



**Brain-storming workshop held on the occasion of the 1<sup>st</sup> AGM of the  
Namibian Chamber of Environment, 5 April 2017**

***Workgroup I – What would Members like the NCE to do to help support their work?***

- ✓ Make environmental information easily accessible to Members.
- ✓ Support Members by providing access to facilities, logistics, skills and resources.
- ✓ Help create connections and build collaboration between Members, including by arranging workshops, symposia, meetings.
- ✓ Facilitate coordinated approaches and teamwork between Member and with their partner organisations in key programme areas.
- ✓ Help build relationships and dialogue between environmental NGOs and government.
- ✓ Work constructively and in collaboration with decision-makers and provide them with good environmental information and guidance.
- ✓ When necessary put pressure on public institutions, including publicly if necessary.
- ✓ Promote transparency in the EIA process and in EIAs.
- ✓ Provide assistance to Members with funding applications.
- ✓ Channel environmentally relevant information to civil society.
- ✓ Promote research, and build a link in this area with the private sector.
- ✓ Inspire passion in young Namibians, including through exposure, environmental education, bursaries and mentoring.

Note: some of these points would fit better in the next workgroup.

***Workgroup II – What would Members like the NCE to do, with and on behalf of the Members, to help promote sound environmental management in Namibia?***

- ✓ **Policy** – provide a platform for input by NCE Members to legislation, both new and revisions, and where necessary, facilitate legal support.
- ✓ **Environmental assessment** – help strengthen the EIA system at all levels.
- ✓ **CBNRM** – provide support and a common voice for key issues, e.g. external anti-utilisation pressure, poaching, human-wildlife conflict, funding to the programme.
- ✓ **Education, awareness and information** – use printed media, radio, TV, podcasts and NCE Members to reach the general public in both rural and urban areas, engage with politicians and other decision-makers, to spread the environment message on key issues.
- ✓ **Support the urban environment agenda** – focus on environmental, social and economic aspects of informal settlements and the urban poor, work with local authorities and local civil society initiatives, and get a better understanding of urbanisation, the drivers in rural communities and the “economics of poverty”.
- ✓ **Keep track of the status of key ecosystems and engage where necessary** – understand the situation by working with specialists, engage with relevant authorities, promote monitoring and transparency, focus on the priorities. Current priorities are considered to be:
  - **Marine sector** – particularly the pilchard / sardine / anchovy fisheries, due mainly to overfishing;
  - **Forestry sector** – particularly the hardwood tree species and deforestation, due mainly to illegal harvesting and poor management.
- ✓ **Priority cross-cutting and stand-alone issues** – including commercial poaching and related wildlife and environmental crimes; invasive alien plants, particularly cacti; and the potential of wildlife as a competitive land use, particularly in the face of climate change.