# LESSONS LEARNED

## Best Practices

The Africa Adaptation Project Namibia has built a national foundation and fast tracked the Ministry of Environment and Tourism climate change adaptation priorities in terms of capacity building, policy formulation and testing of adaptive models and innovative practices. The following are some of the best practices emanating from the project intervention towards climate change adaptation:

* Threshold 21 (T21) a Systems Dynamics based model to support national development planning by integrating economic, social and environmental factors into a single framework highly embraced by the NPC designated host, the Ministry of Finance and the Bank of Namibia among others.
* Cross-sectoral awareness-raising on climate change adaptation to schools and youth environmental clubs (learners participation in CoP17, Durban, South Africa) and the UNAM environmental club, in addition to public awareness through a broader sectoral outreach initiative of CC ambassadors, media participation on CCA issues, and changing NCCC ToR to encompass climate change activities on sustainable bases.
* CC has improved governance at high decision-making levels resulting in moral and technical support to climate change adaptation related initiatives such as the Green Fund Bidding and training of the Parliamentary Committee on Economics, Natural Resources and Public Administration.
* Piloted drip-irrigation vegetable gardens in Oshikoto and Kavango regions are significantly exemplary for nutritional food security and income generation for rural communities. As a result, CES invited Kongalend, a financial service provider for financial assistance (loans), to individuals who wish to emulate innovation and venture into SME business.
* AAPNAM provided co-financial support to Ondangwa Town Council for a Mobile Pumping Machine to pump storm water during floods. This motivated the Ongwediva and Oshakati Town Councils to purchase these pumps, thereby enhancing their disaster preparedness.
* Synergy formation amongst stakeholders contributed to the success of th AAPNAM initiative (e.g. Omuthiya Town Council donation of a plot to EzyStove).
* MAWF extension officers rolling of CCA toolkits and ToT modules. Keetmanshoop DEES office resolved to place a two-page article on their regional bi-annual newsletter: *Boerdary-belange* (*Farmers’ Interest*). The first article appeared in the June 2012 edition authored by Ms Katrina Willem (Extension Technician, Karas Region).

## Constraints Experienced

The preliminary findings highlighted the following constraints that pose as barriers to the AAPNAM implementation.

* The Project timeframe by design was not proportional to the nature of outputs versus the desired results. This posed constraints on some activities and hampered proper implementation and synthesis of technical studies outcome for cascading outputs execution.
* Targeted stakeholders felt overwhelmed by numerous AAPNAM related consultations and activities that were implemented at once and in a short-time (2 years).
* Technical studies conducted in parallel hindered opportunities to inform each other.
* Lack of mid-term evaluation which could have measured project implementation progression and given recommendations on possible alternatives.
* Appraisal of Small Grant proposals took long, resulting in delayed signing of agreements and disbursement of tranches for implementation. This strained monitoring exercises and inhibited provision of advisory services to beneficiaries by the PMU and technical support agencies.
* EzyStove was established on business principles, including patented design by CES. However, this is not a profit oriented arrangement as CBA beneficiaries incur extra transportation and production costs (e.g. EzyStove producers take rods for ring bending to CES workshops in Ondangwa). In addition, beneficiaries are restricted to sell final products at a lower preset price compared to production costs.
* Cost of equipment and seeds for the pilot irrigation project is very expensive; seed prices increased by 300% from 2011 to 2012 in Ondangwa compared to Windhoek suppliers.
* No criteria was given to institutions regarding the selection of Climate Change Ambassadors representatives, particularly the commercial focused private sector that does not deal directly with natural resources management (e.g. PWC: representative could come from marketing or Corporate social responsibility (CSR) unit, other than advisory services).