United Nations Development Programme - Back To Office Report (BTOR)

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**Approved Mission Itinerary:** Windhoek-Namibia – Waterberg & Etosha, Namibia – Windhoek-Namibia

**List of Annexes:**
- PASS Project Close Out Itinerary

**Inclusive Travel Dates**

<table>
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<th>From</th>
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<td>Sunday 10.06.2018</td>
<td>Tuesday 12.06.2018</td>
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**Key counterpart (s) in each location:**

- UNDP E & E – Ms. Martha Naanda; Ms. Nashilongo Amutenya
- PASS Project – Mr. Jonas Heita, Ms. Victoria Jason
- Emergo Strategic Marketing & Communications – Mr. Servaas van den Bosch
- Ministry of Environment & Tourism – Mr. David Masen (Warden, Waterberg Plateau Park) Mr. Bonny Simataa (Chief Warden of Etosha East)

**Purpose/Objective of Mission:** (specify the type of work which has/had to be accomplished)

The purpose of the mission was for UNDP’s project oversight during the closure period to capture human interest and field stories. The stories will be used as inputs to contribute to internal and external knowledge sharing as well as communication materials of the PASS Project.

**Project Brief Summary:**
The PASS Project is a four year project, set up to ensure that the Protected Areas System of Namibia is strengthened and financed sustainably through, **improving current systems for park entry and revenue generation mechanisms**, improving **law enforcement** strategies and mechanisms to address poaching and other wildlife crimes and improving **fire management** in protected areas.

**Project start Date:** 1st January 2014  
**Project Completion Date:** 31st December 2017

**Total Budget:**

- **Total Resources Required:** US$18,500,000.00  
- **Total Allocated Resources:** US$4,000,000.00  
- **UNDP Cash/Co-Financing:** US$140,000.00  
- **UNDP in Kind:** US$360,000.00  
- **Government:** US$14,000,000.00

The programme was carried out as follows: 10.06.2018, 10:00-13:00 (Interviewing of the Warden at the Waterberg National Pak and Assessment of the Anti-Poaching Law Enforcement Centre, Radio Communication system, Water supply network to APU Camps, Camping equipment, Meeting with the APU Dog Trainers, and Inspection of the Dog Pen). 11.06.2018, 09:00-17:00 Inspection of the Skorpiun Bult Anti Poaching Patrol Camp (semi permanent – UNDP-GEF-Yahoo Japan. 12.06.2018,
08:00-11:30 Interview with Etosha National Park Chief Control Warden and visit to an UNDP-GEF PASS supported APU Patrol Camp /temporary.

The objectives were mainly guided by the collection of human interest stories about:

1. How the Namibia PASS Project supported by UNDP-GEF may have helped a ranger/NAMPOL/Defence officer deployed on site to fight illegal wildlife trafficking /poaching.

2. How the Namibia PASS Project supported by UNDP-GEF may have helped an institution/s (e.g. MET Wildlife and Park Management) to effectively address a major threat/challenge (in this case rhino and elephant poaching).

3. How the PASS Project may have helped to change behaviour and practices of a) an individual, b) institution (e.g. MET, NAMPOL, Defence), c) community /sector to deal with the poaching issue effectively.

**Summary of Mission Findings and Outcomes Expected:**

- **The following were some of the innovations that the project introduced:**
  - Built a settlement out of pre-assembled bricks at Waterberg, low costing and reducing the carbon footprint.
  - Solar ensembles at the APU Camps waterpoints.
  - Assembled toilets in Etosha using old drums from wrecked helicopters.
  - Built camps in Kunene using locally sourced rocks.

- **Some of the Challenges for the patrol personnel:**
  - Tents are often set up in the sun because there is no shade and this becomes a problem especially in Summer.
  - Food is not enough, it does not arrive on time and is often off by the time it arrives.
  - No First Aid kit, which is even more necessary especially because the patrollers are prone to dangers such as snake bites.
  - Have a single Land Cruiser to do all of the work i.e fetch food, drop off patrollers, do the run arounds e.t.c
  - As the pilot activities were implemented in Etosha National Park, with the plan to roll them out to other Parks, this plan did not materialise as challenges encountered had to be tackled first.

**Recommendations/Actions to be Taken:**

**Waterberg Plateau Park:**
New uniform for the MET personnel and preferably more than a pair per person (MET).

**Okaukuejo (ENP, gates):**
The IT company that first implemented the system will always have control of the system and once they phase out, they may do anything to the system for example shut it down. The Ministry of Environment needs to have their own IT division which will set up the system and have full control of it (IT TA support).

**Skorpiun Bult (ENP):**
Have the solar panels restructured in order to gain maximum sunlight.
**Baseb Patrol Camp, Namutoni:**
Some tents are in direct sunlight therefore shaded structures need to be erected.
Give more visibility to the existing Information Centre at Namutoni so that visitors are aware of it and visit the centre regularly.

**Other Critical Recommendations:**
1. **Human Well being at the Patrol Camps:** Provide First Aid kits at all APU camps (UNDP).
2. **Environmental Health/ Waste Management:** Encourage recycling as the Scorpiun Bult Camp is doing with water bottles (MET, Devt Partners, Staff at Patrol Camps).
3. **Human Well being at Patrol Camps:** The matter of inadequate food supply to the personnel at APU camps needs urgent attention. Sufficiency/adequacy/appropriateness/ etc. (MET, NAMPOL).
4. **Patrol Protection /Protective Gears:** Some tents are worn out and need to be replaced (MET, Donors, Devt Partners).
5. **Motivation /Inspiration/Site Visits** to Field Level Activities (MET, UNDP, Partners).
6. **Data and Information Management:** Revive/improve the Information and Educational Hub (self running) at Namutoni (MET, Donors, Devt Partners, UNDP)