

LIVES MATTER CAMPAIGN



The Shandumbala Community Workshop Report



Figure 1 Participants gather outside for group photo shoot, Shandumbala Workshop 2016

Background

On the 16th of April 2016, the For Progress Namibia Project, in partnership with Twamanguluka, under the #LivesMatter campaign, conducted a community workshop at the Multi-purpose Centre with the suburb residents of Shandumbala.

The main aims of the workshop were as follows:

- To present the results of the study entitled Citizen wellbeing and GDP: Towards more appropriate measures of Namibia's success and progress, (published in the Journal of Social Change, and downloadable here <http://scholarworks.waldenu.edu/jsc/vol8/iss1/2/>).
- Discuss options and activities on improving these results within the community.

The results were presented to the residents and discussions were held to come up with feasible actions to improve the survey results and bring about change in their community. The City of Windhoek, National Planning Commission, the United Nations Development Programme, and the Councillors' Office also participated in the workshop, and gave their valuable insight.



Figure 2 Honourable MP Veiko Nekundi gives keynote address, Shandumbala Workshop 2016



Figure 3 Councillor Ruben Sheehama thanking the participants, Shandumbala Workshop 2016

Opening Remarks

Hon. Councillor Sheehama of Katutura-East opened the meeting on behalf of Mayor Kazapua, who was unable to attend. Hon. Nekundi, Member of Parliament, gave the keynote address at the workshop, and thanked the participants and the project for taking action towards the improvement of their own wellbeing.



Figure 4 one of the Community's elders Lazarus Mambo gives his opinion on possible priority actions, Shandumbala Workshop 2016

Facilitation and exchanges

The workshop was facilitated through the community capacity-enhancement tool, in which participants are asked to identify their own strengths and agency with regards change in their community, as well as prioritise the elements of their particular environment that they feel needs improvement. It is also a platform of exchange in terms of what is feasible towards improving the results of the study on wellbeing. Discussions and comments took place, and community members were actively involved.

The focal areas coming out of the workshop

Prior to the results of the survey presented and group discussions, the following key areas were identified:
Issues circulating in the community/ community perceptions

- People of Shandumbala don't know where to take their problems to
- There is a lack of trust in the community
- There are too many Shebeens in the location
- No water taps in some of the areas of Shandumbala
- Current schools; Jan Jonker and Shifidi are not organised (Schools lack proper management)
- Education is low :
 - ✓ Schools are not in proximity to homes , walking distances to school
 - ✓ Lack of teachers
 - ✓ Poor management
 - ✓ Afternoon classes are not sufficient for learners
 - ✓ Shortage of classrooms

Community Strengths (What is it, that is currently working)

- Feeding schemes providing for the orphan children , the poor and most vulnerable
- There are a lot of primary schools accommodating children
- The health status of residents is satisfactory
- Residents have a satisfactory state of mind
- Community supports each other through giving to the most vulnerable
- There are play grounds that keeps children off the street
- There are adult literacy programmes being offered
- Regular site and community visits by the councillor
- There is strength in the community, as well as unity

Closing discussions

In the closing discussions, residents came up with possible action plans into solving the issues raised and working on their existing strengths in the community, through a visioning exercise.



Figure 5 Participants get into groups and do visioning exercises, Shandumbala Workshop 2016

The discussions identified the following activities (wish-list):

- Introduce neighbourhood watch
- Build community markets for SME's to showcase or set up their businesses
- Build clinics and old age homes within walking distances for the old people
- Establish proper platforms for regular community meetings
- Build more schools for grades 1 to 7
- Extend existing schools to double-storey
- Build shopping centres
- Add more playgrounds in the area
- Write a letter to the Khomas Regional director including the educational officers from Katutura-East
- Create a proper platform to solve conflicts
- Identify un-occupied land to build a center " Councillor to negotiate with CoW about sonder water "
- Draft up a letter to request for a community centre in shandumbala
- Conflict resolution pertaining to "Sonder Water "
- National planning commission are willing to engage with the people of Shandumbala
- Parents should get involved in all children's work regardless if they are theirs or not
- Discipline should be installed in the mindsets of all children starting from home
- Citizens should build on community trust
- Citizens should recognise those in need and provide where they can
- Engage in regular community meetings to strengthen community unity and trust

Ultimately, the above was compiled into a feasible community action plan on which we are currently working on in consultation with the Councillor of Katutura-East to improve the conditions in the community. This action plan will be presented to the community participants for their input and commitment to act. This is a step towards hopefully more interventions and the wider aim of bringing the project to the national arena (especially rural communities) for holistic and sustainable national development planning.

List of Participants

Name	Designation
Ndinelao Haimbili	
Johanna Titus	
Sem Nangaku	
Tulonga Mulunga	
Maria Mulunga	
Ermina Martin	
Teopliina Kakuwa	
Ambrosius Witbooi	
Sophia Namwandi	
Simon Kauta	
Eransina Kandjingu	
Patrick Sam	
Nenad Tomic	UNICEF
Albert Handurge	
Kardina Nenkavu	
Suama Magnaem Shilongo	
Jonah Hashipala	
Martha K Tshehama	National Planning Commission
Mwangala Wamuwi	
Aili Ndumbu	
Veikko Nekundi	Member of Parliament
Monika k. Sheefeni	City of Windhoek, Community Development
Ruben Sheehama	Katutura-East constituency office, Councillor
Titus Andreas	
Joseph Nambundunga	
Festus Fillipus	
Kiki Ghebo	UNDP
Anna Tsuses	
Paulina Nekongo	
Lazarus Mambo	
Liina . M. Sheehama	
Erna Nowases	
Betuel Moses	
Aisha Sirgid Gideon	
Granville Swartzs	
Martha. M. Amwek	
Joe Indongpo	
Eveline Kalume	
Anna Nghisheefa	
Maria Shaalifeni	
Frieda David	
Andreas Abner	
Tangi Nekwaya	
Kennedy Simon	
Tessa Mambo	
Otilia Moses	
Victoria Sem	
Eugene Tjombumbu	
Lowbousky Kaakishu	
Renathe Skrywer	
Eotia Goagoses	
Teopolina Kamati	
Michael Mulunga	Young Achievers