

'Promoting Sustainable Forest Management in the Kavango-Zambezi-Region in Namibia' (NSFM)-Project

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In collaboration with the Desert Research Foundation of Namibia (DRFN), the Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF) is implementing the 'Promoting Sustainable Forest Management in the Kavango-Zambezi-Region in Namibia' (NSFM)-Project that is funded by the European Union (2020 – 2023). The NSFM-Project seeks to support an active multi-stakeholder dialogue on Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) with focus on valuable hardwood as contribution to an improved implementation of SFM in the KAZA- Region in Namibia's north-east.

The project idea emerged out of the need to combat the unsustainable use of timber resources and uncontrolled deforestation, which has caught attention in the media and has been a persistent topic of public discussions in recent years in Namibia and the region. Furthermore, in addition to the environmental damages associated with habitat and biodiversity loss, unsustainable logging has exacerbated the widespread problem of soil degradation, adversely affecting domestic food security and rural development at large.

Against this background, the HSF and the DRFN aim to raise awareness and sensitise, support exchange and communication as well as build capacities on SFM amongst selected nature & environment organisations, decision-makers, members of Community Forests and multipliers such as leading members of local communities in CFs and youth representatives. This will be done through an information campaign, publications, dialogue events, educational activities, conferences and study trips.

Objectives:

- Improving the understanding of the benefits of SFM among Community Forest Members, multipliers, nature and environment organisations and decision-makers;
- Sensitising decision-makers and CSOs to the other's perspective on SFM;
- Improving the knowledge and skills on SFM among Community Forest Members, multipliers, nature and environment organisations and decision-makers.



The NSFM-Project continues the THINK Namibia Information Campaign in its 4th phase. *THINK Namibia Sustainable Forest Management*. <https://www.thinknamibia.org.na> informs interested individuals on SFM and reports on the achievements of the NSFM-Project.

The HSF and the DRFN appreciate the financial support by the European Union. For more information about the European Union, please visit https://eas.europa.eu/delegations/namibia_en.