

Technical Annex 1: Water supply for the communities in the Park (Activity 1.2.6, Budget Line 40)

The rehabilitation process of Iona National Park (NP) includes an important management tool, the Integrated Management Plan. This plan has identified areas with varied uses in the park, such as full protection, ecotourism, community areas etc., as well as areas that have suffered large anthropogenic pressures.

In order to control these pressures, to promote the conservation of the park and to implement the various uses of each zone, it is necessary to develop a number of actions, amongst them, to improve the quality (and in certain cases quantity) of the water supply in peripheral locations near the park boundaries. Improving the water supply for the communities in a specific place is an opportunity to encourage a greater permanence of semi-nomadic people (including women and school age children) and reduce human presence and livestock in sensitive areas that are subject to overuse and/or important for wildlife. Points of water access near current and future guard posts and along entry routes for tourists visiting the park are also important from the perspective of infrastructure development for park management and accessibility of the park for tourism.

In this sense, five locations near the park boundaries, where benefits from improved water access for park management and the communities of the park strongly overlap, have been identified for the installation of water supply points. The choice of these areas was guided by the following criteria: there are or will be future park ranger posts; they are places where tourists pass by and will take up water supplies on their way into the park (especially those areas where community based tourism will be developed); and they are already used by significant numbers of people from the communities that inhabit and use the park. The table below summarizes benefits of water supply to the park and communities of the identified locations:

Location	Benefits for park management	Benefits for the communities of the park
Helola	Supporting future park ranger post. Promoting park conservation through improved water supply to encourage greater permanence of people at the site.	There are currently three water holes with hand pumps of which only one is operational providing poor quality, saline drinking water. The goal is to provide better quality water to the communities.
Ovipaca (Moimba)	Promoting park conservation through improved water supply to encourage permanence of people at the site. Water supply for tourists entering the park.	About 50 people live permanently at the site, reaching up to 1,000 people on market days. Available water is poor quality and contaminated by cattle. The goal is to provide better quality water.
Otchifengo	Promoting park conservation through improved water supply to encourage permanence of people at the site. Water supply for tourists entering the park.	About 300 people live permanently in the area, increasing to 500 during the rainy season. Available water is of low quality and high salinity. The goal is to provide better quality water.

Monte Negro	Supporting future park ranger post. Currently there is a provisional ranger post. Promoting park conservation through improved water supply to encourage permanence of people at the site. Water supply for tourists entering the park from Namibia and Cunene.	About 300 people living in this area depend on river Cunene for water. Crocodiles affect the safety especially of women and children when accessing water. The goal is to provide access to better quality and safer water.
Ponta Albina	Support the existing provisional park ranger post and the future permanent post.	Park entrance for visitors from Tômbwa to coastal zone of the park with significant tourist flow.

At the locations Helola, Ovipaca, Otchifengo and Monte Negro, a water supply point will be built consisting of the following:

- A borehole stabilized with appropriate casing
- An appropriate submersible pump with discharge piping
- A solar energy system appropriate for the pump
- An elevated header tank (10 000 ltr) fitted with a pressure shut-off system
- A drinking trough for livestock
- A supply point for human consumption (with or without fixed washbasins, shade etc)
- Appropriate plumbing to link the above
- Fencing to protect the installations from livestock

At Ponta Albina, water of good quality is available at a distance of ~8 km therefore only the appropriate piping is necessary to bring the water to the existing temporary guard post where the tourists pass on their way into the park.