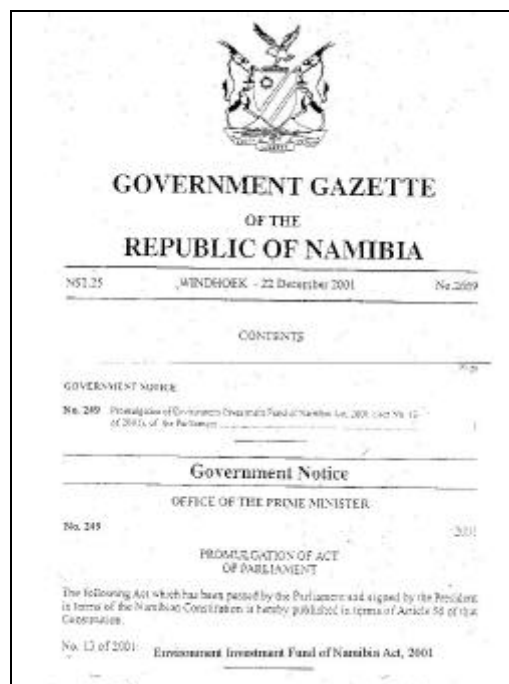


## Financing mechanisms

An investment strategy for the Sperrgebiet is proposed that combines international donor, private sector and government funding.

The Environment Investment Fund provides a financing tool that would follow a similar strategy. Capital in this fund is planned to be derived from government sources, levies from activities that generate income through working with the environment (e.g. tourism, harvesting of natural resources, environmental management) and private and international donor funding.

Negotiations for major investment by international donors (i.e. World Bank) to the Environment Investment Fund are underway at present, but the institutional arrangements have yet to be finalised (e.g. establishment of board, etc.).



Since the Environment Investment Fund makes provision for channelling funds to specific projects, it is suggested that a **Sperrgebiet Trust Fund** is established under the umbrella of the Environment Investment Fund.

However, since the time frame for this fund to be operational is somewhat uncertain and the practical workings will only be clear once the fund is operational, this should only be considered, provided that

- (a) adequate autonomy and
- (b) input by Sperrgebiet experts in the allocation of funds

is guaranteed.

In the interim (or failing above provisions) a **Sperrgebiet Trust Fund** should be established and administered by a reputable and audited institution handling such funds (e.g. Namibia Nature Foundation).

## TIME FRAME AND PHASES

Investment in conservation by private sector and international donors is proposed to be phased, due to:

- (a) present government resistance to private sector involvement and
- (b) lack of knowledge about the effectiveness and functioning of the government administered Environment Investment Fund (which, once operational could be a significant contributor to conservation investment in this area).

### **Initial phase (2003-2004):**

- A. Further exploring the conservation concession approach through assistance with the development of administrative and institutional arrangements and legal advice.
- B. Investigating options for land acquisition to develop a corridor between the Sperrgebiet and the Ais-Ais-Richtersveld Transfrontier Conservation Area.
- C. Should conservation concessions become a feasible option, this approach could be piloted (a) in some high priority areas within the Sperrgebiet that presently require major investment for conservation planning and (b) in a potential corridor area to the Ai-Ais-Richtersveld Park.
- D. Development of business plan.
- E. High priority baseline research to enable effective park management planning.

### **Follow-up phase (2004-2010):**

- A. Review of implementation framework and strategy and development of further detail
- B. Development of management plan(s) (within park and in border and corridor areas)
- C. Staff and training
- D. Further baseline research
- E. Further land consolidation(s)
- F. Development of agreements for conservation concessions
- G. Investment in major infrastructure
- H. Marketing and fund raising activities
- I. Awareness and interpretation activities.