



UPDATE

PROGRAMME FOR APPROPRIATE LOW-COST URBAN SANITATION



Oniipa: Town council truck collecting waste at the DWN built waste collection point. To the left (in yellow) a public pay-to-use toilet.

Dw DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP SANITATION

20 Nachtigal Street, Ausspannplatz,
Windhoek, Namibia, Tel: +264 (0)61 240 140
Email: b.weber@dw-namibia.org
www.dw-namibia.org

Overview 2

Sanitation social
enterprise 2

Events & achievements
January to June 2022 3

Namibia has one of the highest rates of open defecation in the world. In towns, it is estimated that more than 50% of residents in informal settlements do not have access to toilets. Every day, women, children and men are obliged to defecate in river beds and other green spaces. Open defecation exposes residents to pathogens, contributes to high levels of diarrhea in children and increased child mortality.

The Harambee Prosperity Plan II endorses an approach called Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) to address this situation. The main objective of CLTS is to encourage residents to build their own toilets according to local and international safety standards.

Development Workshop Namibia (DWN) is implementing an urban CLTS project in nine towns across Namibia, in partnership with UNICEF and the Namibian Chamber of Environment (NCE), and in close collaboration with government and local authorities.

Current donors:



Past donors:



OVERVIEW

The programme is financially supported by the EU and UNICEF and currently operates in nine towns. In all those towns, the main objective is to turn informal settlements Open Defecation Free (ODF). This is done block by block:

1. **Block demarcation:** The boundaries of a new block to be made ODF are established;
2. **Sanitation centres:** Demonstration toilets (or sanitation centres) are built by the programme to provide an example how to build a cost effective and safe toilet;
3. **Awareness raising:** Volunteers working with the programme raise awareness to improve hygiene practices (such as regular hand washing) and stimulate the construction of toilets. They go from house to house, conduct meetings with residents and distribute leaflets;
4. **Verification:** Once a block has become ODF, it is first verified by the programme, then externally by the Government's national ODF committee.

Collaboration: The programme works closely with local authorities, the Ministry of Health and Social Services and the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry. DWN staff are actively engaged with the national WATSAN Forum, National Clean-up Committee and National ODF Committee.



Volunteers in action

Volunteers generating income: It is for this reason that DWN started a social enterprise venture with the volunteers: DWN sources products that have social and environmental value and engages the volunteers as sales agents. The sales agents keep part of the income, an in turn agree to continue CLTS work on specified days of the week.

Namene Solar: The first product sold are solar lights from a company called Namene Solar. Based in the UK, Namene has a large solar lamp distribution programme in southern Africa. The programme is backed by a carbon credit scheme: For each light sold, Namene receives a certain amount from the scheme, allowing it to sell the light at a lower price (N\$ 50).

Sales to date: DWN and the volunteers started selling lights in April. To date, volunteers have sold a total of more than 10,000 lights.

A SANITATION SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers receiving subsidies: The network of currently 65 volunteers is the backbone of this CLTS initiative. To be effective, volunteers need a small subsidy, mainly for transport expenditures. However, as grant funding tends to be limited and irregular, this network of volunteers runs the risk to disintegrate once a project ends and donor funds are no longer available.



The Namene Solar light



Volunteers selling lights in Swakopmund.

Sustainability: When donor funds are available, volunteers can still be supported with transport subsidies for intensive awareness raising campaigns. However, through the social enterprise approach, the volunteer network has found a financially sustainable basis for the long term. DWN also receives part of the income, allowing to pay for project staff and expenditures such as transport.

COMMUNITY BASED ENTERPRISES

Over the last two years, the programme experimented with different community-based sanitation enterprises. These enterprises serve an increasing demand for sanitation related services, a direct outcome of awareness raising campaigns.

The most successful enterprises include:

Public toilets: This model evolved from the programme’s demonstration toilets. A sales stand is added to the toilet, where a caretaker can sell goods, charge a small toilet access fee and keep the toilet clean. 18 of such toilets are now operated by the programme.



Public toilet in Karibib

Solid waste collection points: Most informal settlements have massive solid waste challenges. The programme builds fenced waste collection points, runs public campaigns for people to dump their waste within the areas, and has an agreement with the town’s solid waste department for regular collection. A pay-to-use toilet and sales stand are added for a caretaker to make an income, who in turn ensures the proper use of the collection point. Seven such points are now operational.

Recycling: Recycling operations are integrated into the solid waste collection points. A recycling operator (local resident) separates waste and gets paid according to the collected quantities. DWN facilitates an agreement with a recycling company (such as Rent-a-Drum) for regular pick up and purchase of recyclable waste. Two recycling points are currently operating, in close collaboration with the Recycle Namibia Forum (RNF).



Recycling caretaker Beata Gebhardt in the Hadino Hishongwa solid waste collection point.



Beata was selected Recycling Hero of 2022 by the Recycle Namibia Forum.

Business incubator: DWN is continuously improving procedures to support these initiatives. The aim is to raise additional funds and become a incubator for sanitation related businesses. Such businesses add sustainability to the interventions of the sanitation programme.

EVENTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Buy-in of local authorities: Swakopmund Municipality and Oshakati Town Council have both adopted CLTS and now use council funds to expand activities in the informal settlements. Swakopmund Municipality for example is providing funds for some 10 new sanitation centres. DWN continues providing assistance with the volunteers and by conducting awareness raising campaigns.

Ambassadors visit: On 15 June, a delegation of ambassadors visited the CLTS project in Oniipa. Part of the delegation were the ambassadors of the European Union, Germany, France and Finland.

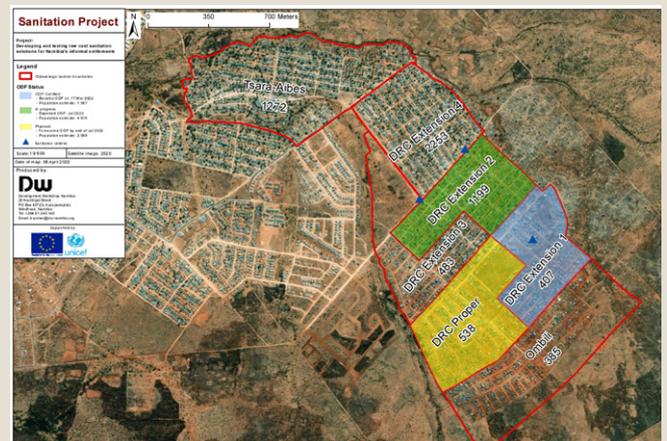


Ambassadors, council representatives and DWN staff in front of the Oniipa waste collection point.

Sanitation centres and solid waste collection points: 45 sanitation centers have been built to date, as well as seven solid waste collection points.



Sanitation center and pay-to-use public toilet in Katima Mulilo, Zambezi neighborhood.



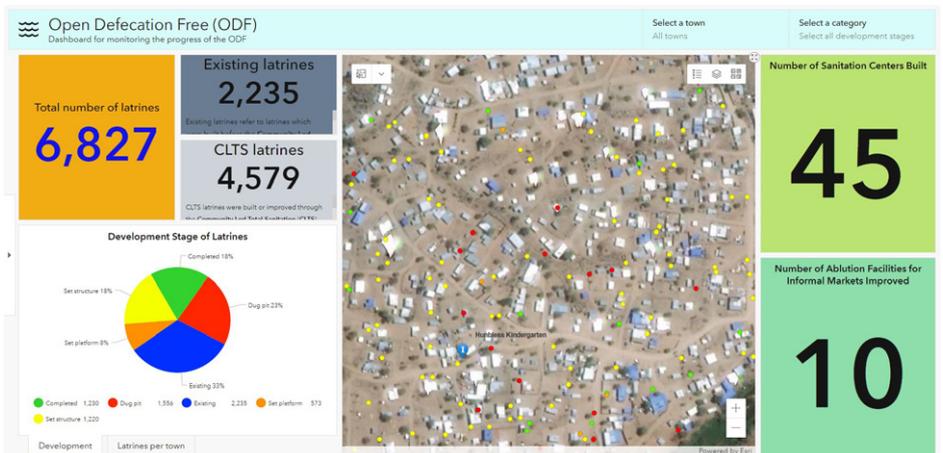
Otjiwarongo: Green is a block that is ODF certified, blue with ODF in progress and yellow with CLTS activities planned for 2022. The numbers within the blocks indicate the number of households within the specific area.

Open Defecation Free (ODF) areas:

In close collaboration with local authorities, teams of volunteers and DWN staff have implemented CLTS activities to make blocks of informal settlements ODF. A total of 25 blocks are now either certified ODF or in the process of becoming ODF.

Monitoring: Toilet construction is closely monitored by the DWN project team, using the Geographic Information System (GIS). Maps of constructed toilets can be viewed under following website: <https://development-workshop-data-hub-dwn.hub.arcgis.com/>

More than 4,579 toilets have been built by residents to date.



Zooming in, the individual toilets become visible on the map. Volunteers regularly visit all project areas, check on new toilets, and update the map through a cell phone app.