

THE FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN: BY LINDA P NANYALA

It has been long overdue, and the day has finally arrived. I am finally getting to do something I have always wanted to engage in. I was so excited to travel to the northern parts of Namibia especially to Okahao where I have not been before. The office does not excite me much. I surely needed a break from the office 🤔🤔. Cecilia and I arrived at the airport, as always, we had pending submissions, so we did some work before boarding. Whoever thought, logistical arrangements for an event can be this stressful... but I am learning quite a lot. Ever find yourself with an event, am your gurl when it comes to your logistic arrangements 🤔🤔

The excitement level was just high, first flight yaay...kinda thing. Exactly at 15:15 it was time to face my fears. Homegirl fears heights so much I will not lie, despite the excitement I did not like the whole flying especially the landing part shuuuu. I fail to understand how flying excites people but NOT ME. Arrived at Ondangwa airport and the minute I got home I said to my Mom never again 🙌 “Meme”.



Hold up!! what is a trip without selfies 🤔🤔

The best part was that I got to spend the weekend home and embark on the journey Sunday afternoon. Funny story: on Sunday as I got ready to leave for Ongwediva where the workshop was taking place, the hotel where I made bookings for some of participants calls to notify me that the

bookings were not confirmed. Terrified as I was, I did not know what to do. First thing first, I calmed myself down it always works for me, you should try it 😊. Made a few calls and all was sorted. Yeeei

Off I go to Ongwediva, just to get to the guest house where I was being accommodated, I realized I left my pairs of shoes at home, I set down and laughed at myself. I told myself: worry not you got this 😊. “n boer maak n plan” they say in Afrikaans.

On the 18th of May 2021, right after the CDKN regional workshop Cecilia, Alfeus and I had to deliver a mock presentation to Mr. Cecil before the big day scheduled to happen on the 20th of May. We travelled to Okahao on the 19th of May right after the CDKN regional workshop and I was so tired hence I was silent the whole journey. We arrived in Okahao and spend the night at Onesto guest house.

The part I have been waiting for is finally here. We started the day off with a heavy breakfast from meme Helena’s kitchen at Go-Villa restaurant. The conference hall was set up very well. Shortly, the participants started arriving and it was time to start.

The workshop was officially opened by Hon. Johannes Iyambo from Otamanzi constituency. The workshop was aimed at stimulating communities to establish self-help groups as a response to climate change. Which will ultimately assist communities to develop innovative ideas that can be developed into project proposal for funding.

Mr. Cecil Togarepi, “the team’s cucumber 😊😊😊😊😊😊” calm and ready to start, started by presenting on the background of [ASSAR/CLARE-Namibia](#) Project. Let me not bore you, click the link below and read it for yourself :

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ngR3fJuJpS_OYMfi012Nq5pz6a8ZvcxR/view?usp=sharing

Time went by so fast before I knew it, it was my turn to shine. I started off with an experiential learning game called [breaking sticks](#). Additionally, I gave another presentation on functions of self-help groups. I must say I was super nervous but being as confident as I am nothing can stop me from doing my best. It was a challenge as I had to deliver it in my vernacular language

(Oshiwambo). First time for everything they say, this was amazing. I have learned a lot within such a short period of time.



What do they say about a team that works together 😊?

**ALSO, NAMIBIA IS BEAUTIFUL JUST LOOK AT THIS AMAIZING AERIAL
VIEW!!!**



Despite the exhaustion, I think belong in the field 😊😊😊😊 overall this was a great experience I have learned a lot. Cheers to more engagements.

Do not forget the new normal, wear your masks, sanitize, practice social distancing and stay safe 😊

Until next time It is bye bye from me 🙋

By Linda Nanyala

CLARE-Namibia