



INTERACTIVE, BETHANIE COMMUNITY SENSITIZATION MEETING FOR PROJECT - PILOT RURAL DESALINATION PLANT USING HYBRID RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MEMBRANE TECHNOLOGY

MINUTES

Date: 04 March 2021	Time: 14h30	Venue: Bethanie Village Community Hall
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1. Attendance

The meeting organizer (Ms Angela Nakale) requested attendees to complete the attendance register annexed herein.

2. Welcome

The organizer introduced the NamWater team and welcomed the Bethanie Village Council representatives and community members in attendance.

3. Discussion

The following topics, information attached herein was presented by Ms. A Nakale:

1. Understanding climate change
2. Understanding effects of poor quality groundwater.
3. Understanding of pilot desalination project
4. Perception of desalinated water (information to be collected through a survey)

Ms. Victoria Sem shared the following information attached herein pertaining to Human Resource Development at NamWater:

5. NamWater bursary scheme opportunities
6. NamWater work integrated learning opportunities

Mr. Kariapua Iyambo shared the following information attached herein pertaining to Human Resource Development NamWater:

7. NamWater Human Resource Development Centre (HRDC) vocational training opportunities
8. Specialized HRDC heavy plant operator training opportunities

The following questions were raised by community members:

- *Question* (by Mr. Shapopi, local school teacher) – Why is there particular highlight on women being more affected by climate change than men?

Answer – it is by virtue of women being statistically more than men, more households are headed by women and, are more dependent on natural resources which are threatened by climate change. They are thus also effective agents to both mitigation and adaptation.

- *Question* (by Mr. Shapopi, local school teacher) – is there a water tariff increase expected with the development?

Answer – the purpose of the project was to collect and share information on the implemented technology for replication elsewhere in Namibia. Part of collection of information is through structured community perception surveys where ‘water tariff’ subject is touched on that will be carried out in the community.

- *Question* (attendee) – what are the VTC entry requirements for unskilled persons?

Answer – these vary based on course (*different requirements were explained*).

- *Question* (attendee) – Would a special intake for the VTC be considered for Bethanie residents?

Answer – *All interested parties are encouraged to apply as per requirements, there are not special cases or intakes, students are admitted based on assessments and meeting requirements.*

- *Question* (attendee) – Does NamWater have social responsibility towards admitting students to the VTC?

Answer – *No, there is not CSR toward admission at the center, normal process apply to the public*

Comment – Could NamWater notify the village council when internships are available so that it can be advertised locally?

Answer- Yes, NamWater can share via email if we are to be provided with contact details such as the Bethanie Village council.

4. Closure

The Organizer thanked everybody who took part and requested for group photos (attached herein). The meeting ended 16:15

Minutes compiled by:

Angela Nakale

Angela Nakale (Meeting organizer)

____10.03.2021____

Date

Annexure: Photos





