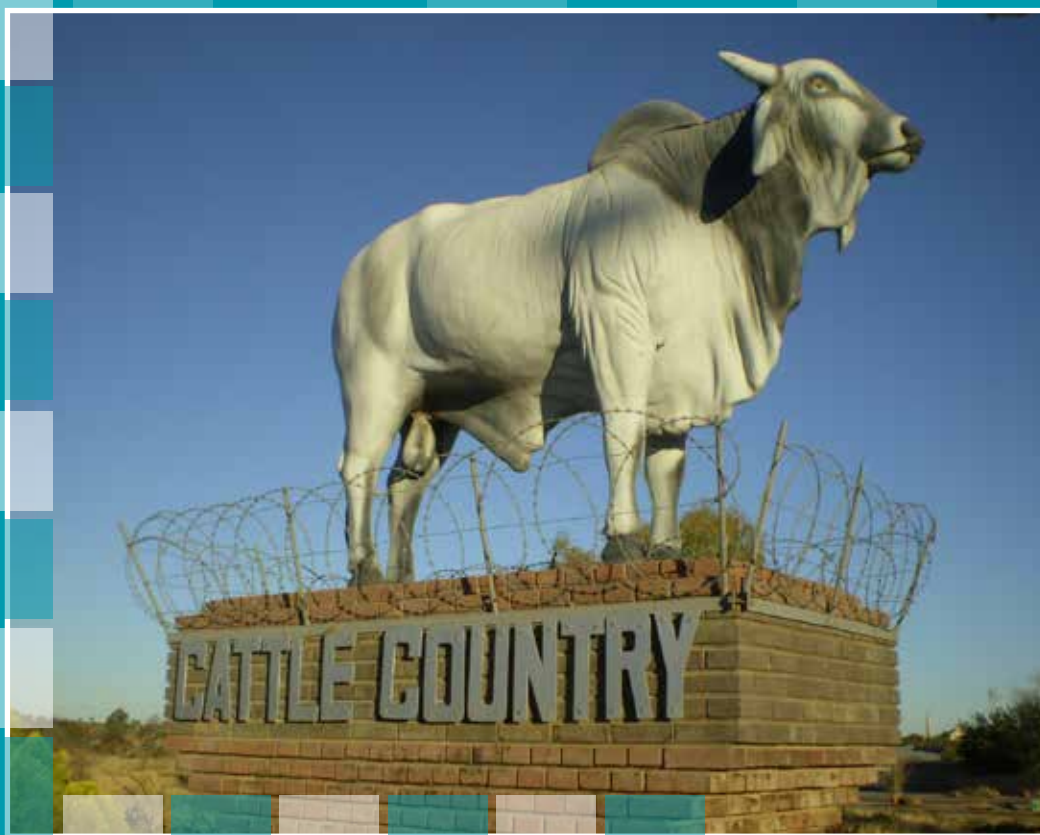
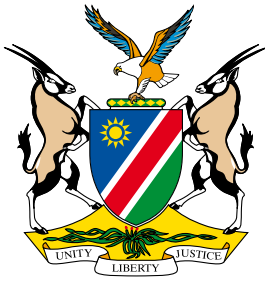


OMAHEKE REGIONAL



Development Profile



OMAHKEKE REGIONAL



Development Profile

**Omaheke Regional Council
Private Bag 2277
Gobabis
11th December 2015**

Foreword



The Regional Development Profile was the result of a realization by the National Planning Commission that planning and budgeting cannot be effective without making reference to a Regional Profile that encapsulates the needs and opportunities that each region has.

The Regional Development Profile has the dimensions of overseeing institutions operating in the region, inspecting the social services rendered by them, examining what infrastructure is available as well as capitalizing on any economic opportunities that allow healthy competition among the various regions. Development of this profile was possible with the constant support of the National Planning Commission, which made available guidelines and staff utilized to facilitate the formulation of the Regional Development Profile.

The Regional Development Profile is compiled to serve the needs of the entire region rather than a particular institution such as the Omaheke Regional Council. Thus, the correctness of the content therein is a joint effort based on the knowledge captured from all public and private institutions, citizens of the region and those who intend to make constructive contributions towards regional development. All necessary amendments and improvement of the content should be embraced by all and communicated continuously.

The Omaheke Regional Development Profile will primarily provide information, and furthermore will serve as:

- A guideline for decision and policy makers;
- A source of information for the donor community, civil society and potential investors;
- A tool that will guide and support the budget system for the regions;
- Planning framework for the region.

The Regional Development Profile will be a guiding framework which will align with the National Development Plan's (NDP) set goals and its key economic priorities of logistics, tourism, manufacturing and agriculture.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized, overlapping loops and lines.

Hon. Ignatius Kariseb
Chairperson: Omaheke Regional Council

Executive Summary

Omaheke (meaning “sandy” in Otjiherero) is one of the 14 political regions of Namibia. It is situated on the eastern part of Namibia bordering Botswana along the 21 E Longitude. It is a vast region with a total land surface area of 84 612 km² which comprises 10.3 per cent of the country’s land surface. Omaheke has a population of approximately 71 233 people, which comprises 3.4 per cent of the Namibia’s population (National Census 2011).

Omaheke Region borders the Otjozondjupa region in the north and north-west, the Khomas Region to the west, and the Hardap Region to the south-west.

Its border with Botswana in the east lends itself to vast open savannas, which leads to ideal game viewing opportunities. These have resulted in the establishment of many tourism safaris and the development of a multitude of game farms in the area, all of which greatly contribute to Namibia’s ever growing tourism industry. Furthermore, the region serves as the hunting capital of the country, and every year between June and August hunters flock to the region to collect their trophy kills.

The majority of the western, central and south-western Omaheke is occupied by privately-owned freehold farms comprising around 900 households. Within the whole Omaheke region there are 924 locales in communal/rural areas with most of them being traditional villages.

The climate of the greater parts of the region can be described as arid to sub-arid with hot summers and cool to warm winters.

The rainfall decreases in the south-westerly direction, but overall it is quite variable from year to year. The southern part of the region has a mean annual rainfall of 99 – 402 mm, which can be expected 99 per cent of the time, while the central part varies from 179 – 587 mm.

Despite its many opportunities Omaheke region has mainly identified three prominent economic activities that have comparative and competitive advantage: livestock production, transport and logistics, and natural resources.

The President of the Republic of Namibia has appointed the Regional Governors as the Heads of Government in each respective region, whereas the Regional Councils have elected Chairpersons to serve as the political heads of the regions.

Omaheke Region has seven constituencies (Otjombinde, Kalahari, Okorukambe, Epukiro, Gobabis, Otjinene and Aminuis) headed by elected Regional Councilors. The region has one town (Gobabis) and three villages (Leonardville, Otjinene and Witvlei) that are proclaimed local authority areas and eight recognised Traditional Authorities from different communities who serve as advisers to the President on land issues and other traditional matters. The regional seat is at Gobabis, which is 200 km from the capital city, Windhoek.

Public service delivery is executed through different line ministries while the Omaheke Regional Council coordinates the planning and development of program activities in the Region. Most of the public offices in the region operate in Gobabis, though some are further decentralized at grassroots level.

The region has one District Referral Hospital, namely Gobabis State Hospital, as well as one Health Centre and 13 Clinics. Additionally there is a private health centre, three private clinics, three private consulting practices (with two more in the pipeline) and one dental practice. There are three pharmacies in the region with an additional two being planned. The health system has achieved a TB treatment success rate of 94 per cent - above the 90 per cent as per WHO assessment, and furthermore has made available ART through IMAI at all 14 health facilities.

The region has 42 schools and 19 750 learners and has improved its national performance ranking over the last two years. Regarding social welfare, about 4% (2700) of the population of Omaheke region are people with disability. In 2011, 7% of the total population was 60 years and older (National Census Report, 2011). Of all children under 18 years of age, about 19% (6000) children are classified as OVC. As a result, the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare, Ministry of Veterans Affairs, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, Ministry of Youth and various civic organizations all render assistance to the communities through safety networks and project support.

The various infrastructures which are available to support the regional development range from energy, information communication technology, water and sanitation, housing, and transportation. The following key economic activities are fundamental pillars of the region economy, namely the Trans Kalahari Corridor, agriculture, tourism, manufacturing, industrial development, mining, and natural resources.

The region will promote all efforts towards these activities in order to achieve comparative advantage, taking into account the various institutions the region has available, so as to propel regional economic growth and services offered.

Acknowledgement



The Omaheke Regional Council would, firstly, like to acknowledge the National Planning Commission (NPC) for facilitating the formulation of this Regional Development Profile through their support and guidance. This Profile will serve as a reference document for planning purposes aimed at driving the Omaheke region to prosperity.

The region enacted the initiative by establishing and consolidating structures such as a higher level, implementation committee and sector committees that tirelessly collected information about the region surrounding the core institutional, social, economic and infrastructure sectors. Deserved credit is due to all regional structures mentioned above, including the consulted stakeholders who sacrificed their time and energy towards developing the Regional Development Profile

Omaheke Regional Council would like to acknowledge the different writers, researchers and historians that published information used to compile the Omaheke Regional Development Profile.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Maria Vaendwanawa', written over a horizontal line.

Maria Vaendwanawa
Acting Chief Regional Officer

Table of content

ACRONYMS	8
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION TO OMAHEKE REGION	9
1.1 Introduction	9
1.2 Governance and Planning Structures	10
1.3 The Vision	11
1.4 Methodology	11
CHAPTER 2: KEY STATISTICS	12
CHAPTER 3: REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AREAS	14
3.1 Economic Sector	14
3.1.1 Agriculture	14
3.1.2 Forestry	15
3.1.3 Trade and Industrial Development	16
3.1.4 Tourism	17
3.1.5 Fisheries and Marine Resources	19
3.1.6 Mining	19
3.1.7 Road Infrastructures	19
3.1.8 Energy	21
3.1.9 Water and Sanitation Provision	22
3.1.10 Information Communication Technology	25
3.1.11 Sport Facilities	25
3.2 Social Sector	25
3.2.1 Housing	25
3.2.2 Availability of Plots in Towns and Settlements	26
3.2.3 Health	26
3.2.4 Access to Water and Sanitation	33
3.2.5 Lands and Resettlement	33
3.2.6 Education and Training	35
3.2.7 Early Childhood Development	38
3.2.8 Law and Justice	39
3.2.9 Community and Rural Development	39
3.2.10 Social Services	40
3.3 Institutional Services	41
CHAPTER 4: REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	42
4.1 Introduction	42
4.2 Kalahari Constituency	43
4.3 Otjinene Constituency	46
4.4 Otjombinde Constituency	48
4.5 Gobabis Constituency	52

4.6	Okorukambe Constituency	56
4.7	Epukiro Constituency	61
4.8	Aminuis Constituency	63
CHAPTER 5:	REGIONAL COMPARATIVE AND COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES	69
5.1	Livestock production	69
5.2	Transport and Logistics	70
5.3	Development of natural resources	72
BIBLIOGRAPHY		74

Acronyms

AIDS	Acquired immune deficiency syndrome
ART	Anti-retroviral therapy
BH	Borehole
CENORED	Central North Regional Electricity Distributor Company (Pty) LTD
COSDEC	Community Skills Development Centre
CDC	Constituency Development Committee
CACOC	Constituency Aids Coordinating Committee
DoE	Directorate of Education
EMIS	Education Management Information System
ECD	Early Childhood Development
Ha	Hectare
HAART	High Active Anti-retroviral Programme
HIS	Health Information System
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HHs	Households
ICT	Information Communication Technology
JSC	Junior Secondary Certificate
Kv	Kilo volt
MAWF	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MGECW	Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare
MLR	Ministry of Lands Reform
MoHSS	Ministry of Health and Social Services
MoLSW	Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare
NDP	National Development Plan
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organization
NHIES	National Household Income and Expenditure Survey
NSA	Namibia Statistics Agency
NSSC	National Senior Secondary Certificate
NYCS	National Youth Credit Scheme
ORC	Omaheke Regional Council
OSBP	One Stop Border Post
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
OTF	Omaheke Trade Fair
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission
RACOC	Regional Aids Coordinating Committee
RDCC	Regional Development Coordinating Committee
RUWIS	Rural Water Information System
SADC	Southern Africa Development Communities
TB	Tuberculoses
WHO	World Health Organization
WP	Water Point

Chapter 1:

Introduction to the Omaheke Region

1.1 Introduction

Omaheke (meaning “sandy” in Otjiherero) is one of the 14 political regions of Namibia. It is situated on the eastern part of Namibia bordering Botswana. It is a vast region with a total land surface area of 84 612 sq. km which is 10.3% of the country’s land surface. Omaheke has a population of approximately 71 233 people which comprises 3.4% of the Namibia’s population. (National Census 2011)

Omaheke Region borders the Otjozondjupa region to the north and north-west and, the Khomas Region to the west, and the Hardap Region to the south-west. The majority of the western, central and south-western Omaheke is occupied by privately owned freehold farms comprising around 900 households. There are 924 locales within communal/rural areas in the entirety of Omaheke, the majority of them being traditional villages.

The climate of the greater parts of the region can be described as arid to sub-arid with hot summers and cool to warm winters. Rainfall decreases in the south-westerly direction, but overall it is quite variable from year to year. The southern part of the region has a mean annual rainfall of 99 – 402 mm, which can be expected 99% of the time, while the central part varies from 179 – 587 mm.

The hottest temperatures, being just below 40 degrees Celsius, are recorded during November and December. The most representative of daily summer temperatures range between 17 degrees Celsius and 32 degree Celsius, most commonly in January. The lowest mean daily winter temperatures of approximately 2.5 degree Celsius to 22 degree Celsius are recorded in July. Parts of Omaheke, especially in the north, have between one day to a maximum of five days of frost per annum, whereas most of the southern parts can have more than ten days of frost.

Despite the unfavorable temperature of the central Nama-Karoo Basin that is flanked by the Namib Desert in the west and the Kalahari Desert and shrub savanna in the east, The Omaheke region has the advantage of showcasing the Sperrgebiet area in the south-western corner of the region, which is an internationally recognised hotspot for biodiversity and area of conservation importance.

Its border with Botswana in the east lends itself to vast open savannas, which is ideal for game viewing opportunities. This has resulted in the establishment of a multitude of tourism safaris and the development of a variety of game farms in the area, all of which contribute greatly to Namibia’s ever growing tourism industry. The region also serves as the hunting capital of the country, and every year between the months of June and August hunters flock to the region to collect their trophy kills.

Omaheke Region is characterized by bush-encroachment which affects grazing, and negatively affects under-ground water availability, making the region vulnerable to uncontrolled veld fires during the hottest temperatures and increases annual evaporation rates in the Omaheke region.

All factors considered, this profile document aims to highlight the institutional arrangements, social sector development, infrastructure development and economic potential which can be leveraged in order to capitalize upon the identified comparative advantages of the region.

1.2 Governance and Planning Structures

1.2.1 Regional governance structures

The President of the Republic of Namibia appoints Regional Governors as Heads of Government in each region, whereas a Chairperson is elected as the head of the Regional Council.

In Omaheke the seven regional councilors form the Regional Council as a governing body from which a chairperson is elected. In addition, at local level there are four local authorities, namely Gobabis, Witvlei, Leonardville and Otjinene. There are eight recognized Traditional Authorities from different communities who serve as advisors to the President on land issues and other traditional matters.

1.2.2 Regional coordinating structures

The regional coordinating structures are vital pillars that, in accordance with the decentralization policy, involve all of the various stakeholders in the planning, development and administration of the region, with the aim of bringing services closer to the people. The following committees are operational in the region:

1.2.2.1 Regional Development Coordinating Committee

The Regional Development Coordinating Committee (RDCC) is chaired by the Chief Regional Officer and intends to bring heads of line ministries, non-governmental organizations, community based organizations as well representatives from constituency development committees together to provide technical support to the recommended development plans for the region. The committee meets quarterly for the purpose of planning and monitoring of the implementation of the Regional Development Plan.

1.2.2.2 Constituency Development Committees

A Constituency Development Committee (CDC) is established at constituency level and comprises representatives of institutions operating within each constituency. CDC meetings are chaired by the Regional Councilor of the Constituency. The primary mandate of a CDC is to identify the needs of the constituency and submit the plan to the Regional Council for inclusion in the Regional Development Plan by the RDCC, as well as for the monitoring of projects implemented at constituency level.

1.2.2.3 Settlement Development Committees

A Settlement Development Committee (SDC) is established for each declared Settlement area and is tasked with coordinating the administration and development of the settlements. The committee is chaired by the chief administrative officer. The SDC assists the settlement office with the planning and development of the settlements.

1.2.2.4 Village Development Committee

A Village Development Committee is established in each proclaimed village (i.e. at Leonardville, Otjinene and Witvlei) for the purpose of ensuring proper planning and development of the respective Village for the benefit of all residents. It is chaired by Chairperson of the Village Council.

1.2.2.5 Regional Disaster Risk Management Committee

A Regional Disaster Risk Management Committee is established for managing disasters (i.e. drought, floods) in the region. The Committee brings together Regional Councilors and ministries that render support in any such disasters. The meeting is chaired by the Chairperson of the Regional Council. The Office of the Prime Minister renders significant financial and material support to the Disaster Risk Management Programme.

1.2.2.6 Regional AIDS Coordination Committee and Constituency AIDS Coordinating Committee

Both of these committees coordinate HIV and AIDS interventions at the regional and constituency levels and are chaired by the Chairperson of the Regional Council and the Regional Councilors of each constituency respectively.

1.3 The vision of the region is

“To be a united, wealthy and sustainable region”

1.4 Methodology

The information contained in this profile was completed utilizing the following various approaches and instruments:

- Meetings with Stakeholders through the establishment of subsector committees;
- Face to face interviews with various heads or representatives of the subsectors;
- Desktop Studies based on the different sector reports (i.e. National Census for 2011).

Chapter 2:

Key statistics

Table 1 below depicts the demographic characteristics and trends of Omaheke region from 2001 to 2011 in relation to national standing.

According to the 2011 population census there are 71 233 inhabitants in Omaheke (which comprises 3.4% of Namibia's population), of which 37 217 are male and 34 015 female. This represents an annual population growth rate increase of 0.5% since the last census in 2001. About 70% of the population in Omaheke resides in rural areas while 30% are based in urban areas. The population density is very low and currently stands at 0.8% persons/km².

A total of 66% of the households are headed by males while 34% are headed by females. The main languages spoken in the region are Otjiherero representing 42%, followed by Nama/Damara at 28%, Afrikaans 10%, San 5%, and the remaining representing 15%. According the labour survey of 2014, the rate of unemployment in Namibia stood at 28.1% while for Omaheke it stands at 26.9%. The Omaheke has 42.3% unemployed females compared to a 15.2% unemployment rate for males.

Omaheke, with its total population of 71 233, is estimated to have 16 174 households, with an average household being made up of 4.3 persons. There are more males than females, as shown in the table below. Out of the total population of the region 65.4% are younger than 29 years.

Table 1: Demographic characteristics of Omaheke Region

	Namibia 2011	Omaheke 2011	Omaheke 2001
Population size	2 113 077	71 233	68 039
Females	1 091 165	34 016	32 484
Males	1 021 912	37 217	35 554
Annual growth rate (%)	1.4%	0.5%	2.5%
% in Urban areas	43%	30%	28%
% in Rural areas	57%	70%	72%
Main Language Spoken at home	%	% Household	%
Otjiherero	9%	42%	39%
Afrikaans	10%	10%	12%
Nama/Damara	11%	28%	27%
San	-	5%	7%
Head of household	%	% Percentage	% Percentage
Females	44%	34%	33%
Males	56%	66%	67%
Average households size	4.4	4.3	5.3

Literacy rate	%	%	%
15years+	89%	73%	67%
Education – 15 years +	%	%	%
Never attended school	13%	29%	33%
Currently at school	17%	10%	12%
Left school	66%	58%	51%
Labour Force 15 years +	%	%	%
In Labour force	66%	65%	55%
Employed	63%	61%	76%
Unemployed	37%	40%	24%
Outside labour force	29%	24%	41%
Student	52%	34%	26%
Home maker	15%	28%	55%
Retired/ too old	27%	38%	19%
Housing conditions	%	%	%
HH with safe water	80%	85%	89%
HH with no toilet facility	49%	60%	62%
HH with electricity	42%	33%	28%
Wood/Charcoal for cooking	54%	73%	76%
Main Source of income	%	%	%
HH main Income: Farming	16%	22%	28%
HH main Income: Wages and salaries	48%	49%	45%
HH main income: Cash remittance	5%	6%	7%
HH main income: Business (non-farming)	12%	7%	6%
HH main income: Pension	15%	13%	9%
People with Disability	5%	4%	4%

The conditions of poverty in Omaheke have continued to be above national average taking into account the comparative analysis from the Namibia Households Income and Expenditure surveys of 1993/94, 2003/04 and 2009/10. According to the NSA (2012), the table below illustrates the poverty level of households within the region compared to the national standing. Monthly consumption was calculated at N\$145.88, N\$262.45 and N\$377.96 over the abovementioned survey periods.

Table 2: Poverty analysis of Omaheke

No.	Period	Namibia	Omaheke
1	1993/4	69.3	76.5
2	2003/4	37.7	41.1
3	2009/10	28.7	31.1

Chapter 3:

Regional Developmental Areas

3.1 Economic sector

3.1.1 Agriculture

Omaheke is a net exporter of beef and operates in a fiercely competitive market which determines sales prices. The region ensures that the production chain is passed on to the producer primarily through its two abattoirs (i.e. Gobabis Abattoir and Witvlei Meat), as well as several auction facilities that are situated along the Trans Kalahari Highway and constituencies.

One of Omaheke Region's intentions is to become the beef basket of Namibia by specializing in the production and processing beef and by-products. This is in line with government policies of ensuring that value is added to products produced within the country, rather than solely exporting cattle on-hoof which leads to the re-import of cattle by-products that originated from Namibia.

The region has a well-known and prosperous agricultural industry comprised mainly of cattle, goat and sheep farming. In 2001, 28% of the households in Omaheke Region reported farming as their main source of income. That figure was reduced to 22% in 2011.

Table 3: Livestock population by inspection district (Livestock Census 2014)

Inspection district	Cattle	Karakul	Dorper	Other sheep	Boerbok	Other goats
Gobabis	133 568	5 168	58 511	41 683	33 609	4 590
Otjinene	99 127	0	0	2 065	7 341	0
Epukiro	52 002	0	0	12 604	100	21 700
Rietfontein	46 526	0	0	5 520	1 408	0
Eiseb	21 600	0	0	0	0	2100
Gam	32 912	0	0	0	0	1980
Aminuis	19 157	148	10 300	5 084	22 842	0
Total	404 892	5 316	68 811	66 956	65 300	30 370

The regional economy is driven by a strong livestock sector operating in both commercial and communal areas. According to the Meat Board Census of 2005 Omaheke Region had 334 846 head of cattle. During the 2012-2014 yearly census of the Directorate of Veterinary Services, figures reduced from 454 058 to 404 892. The key factor for reduction is attributed to the drought of 2013/14.

3.1.2 Forestry

Forest fire management, beekeeping management, tree planting, orchard development and community based forest management, amongst others, have been implemented by the sector.

The potential for forestry activities has proven to be enormous. Omaheke holds potential for development into one of the leading wood production regions in the country. It is dominated by different trees and shrub species with both economic and social values. The vegetation distribution is respectable but varies from place to place, with less woody trees concentrated in the southern and western part of the region.

a) Bush encroachment

The region faces a bush encroachment problem, affecting both commercial and communal areas. The most prolific bush encroaching species are *Acacia Mellifera*, *Terminalia Sericea*, and *Prosopis Glandulosa*. These species have the propensity of displacing other plant species, including grasses, and convert biologically productive open savanna land into wastelands. Although these species are regarded as problematic, there are economic values attached.

Bush encroachment has serious economic implications both in the Forestry and Agriculture sectors. As a result, the region has experienced a decline in plant diversity as well as livestock production due to loss of grassland. However, farmers in the region, especially in commercial areas, are using all means available to control bush encroachment via de-bushing. By so doing, jobs are created for unemployed youth in the region, which has resulted in a decline of stock theft, alcohol abuse and other such societal issues.

b) Economical Tree Species

In the Black-Nossob River one may find the lush, green invasive species *Prosopis Glandulosa*, which has encroached entire riverbeds and displaces other tree and shrub species. The species is known to produce a high quality timber and there are a few mini saw-mills in the area of Leonardville. The species is also used for firewood and charcoal and produces very light embers.

In the central, eastern and northern part of the region medicinal plants can be found which promote indigenous knowledge. The Devils Claw is known to treat varying diseases and has been harvested and marketed worldwide. The *Diospyros Lycioides*, which is significant for oral hygiene, has traditionally been used by local people as a tooth brush.

Terminalia Sericea is mostly found in the Otjinene area, with density of 2.40cm³/ha. The species is known to have a high calorific value and produces quality coal and wood. The species has been harvested through de-bushing for poles, droppers and charcoal. In the past five years a total of 349 049 droppers and 60 469 poles, mainly from *Terminalia*, were harvested for domestic and commercial use.

Acacia Erioloba (Camel Thorn) is found in all parts of the region and is known to have a high caloric value. It produces a high quality coal and firewood and is in high demand. Pods are harvested, processed and mixed with animal fodder for nutritional purposes.

c) Wood (charcoal and firewood) production

Commercial farms utilise de-bushing primarily to improve grazing capacity. The removed materials (bushes) are processed into charcoal. The production has been recorded as increasing over the past five years with 59,014 tonnages of charcoal extracted and exported to neighboring countries and overseas. There are about 70 charcoal producers in the region, all in commercial areas.

In all parts of the region there are quite a large number of large, dried trees which are dying due to natural causes. The region makes use of all natural resources, and as such these dried, dead trees are harvested for firewood production. For the past five years the region has recorded a total of 94,969 tons of firewood extracted and marketed both locally and internationally.



Firewood production in Aminuis area

d) Seedlings production

Currently, there are five government nurseries in the region: Gobabis nursery, Ben-Hur, Drimiopsis, Otjinene and Tallismanus nurseries, as well as two community nurseries in Epukiro and Toasis. These government nurseries were established primarily for demonstrative purposes. At these facilities, seedlings are raised from seeds or through propagation. The Directorate of Forestry grows various indigenous and exotic tree species for both fruit and shade purposes. The region, however, suffers from frost during winter season, making the environment unsuitable for growing species such as Mangirefa Indica and Psidium Quajava. The Directorate of Forestry offers training to communities on nursery techniques.

3.1.3 Trade and industrial development

3.1.3.1 Support programme

The Ministry of Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development is in the process of implementing a number of programmes in the region which shall support trade and SME development. These include:

The Business Support Services Program (BSSP) which provides support to SMEs in terms of Feasibility Studies, Business Plans and entrepreneurial capacity building (including mentorship services).

Industrial Parks, which include industrial and SME parks, business centres and SME Modules. This programme aims to provide an affordable and easily accessible marketplace and operating space for local entrepreneurs and SMEs, who may use these areas to sell and market their services. The facilities are administered by a joint committee of NDC/MTISD. The majority of entrepreneurs and SMEs occupying these stalls operate in the tailoring industry.

There are three industrial parks established in the region promoting the marketing of products. Two are located in Gobabis and one in Otjinene. The region has three functional SME modules located in Gobabis Town Centre, Epako and Otjinene, which have respectively 42, 32 and 12 units where SMEs are conducting their businesses.

The **Equipment Aid Scheme (EAS)** procures production machineries and equipment for supply to needful SMEs in the manufacturing sector. The SME Entrepreneurial Skills Development programme provides services through sponsorships for SMEs in terms of participation in specialized training, exposure visits, conferences and seminars, trade fairs, and product development

3.1.3.2 Manufacturing

Development of manufacturing in Omaheke region is a key focal point. Although executed at a relatively small scale and with little export impact, the following manufacturing activities do take place in Omaheke region: production of silk, leather processing, charcoal, firewood, joinery, arts and craft, clothing, metal works/steel, construction materials, bricks and Interlocking solutions and vehicle modification (i.e. Uri Cars)

3.1.4 Tourism

3.1.4.1 Introduction

Namibia is experiencing a boom in tourism and is ranked as the fourth fastest growing tourism destination in the world. In 2012, tourism (mostly cultural) accounted for 19.7% of Namibia's employment statistics. As **Omaheke** means "*sandveld*", which is derived from being situated in the western parts of the Kalahari Desert, the region is ideal for 4x4 routes, dune hiking and walking trails, amongst other such activities. Omaheke Region's capital centre Gobabis serves as an important tourism gateway between the SADC Countries. It links to one of the most important tourism routes, the Trans Kalahari Highway, which connects the Omaheke Region with the Okavango Delta and the rest of Namibia.

In summary, Omaheke's tourism attractions focus on culture, cultural landscapes, values and lifestyle, heritage, visual and performing arts, traditions and leisure pursuits of the host community. Omaheke has been identified as having great potential to diversify Namibia's overall tourism product.

Omaheke has 43 tourism establishments, mainly guest/hunting farms on commercial land and accommodation establishments in Gobabis. The guest/hunting farms are known for trophy hunting and an annual meat festival that attracts many tourists. See Annexure 4.

3.1.4.2 National heritage and culture programmes

Various programmes initiated by the Directorate of National Heritage and Culture have been undertaken in order to encourage Namibians from all cultural backgrounds to take part in nation building activities and show mutual respect and understanding for each other. Additionally, the establishment of processes and networks to develop Namibians' material and spiritual culture, to establish and maintain links beyond national borders and to contribute towards human culture development and international understanding are required. The Directorate organizes cultural activities, cultural exchange activities, workshops, conferences and training programmes, exhibitions and culture and heritage conservation activities.

3.1.4.3 Culture, people and heritage

Omaheke region, like other regions in Namibia, has different ethnic groups such as the Herero/Ovambanderu, Tswana, Kavango, Ovambo, San and Damara/Nama. Cultural festivals are held every year from constituency to regional level where different groups showcase their traditional dress, dancing, and rituals.



Picture 1: Herero woman in their traditional red/green attire

Picture 2: Setswana men and woman in their traditional attire

Picture 3: San people performing traditional play

3.1.4.4 Traditional Housing and Transport

The traditional mode of transport of the inhabitants of the region used to be donkey cart and horses. Today, due to modernization, cars are mostly used. There remains a need to safeguard the tradition of using donkey carts and horses especially at festivals in order to permeate the culture to the youth of today.

3.1.4.5 Historical Places

Ozombu Zovindimba in Otjinene is one of the historical places of significance. Many Herero people died after their wells were poisoned by the German soldiers under the leadership of Von Trotha in 1904. The Ministry of Youth, National Service Sport and Culture, through the Millennium Development Goals – Fund, developed the area so that it can assist in attracting tourists to the region while also benefiting the community by preserving and conserving their cultural heritage.

3.1.4.6 Religious beliefs

Although it is assumed that Christianity is the predominant religion in the region, a number of people such as members of the Herero and Ovambanderu still practice the art of holy fire as their way of communicating to God through their ancestors.

3.1.5 Fisheries and Marine Resources

Omaheke region does not have a competitive edge in the fisheries and marine resources subsectors, however to diversify the economy two programmes are being implemented in the region. These are aquaculture for fish production and processing located at Leonardville, and a fish shop in Gobabis for the promotion and distribution of fish.

3.1.6 Mining

Although there are no major mining activities taking place in the region, several companies are carrying out prospecting of the following minerals to determine their economic potential:

Table 4: Minerals found in Omaheke

Resource	Constituency
Base metal & Rare Metals: Cooper, Zinc, Iron, Nickel, Lead	Epukiro, Otjombinde, Okorukambe, Kalahari
Dimension stones: Limestone, Marble, Sandstone, clay and Gravel etc.	Aminuis, Epukiro, Otjinene & Otjombinde Kalahari, Gobabis
Semi-precious stones: Rose, smoky quartz, amethyst, agate, etc.	Gobabis, Kalahari Aminuis

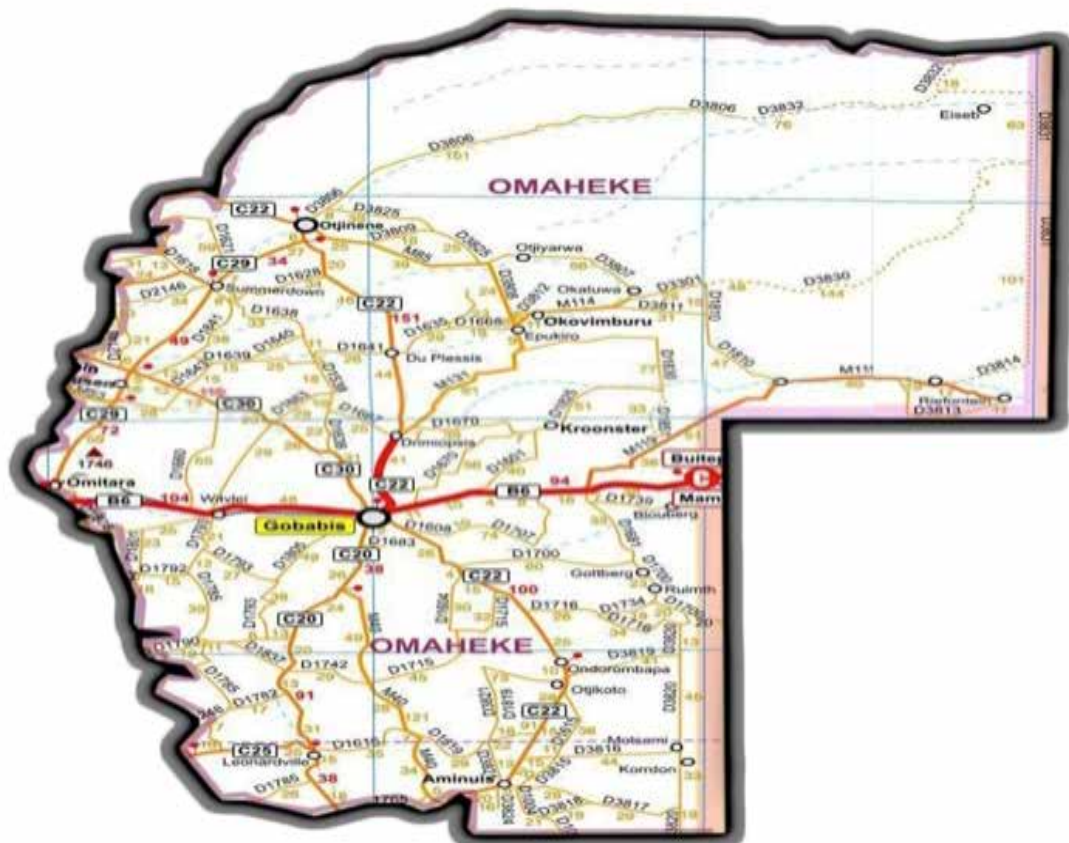
3.1.7 Road infrastructure

3.1.7.1 Roads and airstrip infrastructure

Omaheke is at an advantageous position due to hosting the Trans-Kalahari Highway; however the region needs to upgrade more road infrastructure to bitumen

standards. Table 5 below illustrates road types in the different constituencies.

The Trans-Kalahari Highway notably comprises a tarred road linking the Port of Walvis Bay with Botswana as well as the industrial powerhouse of South Africa, Gauteng. The Corridor stretches over 1,900 km along Walvis Bay-Windhoek-Gaborone-Johannesburg/Pretoria. It is supported by a railway line from the Port of Walvis Bay to Gobabis (via Windhoek), where trans-shipment facilities are available, and continues from Lobatse in Botswana. The map below shows clearly the roads between constituencies in the region.



Based on the table below the region has tarred road (T) estimated at length of 470.05 km, main road (M) of 1266.42 and district/gravel road (D) of 3178.29 kilometers. The total length of all proclaimed roads in Omaheke is 4914.76 kilometers. There are five airstrips in the region at different locations.

Table 5: Types of roads by Constituency and availability of airstrip

Constituency	Type of roads	Availability of airstrip
Aminuis	M – 3, D – 16, T-1	1
Epukiro	M- 1, D- 7, T- 0	1
Gobabis	M- 2, D- 2, T- 3	1
Otjombinde	M- 1, D- 5, T- 0	1
Okorukambe	M- 6, D- 18, T-1	0
Kalahari	M-4, D-15, T- 2	0
Otjinene	M-1, D-3, T-1	1

3.1.7.2 Railway Infrastructure

Trans Namib operates only one railway for a length of 220 kilometers that runs from Gobabis via Witvlei and Omitara, to Windhoek. Cargos are handled at Gobabis and Omitara stations. It is envisaged that Trans-Kalahari Railway to Botswana will be constructed to complement the existing railway system, which will boost the regional economy.

3.1.8 Energy

According to the 2011 Census report, approximately 73% of the communities in the Omaheke region use wood/charcoal for cooking and heating and only 33% use electricity. There are two service providers providing electricity in the region. The first, NamPower, has five substations of which two have a capacity of 132 Kv each, while the remaining three each operate at a capacity of 66 Kv. Secondly CENORED, which is an agent of Omaheke Regional Council, has approximately 93 transformers of different capacities supplying more than 2 539 total customers with over 6 756.54 MWh of electricity per annum. By 2014, the Ministry of Mines and Energy has, through the rural electrification programme, energized most of the villages in the rural areas. Solar energy is used minimally and ways to promote the use thereof need to be explored further.

Table 6: Electricity: NamPower

Constituency	Source	Substation	Capacity [kv]
Okorukambe	Bismarck	Witvlei	66kv
Gobabis	Bismarck	Gobabis	66kv
Kalahari	Auas-Omaere	Omaere	132kv
Otjombinde	Auas-Omaere	De Hoek	132kv
Okorukambe	Bismarck	Omaheke	66kv

Table 7: Number of transformers in Omaheke Region per Constituency: CENORED

Constituency	500kva	315kva	200kva	100kva	50kva	32kva	25kva	Less 25 kva
Kalahari	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	0
Aminuis	0	0	1	11	7	0	0	8
Otjombinde	0	0	0	3	6	0	5	0
Otjinene	0	2	3	4	1	1	2	3
Okorukambe	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0
Epukiro	0	0	3	5	12	5	2	0
Total : per size	1	2	8	25	29	7	10	11

Note: Information of different transformers supplying customers in our operational area of Omaheke. Bear in mind some belong to NamPower, however they are included as they supply the settlements where CENORED operates.

Villages and households that have been energised include, but are not limited to:

Villages energized

- Otjombinde (De Hoek, Oruana, Okaoveni, Prosit, Helena)
- Kalahari (Vergenoeg, Buitepos & Blouberg)
- Epukiro (Kalpan, Otjijarua, Otjimanangombe, Ovinjuru, Okombomi, Okatuuu & Otjiwarongo)
- Aminuis (Otjiungukua, Tugus, Oketoveni)
- Otjinene Okei, (Okonja is planned to be electrified)

250 households electrified with pre-paid meters through CENORED

- Otjinene Village Council (52)
- Aminuis Settlement (34)
- Drimiopsis (40)
- Epukiro Settlement (34)
- Omitara (40)

Schools such as Helena and Donkerbos Primary School were electrified, and the electricity line which shall connect public institutions at Eiseb 10 in the Otjombinde constituency is being constructed.

The Government of the People's Republic of China has donated solar systems, consisting of six solar panels, six controllers, six batteries, six inverter cables, one connector, and 24 bulbs, which were distributed throughout the constituencies to pensioners.

3.1.9 Water and Sanitation provision

The water supply situation in the region is split between two key service providers: the Directorate of Water Supply and Sanitation Coordination, and NamWater.

The Directorate of Water Supply and Sanitation Coordination manages approximately 505 water points in four constituencies, mostly by the use of diesel engines, of which 211 were rehabilitated for communities in order that they might manage themselves. It is also estimated that out of the total water points only 279 water point committees are functional in managing their water points in accordance with the strategy of community-based management. The Directorate of Water Supply and Sanitation Coordination estimates that an additional 146 boreholes in the four communal constituencies run privately without the assistance of Government.

Table 8: Water point establishment in the communal area of Omaheke Region

Constituency	Area	No of WPs: Engines	No of WPs: Pipeline	No of WPs: Wells	No of earth dams
Aminuis	Aminuis	97	2	2	2
Kalahari	Ben-hur	46	82	0	2
Otjombinde	Eiseb	27	4	0	1
Otjombinde	Rietfontein	103	4	0	7
Epukiro	Epukiro	69	2	0	18
Otjinene	Otjinene	66	1	0	13
Total		408	95	2	43

Source: RUWIS 2014

On the sanitation front, of the 500 toilet facilities planned for construction by the Directorate of Water Supply and Sanitation at 24 villages, 294 were completed as per table below:

Table 9: Construction of toilets

Constituency	Toilets planned	Toilets Completed	Villages completed	Villages to be completed
Aminuis	100	100	Oroams, Orevia, Jakkalsdraai	
Otjombinde	108	97	Okatakamurungu, Otjomisaona, Rooibelt, Ondjombo Jorukune	Okaruikombungu
Otjombinde (Eiseb)	60	-	-	Eiseb 1, 2, 3 and 4
Kalahari	80	67	Netso, Emu	Knapdaar
Otjinene	73	27	Oukango, Okonja	Ehungiro, Oukango, Okonja
Epukiro	77	3	Otjozondjima	Otjozondjima, Epukiro Pos 3, Okozondje
Okorukambe	2			Ombiruzu

NamWater, as the bulk water supplier, operates different schemes in six constituencies. The table below indicates the number of sources utilized and quantity of water available for consumption both in the boreholes and storage facilities.

Table 10: NamWater infrastructure in Omaheke Region

Constituency	Scheme	Source	Max Delivery m ³	Average Surplus m ³	Length of pipeline	Storage	Capacity m ³
Epukiro	Epukiro post 3	5 BH	4980	1052	11km	Reservoir	250
						Elevated tanks	82
	Epukiro post 10	6 BH	2415	27	6km	Elevated tanks	60
Otjinene	Otjinene	10BH	18450	4300	20km	Kelk	182
						Reservoir 1	200
						Reservoir 2	500/700
Aminuis	Leonardville	3BH	18000	12523	2.5km	Reservoir	250
						Kelk	182
	Aminuis	2BH	14400	11148	1.5km	Elevated tank	82
	Onderombapa	2BH	5940	2575	0.5km	Elevated tank	82
Otjombinde	Tallismanus		12735	4021	20km	Elevated tank	55
						Reservoir	130
	Lister					Elevated tank	100
	Lister					Reservoir	42
Kalahari	Buitepos	4BH	2700	870	2.5km	Plastic tank	30
						Plastic tank	80
	Erenst Meyer	3BH	2100	300	0.5km	Plastic Tank	60
Okorukambe	Witvlei	3BH	9000	-5898	5km	Reservoir	1000
	Otjivero					Reservoir	100
	Plessis Plaas	2BH	1800	1040	0.2km	Plastic Tank	60

Source: NAMWATER Reports

Omaheke Regional Council has, via the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (MAWF), promoted the construction of the Otjikoto Water Project as well as the much anticipated Eiseb Graben Water Scheme, which is expected to remedy most of the water challenges in the northern part of the Omaheke region. The table below outlines the required boreholes, including their total depth drilled and the recommended yield of each, in order to supply water to the north east of the region.

Table 11: EISEB pipeline scheme in Omaheke Region

Identification number	Total Depth (M)	Date Completed	Recommended Yield (m ³ /h)
WW412023	378	05.07.2004	123
WW41024	300	17.07.2004	2.5
WW41025	244	27.07.2004	<1
WW41026	230	06.08.2004	<1
WW200053	267	29.09.2005	40
WW200054	302	06.10.2005	35
WW200056	249	20.10.2005	3.5

Source: Investigation of the Groundwater Resources in the Eiseb Graben in Namibia with TEM Soundings

3.1.10 Information Communication and Technology

The ICT services in the region depict low access coverage by the communities especially on internet, computers, and television, while noticeable improvement can be seen in the radio and cell phone coverage. The rural constituencies of Aminuis, Otjinene, Otjombinde and Epukiro lags behind with regards to ICT services such as internet, computers and television. The inhabitants of the region receive print media i.e. newspaper on a daily basis, most noticeably to urban areas such as Gobabis.

3.1.11 Sports Facilities

The table below shows the availability of sport facilities in different locations within the region, with Gobabis possessing the most advanced sports complex.

Table 12: Sport facilities in the Region

Places	Sports ground	Capacity	Type of Facilities					
			soccer	netball	volley ball	tennis court	toilets	kiosk
Gobabis	Legare	7000	yes	yes	Yes	Yes	yes	yes
Farm Du Plessis	N/A	2000	Yes	yes	no	no	No	No
Otjinene	N/A	N/A	Yes	yes	No	No	No	No
Epukiro post 10	N/A	N/A	Yes	yes	no	No	No	No
Tallismanus	N/A	N/A	yes	yes	no	No	No	No
Eiseb 10	N/A	N/A	yes	yes	no	No	no	no
Aminuis	N/A	N/A	yes	yes	no	no	no	no
Leonardville	Yes	2000	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

3.2 Social Sector

3.2.1 Housing

According to the 2011 Census, housing in the Omaheke region is comprised mostly of detached houses: 53.7%, semi-detached: 7%, flats: 2.5%, Impoverished (shacks): 18.4, traditional dwelling: 13.9 and single quarters: 1.8%. There are various service providers in the housing industry such as the Regional Council, local authorities, NHE, shack dwellers associations and private developers. To date construction of 1270 build-together houses have been planned, of which 951 have been completed by the Regional Councils and local authorities and 31 by the Ministry. The Ministry of Veteran Affairs provides houses for deserving veterans.

3.2.2 Availability of plots in towns and settlements

Various towns, villages and settlements have all developed erven, some of which are not as yet serviced primarily due to budget constraints.

Table 13: Plots in the towns, villages and settlements

Settlement	Total erven	Serviced	Unserviced	Remarks
Otjinene	760	760	-	Three big blocks for future development to be serviced in 2013 with funds from the Trust Fund. Only 105 erven are unoccupied
Tallismanus	538	351	187	-
Omitara	290	272	18	The Omitara Informal Area has been upgraded, however only erven in the informal area are indicated. The Peri-urban area does not have a General Plan. There is a need for Planning, surveying and servicing of that area.
Aminuis	414	414	-	This was achieved with the assistance from the Trust Fund.
Corridor 13	235	172	63	One big block for future development indicated.
Epukeiro	626	145	481	General Plan not approved. Need to determine the Townland.
Buite Pos	228	98 (Water only)	130	Funds obtained in this financial year. Scoping done. The Tender process will commence soon..
Summer-down	89		89	Was a Peri-urban area with 516 hectares of land that need Planning and Surveying before construction of services.
Gobabis	3 696	3696	0	
Witvlei	433	218	215	
Leonardville	509	285	315	

3.2.3 Health

3.2.3.1 Health Facilities in Omaheke Region

Omaheke region has one District Referral Hospital (namely Gobabis State Hospital), one Health Centre, and 13 Clinics. In addition there is a private health centre, 1 private clinic, 3 private consulting practices with two more in the pipeline and one dental practice. There are three pharmacies in the region with two more in progress.

Gobabis District Hospital:



The 172 bed capacity hospital providing broad range of programmes to deliver services for in-patient and outpatient health care services aligned to match the needs of the communities (curative, health promotion, and rehabilitative services). The hospital has 5 medical officers, 17 Registered Nurses, 28 Enrolled Nurses other professional and support staff.

Otjinene Health Centre:



Health Centers provide health and social services through outpatient with limited in-patient services (patients are kept for 24 hours before discharge or referral to the referral district hospital).

Epako Clinic:



The clinics provide comprehensive primary health care services throughout-patients services (08h00 – 17h00 shifts and available after hours for emergencies). In addition clinics provide outreach services in the catchment areas. All the clinics have Clinic Health Committees that serves as a link between the facility and the community.

The table below illustrates the type of health facilities, locations and the distances from the Gobabis District Hospital.

Table 14: Health Facilities in Omaheke Region & distance from Gobabis and contact details

Constituency	Location	Type	Distance from Gobabis	Contact Details
Aminuis	Aminuis RC	Clinic & Mortuary	183 km	063-273046
	Corridor 13	Clinic	205 km	063-273028
	Onderombapa	Clinic	120 km	063-273001
	Leonardville	Clinic	100 km	062-569120
Gobabis	Gobabis	District Hospital	00km	062-566200
	Gobabis	Private Health Centre	00m	062-563980
	Epako	Clinic	3 km	062-566200
Epukiro	Epukiro Pos 3	Clinic & Mortuary	135 km	062-567478
	Epukiro	Private Clinic	135 km	-
	Otjimanangombe	Clinic	160 km	-
Kalahari	Buitepos	Clinic	113 km	062-560486
Okorukambe	Omitara	Clinic	130 km	062-560300
	Witvlei	Clinic	50 km	062-570090
	Sendingplaas	Clinic	100 km	062-567478
Otjombinde	Tallismanus	Clinic & Mortuary	240 km	062-560570
	Eiseb Block	Clinic	418 km	-
Otjinene	Otjinene	Health Centre	176 km	062-567502

3.2.3.2 Staff/population ratio:

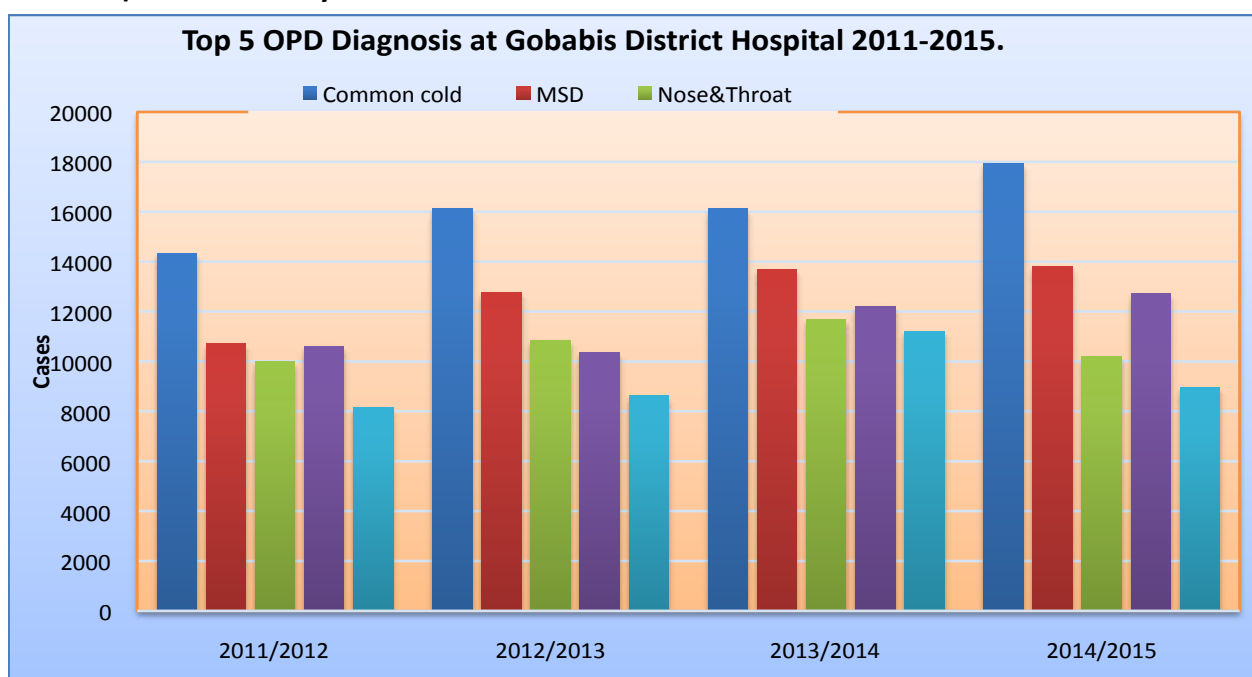
Based on the 2014/15 estimated regional population figure of 72 668, the ratio of registered public sector health professionals in Omaheke Region is indicated in the table below.

Table: 15 Medical staff and population ratio

Professional Category	Number	Number per population
Doctors	6	1: 12 111
Registered Nurses	40	1: 8 167
Enrolled Nurses	60	1: 1 211
Pharmacist	2	1: 36 334
Dentist	1	1: 72 668
Dental Therapist	1	1: 72 668
Social Worker	4	1: 18 167
Environment Health Officer	2	1: 36 334
Ophthalmic Health Officer	1	1: 72 668
Pharmacist Assistant	3	1: 24 222
Radiographer	1	1: 72 668
Radiographer Assistant	1	1: 72 668
Rehabilitation Officer	1	1: 72 668
Rehabilitation Instructor	1	1: 72 668
Rehabilitation Worker	1	1: 72 668
Occupational Therapist	1	1: 72 668

3.2.3.3 Health Status

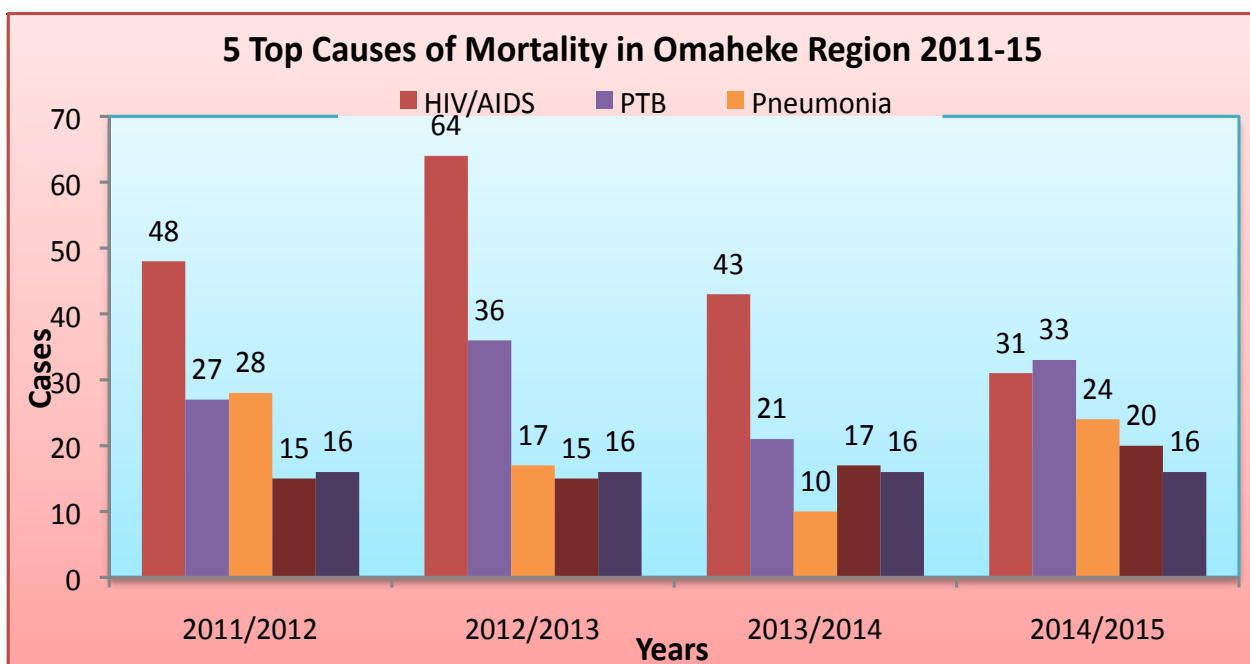
a) Morbidity:



Common cold diagnosis remains the top reason for OPD consultations since 2011 and has been increasing gradually, followed by muscular-skeletal disorders.

b) Mortality:

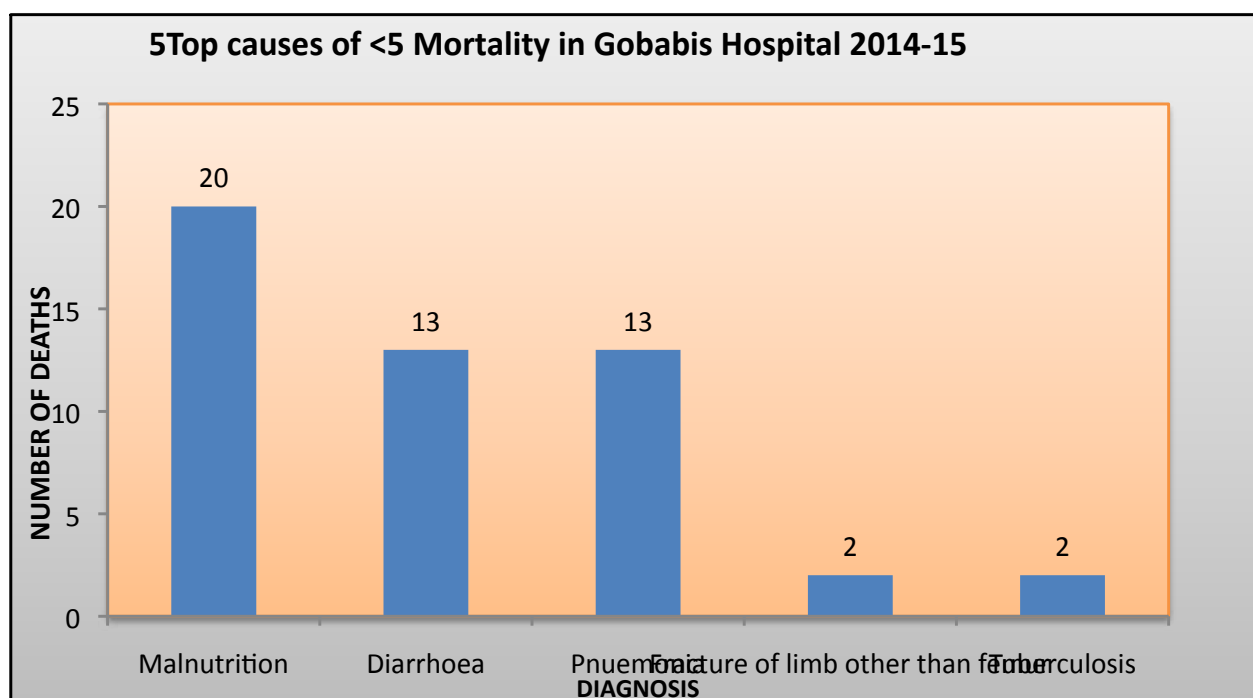
Five top causes of mortality in the Omaheke Region 2011-2015:



There was a rise in HIV deaths until 2012/2013, after which the region has recorded a significant reduction in the number of deaths due to HIV. Similar trends have been registered with PTB. The region has also experienced a high number of deaths attributable to malnutrition which has progressively been registered as an upward trend.

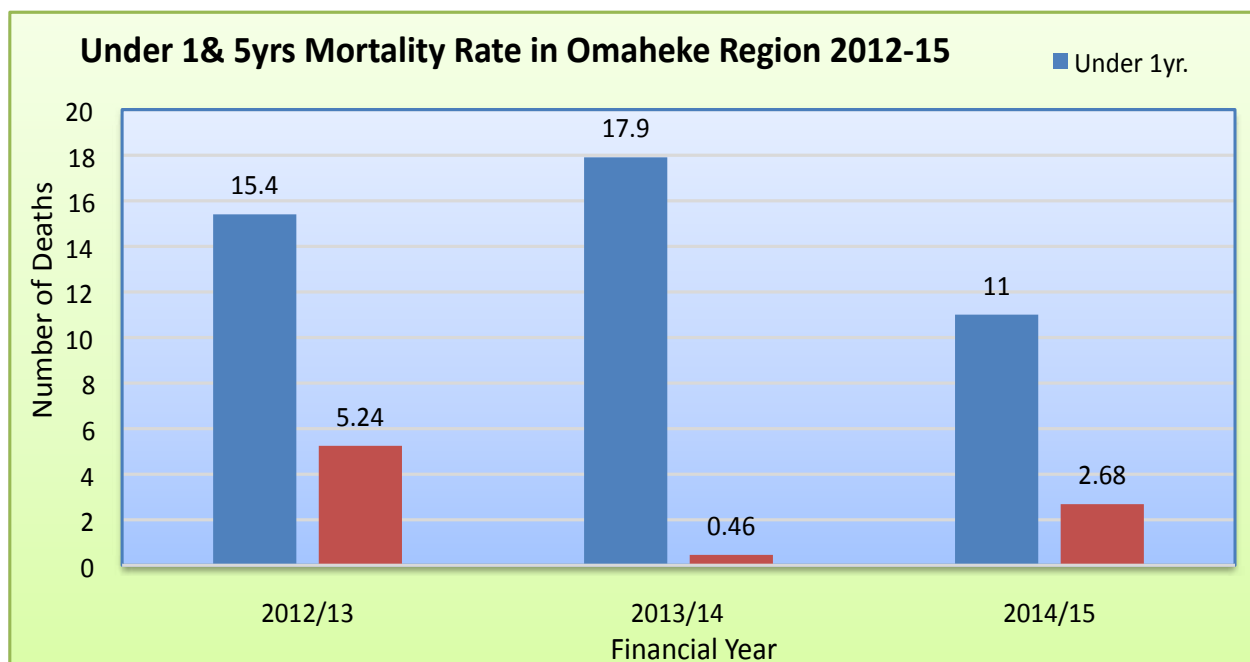
5 Top Causes of under 5 Mortality Rate:

Top Five Causes of Under-five Mortality in Gobabis Hospital, Omaheke Region 2014-2015:



Malnutrition is the most common cause of mortality in the under-five age group during the reporting period, followed by Diarrhea and Pneumonia.

Infant & under five Mortality Rate in Gobabis Hospital, Omaheke Region 2012-2015:

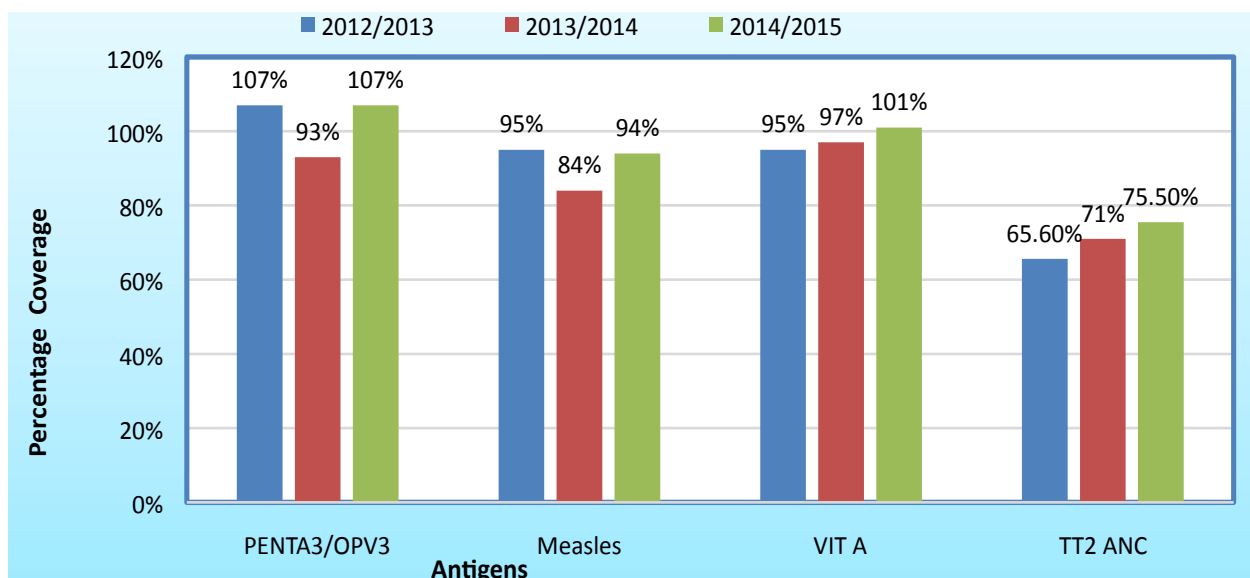


There has been a steady decline of under-5 mortality from 2012/2013 financial year, with an upsurge in 2014/15, while decline in the under one infant mortality is notable from 2013/14 to 2014/15.

c) Expanded Program on Immunization (E.P.I)

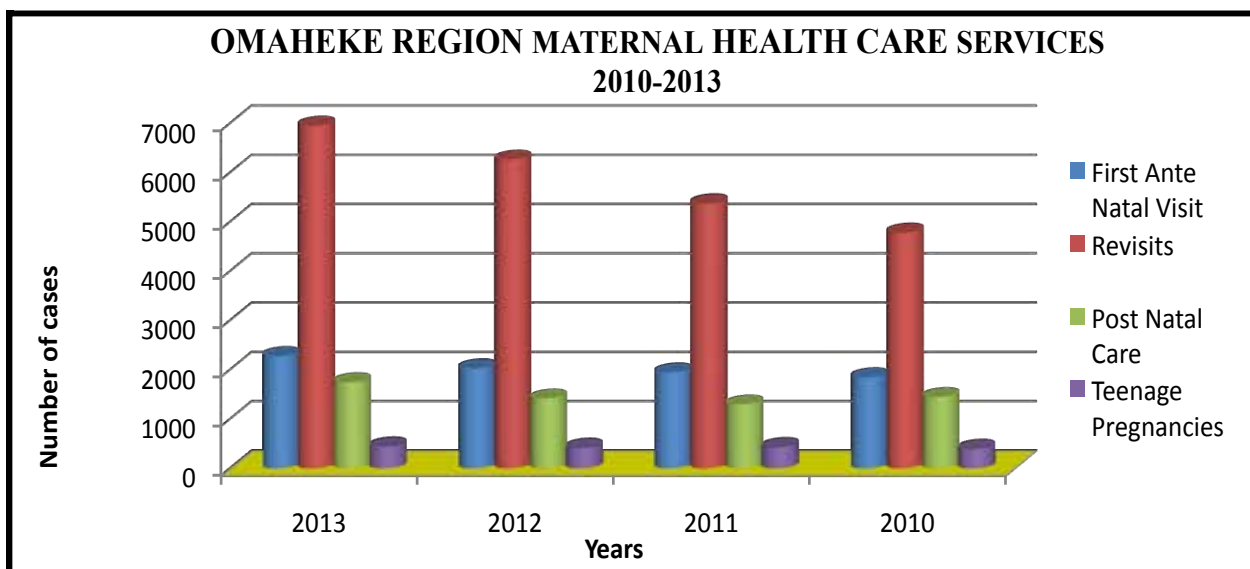
The Region has successfully conducted Maternal and Child Health Days, which has replaced the previous National Immunization days as well as the African Vaccination Week. The Region has also trained Health Workers on new vaccines successfully e.g. Rota Virus, Pneumococcal vaccines and Hepatitis B birth dose.

Routine Immunization coverage in Omaheke Region 2012-2015:



d) Omaheke Region Maternal Health Care Services 2010-2013:

Maternal health care services are provided to all females during pregnancy and six weeks after delivery. These include antenatal care services given to pregnant mothers. Each pregnant mother is typically reviewed at least four times and visits should commence during the first twelve weeks (First trimester). Postnatal care services are provided during the first six weeks after delivery. The graph below illustrates the type of maternal care services provided in the region and the number of clients seen.



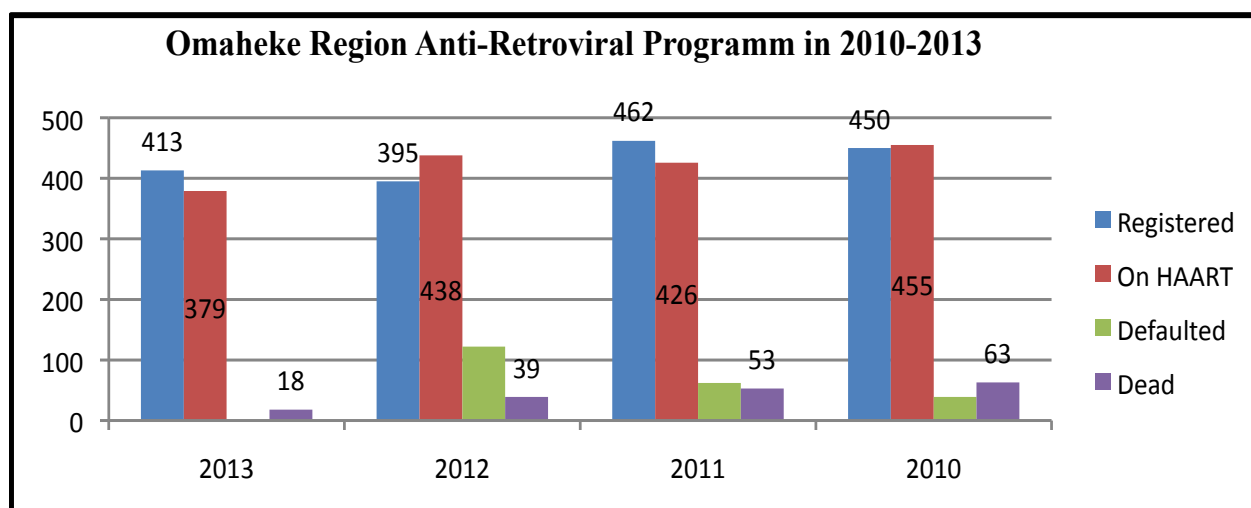
Source: MOHSS

The number of cases for revisit has gradually increased compared to First Visit's and Post-Natal Attendance. Teenage pregnancy remains a challenge and continues to rise with 393 cases recorded in 2010, climbing in all subsequent years and reaching a peak of 440 in 2013.

e) Omaheke Region Highly Active Anti-retroviral program (HAART)

HCT services are available in all health facilities in the region. The HAART program was initially launched in 2004 at the Gobabis State Hospital but has since been rolled out to the other facilities in the region making accessibility possible to more than 15 of the facilities. The graph below illustrates the number of the clients registered for HAART treatment in the region. The number of clients registered with the HAART program has been steady at slightly above 400 per annum, with similar number accessing treatment. Another remarkable observation is the decline in the number of deaths from HIV, however there is a worrisome trend in the increase of cases defaulting. Community support is paramount.

Figure 1 Omaheke Region HAART program outcome 2010-2013



Source: MoHSS: HIS

f) HIV AND AIDS

HIV/AIDS remains a major public health problem in Namibia, and Omaheke region is no exception. The regional HIV prevalence rate gleaned from a sentinel survey of pregnant mothers had a peak in 2010 of 15% with a decline to 9.9% in 2012 while in 2014 it rise to 12.7% as can be seen in the table below. (MOHSS Sentinel Health Survey 2012). However, Omaheke has been consistently lower than the national average of Namibia as whole.

Table 16: Trends of prevalence of HIV in Omaheke

Location	2010	2012	2014
Omaheke	15.6	9.9	12.7
Namibia	18.8	18.2	16.9

Source: Surveillance Report of the 2014 National HIV Sentinel Survey (MOHSS, 2014)

g) Omaheke Region Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission program

Prevention of mother to child transmission program (PMTCT) is one of the strategies being used to stop vertical transmission of the virus from infected pregnant mother to the child. This program has been rolled out throughout all health facilities in the region. The PMTCT uptake has improved over time with the number accessing the services increasing from 1841 in 2010 to 2148 in 2014. There has been a reciprocal decline in the number of babies born by positive mothers testing positive, decreasing from 10% in 2011 to 3% in 2013.

3.2.4 Access to water and sanitation

The water and sanitation coverage in the region paints two non-complementary pictures. On one hand water coverage statistics show that the residents of Omaheke have 85% access to water, while on the other 60% do not have toilet facilities. The most affected constituencies with low access to water are Otjombinde, Otjinene and Epukiro, while on sanitation Kalahari, Gobabis and Okorukambe are mostly affected.

Table 17: Household coverage of water and sanitation

Constituency	Households	Safe water	No of toilet facility	% covered with safe water	% not covered with toilet facilities
Omaheke	16174	13760	9742	85%	60%
Urban	5275	5066	2480	96%	47%
Rural	10899	8694	7262	79%	67%
Aminuis	2700	2148	1924	79%	71%
Gobabis	5100	4952	2433	97%	48%
Kalahari	1722	1555	813	90%	47%
Otjinene	1588	1126	1162	70%	73%
Otjombinde	1505	962	1213	63%	81%
Okorukambe	2328	2141	1148	91%	49%
Epukiro	1231	876	1049	71%	85%

Source: Census 2011

3.2.5 Land and resettlement

More than 50 per cent of land in Omaheke Region is in private hands and held under the freehold tenure system by either individuals or companies. The local authorities of Gobabis, Leonardville and Witvlei own a very small percentage of total land in Omaheke, with the remainder being owned by Central Government. See table below.

Table 18: Land availability in Omaheke

Main Land types in Omaheke	No of units	Size of land (ha)
Private Freehold farms	1 063	3 943 785
Resettlement Farms	68	379 534
Communal land (including individual plots in communal areas)	+/- 800	4 399 351
Urban Local Authority areas (only for Gobabis)		3 768
Total		8 461 200

(Source Regional Poverty Profile 2006, NPC) & Ministry of Lands

Farms bought by the Government for resettlement purposes are scattered among the constituencies in the region. The resettlement programme by the Ministry of Lands Reform (MLR) has introduced another dimension to land tenure regimes in Omaheke. A total of 1 331 of formerly landless and some marginalized families have been resettled in Omaheke region, occupying land with a total area of 379 534 HA (68 different units including Skoonheid and Drimiopsis Resettlement Camps).

Since 2010, the MLR acquired 15 farms in the Omaheke Region, resettling 114 households of which 66 are females.. The table below clearly shows the sizes of the units as well as the constituencies where they are located.

Table 19: Progress with the resettlement programme

Acquired	Resettled	Constituency	Unit Allocated	Unit Size Ha)	No of HHs	Gender	
						F	M
2010	Arbeidsgenot No. 552	Kalahari	A	2 857	12	5	7
			B	2 255			
2011	Lowrina No.	Kalahari	A	3 440	3	0	3
			B	3 170			
			C	3 000			
2010	Rooiduin No. 447	Okorukambe	A	2 091	2	1	1
			B	2 875			
2013	Rosebank No. 453	Kalahari	A	2, 484	52	32	20
2014			B	2, 483			
2011	Elsdale	Aminuis	A	1 609	3	1	2
2011	2011		B	1 941			
			C	1 885			
2011	Goreb No. 374	Aminuis	A	2 320	8	6	2
			B	2 540			
2011	Ginnegaap No. 997	Kalahari	A	2 345	3	3	0
			B	2 095			
			C	2 507			
2011	Kalkpan No. 314	Gobabis	A	1 660	7	5	2
			B	1 770			
			C	1 893			
2011	Laura No. 353/ Gemsbokfontein 250	Kalahari	A	1 220	5	1	4
			B	1 121			
			C	1 119			
			D	1 224			
			E	1 270			
2011	Voorspoed No. 367	Kalahari	A	1 999	2	2	0
			B	1 999			
2013	Goeiehoop No.	Kalahari	A	2 372	2	1	1
			B	1 700			
2013	Kameeldoring No. 79	Gobabis	A	1 685	1	2	1
			B	1 844			
			C	1 484			
2013	Maranica No. 441	Okorukambe	A	1 527	2	1	1
			B	2 473			
2013	Rosendal No. 496	Kalahari	A	1 957	10	6	4
			B	2 501			
			C	2 565			
			D	610			
2015	Strydpan No. 89	Gobabis	A	2105	2	0	2
			B	2846.6131			
Total					114	66	49

Land-use patterns in the whole of the Omaheke region are dominated by farming in the form of cattle ranching. Another prominent type of land use in Omaheke involves game ranches, hunting and guest farms within the freehold private farms. There are no proclaimed conservation areas or game parks in Omaheke even though a number of game farms have been established, particularly along the Trans-Kalahari highway.

3.2.6 Education and training

Education is an important catalyst for socio-economic development of any region as it contributes tremendously to the literacy, knowledge and competence needed in the daily functioning of individuals and communities. The education sector in Omaheke region covers the pre-primary education, primary education, secondary education, tertiary education, vocational trainings, and adult education systems.

3.2.6.1 School facilities and enrolment

There are 44 schools in total of which 37 are run by the state, which accommodated approximately 18 365 and 19 750 learners respectively during the 2012 and 2013 school calendar year. The schools are staffed by approximately 706 teachers. 79% of these teachers possess more than 2 years tertiary qualification each. The Omaheke region is affected by a substantial number of school drop outs and the movement of parents greatly contributes to this dropout rate.

Table 1 Summary of schools, teacher, learner and facilities during 2011-2012

Number of Schools	Total	State	Private
Total	44	37	7
Primary Schools	30	24	6
Combined Schools	11	7	4
Secondary Schools	8	7	1
Number of Learners	18,365	15,947	2,418
Pre-primary	927	836	91
Primary	13,595	11,926	1,669
Secondary	3,806	3,159	647
Other	37	26	11
Number of Teachers	Total	Without Training	With Training
Qualification	706	86	620
Less than Grade 12	27	15	12
GD 12 or 1-2 years tertiary education	121	68	53
More than 2 years tertiary education	558	3	555

3.2.6.2 Academic performance and ranking

Table 2: JSC National ranking order in Regions from 2011-2013

JSC NATIONAL RANK ORDER OF REGIONS

RANKING				
2011	2012	2013	+/-	REGION
1	1	1	+0	Oshikoto
2	2	3	-1	Omusati
3	4	8	-4	Erongo
4	6	6	+0	Caprivi
5	3	2	+1	Oshana
6	5	4	+1	Ohangwena
7	7	5	+2	Kavango
8	12	13	-1	Otjozondjupa
9	9	9	+0	Kunene
10	11	11	+0	Karas
11	10	12	-2	Khomas
12	13	10	+3	Hardap
13	8	7	+1	Omaheke

Table 22: National and Regional ranking order of centres: NSSC Omaheke Region

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL RANK ORDER OF CENTRES: NSSC(O) OMAHEKE REGION

NSSC SCHOOL	NATIONAL RANKING					REGIONAL RANKING				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	+/-	2010	2011	2012	2013	+/-
GOBABIS GYMNASIUM	6	4	15	6	+9	1	1	1	1	+0
EPAKO	0	36	30	77	-47	0	2	2	2	+0
JOHANNES DOHREN	85	89	102	88	+14	2	3	3	3	+0
WENNIE DU PLESSIS	61	97	129	97	+32	3	4	4	4	+0
MOKGANEDI	124	148	146	107	+39	4	5	5	5	+0

Out of 171 Schools / Centres

Source: DoE, 2013

The above table shows that Gobabis Gymnasium remains the top performing school in the region for the NSSC(O) level.

Table 23: National rank order of Region - NSSC (Ordinary level)

NATIONAL RANK ORDER OF REGIONS - NSSC (Ordinary Level)

RANKING				
2011	2012	2013	+/-	REGION
1	1	1	+0	Erongo
5	2	2	+0	Oshikoto
7	3	7	+4	Hardap
3	5	5	+0	Kavango
8	6	4	+2	Ohangwena
4	7	6	+1	Khomas
2	8	3	+5	Otjozonjupa
6	4	13	-9	Caprivi / Zambezi
10	9	8	+1	Omusati
13	10	12	-2	Kunene
11	11	10	+0	Oshana
12	12	9	+3	Omaheke
9	13	11	+3	Karas

Omaheke region has improved its national ranking from 12th position in 2011 and 2012, up to the number nine spot in 2013.

Table 24: National rank order of Regions- NSSC (higher level)

NATIONAL RANK ORDER OF REGIONS - NSSC (Higher Level)

RANKING				
2011	2012	2013	+/-	REGION
1	2	5	-3	Erongo
2	5	6	-1	Khomas
3	3	4	-1	Omaheke
4	1	1	+0	Otjozondjupa
5	7	7	+0	Kavango
6	6	2	+4	Zambezi
7	4	3	+1	Hardap
8	8	8	+0	Oshikoto
9	11	11	+0	Ohangwena
10	10	10	+0	Oshana
11	12	13	-1	Omusati
12	9	9	+0	Kunene
13	13	12	+1	//Karas

Source: DoE, 2013:

Improvement was noted in the ranking, climbing from number three in 2012 to number four in 2013.

3.2.6.3 Adult education (additional information available)

The region has a literacy rate of 73% which is well below the national average of 80+%. The Ministry of Education is therefore implementing adult literacy classes in all constituencies.

3.2.6.4 Tertiary education:

There are two regional support centres of higher learning within the region, namely the University of Namibia and the University of Science and Technology, each offering different courses via distance mode of study. In addition there is also a Community Skills Development Centre (COSDEC) offering courses such as Office Administration and Computer Literacy, beadwork (fabric painting and beauty products), Needlework, Hospitality, Entrepreneurship, Joinery and Cabinet Making and Brick Laying and Plastering.



3.2.7 Early childhood development

Currently there are 24 centres and 27 educators receiving subsidy from Government through the Ministry of Gender Equality and Social Welfare.

Table 25: Early childhood development (ECD) centres in the Region

Constituency	Number of ECD's centers
Kalahari	6
Epukiro	5
Gobabis	14
Otjombinde	6
Okorukambe	4
Aminuis	12
Otjinene	9
Total	56

3.2.8 Law and justice

In order to fight crime and maintain law, the region has three courts (i.e. Magistrate courts in Gobabis and Otjinene and one periodic court operating at Du Plessis Farm in Okorukambe constituency) and one correction facility in Gobabis. There are 11 police stations of which two are Class A, another two Class B and seven are Class C.

3.2.9 Community and rural development

Community development initiatives are undertaken in the region by various stakeholders to empower and improve the living standards of the community. Most of the projects funded by various government and private institutions in the region fall into the following categories:

- Tailoring
- Manufacturing
- Catering
- Cleaning Services
- Arts and Crafts
- Farming
- ICT

Young people are empowered at the various centres and offices in the region by the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service. The programme includes, amongst others:

- Youth Health
- Youth Employment
- Youth Skills Training
- Exchange, Volunteerism, Work camps and Hosteling

Table 26: Youth Centres in Omaheke Region (Annex)

Name of centres	Constituency	Services Available	Contact Details
1. Gobabis Youth Office	Gobabis	Office Block	062 – 562249
2. Gobabis Multi- Purpose Youth Resource Centre	Gobabis	Office Block & Conference Facilities	062 – 562249
3. Otjinene Rural Development Youth Resource Centre	Otjinene	Office Block Accommodation & Conference Facilities	062 – 567573
4. Farm du Plessis Rural Development Youth Resource Centre	Okorukambe	Office Block Accommodation & Conference Facilities	062- 568334
5. Aminuis Youth Office	Aminuis		063-



Young people raising awareness on social ills

The Regional Council runs various programmes aimed at improving the livelihood of rural people. These programmes are; Cash/Food for Work, Micro Finance, the Rural Employment Scheme, the One Region One Initiative, Support Resources to Poor Farmers, and the Regional Specific Action Plan. Several projects have been funded through these programmes in the rural constituencies, such as Kalahari Wild Silk in Leonardville, Aminuis Constituency, Ungura Uvaterue Leather project in Otjikorondo, Otjinene Constituency, Hancianda Dairy Milk Project in Otjinene Constituency, and many more. The region also has a rural development center (Ben-Hur Rural Development Centre), situated in Tsjaka, Kalahari Constituency which focuses on appropriate technology, hospitality services (accommodation, conferencing, catering and bakery), provision of outreach programmes and information dissemination to rural communities.

3.2.10 Social Services

3.2.10.1 Social safety nets

According to the 2011 Population Census there were 4 825 persons over 60 years of age, which, if one projects the figure to 2014 and considers a population growth of a conservative 1.4%, would translate to the aged population being numbered 5 029. The statistics from the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare indicates that 5 101 older people are registered for the old age grant. This translates into coverage of 101%. Regarding the disability grants, a total of 1 276 people are registered (Jan. 2014, MoLSW) out of 2 850 person with disability (National Census 2011).

In total Omaheke has approximately 4 522 children who are dependent on the grant system (Stats. For Jan 2014 MGEWCW) out of an estimated 6000 orphans and other vulnerable children in the region. The breakdown of child welfare grants are as follows:

- Special Maintenance Grant (disability for children under the age of 18): 215
- Maintenance Grant: 3 571
- Foster Care Grant: 736

3.2.10.2 Social welfare facilities in the region

There are three residential care facilities for elderly people in the region consisting of 111 units accommodating 95 residents in Gobabis. These are Huis Deon Louw, Elim Flats and Epako Old Age Home.

3.3 Institutional services (public and private)

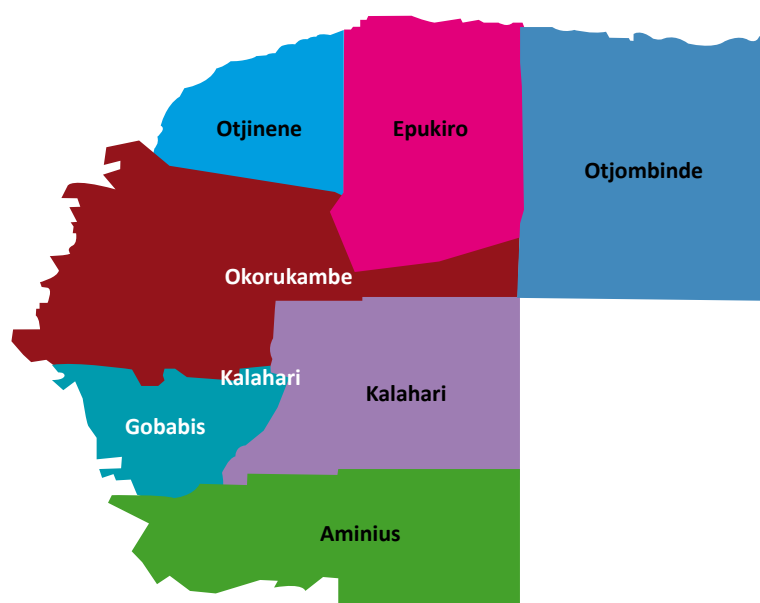
Omaheke hosts a range of public and private sector, parastatal, and civic organizations which provide various services to residents. The Omaheke region also enjoys a fair representation of corporate and international companies that create temporary and permanent employment, essential services and products that contribute to socio-economic growth of the region. Annexure 9-13 illustrates these institutions and their different capacities as well as their contact details.

Chapter 4:

Regional and Local Government Introduction

4.1 Introduction

Omaheke region has seven constituencies, namely Otjombinde, Kalahari, Okorukambe, Epukiro, Gobabis, Otjinene and Aminuis, each headed by elected Regional Councilors. Each constituency has a Regional Councilor operating at the respective constituency office for a period of five years. The region has one town, Gobabis, which serves as the regional capital, and three village councils namely Leonardville, Otjinene, and Witvlei. Furthermore, the region has seven settlements (i.e. Omitara, Summerdown, Epukiro, Tallismanus, Buitepos, Corridor 13 and Aminuis).



The Gobabis constituency has the majority of the population (i.e. 20 993) while Epukiro is the least populated (6 106). Okorukambe is the largest in terms of surface area (i.e. 19 000) while Kalahari is smallest. The average population density and household for the region is 0.8 and 4.3 respectively. The total number of households for the region is 16 174, with Epukiro having the least households (i.e. 1231). See table below.

Table 27: Population distribution and Household by Constituency

Constituency	Population			Area in sq.km	Population density	Number of HHs	Average HH
	Total	Females	Males				
Aminuis	12,306	5,773	6,533	13,028	0.9	2 700	4.5
Gobabis	20,993	10,671	10,322	10,959	1.9	5 100	3.9
Kalahari	7,611	3,717	3,894	5,781	1.3	1 722	4.4
Otjinene	7,306	3,488	3,818	12,283	0.6	1 588	4.5
Otjombinde	6,851	3,026	3,825	6,435	1.1	2 328	4.2
Okorukambe	10,060	4,562	5,498	19,000	0.5	1 505	4.6
Epukiro	6,106	2,779	3,327	17,495	0.3	1 231	4.9
Omaheke	71,233	34,016	37,217	84,981	0.8	16 174	4.3

4.2 Kalahari Constituency

The Kalahari constituency borders Gobabis (the regional capital) to the west, Okorukambe to the north, Aminuis to the south and the neighboring country of Botswana to the east. The constituency has one proclaimed settlement which is Buitepos and two growth points; Tsjaka/Ben-Hur and Drimiopsis. The Constituency Office is situated at Tsjaka/Ben-Hur which is 50 kilometers away from Gobabis.

Table 28: Population and distance per locality in Kalahari Constituency

Locality	Population	Distance from Gobabis
Tsjaka	1100	50 (gravel road)
Buitepos	900	110 (tarred road)
Drimiopsis	1600	40 (tarred road)

4.2.1 Tsjaka

Statistics:

Public Facilities: one school, one clinic

Businesses: Unspecified

Possible Areas of Investments: Tourism, skill development, livestock farming, horticulture

Employment and major source of income for residents: Most residents of Tsjaka are employed in commercial farms surrounding the area. Other sources of employment and income include: Ben-Hur Rural Development Centre, Communal farming and small business activities.

Offices: Kalahari Constituency Office, MAWF,

4.2.2 Buite Pos Settlement (Trans-Kalahari Border Post)

Buitepos Settlement is the exit point for Trans-Kalahari Road into Botswana. The Omaheke Regional Council has built water reticulation systems and additional funds are availed to construct sewerage reticulation. By constructing services, most investors are likely to migrate to Buitepos with the hope of expanding business.

Ministries such as Finance; Agriculture, Water and Forestry; Health and Social Services; Home Affairs and Immigration; and Safety and Security have established offices and accommodation facilities in Buitepos from which to render their services.

Statistics:

Public Facilities: One primary school, one police station and one filling station.

Businesses: East Gate

Possible Areas of Investments: Property rental, tourism, services,

Employment and major source of income for residents: Most people at Buitepos are employed by Government Ministries, a lodge and a filling station which employs some of the residents at Buitepos.

Offices: Immigration Office, Ministry of Finance, MWF (DVS) MSS and MHSS.

4.2.3 Drimiopsis

Drimiopsis is a growth point located on the C22 road branching from the Trans Kalahari Highway joining the Trans-Caprivi Highway at Grootfontein.

Statistics:

Public Facilities: One Primary School and one High School.

Businesses: Bakery, Retail Shop, Vegetable Garden at Resettlement Camp

Possible Areas of Investments: Property development

Employment and major source of income for residents: There is a boarding school in Drimiopsis where most of the residents of Drimiopsis are employed. The MLR has also established a garden which creates seasonal employment to the residents of Drimiopsis farm.

Offices: Ministry of Education and Ministry of Lands and Resettlement.

4.2.4 Possibilities for economic development and investment

4.2.4.1 Trans-Kalahari Highway

Since the Trans-Kalahari Highway connects Namibia to Botswana and the Port of Walvis Bay as well as Trans-Caprivi via Buitepos Settlement, there is potential for the Kalahari Constituency to benefit in terms of logistics development that includes the construction of a truck port and storage facilities to support local and international trading. The landlocked countries such as Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana and DRC will be able to access their goods and services from facilities established in the Omaheke region along the Trans-Kalahari Highway. The existing weighbridge on the Trans-Kalahari Highway not only serves as a measure to control overloading but also provides the opportunity for any interested investors in the construction of a truck port.

4.2.4.2 Railway

High level discussions are underway to extend the railway line from Gobabis up to Gaborone which will improve regional trade relations between Namibia and other SADC countries. This will allow Namibia and SADC countries to engage in bulk business dealings, increase their economies in all perspectives ranging from employment, economic growth and balance of payment.

4.2.4.3 Tourism and accommodation

Given the fact that Buitepos is the border post, there is potential for tourists entering the country through Botswana. Therefore there is a need to develop tourism enterprises and services.

4.2.4.4 Bush encroachment

Bush encroachment is a challenge that affects grazing, as well as free mobility of people and animals and availability of underground water in the Kalahari Constituency. This challenge can be turned into various opportunities such as producing wood and charcoal for energy. Projects such as this potentially reduce bush encroachment while simultaneously creating employment, and furthermore can serve as a source of energy.

4.2.4.5 Marketing opportunities

In terms of cattle farming, there is the economic possibility of improving on the current livestock auction pens that market cattle in the constituency to potential buyers. These auction pens market cattle in terms of weight, quality and health of the cattle.

There are currently three auction pens, namely Tsjaka/Ben-Hur, Karoo at Gobabis and Windhoek Livestock Auction.

4.2.4.6 Development opportunities in Kalahari Constituency

4.2.4.6.1 Ben-Hur Rural Development Centre

This development centre is already in operation and is situated at Tsjaka/Ben-Hur, 50 km south of Gobabis (the regional capital). It specializes in accommodation, catering services, conferencing, woodwork and carpentry.

4.2.4.7 Community projects

The following projects in the constituency need to be strengthened and supported in order to create employment opportunities for the inhabitants and render required services:

- Boitshoko Bread Making Project (Tsjaka/Ben-Hur);
- Selma Leather Project (Drimiopsis);
- Dantangos Chicken Project (Tsjaka/Ben-Hur);
- Stumbeibloc Brick Making Project (Nossobville);
- Community Goats Project (Netso & Vergenoeg);
- Kandovazu Bread and Shopping Center (Drimiopsis);
- Welding and Tyre repairs (Vaasdraai).

4.2.4.8 Challenges

- Long distances travelled by commuters to reach the health facility located at the regional center in Gobabis as the constituency has only one clinic at Buitepos;
- Some hostels and school buildings are dilapidated and need renovations;
- Few proper recreational facilities like shopping malls, SME Centers and Youth Centers;
- Some learners are dropping out of school;
- Minimal staff accommodation;
- Lack of adult literacy programs;
- There are few education facilities in the constituency.

4.3 Otjinene Constituency

Otjinene is located in the north-west part of the region bordering Okorukambe to the south, Otjombinde to the east and Otjozondjupa region to the north. Otjinene has 93 Villages which are mostly controlled by livestock farming and a smaller number of non-farming activities such as retail shops and limestone production. There are also other business activities such as open market stalls, shops, restaurants and guest houses.

4.3.1 Otjinene Village



Image: Otjinene Farmers Association building with Otjinene Junior Primary School on the background.

Otjinene Constituency has one proclaimed Village Council named after the constituency. It was proclaimed as a Village Council on 28 February 2011, but the election was held on the 29 August 2014.

Statistics:

Population: 2 102

Distance from Gobabis: 170 km (tarred road)

Public Facilities: One filling station, one police station, one health clinic, one airstrip, one commercial bank, one post office, three schools, auction pens.

Businesses: Standard Bank, Harmony Supermarket, NamPost, Meat Market, NamWater, CENORED, Mini Depot and Restaurant, and other businesses (Putuvanga Supermarket, Ngatupue Supermarket, Taviza Hardware, MTC Container, Okarindi Shop, Girrafino Restaurant and China Shop).

Possible Areas of Investments: Shopping mall, Butchery, Abattoir, Bakery, Hardware store, Clothing shop, Agriculture related products shop, Light industries manufacturing, Accommodation facilities, Animal health clinic.

Employment and major source of income for residents: Government institutions and animal farming.

Offices: MAWF (DVS, DWSS, DOF, DEES), MYNSSC, MGESW, NATIS, Magistrate, Ongendo Development Trust, CoHeNa.

4.3.2 Possibilities for economic development and investment

Otjinene Village is one of the fastest business growing locations in the Omaheke region. Numerous markets are mushrooming every day and as a result many people from nearby localities migrate to Otjinene in search of better lives and hopes for employment opportunities.

4.3.2.1 Agriculture and beef production

Otjinene Constituency has the largest number of cattle amongst the rural constituencies in the region. Auctions are held every second week in Otjinene and this has contributed to the expansion of businesses which promotes a high buying power.

4.3.2.2 Tourism and accommodation

Ozombu-Zovindimba Cultural Heritage has a large contribution to the tourism industry in the constituency. The constituency intends to establish a historical museum at Otjinene, namely the Kapiringi Museum, which shall showcase war artifacts and activities carried out during the German War of Occupation. Key historical artifacts and trees such as the Ozondjete and Ngauzepo trees, and the Kapiringi ox wagon are some of the features to be showcased at the museum.

There are two lodges, the Kaumbangere Lodge and Dr Tjiriange Lodge.

4.3.2.3 Manufacturing

Manufacturing in Otjinene constituency is an economic activity that needs to be developed. Currently, manufacturing is performed on a small scale, consisting only of leather processing and soap making projects

4.3.2.4 Mining and natural resources processing

Otjinene constituency is blessed with many natural resources such as the Devil's Claw, which are often not truly exploited. Calcrete mining is reasonably established at Otjiwetjombungu, Omahua and Omungondo.

4.3.3 Other economic potential of the constituency

4.3.3.1 Micro-finance projects

The rural development projects with potential viability which are supported in the region include: Otjikorondo Tannery (Ungura Uvaterue Leather Project), Kuuoko Kondjera Ezumo Project (leather), Orusuuo/Omakara Project (wood & charcoal), Kity Hair Salon Project, Hope For Hopeless Foundation Project (dairy), Uaumbohama Trading/Tukondja Pamue Project (kapana), Kondja Soap Manufacturing Project, Komesho Sewing Machine Project, Momikova Muna Ouua Project and Rock Shoe Maker and Repair.

4.3.3.2 Transport infrastructures

The chas benefited by the upgrading of the C22 road, which links Gobabis to Grootfontein, to bitumen standard. The upgrading of this road will mostly affect trucks travelling from South Africa en-route to other SADC Countries via Katima Mulilo.

4.3.4 Challenges

- HIV patients lost after follow up, treatment remains a challenge due to stigma;
- Late health seeking behavior;
- High turnout of learners enrolment especially in Grades one and eight at the beginning of every year;
- Insufficient teachers accommodation;
- Shortage of class rooms and hostels at primary and secondary levels;
- Dilapidated school and hostel facilities;
- Provision of approved posts of social workers (MOHSS) not adequate for the region;
- Lack of recreational and resource centers at community levels for the elderly and people with disabilities;
- Mushrooming of shebeens and continuous non-adherence to liquor act by some outlets;
- Older people who have reached pension age but unable to access grants due to incorrect details on their documents;
- Insufficient space for SMEs to operate from;
- Existing Auction pens are dilapidated;
- Lack of reliable water sources

4.4 Otjombinde Constituency

Otjombinde is situated 240 kilometers east of Gobabis bordering with Botswana, Epukiro to the west, and Okorukambe on the south, Otjinene to the north-west and Otjozondjupa region to the north. The population of the constituency is 6 851 of which 3 026 are female and 3 825 are male (2011 Census).

The constituency has one declared settlement named Tallismanus and three recognized growth points; Eiseb 10, Helena and Okatumba Gate. Otjombinde is characterized by a multicultural diversity dominated by Ovambanderu, Ovaherero followed by the San community and the Ovazemba community.



4.4.1 Tallismanus

Statistics:

Public Facilities: Five schools and one clinic.

Businesses: Chi-Carteen Shopping Centre, Tallismanus Service Station, Tallismanus Restaurant, Providence Guesthouse, Tjozongoro Bakery, Tjitunga General Dealer, Nauta General Store.

Possible Areas of Investments: Tourism, livestock farming, horticulture.

Employment and major sources of income for the residents of Tallismanus include employment at Government institutions. Other sources of employment and income include communal farming and small business activities.

Offices: Otjombinde Constituency Office, MAWF, Tallismanus Settlement Office, Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Safety and Security.

4.4.2 Okatumba Gate

Okatumba Gate is situated about 130 kilometres from Tallismanus (this is the exit from Tallismanus to Eiseb 10 and Gam).

Businesses: Nauta General Store

Possible Areas of Investments: Small businesses.

Employment and major sources of income for residents: Mainly communal farming and small business activities.

4.4.3 Eiseb 10

Eiseb 10 is situated about 300 kilometres from Tallismanus and approximately 380 kilometres from Gobabis, and is an exit point to Gam.

Statistics:

Public Facilities: One school and one Clinic

Businesses: Nauta General Store

Possible Areas of Investments: Water graben development, electricity, solar, livestock farming employment. Conservancies are the major source of income for residents.

Employment and major source of income for residents: Government Institutions and conservancies, livestock farming and small businesses.

Offices: Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry

4.4.4 Possibilities for Economic Development and Investment in the Constituency

4.4.4.1 Water Provision

Eiseb Graben is blessed with plenty of water which can be used for agricultural crop production which can create employment opportunity once implemented.

This water can also be used for animals, and can be bottled for sale. The availability of water presents a great opportunity for aqua-culture production and the construction of pipe-line from Eiseb Graben to the Tallismanus area, which has a shortage of underground water.

4.4.4.2 *Plenty of grazing land*

The Otjombinde constituency is blessed with virgin land that can be used by potential farmers. This land is sufficiently vast to accommodate resettled farmers who wish to venture into farming activities.

4.4.4.3 *Tourism and accommodation*

Tallismanus Settlement has a guest house named Providence, which provides quality accommodation services to visitors, tourists and local individuals engaging in leisure activities. Otjombinde has three proclaimed conservancies which add value to the economy of the constituency in terms of tourist attraction and trophy hunting activities. The sustainability of these conservancies can lead to the erection of game fencing which would bring additional advantages such as game camps.

4.4.4.4 *Bush encroachment*

Bush Encroachment affects grazing and the mobility of people and animals in Otjombinde Constituency. The idea is to turn this challenge into an opportunity by means of cutting down some of the bush in order to create accessibility for livestock and to allow more grazing grass to grow on the grounds surface. By doing so, employment opportunities are created and the living standard of the community will be improved.

4.4.4.5 *Livestock farming*

Cattle auctioning is one of the activities that contributes to the economy of the Otjombinde constituency. Approximately 200-250 cattle are auctioned and sold on a monthly basis, and this can potentially generate half a million dollars cash inflow for farmers. Cattle can be sold to abattoirs for beef processing and the skins can be sold for production of leather products. The horns of the cattle are often utilized to produce cosmetic and ornamental products such as earrings.

4.4.5 *Marketing Opportunities*

Livestock produce milk which is sold for consumption or processed further to produce dairy products such as cheese, butter and omaze wo zongombe. In terms of cattle farming businesses, there is the possibility of improving the state of the current Livestock Auction Pens that market cattle in the constituency to potential buyers. These auction pens market cattle in terms of weight, quality and healthiness. There are currently four auction pens:

- Tallismanus auction pens
- Okatumba Gate auction pens
- Helena auction pens
- Okoutjove auction pens

4.4.6 Community Projects in Otjombinde Constituency

The following projects in the constituency need to be strengthened and supported to create employment opportunities for the inhabitants and to render required services:

Table 29: Community projects in Otjombinde Constituency

Income-generating Project	Activities	Location
Joice Tailoring Boutique	Produces clothes, school uniforms	Situated at Tallismanus
Ngaikarerere Investment	Produces fresh bread	Eiseb 10
Morukondjo Bricks Project	Manufacturing bricks	Tallismanus
Mavanga Meat Processing	Processing and selling meat	Tallismanus
Leather Processing Project	Produces shoes, sandals, etc.	Eiseb 10
Lime Stone Project	Mining stones used as building material	Okatumba Gate Area
Okapana Project	Selling grilled meat and food	Tallismanus
CoHeNa Goats Project	Breeding and selling goats to generate income for people living with HIV and AIDS.	Tallismanus
Okoutjove Needle Work Project	Knitting and weaving clothes and other materials for selling	Okoutjove
Devils Claw	Harvest, slice and drying Devils Claw for selling	Donkerbos and Sonnerblom
Tallismanus Welding and Tyre repairs	Welding and repairing tyres	Tallismanus

4.4.7 Challenges

Otjombinde constituency is faced with the following challenges:

- Water shortage in some areas;
- Lack of pipe extraction trucks to remove sewerage water;
- Unavailability of Health Services infrastructure at places like Helena, Donkerbos and Okatumba Gate;
- Limited number of nurses at the clinics;
- No libraries for learners;
- Substandard auction pens at Helena, Oukotjove, Tallismanus and Eiseb 10;
- Lack of markets to sell Devil's Claw;
- Vastness of the constituency limits access to remote areas;
- No financial institutions such as commercial banks;
- Lack of skills training centre for the youth;
- Lack of SME Park;
- Rural electrification;
- No proper road infrastructure;
- Lack of network services at some growth points such as Helena and Donkerpos.

4.5 Gobabis Constituency

Gobabis Constituency has one town, Gobabis Municipality, which is the regional capital of Omaheke. Gobabis Municipality serves as an important tourism gateway between the SADC countries. It links to one of the most important tourism routes, the Trans-Kalahari Highway, which connects Omaheke region with Okavango Delta and the rest of Namibia.

4.5.1 Gobabis Town

Gobabis is situated on the route from Windhoek to Botswana, some 110 km from the Buitepos border post and approximately 205 km from the Capital city. The name is Khoi-Khoi for “the place of strife”. Interestingly enough a slight misspelling, favoured by the locals of Gobabis, would change the meaning to “a drinking place of elephants”, which is probably a reference to the nearby Swart Nossob River. See www.gobabismunicipality.org.

Gobabis Municipality is in the heart of the prosperous cattle farming area, and is the capital of eastern Namibia. It is also known as the “Little Texas” of Namibia. Gobabis is certainly proud of its cattle farming heritage, so much so that a statue of a large bull with the inscription “Welcome to Cattle Country” greets visitors to the town.

Gobabis Municipality is located within three hour’s drive from Windhoek, which is reachable from Windhoek (Namibia’s capital) by air, rail, and road. Gobabis Municipality and town lands have been excluded from the Resettlement Reform Board area in order to facilitate the establishment and operation of the local authority area of the Municipality of Gobabis.

The Municipal Council consist of seven councilors, with the Mayor of the town being the Ceremonial head, representing the inhabitants of Gobabis Municipality in the political and social environment. The CEO serves as the administrative head of the institution.

4.5.2 Infrastructures and public services/amenities



4.5.2.1 Services Infrastructure within Gobabis Municipality

- Electricity supply by NamPower (national utility)
- Water supply by NamWater (national utility)
- Sanitation: waterborne system sewerage in planning

4.5.2.2 Education Facilities

At community level, education is directly interlinked to socio-economic development. While Gobabis may not be at the highest levels when it comes to academic rating in the country, there are three high schools and one private high school, six primary schools and one private primary school in town. With regard to technical, adult or tertiary education, University of Namibia (UNAM) and the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) both have student satellite centres, though it was reported that NUST will be building a campus in Gobabis soon. Other institutions contributing to education of this community and providing their services are Namibia College of Open Learning (NAMCOL), Community Skills Development Centre (COSDEC) and the Omaheke and Ounongo Technology Centre.

4.5.2.3 Health Facilities:

- Two private facilities with five private doctors
- Four private pharmacies
- One state hospital
- One private health centre
- One state clinic

4.5.2.4 Financial Institutions:

- Bank Windhoek
- First National Bank
- Standard Bank
- NamPost
- Old Mutual
- Metropolitan
- Orion Financial
- Letshego

4.5.2.5 Telecommunication Network

- MTC Namibia
- Telecom Namibia
- TN Mobile
- NamPost
- Internet Café

4.5.3 Possibilities for Economic Development and Investment

With limited service provision from the business sector, the town holds very large potential in terms of economic development and business growth. It is the main and last/first stopping point on the eastern side of Namibia when travelling along one of the country longest routes, B6, also known as the Trans Kalahari Highway. When exiting the country, the B6 interlinks to Southern Africa's largest business capital, Johannesburg, via Botswana's capital Gaborone. It is the shortest and cheapest route to take when connecting to these three great countries in the southern region of Africa. This makes Gobabis a very viable business point now and in the years to come.

4.5.3.1 Agriculture and Beef Production

In order to enhance the agriculture in the region the town of Gobabis has four marketing facilities for livestock, namely Karoo, Agra and WLA, Gobabis Abattoir and Meatco Feedlot.

4.5.3.2 Tourism and Accommodation

Gobabis accommodation can be found at SafariNow.com which has a selection of Lodge, Bed and Breakfast, Camping and Caravanning holiday accommodations in Gobabis and surrounds. The site features ten listings , an online **map** search and competitive prices.

Gobabis Town has the following accommodation facilities:
More than seven guesthouses, B&B, self-catering flats and camping sites for ± 30 sites



4.5.3.3 Housing

Even though there is lack of serviced land, the housing demand remains high and as such Gobabis requires investors to support the Gobabis Municipality with the construction of houses as well as servicing of land.

4.5.4 Other Economic Potential of the Constituency

4.5.4.1 Micro Finance Projects

4.5.4.1.1 Mushroom Cultivation Project

This project was started by ten women who saw potential in mushroom cultivation. Mushrooms are macro fungi with characteristic fruiting bodies which are large enough to be seen with the naked eye and picked by hand. During its growth, a mushroom can be a good source of protein which contains all the essential amino acids; it is high in fibre, rich in vitamins, and low in cholesterol. Mushrooms are commonly used for various dishes in different shapes and forms.

4.5.4.1.2 Kanaan Bread making Project

The bakery is constructed within the informal settlement of Gobabis to improve the living standard of people living with HIV/AIDS in the surrounding. This is a community project that is established to improve economic growth in the informal settlement.-

4.5.4.1.3 Ombapa Utuku Gardening Project

This project is located within the Gobabis Constituency at a resettlement farm called Schornborn and sells their produce in Gobabis for income generation.

4.5.5 Challenges

- The lack of hospital facilities;
- HIV patients lost after follow up remains a challenge due to stigma;
- Late health seeking behaviour;
- Limited number of social and welfare officers;
- Low awareness or ignorance of HIV/AIDS;
- Insufficient provision for primary and secondary schools in the Gobabis Structure Plan;
- Slow pace of delivering municipal infrastructure;
- Supply of housing does not meet demand. ;
- Limited financing by financial institutions for housing in Gobabis.

4.6 Okorukambe Constituency

The district capital of Witvlei is situated within the Okorukambe constituency, which is a Village Council. It further contains the settlements of Omitara and Summerdown. Most of the constituency is taken up by privately-owned freehold farms. The constituency borders Gobabis to the south, Epukiro to the east, Otjinene to the north and Khomas to the west. The Constituency Office is situated at Farm Du Plessis which is 92 kilometers from Gobabis.

Table 30: Population and distance per locality in Okorukambe Constituency

Locality	Population	Distance from Gobabis
Witvlei	1 638	53 (tarred road)
Omitara	789	99 (tarred road)
Summerdown	678	150 (gravel road)

4.6.1 Witvlei

Statistics:

Public Facilities: One Combined School, one clinic, one police station and one post office (NamPost).

Businesses: Witvlei Meat (Abattoir, Taxidermeand Leap Clothing Factory

Possible Areas of Investments: Skill development, livestock farming, horticulture

Employment and major source of income for residents: Witvlei Meat (Abattoir), Leap Clothing Factory and Texidermy

Offices: Witvlei Village Council, Ministry of Gender, Adult Education Office, Cohena

4.6.2 Omitara

The settlement has a railway station

Statistics:

Public Facilities: One Primary School, one police station and one clinic.

Businesses: Omitara Trading

Employment and major source of income for residents: Most residents of Omitara are employed by the school, clinic and police station as well as commercial farms surrounding the area. Other sources of employment and income include communal farming, small business activities and BIG allowances.

Offices: NamWater and NamPost

Possible Areas of Investments: The Omitiomire copper mine is undergoing construction and has an estimated lifespan of 5 – 10 years.

4.6.3 Summerdown

Statistics:

Businesses: Agra, a retail shop and a service station.

Possible Areas of Investments:

4.6.4 Possibilities for Economic Development and Investment

4.6.4.1 Tourism and Accommodation

Harnas Wildlife Resorts, Thaba Cultural Centre and Epukiro RC provide significant contributions to the tourism industry within the constituency.

4.6.4.2 Bush Encroachment

Charcoal and Wood production takes place at Farm Hekel no. 415 of Mr. B Classen, and at Rooibult no. 686 (Resettlement farm) of Ms. Agnes M. Tjiramba.

4.6.4.3 Livestock production

In terms of cattle farming businesses, there is the possibility of improvement of the current livestock auction pens that market cattle in the constituency to potential buyers. These auction pens market cattle in terms of weight, quality and the healthiness. There is currently one auction pen at Du Plessis Farm for the farmer's association.

4.6.5 Development opportunities in Okorukambe Constituency

4.6.5.1 Du Plessis Farm Youth Centre

This is a development centre and is not currently in operation. It is situated at Du Plessis, 92 kilometers north of Gobabis (The Regional Capital). Future plans include Agricultural training.

4.6.5.2 Sandveld Research Station

The research station is situated 92 km from Gobabis. The Agricultural research station researches adaptability of different livestock breeds and other as per request.

4.6.5.3 Transport infrastructures

The Constituency has benefited by the upgrading of C22 road to bitumen standard. The upgrading of this road will mostly benefit trucks travelling from South Africa en-route to SADC Countries via Katima Mulilo.

4.6.5.4 Skoonheid Livelihood Support Programme

The Livelihood Support Programme (LISUP) is a partnership between the Ministry of Land Reform, the Desert Research Foundation of Namibia and Foundation CEAR/Habit Africa. It is responsible for carrying out the following tasks regarding food Security/ Agriculture:

- Establishment of agriculture producers groups;
- Training in rain-fed and irrigated cultivation of fruits, vegetables and stable crops;
- Provision of seeds and other inputs;
- Rehabilitation of water infrastructure and training communities in water demand management;
- Provision of drip irrigation systems;
- Marketing surplus production;
- Support to livestock production and rangeland management.

A volunteer, Dr de Kok ,and OMBA Arts Trust trained the community of Skoonheid in terms of Income Diversification



Horticulture at Skoonheid

- Capacity building in design, production and marketing of crafts
- Training in entrepreneurial skills
- Establishing marketing channels for crafts

Crafts and irrigated cultivation of fruits & animals feed at Skoonheid



4.6.7 Community projects

Table 31: Community projects in Otjombinde Constituency

Names of the project	Descriptions	Places Names
Come and Enjoy take away	Selling take away food	Epukiro RC
Vazeua Kozombaze	Wood projects	Skoonheid
Morukondjo Gardening and poultry	Chicken, vegetables and fruit	Vasbyt
Ogondjoro Tombstones	Selling coffins	Skoonheid
Otutako Project	Selling otutako	Omitara
Chrisnetta Decorations	Selling decorations	Witvlei
Ondwezu Leather Project	Selling leather products	Witvlei
Hendrik Welding	Welding products	Omitara
Eho radje Ondjerera	Tailoring	Du Plessis farm
Davema Firewood	Selling fire wood	Omitara farms
Gamorano	Bricks making	Epukiro RC
Itireleng Cattle Project	Cattle	Epukiro RC
Baepi General Trading	Welding project	Epukiro RC

- Brickmaking projects at Epukiro RC (Gamorano)
- Wood projects at Skoonheid (Vazeua Kozombaze)

Namibian German Initiative Programme

- In 2009 the Programme donated 244 cattle and 8 bulls to San community of Skoonheid. From 2009 up to date the livestock count has increased to 446.
- In 2012 they donated 450 small live stocks (goats) to the youth of Okorukambe Constituency.

4.6.8 Challenges

- Limited number of social and welfare officers
- HIV patients are defaulting on their medication due to stigma.
- Patients have a habit of seeking health services at the last minute
- Lack of primary school at Skoonheid settlement
- High demand of housing at Omitara and Du Plessis Farm.
- The Summerdown area is currently not serviced with potable water, electricity or a sewerage network.
- Lack of adult literacy programs.

4.7 Epukiro Constituency

The constituency has a very young population with a median age estimate of 19 years. Like most of the constituencies, Epukiro Constituency depends largely on farming and earnings from pensions. Farming conditions in this constituency are very harsh and predominantly characterized by unfriendly climatic conditions, such as erratic rainfall, and poor soils. It is heavily populated by invader bush-species that have replaced the grass species browsed by livestock, subsequently limiting the carrying capacity of the farm land.

Epukiro Constituency has approximately fifty two (52) villages whose livelihoods mainly consist of livestock farming interspersed by a few non-farming activities such retail shops.

The infrastructure and services available in Epukiro for support of the Constituency development efforts range from Energy, Information and Communication Technology, Water and Sanitation, to Housing and Transportation.

The constituency lags badly behind in the following key economic activities: Tourism, Manufacturing, Industrial Development and Mining. These are fundamental pillars for development.

4.7.1 Epukiro Pos 3 Settlement

Statistics:

Population: 2 102

Distance from Gobabis: 124 Km (gravel road)

Public Facilities: one Filling station, one Police Station, one Health Clinic, one Airstrip, one Post Office, one schools, one Auction pen

Businesses: NamPost, two Butcheries, NamWater, China Shop, Mauano Shop, SAMORA General Dealer, Koujo Kandovazu Mechanic, Kandetu General Dealer (spare parts),

Employment and major source of income for residents: Government institutions

Offices: MAWF (DVS, DWSS, DOF, DEES), MGECW, CoHeNa

4.7.2 Possibilities for Economic Development and Investment

4.7.2.1 Mining

Eiseb Mining & Prospecting is performing prospecting of copper and other minerals in the constituency.

4.7.2.2 Tourism and Accommodation

Tjiri Lodge is located at Okovimburu and has six (6) rooms available as well as a conference facility. The lodge also organizes cultural activities to entertain the guests.

4.7.2.3 Livestock production

The constituency's economy is driven primarily by livestock farming, both large and small.



There are three auction kraals in the constituency located in Epukiro Pos 3, Otjiwarongo and Otjimanangombe .Approximately three to four hundred cattle are traded bi-weekly.

Table 32: Stud breeders in the constituency

Name	Location	Type of stock	Breed
Mr. Katjinduu Tjahuha	Otjimati	Sheep	Van Rooy
Mr.Denis Katjiuanjo	Osume	Goats	Boer goats
Mr. E. Kavari	Komboro	Cattle	Red Brahman
Mr. F. Korupanda	Okatuuo	Cattle	White Brahman
Mr. V. Ndjavera	Ovinjuru	Cattle	

4.7.3 Economic potential in the constituency

- Filling station
- Butchery
- Production of animal fodder
- Banking
- Bakery
- Agri-industry

- Poultry farming at large scales due to availability of land for such ventures
- Aquaculture in some villages which have water in abundance like Otjimanangombe, Kaalpan, and Okozondje
- Commercialization of indigenous knowledge

4.7.4 Challenges

- Insufficient land and water constitute the most important factors that make rural communities vulnerable;
- Droughts, fire, predation by wild animals and occurrences of poisonous plants all affect farming negatively;
- Poorly accessible roads inhibit proper service delivery to the communities in remote areas.
- Work ethics amongst staff is lacking at times;
- The current health facilities in the Constituency are not adequate to render health care services to the scattered population in the constituency;
- HIV and AIDS and TB patients default on their prescription due to the prevailing stigma among the community members. ;
- High turnout of learner enrolment especially in grade 1 and 8 at the beginning of every year, therefore there is a need for new schools;
- Most schools need ablution facilities;
- Old hostel facilities need some renovations;
- There is an inability to attract professional staff due to lack of basic facilities and incentives;
- Mushrooming of shebeens and continuous non-adherence to liquor act by some outlets.
- There is a high level of poverty and unemployment in the constituency;
- Poisonous plants;
- Lack of farming land;
- Bush encroachment;
- Monopolized livestock trading.

4.8 Aminuis Constituency

Aminuis constituency borders the Republic of Botswana to the East, Kalahari and Gobabis Constituencies to the North, Khomas Region to the West and Hardap Region to the South. The size of the constituency is 13 028 square kilometers. According to 2011 Population and Housing Census report, Aminuis Constituency has a total population of 12 306 people, 6 533 male and 5 773 female.

The main centers are Leonardville, which has a village council, and Aminuis and Corridor 13 which are settlements. The other center is Onderombapa which is a growth point. The Constituency office is located at Aminuis.



Table 33: Population and distance per locality in Aminuis Constituency

Locality	Population	Distance from Gobabis
Leonardville	2 686	133 (gravel road)
Aminuis	5 297	200 (partly tarred)
Corridor 13	1 181	210 (gravel road)
Onderombapa	2 403	125 (gravel road)

4.8.1 Leonardville

Statistics:

Public Facilities: One Primary School, one Secondary School, one clinic, one police station, one post office (NamPost), | Leonardville Fish farm, Ministry of Works and Transport, Veterinary office.

Businesses: Toitjies Boerediens, Forest Supermarket, Kalahari Wild Silk, Prosopis Woodworks & Furniture Factory, Leonardville Garage service station.

Possible Areas of Investments: skills development, livestock farming, prosopis furniture & charcoal production.

Employment and major source of income for residents: Livestock farming, wages and salaries, small businesses.

Offices: Leonardville Village Council.

4.8.2 Aminuis

Aminuis is a declared settlement.

Statistics:

Public Facilities: One Primary School, One Secondary school, One Combined School, One clinic, One police station, one post office (NamPost),, Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry, Ministry of Gender, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Youth & Sport, Aminuis Constituency office, Aminuis Settlement office.

Businesses: Itumeleng Supermarket, Sox Cash & Carry, Aminuis Mini Mark, Aminuis Value Store & Service station, Aweh Aweh shop, Hepo Store, Bank Windhoek Agency.

Possible Areas of Investments: Skills development, livestock farming, mining (diamonds, oil ,salt calcrete).

Employment and major source of income for residents: Livestock farming, wages and salaries, small businesses.

Offices: Aminuis Farmers Association.

4.8.3 Corridor 13

Corridor 13 is a declared settlement.

Statistics:

Public Facilities: one Primary School, One clinic, One police station, one post office agency (NamPost), Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry.

Businesses: Mauziza Winkel & Service station, Vena Trading cc, Huana China Shop,

Possible Areas of Investments: livestock farming, mining (calcrete)

Employment and major source of income for residents: Livestock farming, wages and salaries, small businesses.

Offices: Bakgalagari Traditional Authority offices.

4.8.4 Onderombapa

Onderombapa is a growth point with potential.

Public Facilities: One clinic

Businesses: Rituna Winkel, Kahirona General Dealer, Moreson Winkel & Service Station, Kondjouua General Dealer.

Employment and major source of income for residents: Livestock farming, small businesses

Offices: Pamwe Cooperative.

Possible Areas of Investments: Livestock farming, mining (calcrete).

4.8.5 Possibilities for Economic Development and Investment

4.8.5.1 Tourism and Accommodation

Tuauana Guest House at Aminuis and Kalahari Wild Silk both offer accommodation facilities for to visitors and tourists in the constituency. Okambahoka community-based lodge is another accommodation establishment which is currently leased to RCC until the upgrade of the MR 91 road to bitumen standard is completed.



Aminuis Constituency Office

4.8.5.2 Bush Encroachment

A good example of a bush encroachment challenge turned into an opportunity is the Prosopis Woodworks and Furniture factory at Leonardville which manufactures timber, furniture, wood and charcoal.

4.8.5.3 Livestock production

Livestock farming is the main source of income in the constituency and there are auction pens at Corridor 13, Onderombapa, Aminuis, Leonardville and farm Monica. Auctions are held on a rotational basis at the different places to cater for the needs of the farmers.

4.8.6 Development Center's / Businesses in Aminuis Constituency

4.8.6.1 Kalahari Wild Silk Manufactures

The Kalahari Wild Silk Manufacturers is a community based organization and is registered as a section 21 company not having share capital, and is an incorporated association not for gain. It is located at Leonardville. The company manufactures carpets, scarfs, curtains, pillows, shawls and duvets from silk cocoons. Occasionally

animals may feed on dry cocoons which cannot be digested and this may result in death of livestock. The collection of cocoons therefore contributes to the protection of the environment as it reduces livestock and game mortality.



The pictures above show some of the cocoon processing stages at Kalahari Wild Silk

4.8.6.2 Prosopis Woodworks & Furniture Factory

This is a privately owned business which manufactures timber, furniture, wood and charcoal, hence creating employment opportunities. Community projects



The pictures above shows work in progress from the raw material in the veld as well as the finished products at the Prosopis Woodworks & Furniture Factory.

Table 34: Community projects in Aminuis Constituency

Names of the project	Description	Location
Ndundusa Catering	Selling take-away food	Rietquelle
Aminuis Trading Enterprises	Harvesting & selling wood	Otjomaruru
Etemo Lucerne Project	Chicken, vegetables and fruit	
Smiley Catering & Food Supplies	Selling take-away food	Leonardville
NGSIP goats Project	Goat farming	Corridor area
NGSIP goat project	Goat farming	Leonardville
	Brickmaking	Okomukaru
Multipurpose Centre	Rest camp & accommodation facility	Leonardville
Poor Farmers Support Project	Goat farming	Tukus & Ondjiripumua
Kalahari Wild Silk	Carpets, scarves, curtains and accommodation	
San Low Cost Housing Project	Construction of houses for the community	Corridor 17
Petoors Trading Enterprises	Selling take-away food and catering	Leonardville
Mekondjo Pottery	Pottery	Okonjoka
Corridor 13 Goat project	Food security and nutrition	Corridor 13
Otjituve Goat Project	Food security and nutrition	Otjituve
Tamunee General Dealer	Poultry farming	Okombepera
Aminuis Hair Salon and Bakery	Hair Salon	Rietquelle

4.8.7 Challenges

- The sustainability of projects in the constituency remains one of our major challenges.
- The type of vegetation in the constituency particularly in the communal areas make it prone to droughts annually.
- Despite the fact that Aminuis is blessed with sufficient underground water, it has not made an impact on food security in the constituency.

Chapter 5:

Regional Comparative and Competitive Advantage

Omaheke region has identified three comparative and competitive advantages that can serve as an engine driving economic development and improving the livelihoods of its citizens. Firstly, the region is known for being a cattle country and should maintain its focus on livestock production. Secondly, the region can potentially establish sound service delivery systems centered on its transport network and subsequently set up opportunities for logistics hubs along these routes. Thirdly, the abundant natural resources can be harnessed to add value to the objective of poverty reduction and increased livestock production in the region.

5.1 Livestock production

a) Livestock productivity

Namibia has a total cattle population of 2 904 451 and Omaheke is steadily growing as a livestock producing region with a total cattle population of 454 058, a sheep population of 385 363 and a goat population of 145 148 according to the Livestock Census of 2012. Both cattle and sheep population have increased by 26.3% and 27.8% respectively between 2005 and 2012. This figure, however, has reduced for most of the livestock during the 2014 annual livestock census according to the Directorate of Veterinary Services. The drop in the livestock figures is attributed to the 2013/14 drought which created a highly volatile livestock sector.

The agriculture industry employs 45% of the population followed by administration and support services with 8.5%. (Omaheke 2011, Census Regional Profile). According to the livestock census of 2012, Otjozondjupa trails behind Omaheke region with a cattle population of 436 062. According to the 2013/14 agriculture report, Omaheke region has the highest percentage (90.4%) of agricultural households owning livestock followed by Otjozondjupa region (69.7%).

Omaheke, with its outstanding performance in the livestock industry, deserves better treatment and establishment of various support systems required for industry to flourish. Thus beef processing through sustainable abattoirs remains a challenge and Government has an undeniable responsibility to establish an enabling environment whereby both the Gobabis and Witvlei Abattoirs may be kept afloat for the sake of residents' aspirations and the development of a balanced approach to managing the country's key economic sectors.

b) Dairy

In light of the comparative edge the region has in terms of livestock production, complementary manufacturing activities operate in order to support the industry.

Amongst those being intensely marketed is the dairy project, which the Office of the Governor spearheaded with assistance from partners in the Republic of India. Tsjaka/Ben-Hur and Otjimanangombe in Epukiro and Otjinene have been identified as pilot sites for the dairy project.

c) Skin, Hide and Leather

The tannery for leather processing is being supported by Omaheke Regional Council. There are number of leather related activities at constituency levels that should be promoted aggressively. Ungura Uvaterue at Otjikorondo is one such project and the construction of a community based tannery is recommended under the One Region One Initiative programme.

d) Development of communal grazing area

Omaheke has a large rangeland suitable for livestock production. This is evident when considering the size of the area constituting farms bought for resettlement purposes, which amounts to 306 212 Ha, as well as virgin land north of the Otjinene, Epukiro and Otjombinde constituencies up to and including Eiseb area. Most of this land was earmarked by the Ministry of Land and Resettlement to be developed and demarcated into small farming units. As can be observed from increasing livestock figures in the region, once the land is developed the livestock productivity tends to increase and typically results in a high contribution to the gross domestic product. This vast swathe of land cannot be productive and sustainable unless prudent rangeland management practices are adopted and monitored through the agriculture and water extension office of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry.

5.2 Transport and logistics

a) Trans-Kalahari Corridor

Figure 2 Trans-Kalahari Corridor



Omaheke is centrally located within the Trans-Kalahari Corridor. This Corridor is comprised of a tarred road linking the Port of Walvis Bay with Botswana and the industrial powerhouse of South Africa, Gauteng. The Corridor stretches over 1,900 km along Walvis Bay-Windhoek-Gobabis-Gaborone-Johannesburg/Pretoria. It is supported by a railway line from the Port of Walvis Bay

to Gobabis (via Windhoek), where trans-shipment facilities are available, and continues from Lobatse in Botswana.

In Namibia, the corridor is made up of the B2 running from Walvis Bay through Swakopmund to Okahandja, the B1 from Okahandja to Windhoek, and the B6 from Windhoek through Gobabis to the Botswana border at Buitepos/Mamuno. In Botswana it is called the A2 and runs through Jwaneng and Lobatse to the South African border at Pioneer Gate/Skilpadshek. In South Africa it follows the N4 through Rustenburg to Pretoria.

The prevalence of the interconnecting highways have contributed to growing potential towards achieving the two economic goals of logistics and promotion of the tourism in the region as defined in the NDP4. The Trans-Kalahari Highway links South Africa (Gauteng province) through Botswana to the Walvis Bay harbor, while the upgrade of the Aranos-Aminuis road and the Gobabis-Otjinene-Grootfontein link to bitumen standards will significantly promote trade from South Africa (either Gauteng & Western Cape) to SADC countries such as Zambia, Botswana and Angola. The travelling time along the corridor has been reduced thanks to the construction of Trans Kalahari Highway as indicated in the Table 53, and thus with the establishment and efficient operation of the One Stop Border Post (OSBP) these times have been shortened.

Table 35: Distance and travelling time along Trans-Kalahari Highway

Country	Location	Distance from Walvis Bay	Transit time
Botswana	Francistown	1,781 km	3 days
	Gaborone	1,366 km	2 days
Namibia	Gobabis	605 km	2 days
	Windhoek	384 km	1 day
South Africa	Johannesburg	1,900 km	2 days

Existing and new developments coming to Omaheke Region to compliment the Trans-Kalahari Highway include:

- Weighbridge on the Trans-Kalahari Highway, Gobabis (by Roads Authority; 2013)
- Truck Port
- Railway line extension from Gobabis to Trans-Kalahari Border post (Buitepos) through to Botswana (by Company; 2015).
- Intersection tarred road to Aminuis and Otjinene linking southern part of Omaheke with the Trans Kalahari Highway.

b) One-Stop-Border-Post

The Buitepos Border is planned to establish a state of the art one-stop border post (OSBP), which will coordinate the flow of goods, services and people between the

Namibian and Botswana authorities. Namibia and Botswana have jointly agreed to establish and implement OSBP at Trans-Kalahari/Mamuno border post along Trans-Kalahari Corridor. Facilities on either side of the border will be enhanced to incorporate the OSBP concept. Thus Namibian customs, immigration and associated services will be incorporated on the Botswana side, whilst Botswana customs, immigration and associated services will be incorporated on the Namibia side. The upgrading of services by the Regional Council in terms of water, sewer and electricity and housing by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry, the Ministry of Safety and Security and the Ministry of Finance is currently at an advanced stage and shall cement this bold new development.

c) Industrial & Logistics Park and Railway

The proposed construction of an industrial & logistics park at Gobabis is an attempt to cement the regional position as a transit point for the transportation of goods. Thus Omaheke region needs to realize the establishment of both logistic hub and truck ports in order to facilitate trade along its routes. In addition to the road link, the required preparation for construction of the railway is to be finalized soon. The railway will link Gaborone to Namibia and will supplement the trade flows between the SADC countries.

5.3 Development of natural resources

a) Devil's Claw

Devil's Claw (or harpagophytum) is a perennial vine that has a tap root with storage tubers and has been used thousands years by the people of the Kalahari Desert for medicinal purposes.

The number of harvesters is not exactly known at this stage although estimates put this figure as between 5000 and 8000, of which the greater number of harvesters consist of the inhabitants of the Omaheke Region. The Otjombinde, Otjinene and Kalahari constituencies are where most of Devil's Claw harvesting is taking place. The availability of the devil's claws in these constituencies not only adds value to the natural resources, but also increases the income of the communities. The local establishment of a Devil's Claw factory will be investigated once the production level has become sustainable. CRIAA has played a facilitating role in supporting communities in the harvesting of Devil's Claws and thus remains a trusted institution in the development of this resource.

b) Wood and charcoal

Bush encroachment is defined as the suppression of palatable grasses and herbs by encroaching woody species which are often unpalatable to domestic livestock. Therefore bush encroachment reduces the livestock carrying capacity of land afflicted. The main species causing the problem are *Acacia Mellifera* (black thorn), and *Dichrostachys Cineria* (sickle bush). Bush encroachment is a challenge in most parts of Namibia including the Omaheke Region. Research into the problem has identified a business opportunity to restore the Namibian savannah by processing

encroaching bush into firewood or charcoal, for use as a cooking fuel or for home heating. The wood and charcoal is thus another small industry that needs to be promoted, since bush encroachment intrudes on livestock production. There are many such projects relating to wood and charcoal operating in the various constituencies.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Namibia Census of Agriculture 2013/14, Communal Sector Report, November 2015
2. Namibia Labour Force 2014, Survey report, Namibia Statistics Agency
3. National Census 2011, Namibia Statistics Agency
4. Meat Boat Livestock Census, 2005
5. Rural Water Information System, 2014, Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry
6. Omaheke Regional Poverty Profile, 2006
7. Omaheke 2011, Census Regional Profile, Namibia Statistics Agency
8. Surveillance Report of the 2014 National HIV Sentinel Survey (MOHSS, 2014)
9. Directorate Veterinary Services, Livestock Survey 2014, Gobabis

[illegible]

Notes

[illegible]



Omaheke Regional Council
P/Bag 2277, Gobabis
Namibia
Tel: 062 - 566 500
Fax: 062 - 562 432
Email: info@omahekerc.gov.na

