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SCOPING REPORT:

SMALL-SCALE MINING AND QUARRYING ACTIVITIES ON MINING CLAIM 73963 ON FARM !URIS 481, OSHIKOTO REGION, NAMIBIA

PROJECT NUMBER: ECC-105-568-REP-04-D

REPORT VERSION: REV 01

DATE: 02 MAY 2025



TITLE AND APPROVAL PAGE

Project Name: Small-scale mining and quarrying activities on mining claim
73963 on Farm !Uris 481, Oshikoto Region, Namibia

Client Company Name: Three Musketeers Investment (Pty) Ltd

Client Name: Mr Andre Neethling

Ministry Reference: APP- 005061

Status of Report: Final for Government Submission

Project Number: ECC-105-568-REP-04-D

Date of issue: 02 May 2025

Review Period N/A

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE CONSULTANCY CONTACT DETAILS:

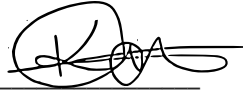
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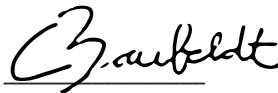
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ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Description
°	degree
°C	degree celcius
%	percentage
BID	background information document
CIA	cumulative impact assessment
DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs
DPMT	Dundee Precious Metals Tsumeb
E	east
ESE	east southeast
EAP	environmental assessment practitioner
ECC	Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd
EMA	Environmental Management Act, No 7 of 2007
ESMP	environmental and social management plan
EMF	electromagnetic field
ESE	East south east
ESIA	environmental and social impact assessment
ENE	East north east
GDP	gross domestic product
ha	hectares
I&APs	interested and affected parties
IFC	International Finance Corporation
km	kilometre
Km ²	kilometre square
km/h	kilometre per hour
Ltd.	limited
m ²	square metre
mabsl	meters above sea level
MEFT	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism
MICT	Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy
mm	millimetre

Abbreviation	Description
Mt	Million tonnes
NDP	National Development Plan
NSA	Namibia Statistics Agency
No.	number
PHC	primary healthcare
Pty	proprietary
RH	relative humidity
SiO ₂	Silicon dioxide
RoD	record of decision
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd (ECC) has been engaged as the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) to conduct an environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) by Three Musketeers Investment (Pty) Ltd (hereinafter referred to as the Proponent).

The proposed Project involves the small-scale quarrying activities on mining claim 73963, within Farm !Uriis No. 481. The Proponent intends to collect silica gravel from the quarrying activities and deliver it to the Sinomine Resource Group Tsumeb smelter, previously owned and operated by Dundee Precious Metals Tsumeb (DPMT). The proposed Project area will be 17.6 ha and the envisioned quarrying quantities per month are 1 500 Mt per month (after crushing and screening), while the amount to be loaded, including the fines, might be up to 3 000 Mt per month. It is expected that operations will continue for a period of 10 years.

The proposed site can be accessed via the B1 road approximately 15 km from Tsumeb as shown in Figure 1.

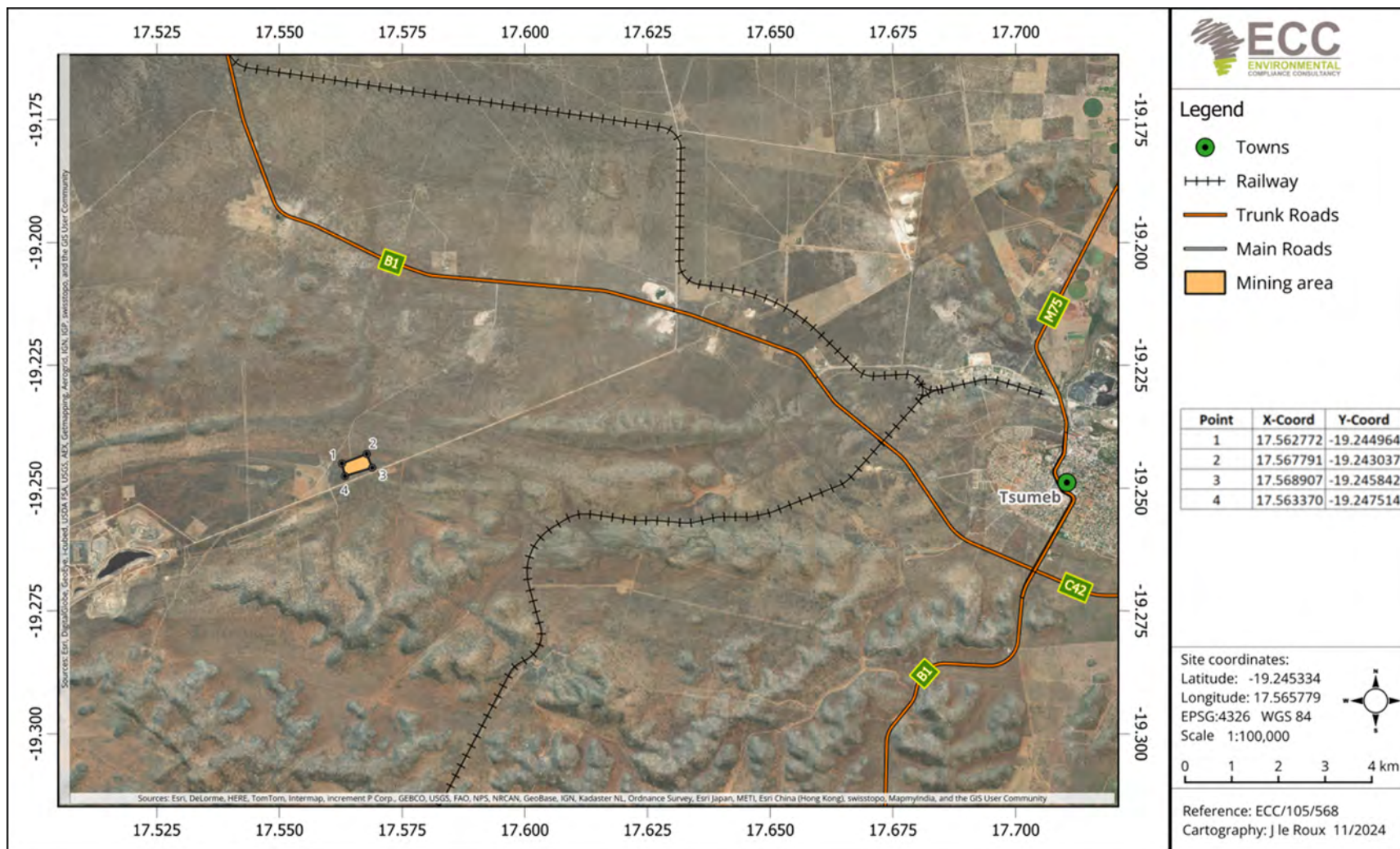


Figure 1 - Location of the proposed Project site

1.2 PURPOSE OF THE SCOPING REPORT

This final scoping with impact assessment report summarises the prescribed ESIA process to be followed. It provides information on the baseline biophysical and socio-economic environments, Project description and details. Furthermore the report identifies and assess potential impacts, whether positive or negative and their relative significance, explore alternatives for technical recommendations and identify appropriate mitigation measures.

This report provides information to the public and stakeholders to aid in the decision-making process for the proposed Project by the MEFT. The objectives are to:

- Describe in depth the proposed activity and the site on which the activities are to be undertaken;
- Describe the baseline environment that may be affected by the proposed activities;
- Identify the laws, legislations and guidelines that have been considered in the assessment and preparation of this report;
- Provide details of the public consultation process;
- Provide an assessment of potential impacts identified; and
- Develop the management, mitigation and monitoring measures to minimise the potential impacts.

This scoping with impact assessment report will be submitted to the Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy (MIME), as the competent authority and the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) – Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) for review and record of decision on the application for the environmental clearance certificate. The MEFT reviews applications for environmental clearance certificates and has determined that an environmental and social management plan (ESMP) (Appendix A) be developed to provide a management framework for the planning and implementation of the proposed Project. The ESMP provides development standards and commitments to ensure that the identified potential environmental and social impacts are minimised, mitigated, prevented, and/or enhanced as far as reasonably practicable, and that statutory requirements and other legal obligations are fulfilled.

1.3 THE PROPONENT OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Three Musketeers Investment (Pty) Ltd is the Proponent for the proposed Project. The Proponent details are provided in Table 1.

Table 1 - Proponent's details

Company Representative	Contact Details
Mr Andre Neethling	Three Musketeers Investment (Pty) Ltd: P.O. Box 1321 Tsumeb Namibia baasco@afol.com +264 (81) 122 8502

1.4 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd (ECC) (Reg. No. 2022/0593) has prepared this scoping report and the ESMP on behalf of the Proponent and in line with the relevant national regulations and international best practice.

This report has been authored by employees of ECC, who have no material interest in the outcome of this report, nor do any of the ECC team have any interest that could be reasonably regarded as being capable of affecting their independence in the preparation of this report. ECC is independent from the Proponent and has no vested or financial interest in the project, except for fair remuneration for professional fees rendered based upon agreed commercial rates. Payment of these fees is in no way contingent on the results of this report, the assessment, or a record of decision issued by the Government. No member or employee of ECC is, or is intending to be, a director, officer, or any other direct employee of Three Musketeers Investment (Pty) Ltd. No member or employee of ECC has, or has had, any shareholding in Three Musketeers Investment (Pty) Ltd.

All compliance and regulatory requirements regarding this report should be forwarded by email or posted to the address as set out in Table 2.

Table 2 - Contact information of the EAP

EAP	Contact Details
Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd	P O Box 91193, Klein Windhoek, Namibia Tel: +264 81 669 7608 Email: info@eccenvironmental.com

1.5 ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

The EMA and its 2012 Regulations stipulates that an environmental clearance certificate is required before undertaking any of the listed activities that are identified in the Act and its Regulations. Potential listed activities triggered by the Project are provided in Table 3.

Table 3 - Listed activities triggered by the Project

Source: Environmental Management Act, 2007, and its regulations.

Listed activity	As defined by the regulations of the Act	Relevance to the project
Mining and quarrying activities	(3.2) Other forms of mining or extraction of any natural resources whether regulated by law or not (3.3) Resource extraction, manipulation, conservation and related activities	– The extraction of loose silica gravel will be used to provide this material to the nearby Sinomine Resource Group Tsumeb smelter, previously owned and operated by Dundee Precious Metals Tsumeb (DPMT). The quarrying activities are estimated to be 3 000 Mt per month, including fines.
Forestry activities	(4) The clearance of forest areas, deforestation, afforestation, timber harvesting or any other related activity that requires authorisation in term of the Forest Act, 2001 (Act No. 12 of 2001) or any other law.	– The area requires to be disturbed by the Project is heavily encroached by invasive species and will need to be cleared to grant operations of the Project. The total area to be cleared is equivalent to 17.6 ha. – The relevant forestry permit (forest permit for harvesting) would be obtained for land clearing activities can commence.

2 APPROACH TO THE ASSESSMENT

2.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE ASSESSMENT

The environmental and social assessment process aims to determine which impacts are likely to be significant, to scope the available data and identify any gaps that need to be filled, to determine the spatial and temporal scope, and to identify the assessment methodology. The scope of the assessment was determined by undertaking a preliminary assessment of the proposed Project against the receiving environment, obtained through a desktop review and available site-specific literature.

2.2 THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

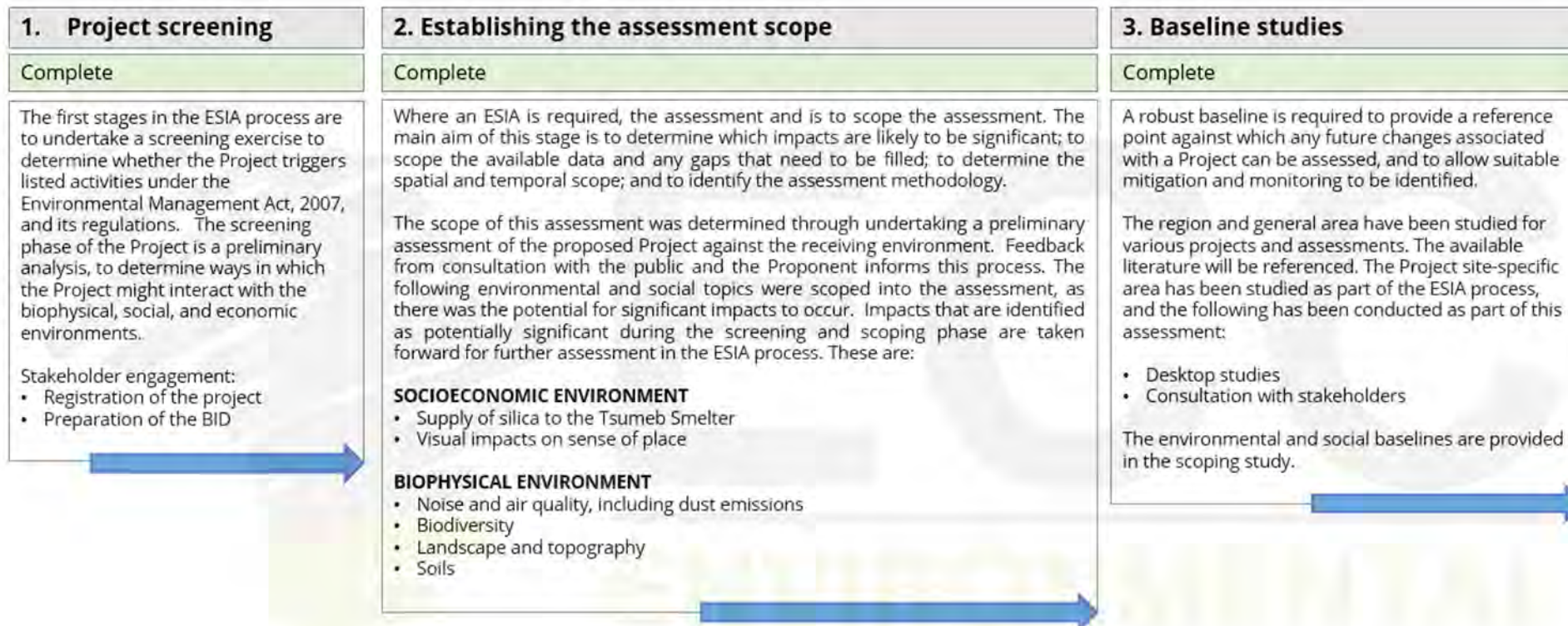
The ESIA methodology applied to this assessment has been developed using the International Finance Corporation (IFC) standards and models, in particular, Performance Standard 1, 'Assessment and management of environmental and social risks and impacts' (International Finance Corporation, 2017) (International Finance Corporation, 2012), which establishes the importance of:

- Integrated assessment to identify the environmental and social impacts, risks, and opportunities of Projects;
- Effective community engagement through disclosure of Project-related information and consultation with local communities on matters that directly affect them; and
- The Proponent's management of environmental and social performance throughout the life of the Project.

Furthermore, the Namibian Draft Procedures and Guidance for ESIA and ESMP (Republic of Namibia, 2008), as well as international and national best practice, and over 25 years of combined ESIA experience, were also drawn upon in the assessment process. This impact assessment is a formal process in which the potential effects of the Project on the biophysical, social, and economic environments are identified, assessed, and reported so that the significance of potential impacts can be taken into account when considering whether to grant approval, consent, or support for the proposed Project. The process followed, through the assessment, is illustrated in Figure 2.

2.3 SCREENING OF THE PROJECT

The first stages in the ESIA process are to register the Project with the DEA/MEFT and to undertake a screening exercise to determine triggered listed activities under the Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007 and associated regulations. The location, scale and duration of Project activities were considered against the receiving environment. The proposed Project is a listed activity and potential impacts could occur. Thus, it was concluded that a scoping report, with an impact assessment, was required for Project and that an ESMP should be developed and submitted with the scoping report, as part of the application process for the environmental clearance certificate.



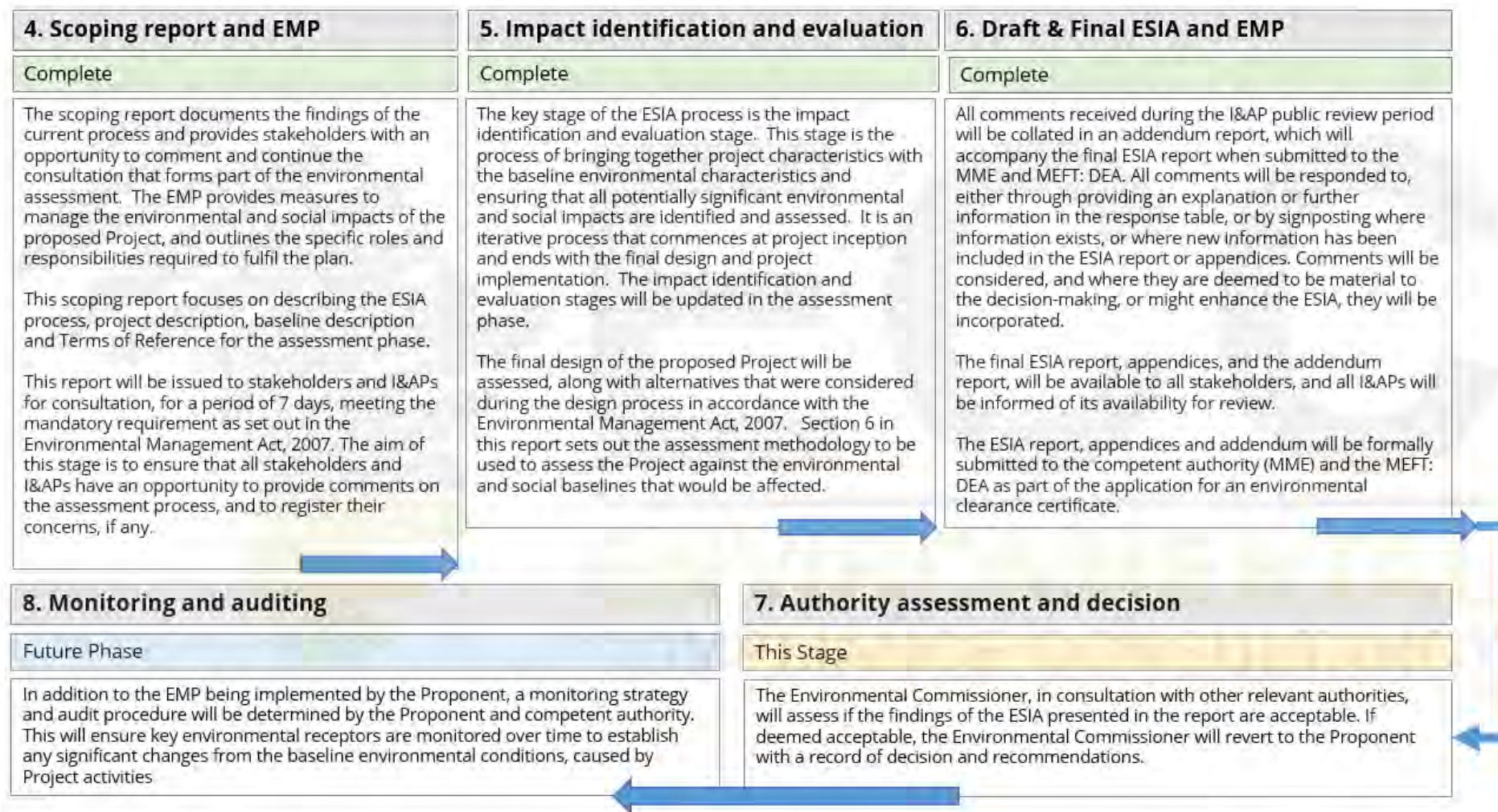


Figure 2 – The full ESIA process described

2.4 SCOPING AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The scoping phase with impact assessment for the Project is an analysis to determine ways in which the Project interacts with the biophysical, social, and economic environment. Potential impacts are identified, and the significance is assessed during the screening and scoping phase. The details and outcome of the impact assessment are discussed in chapter 6 and 7 of this scoping (with impact assessment) report. Feedback from consultation with the Proponent and stakeholders also informs the analysis of the impacts. The following environmental and social aspects were considered in the impact assessment process:

SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

- Supply of silica to the Tsumeb Smelter
- Visual impacts and sense of place

BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- Noise
- Air quality
- Biodiversity
- Landscape and Topography
- Soils

2.5 BASELINE STUDIES

Baseline studies involve collecting all pertinent information from the status of the receiving environment. This provides a baseline against which changes that occur as a result of the proposed Project can be measured. For the proposed Project, baseline information was obtained through a desktop study, consultation, and engagement with stakeholders, focusing on environmental receptors that could be affected by the proposed Project, and verified through site-specific information. The baseline information is covered in Chapter 5.

2.6 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Public participation and consultation are a requirement as stipulated in the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (Regulations 21 and 23) of the EMA, No. 7 of 2007, for a project undertaking a listed activity that requires an environmental clearance certificate. Consultation is a compulsory and critical component of the assessment process for achieving transparent decision-making and can provide many benefits.

2.6.1 IDENTIFICATION OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

A stakeholder mapping exercise was undertaken to identify individuals or groups of stakeholders and the method by which they will be engaged during the assessment process. Stakeholders were approached through direct communication (letters and phone calls), the national press, or directly by email. A summarised list of stakeholders for this Project is given below:

- Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy (MIME);
- Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT);
- Tsumeb Municipality;
- NamPower;
- Tschudi Mine;
- Lodge !Uris;
- Surrounding farm owners.; and
- The general public with an interest in the Project.

The records of the public consultation process provide a list of interested and affected parties (I&APs), evidence of consultation, including minutes of public meetings, advertisements in national newspapers, and a summary of the comments or questions raised by the public.

2.6.2 BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

The background information document (BID) presents a high-level description of the proposed Project, sets out the assessment process, and outlines when and how consultation will be undertaken. It also provides contact details for further Project-specific inquiries to all registered I&APs. The BID was distributed to registered I&APs, and can be found in Appendix B.

2.6.3 NEWSPAPERS AND ADVERTISEMENTS

Notices of the proposed Project were circulated on 11 February 2025 and 18 February 2025 in the 'Republikein', 'Namibian Sun' and "Allgemeine Zeitung" newspapers (Appendix C). The purpose of this was to initiate the consultation process by informing the public and potential I&APs about the Project and the upcoming public meeting, as well as providing them with the opportunity to register as I&APs in order to receive updates throughout the Project's duration.

2.6.4 SITE NOTICE

Neighbouring properties and stakeholders were informed about the proposed Project by providing a site notice near the entrance to the Project site and neighbouring properties. Evidence including physical pictures and GPS coordinates can be found in Appendix D.

2.6.5 PUBLIC MEETING

A public meeting was held at the Makalani Hotel Conference Hall on 24 February 2025 at 18:00. The objective of the meeting was to provide I&APs with a technical background of the Project, inform them on the ESIA process and take into consideration questions, comments and concerns posed by the public. All comments, questions or concerns received during the public meeting and consultation process are included in Table 4.

Table 4 - Concerns and comments raised by I&APs during the public meeting and consultation process

Stakeholder name and method through which feedback was received	Comments/questions received	Response/clarification
Mr. Ryno Mans - Owner of !Uris Lodge and neighbour to the proposed Project site - During public meeting	The stakeholder expressed concern about the air quality such as dust during operations. Additionally, the stakeholder wanted to confirm that no noise would be made during the night.	The Proponent ensured that the dust emitted will be minor as the Project activity involves the loading and hauling of silica resource. The activities in the Project area will be limited, with a maximum of one truck expected per day or 3 - 5 trucks per month. All operations will be carried out during working hours at any point between 07:00 to 17:00
Mr. C. Voigts and J.A. Swartz - Neighbouring farmers - During public meeting	The neighbouring farmers also had concerns with regards to who will be held responsible for the maintenance of the roads.	The Proponent has clarified that the main proclaimed road that will be used will be maintained by the Tschudi Mine as the road is part of their land.

3 REVIEW OF THE LEGAL ENVIRONMENT

This chapter outlines the regulatory framework applicable to the proposed Project. As stated in section 1 of chapter 3, an environmental clearance certificate is required for any activity listed in the Government Notice No. 29 of 2012 of the EMA 2007. A thorough review of relevant legislation has been conducted for the proposed Project. Table 5 identifies relevant legal requirements specific to the Project. Table 6 provides the national policies and plans. Table 7 specifies permits and/or licences relevant to the Project. This chapter outlines the regulatory framework applicable to the proposed Project.

3.1 NATIONAL REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Table 5 - Details of the regulatory framework as it applies to the Project

National Regulatory Regime	Summary	Applicability to the Project
Constitution of the Republic of Namibia (1990)	The constitution defines the country's position about sustainable development and environmental management. The constitution says that the State shall actively promote and maintain the welfare of the people by adopting policies aimed at the following: "Maintenance of ecosystems, essential ecological processes and biological diversity of Namibia, and the utilisation of living, natural resources on a sustainable basis for the benefit of all Namibians, both present, and future."	The Proponent is committed to the sustainable use of the environment, and has aligned its corporate mission, vision, and objectives with this ambit of the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia (1990).
Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act No. 33 of 1992	The Act provides for the granting of various licences related to mining and exploration. Section 50 (i) requires: "An environmental impact assessment indicating the extent of any pollution of the environment before any prospecting operations or mining operations are being carried out, and an estimate of any pollution, if any, likely to be caused by such prospecting operations or mining operations."	Activities on Mining claim 73963 shall not commence until an environmental clearance certificate has been issued in accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007.
Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007 and its	The Act aims to promote sustainable management of the environment and the use of natural resources. The Act	This scoping report with impact assessment documents the findings of the scoping

National Regulatory Regime	Summary	Applicability to the Project
Regulations (2012), including the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation, 2007 (No. 30 of 2011)	requires certain activities to obtain an environmental clearance certificate prior to Project development. The Act states that an EIA should be undertaken and submitted as part of the environmental clearance certificate application process. The MEFT is responsible for the protection and management of Namibia's natural environment. The Department of Environmental Affairs, under the MEFT, is responsible for the administration of the EIA process.	phase and includes an environmental and social impact assessment sufficient for the Project's activities. An ESMP has also been developed. The process has been undertaken in line with the requirements of the Environmental Management Act and its regulations. The Project will not commence until an environmental clearance certificate has been issued in accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Management Act 2007.
Road Traffic and Transport Act, No. 22 of 1999	This Act makes provision for the control of traffic on public roads, the licensing of drivers, the registration and licensing of vehicles, and the control and regulation of road transport users across Namibia.	The Project will include transportation tasks to support small-mining and quarrying operations. Employees and associated businesses must follow national road laws while using public roads.
Hazardous Substances Ordinance, No. 14 of 1974	This Ordinance provides for the control of toxic substances and can be applied in conjunction with the Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Ordinance, No. 11 of 1976. This applies to the manufacture, sale, use, disposal, and	The Proponent must handle and store hazardous substances such as fuels, reagents, and industrial chemicals in a safe and responsible way, thereby avoiding any harm to the environment.

National Regulatory Regime	Summary	Applicability to the Project
	dumping of hazardous substances, as well as their import and export.	
Water Resource Management Act, No. 11 of 2013 and the Water Resource Management Regulations, 2023	The Water Resources Management Act (No. 11 of 2013) has been billed and was promulgated in August of 2023. The regulations were also passed in August of 2023. This Act provides for the control, conservation and use of water for domestic, agricultural, urban, and industrial purposes; and to make provision for the control of certain activities on or in water. The Department of Water Affairs, within the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR), is responsible for the administration of the Act.	Following the enactment of the new law and regulations, Namibia is now classified as a water-controlled area. As a result, the Project must obtain all necessary licences related to its activities under this Act. However, due to the foreseen activities, it is unlikely that water will be used or affected in any way (e.g. groundwater abstraction).
Labour Act, No. 11 of 2007	The Labour Act, No. 11 of 2007 (Regulations relating to the Occupational Health & Safety provisions of Employees at Work, promulgated in terms of Section 101 of the Labour Act, No. 6 of 1992 - GN156, GG 1617 of 1 August 1997)	The Proponent must adhere to all labour provisions and guidelines, as enshrined in the Labour Act. The Project shall also develop and implement a comprehensive occupational health and safety plan to ensure adequate protection for its personnel throughout the Project lifecycle.

National Regulatory Regime	Summary	Applicability to the Project
The Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Ordinance, No. 11 of 1976	The Ordinance pertains to the prevention of air pollution, with particular focus on public health, and contains detailed provisions on air pollution matters, including the control of noxious or offensive gases, atmospheric pollution by smoke, dust control, motor vehicle emissions, and other general provisions.	Extraction and loading of loose silica material may produce minimal dust. The Proponent will ensure that all feasible measures are taken to minimise and mitigate impacts on air quality, and these measures will be incorporated into the ESMP.
Soil Conservation Act, No. 76 of 1969	This Act makes provision for the prevention and control of soil erosion, and for the protection, improvement, and conservation of soil and vegetation.	Land clearing is essential and inevitable for the proposed Project. The ESMP will include measures to conserve soil and vegetation, which will be used during the rehabilitation phase of the Project.
The Forestry Act, No. 12 of 2001 as amended by the Forest Amendment Act, No. 13 of 2005	Section 22 deals with the protection of natural vegetation that is not part of the surveyed erven of a local authority area as defined. Section 21 states that no person shall cut, destroy, or remove vegetation that is growing within 100 metres of a river, stream, or watercourse.	The Project will involve clearing vegetation as part of the necessary activities. The Proponent will ensure that all relevant permits are obtained before any vegetation removal begins, in full compliance with local regulations. This approach will help to mitigate the effects of vegetation removal

National Regulatory Regime	Summary	Applicability to the Project
	Section 23 requires a permit from the Director for the clearance of vegetation on more than 15ha on any piece of land or several pieces of land situated in the same locality as that which has predominantly woody vegetation; or cut or remove more than 500 cubic metres of forest produce from any piece of land in a period of one	and support sustainable land management practices throughout the Project.

3.2 NATIONAL POLICIES AND PLANS

Table 6 - National policies and plans applicable to the proposed Project

Policy or plan	Description	Relevance to the Project
Fifth National Development Plan (NDP5)	The NDP5 is the fifth in a series of seven five-year national development plans that outline the objectives and aspirations of Namibia's long-term vision. The NDP5 pillars are economic progression, social transformation, environmental sustainability, and good governance.	The Proponent is encouraged to support Government's objectives of the NDP5 through creating opportunities for continued employment.
The Harambee Prosperity Plan II (2021 – 2025)	Second Pillar: Economic advancement – ensuring increasing productivity of priority key sectors (including mining) and the development of additional engines of growth, such as new employment opportunities	The Proponent will contribute to the continued advancement of the economy through the contribution to the operations of the Tsumeb Smelter.

Policy or plan	Description	Relevance to the Project
Namibia's Green Plan, 1992	Namibian has developed a 12-point plan for integrated sustainable environmental management to ensure a safe and healthy environment and to maintain a viable economy. Clause 2 (f) makes specific mention to guidelines related to Mining and Sustainable Development.	The Proponent is encouraged to adhere to best practise during operational activities.
Minerals Policy	The Minerals Policy was adopted in 2002 and sets guiding principles and direction for the development of the Namibian mining sector, while communicating the values of the Namibian people. The policy strives to create an enabling environment for local and foreign investments in the mining sector and seeks to maximise the benefits for the Namibian people from the mining sector, while encouraging local participation. The objectives of the Minerals Policy are in line with the objectives of the Fifth National Development Plan that include reduction of poverty, employment creation, and economic empowerment in Namibia.	The Proponent must conform to the Policy and where applicable support local spending and procurement. The Proponent must comply with the general guidelines of the Policy through the adoption of various legal mechanisms to manage all aspects of the environment effectively and sustainably from the start. The scoping report and impact assessment is one such mechanism to ensure environmental integrity throughout the planned Project's lifecycle.

3.3 PERMITS AND LICENCES FOR THE PROJECT

Table 7 - Specific permit and licence requirements for the proposed Project

Permit or licence	Act or Regulation	Related activities requiring a permit	Relevant Authority
Environmental clearance certificate	Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007	Required for all listed activities shown in Table 2. Requires issuance of Environmental Clearance Certificate by the Environmental Commissioner.	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT)
Mining claim	Section 36 of the Minerals Act, No. 33 of 1992	Written permission from the Mining Commissioner in the form of a valid mining claim	Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy (MIME)
Vegetation clearing (harvesting permit)	Forestry Act No. 12 of 2001	A permit is required for the removal or clearing of any vegetation.	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT)

4 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

4.1 NEED FOR THE PROJECT

The Project is required for the extraction of silica from quarrying activities conducted on mining claim 73963 at Farm !Uris No. 481. The extracted silica will be delivered to the Sinomine Resource Group (Sinomine) Tsumeb smelter, previously owned and operated by Dundee Precious Metals Tsumeb (DPMT). The smelter was constructed in the early 1960's to process concentrates from the Tsumeb copper mine and is one of only five commercial scale smelters in Africa, linked to the port of Walvis Bay by railway. The smelter is located in Tsumeb, Oshikoto Region, Namibia.

Silicon dioxide (SiO_2) or silica are contained in sandstone formations, sand dunes and quartz deposits and is used in various industries and applications, such as industrial and metallurgical applications, construction, mining and recreation (Sallies Silica, 2025). Silica is an essential component for the Tsumeb smelter due to its key role in the production of slag during the smelting process, by supporting the separation of valuable metals from the waste materials (Schlesinger, Matthew, Kathryn, & William, 2011). The smelter produces blister copper (98.5% Cu) which is processed to copper metal in European and Asian refineries, the arsenic trioxide is sold worldwide for wood treatment and pesticide chemicals production (Global Atlas of Environmental Justice, 2022).

4.2 PROJECT OPERATIONS

4.2.1 OPERATIONAL PHASE ACTIVITIES

The following are envisioned during the proposed Project:

- The quarrying activities are estimated to be 3,000 Mt per month, including the fines;
- Supplying the loose gravel to the Tsumeb smelter; and
- Obtaining a forest permit for harvesting prior to the removal of encroacher bush from approximately 17.6 hectare (ha) of land.

4.2.2 EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

During the material and loose gravel extraction, bulldozers and loaders will be used. The loose silica gravel mined will be stockpiled on site and loaded onto tipper trucks, which will operate two to three trips per day on proclaimed farm and national roads to the DPTM smelter. The envisioned quantities are 1,500 Mt per month (after crushing and screening), while the amount to be loaded, including the fines, might be up to 3,000 Mt per month.

4.2.3 UTILITIES SUPPLY

No water or power will be used during operations as employees will merely load a haul silica raw material onto the heavy vehicle to be transported to the Tsumeb Smelter.

4.2.4 WORKERS AND ACCOMMODATION

Approximately 10 employees will be appointed by Sinomine Resource Group for the proposed Project. Work recruitment will likely occur locally, and all employees will be accommodated in the nearest town, Tsumeb, during operations.

4.2.5 WASTE MANAGEMENT

All solid non-hazardous waste generated during operations will be disposed in the nearest appropriate landfill, i.e., Tsumeb landfill site. Hazardous and hydrocarbon contaminated solid waste will be disposed at a permitted site as regulated by the local and national authorities.

4.2.6 WASTEWATER EFFLUENT

A chemical toilet will be installed, cleaned and changed regularly by a registered contractor. Therefore, no discharge will occur, and no septic or French drain technology will be required on site.

4.2.7 DECOMMISSIONING STAGE

The lifespan of the quarry is dependent on the quantities of the rock deposit, the technology required for mining and the financial sustainability of the business. Other circumstances that may warrant decommissioning include withdrawal or expiry of licenses issued by government agencies, closure by government agencies, court orders and natural calamities. According to the Proponent, however, the envisioned duration of the Project is 10 years.

Should the decommissioning phase commence, the proposed site will undergo rehabilitation with the guidance of Project specific rehabilitation plan, which should be prepared and submitted to the competent authority.

4.3 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

In terms of the Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007 and its regulations, alternatives considered should be analysed and presented in the EIA reports. This requirement ensures that during the design evolution and decision-making process, potential environmental impacts, costs, and technical feasibility have been considered, which leads to the best option(s) being identified.

Potential alternatives range from alternative sites to methodology of operations.

4.3.1 NO-GO ALTERNATIVES

The Project is conveniently close enough to Tsumeb for easy transportation of silica to the Tsumeb smelter. Should the Project not occur, operations of the smelter would encounter difficulty without the provisions of silica, which may lead to altered operational plans impacting financial outcomes and investments.

Without silica, the production process would require significantly higher temperatures to melt the ores, which could make the operation less efficient and more energy intensive. Additionally, without silica, slag may not form as effectively, which may result in higher concentration of impurities in the final metal product (Schlesinger, Matthew, Kathryn, & William , 2011). Silica is also used to protect equipment exposed to high temperatures and acidic environments as refractory materials made with silica are used to line the furnace (Liu, et al., 2022). Without silica-based refractories, the furnace would be more vulnerable to wear and tear, increasing maintenance costs and reducing operational lifespan.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL BASELINE

5.1 BASELINE DATA COLLECTION

This section sets out the findings from the desktop study for the Project, which involved reviewing existing literature, spatial data, and publicly available reports, on the biophysical and socio-economic environments of the receiving environment of the Project area. Preliminary findings suggest that no further specialist studies will be required.

5.2 LAND USE

The proposed Project is on the mining claim 73963 situated on Farm !Uris No. 481, approximately 15 km west from Tsumeb. Approximately 250 hectares (ha) of Farm !Uris No. 481 has been used to create an irrigation scheme for the cultivation of crops for commercial purposes. The farm is adjacent to the Tschudi Copper Mine, currently owned by Consolidated Copper Company. The owners of Farm Uris No. 481 and the Tschudi Copper Mine have secured the joint opportunity to use excess water from the mine for the irrigation scheme, as part of the “land use agreement”, in terms of the Namibian Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act Number 33 of 1992 between the mining licence holder and the landowner. On a separate section of the farm, the mining claim consists of loose silica gravel available for collection and use at the Tsumeb Smelter.

Figure 3 provides the site locality of the mining claim 73963 on Farm !Uris No. 481 and the neighbouring farms.

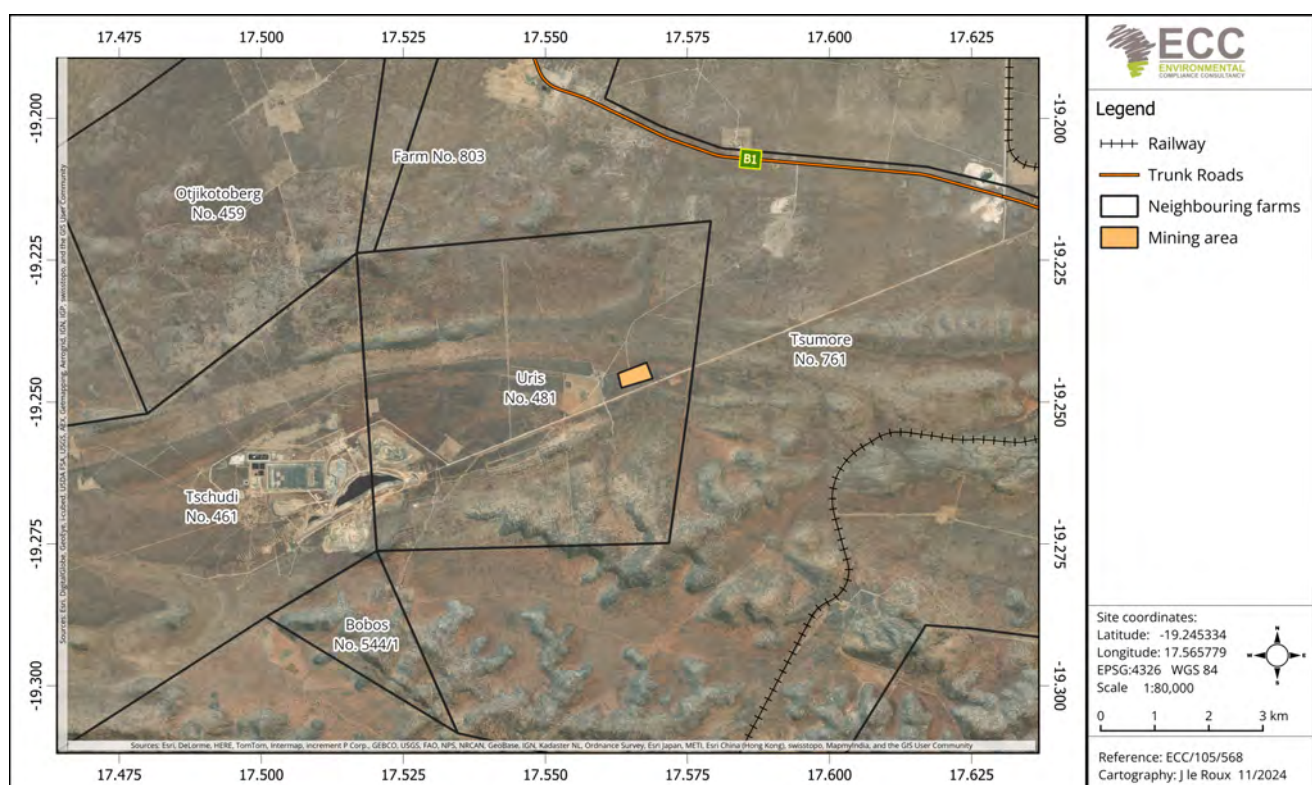


Figure 3 - Locality map of the proposed mining claim area on Farm !Uris in relation to surrounding farms

5.3 CLIMATE

Climate and weather data from Meteoblue (2024), along with desktop QGIS data for the site, has been used to provide the climate data for the Project area. Summer months are characterised by warm temperatures, with an average maximum temperature of 33 °C and average minimum temperature of 11 °C (Figure 4). The warmest months are generally between September and November, while winter months span from June to August.

The months with the highest humidity, have relative humidity (RH) between 80 and 90%, while the driest months have a humidity between 10 and 20%. The annual rainfall in Namibia increases towards the northeastern parts of the country. The Tsumeb area within the tree and shrub savanna receives a median rainfall between 500 and 550 mm, which is above average for Namibia. The Tsumeb area tends to experience summer rains during the months of December, January, February and March (Figure 4 and Figure 5).

Potential evaporation is between 1960 mm and 2100 mm per year (Mendelsohn, Jarvis, Roberts, & Robertson, 2002). Maximum wind speeds reach up to 30 km/h, with dominant east southeast (ESE), east (E) and east northeast (ENE) winds (Figure 6).

The annual average solar radiation is between 6.0 kW/m²/day to 6.2 kW/m²/day, which is quite high. The highest total radiation values are in central northern Namibia (Mendelsohn, Jarvis, Roberts, & Robertson, 2002). Majority of the summer days are partly cloudy whereas in winter, there are more sunny days, as shown in Figure 5.

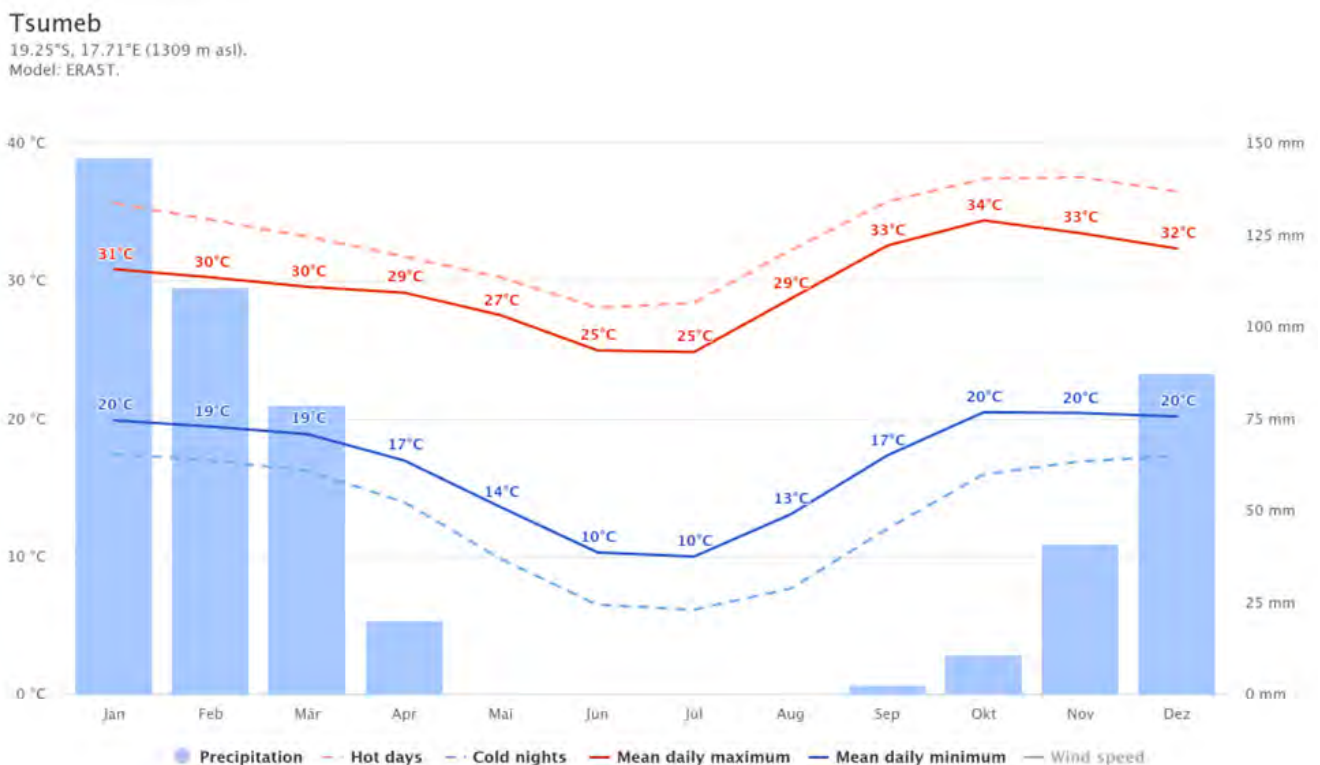


Figure 4 - Average temperature and precipitation for the Tsumeb area (Meteoblue, 2024)

Tsumeb

19.25°S, 17.71°E (1309 m asl).
Model: ERA5T.

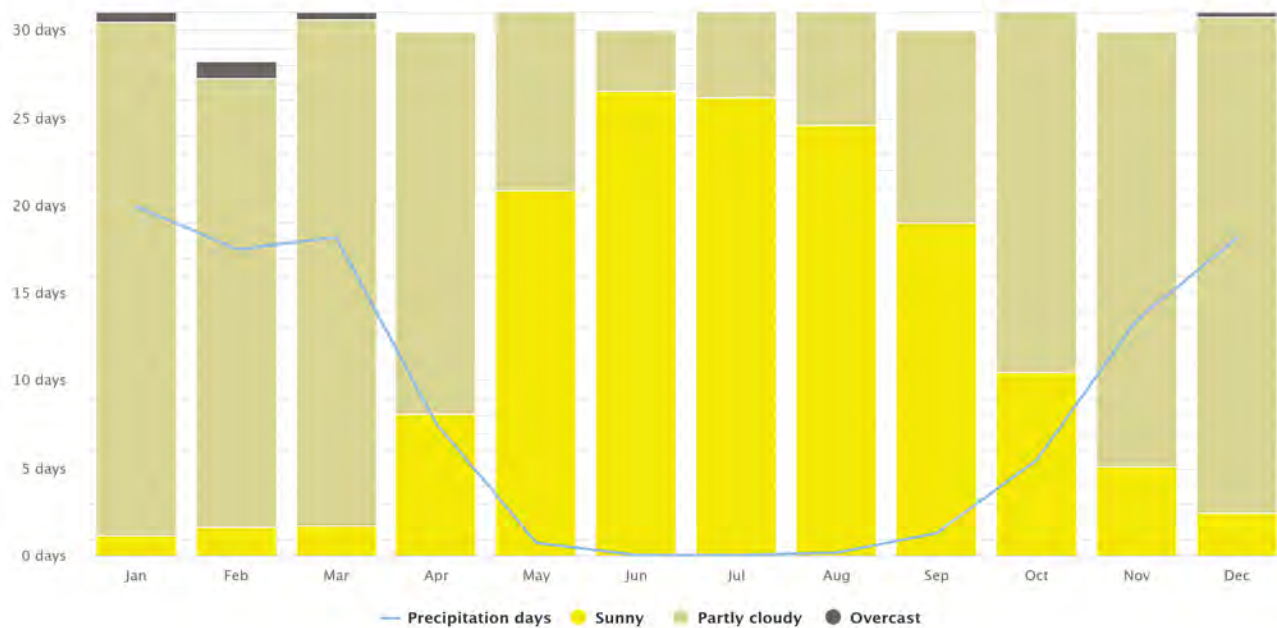


Figure 5 - Annual cloud cover for the Tsumeb area (Meteoblue, 2024)

Tsumeb

19.25°S, 17.71°E (1309 m asl).
Model: ERA5T.

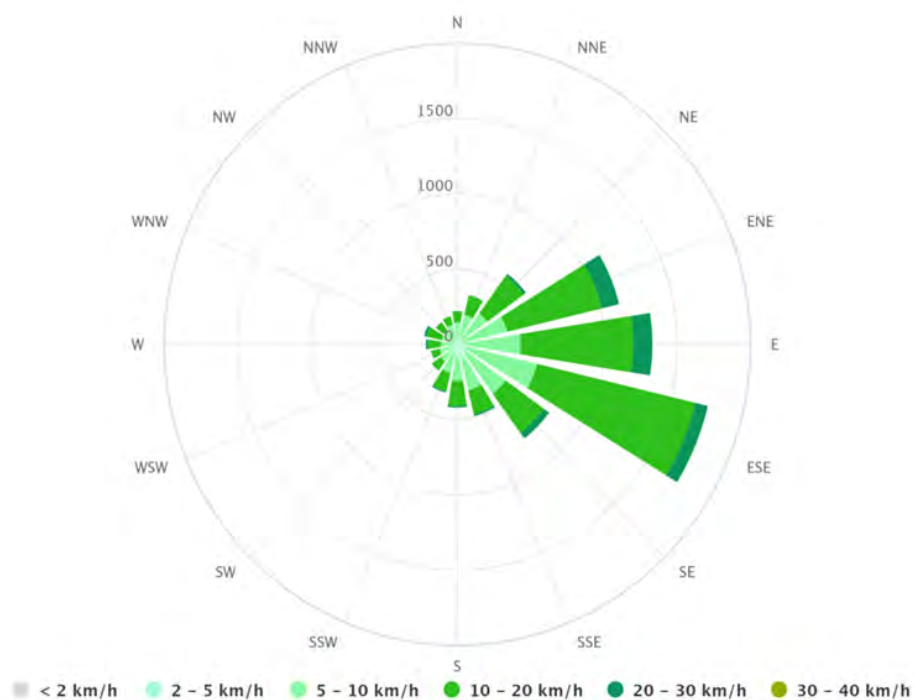


Figure 6 - Average wind speed and direction for the Tsumeb area (Meteoblue, 2024)

5.4 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOIL

The topography of the Project site is relatively flat as the elevation of the mining claim is the same throughout. The overall elevation of the proposed site is between 1280 and 1300 metres above sea level (masl) (Figure 7).

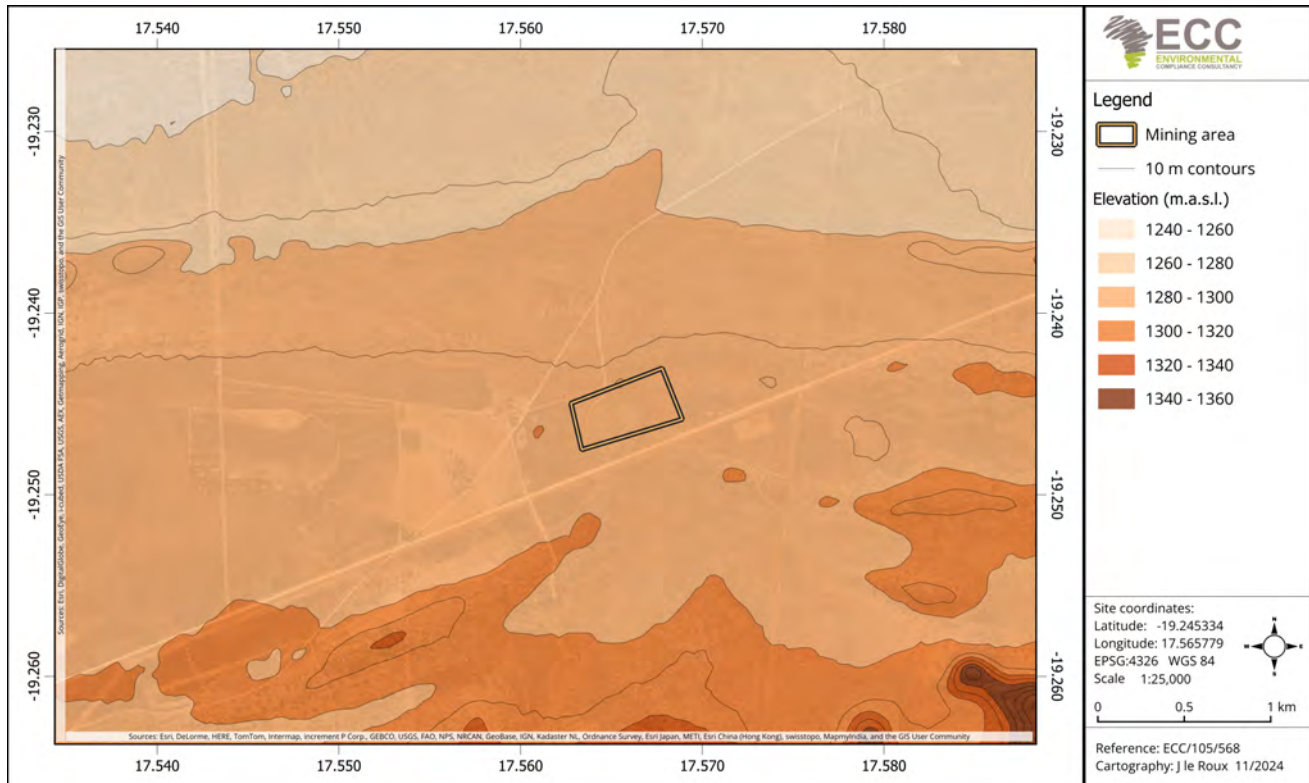


Figure 7 - Elevation of the Project

Majority of the Project location is characterised by Nudilitic Leptosols soil (Figure 8). Leptisols are typically shallow soils found in arid and semi-arid regions, often on slopes or stony terrains. The soil texture can vary but is often sandy or gravelly (World Soil Information, 2025). This coarse texture contributes to its low water and nutrient holding capacity. They lack well-defined soil horizons, showing limited soil development. The upper layer is often stony or gravelly, and the underlying material may be rocky or consist of a hard, impenetrable layer. Overall Nudilitic Leptisols have poor water retention capacity, are susceptible to erosion and vegetation is limited to those that are drought resistant.

A portion to the left section of the Project site consists of chromic cambisol soil. Chromic cambisols are fertile soils that develop under warm, humid conditions with significant weathering of parent materials. (Britannica, 2000). The texture can range from sandy to the texture of clay, depending on the parent material. They are rich in iron and aluminum oxides, giving them a distinct reddish or yellowish color. Although they tend to have good drainage and moderate fertility, they do require management to sustain long-term agricultural use due to potential nutrient loss and acidity issues.

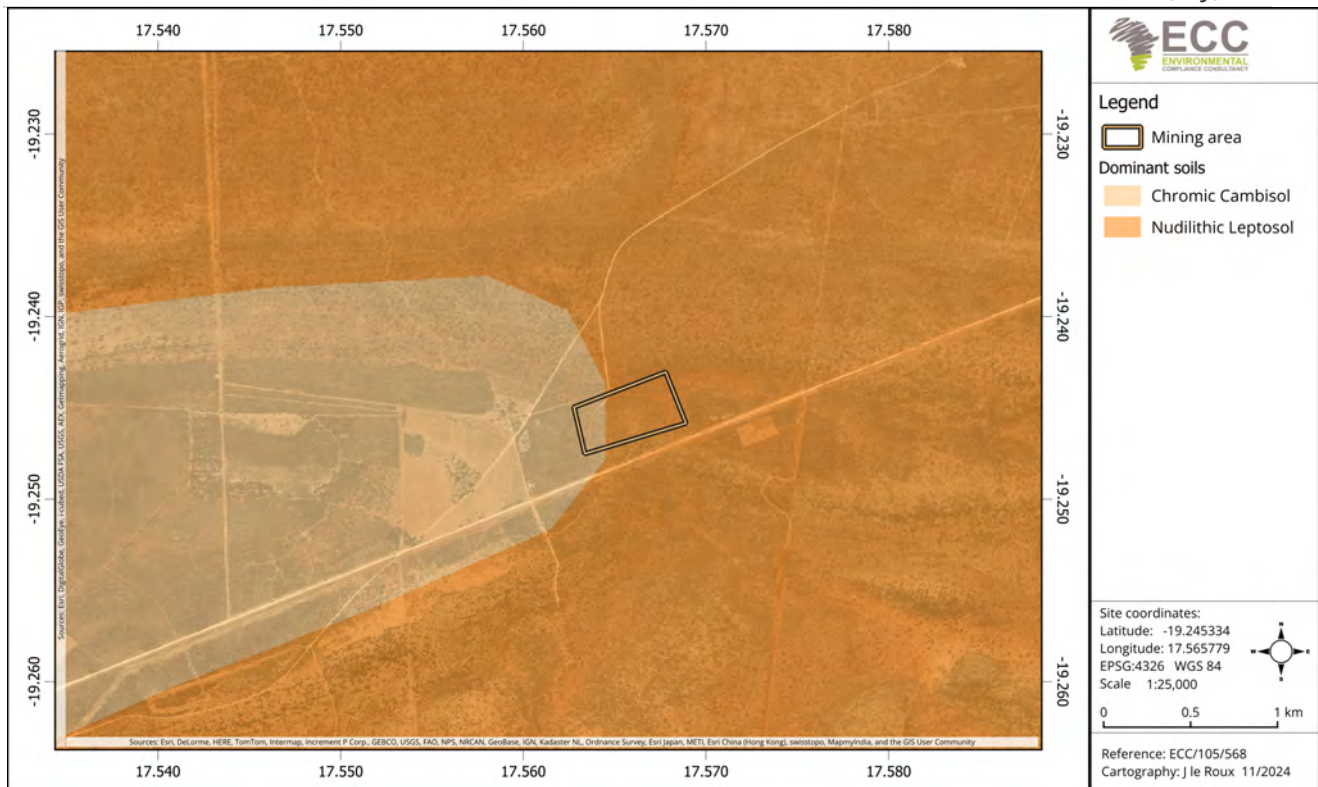


Figure 8 - Soil composition of the Project area

5.5 HYDROLOGY AND HYDROGEOLOGY

Three different aquifer types can be distinguished within the locality of the site, including a Dolomite Aquifer, a Kalahari Aquifer and aquifers associated with dyke and fault zones (Murray et. Al., 2008). These are most likely hydraulically connected. The groundwater is approximately 68 m below the surface in the dolomite aquifer and the water table is approximately 1214 – 1222 masl.

No major surface runoff occurs in the region and the drainage system is described as poorly developed. No rivers are on the site or the surrounding area. However, a minor drainage line does channel through the site from north to south (Figure 9).

During the rainy season, surface water drains from the north to the south of the site. The soil is permeable, and drainage is considered good on the site (Synergistics Environmental Services, 2013). Farm !Uris currently abstracts water from historic and existing boreholes for use on the lodge and farm.

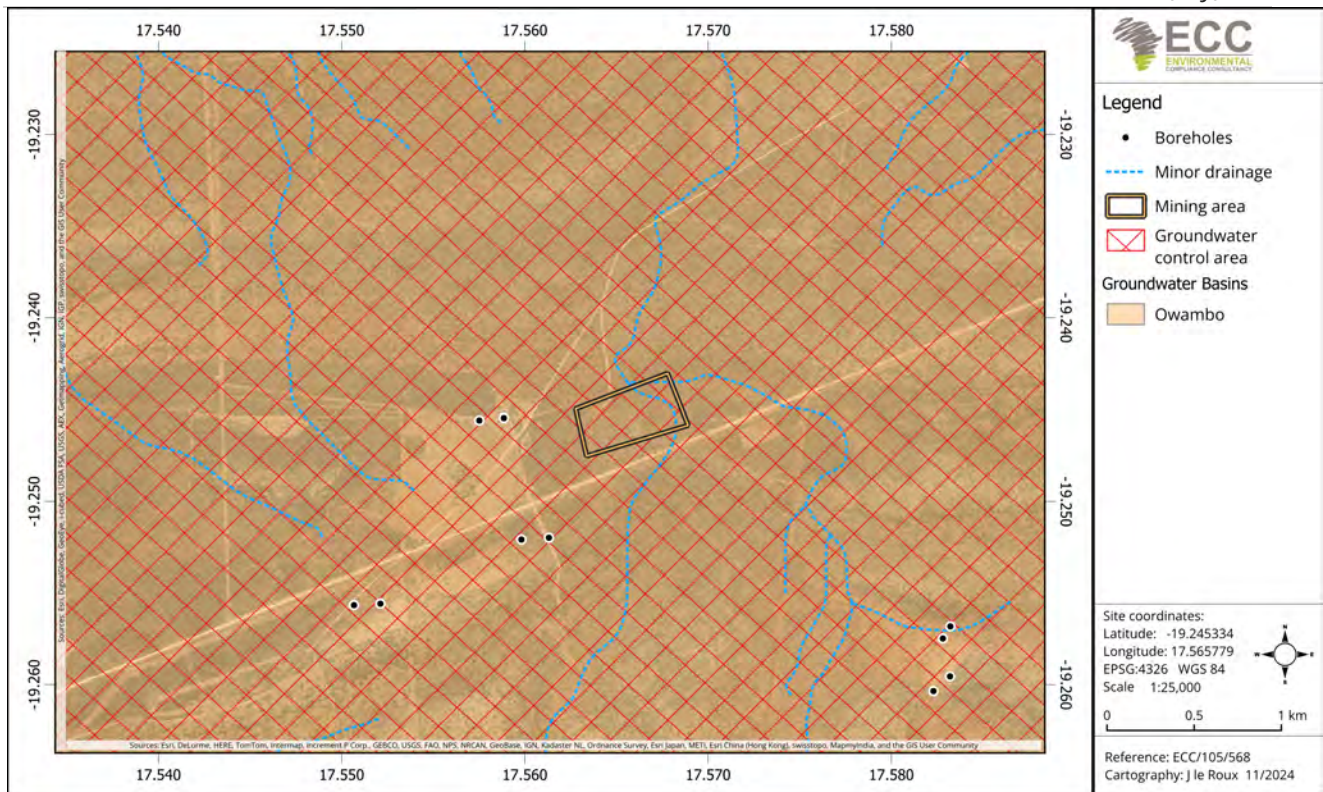


Figure 9 - Hydrology and hydrogeology of the Project area

5.6 BIODIVERSITY BASELINE

5.6.1 FLORA

The vegetation in Namibia is strongly influenced by rainfall. The plant diversity and tallest trees are most lush in the north-eastern parts of the country and in contrast are sparser and shorter to the west and south of the country. This gradient is not simple as other factors such as soil types and landscape also influence the vegetation.

Due to the comparatively high rainfall and unique dolomite lithology of the area, it is recognised as a centre of plant species diversity in Namibia. The area has medium-high terrestrial diversity of plant life compared to the rest of Namibia. The plant diversity in the area has between 400 – 500 species due to the area receiving higher rainfall than other areas in Namibia and the hilly terrain of the surrounding area.

The main vegetation type within this region is Karstveld within the Savanna biome. Tree coverage ranges between 11 - 25% with an average height between 2 – 5 m. The most dominant plant species are *Colophospermum mopane* and *Terminalia sericea*. *Colophospermum mopane*, commonly known as Mopane trees or woodlands provide habitat for various wildlife species, including birds, insects, and small mammals. The trees are particularly prominent in savanna and woodland ecosystems in Namibia, especially in the northern regions. *Terminalia sericea*, commonly known as silver terminalia or silver cluster-leaf, is a tree species found in Namibia, primarily in the northern and central regions. It is typically found in woodlands, savannas, and along riverbanks, and is well adapted to the dry conditions of the country.

The Project site mainly consist of sparse shrubs and grasses of encroacher species.

5.6.2 FAUNA

The overall terrestrial diversity for the area where the farm portions are situated is moderate compared to other parts of the country. The area within and surrounding the farm portions has an overall high bird diversity of between 201 and 230 species, with moderate bird endemism (between 4 – 5 species) and represents an area with moderate to high mammal diversity of between 76 and 90 species (3 to 4 of these species are endemic) (Bubenzer, 2002 & Mendelsohn et al., 2002).

Furthermore, the reptile diversity within this area is high with between 71 and 80 species, with between 5 - 8 endemic species; the number of observed lizard species for this area is between 28 to 31 different species and the different snakes recorded are between 35 to 39 species (3 to 4 endemic species). This area also has a frog diversity of between 12 and 15 species, and also a moderate scorpion diversity (10 to 11 species) (Bubenzer, 2002 & Mendelsohn et al., 2002).

The area where the farm portions are situated and surrounding areas are already disturbed (mine and irrigation Projects), thus the overall diversity of these areas is expected to be lower than the diversity described in this section.

5.7 SOCIAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC BASELINE

5.7.1 GOVERNANCE

Since gaining independence in 1990, Namibia has enjoyed a constitutional democracy and politically stable state, which provided a conducive environment for programming and for children to thrive (UNICEF, 2022). As a result of sound governance and stable macroeconomic management, Namibia has experienced rapid socio-economic development. Namibia has achieved the level of medium human development and ranked 145th on the Human Development Index out of 188 countries (World Data Atlas, 2023). The country's governance is guided by the long-term strategic/sustainable development objectives such as Vision 2030, Harambee Prosperity Plan and the National Development Plans (NDP) (National Planning Commission, 2020).

5.7.2 POPULATION AND GROWTH RATE

According to the 2023 Namibia Population and Housing Census, Namibia's population has reached 3,022,401, more than doubling from the 1.4 million recorded in the 1991 census. This growth reflects a significant increase over the past three decades. The first main population increase in 1994 was noted due to the inclusion of Walvis Bay into Namibia from South Africa. The increase between 2001 and 2023 can be attributed to the increase in industrialisation in the coastal towns and mining activities. During the COVID-19 pandemic, access to sexual and reproductive health services in Namibia was disrupted, leading to an increase in teenage pregnancies. This surge is partly attributed to restricted access to contraception and sexual health education during lockdowns. The health minister highlighted that the pandemic, along

with other factors, contributed to economic downturns, which in turn affected social services and increased vulnerabilities (UNFPA , 2025).

The Oshikoto Region is one of the fourteen regions in Namibia. It comprises of a population size of about 257 302 people according to the 2023 Namibia Population and Housing Census results (Namibia Statistics Agency, 2023). In 2011, the population of Oshikoto was 181 973. The population grew at an annual rate of 3.13% between 2011 and 2023. The majority of the region's population, about 82%, live in rural areas. This region has a population density of 6.7 people per square kilometre (km²). Oshikoto has ten constituencies namely: Eengondi, Guinas, Okankolo, Olukonda, Omuntele, Omuthiyagwiipundi, Onayena, Oniipa, Onyaanya and Tsumeb, which is the central point for major economic activities. The people of Oshikoto largely depend primarily on mahangu crop farming, cattle rearing and mining for their livelihood.

5.7.3 POVERTY AND UNEMPLOYMENT

The three industries in which most Namibian citizens are employed are:

- Agriculture, forestry and fishing;
- Accommodation and food services activities; and
- Wholesale and retail trade.

Namibia's unemployment rate stands at 36.9%, an increase from 33.4% recorded in 2018. Youth unemployment, defined for individuals aged 15 to 24, is approximately 38.03%. Furthermore, the 2023 Namibia Population and Housing Census reveals that 41.9% of youths aged 15 to 34 are neither employed nor engaged in education or training. Regarding educational attainment, approximately 32% of the population's highest level of education is junior secondary school (Namibia Statistics Agency, 2023). As of 2023, the Oshikoto region has an unemployment rate of 41.6% according to Namibia Statistics Agency 2023. This indicates that unemployment is significantly higher than the national unemployment rate.

5.7.4 ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

5.7.4.1 Infrastructure

The Oshikoto region contains a diverse economic infrastructure, with contributions across the sectors of energy, transportation, agriculture and financial services (Namibia Scientific Research Council, 2018). The main agricultural region of Oshikoto is the northern part, with pearl millet as the primary crop. The Tsumeb Smelter has significantly stimulated Oshikoto's economy supporting local industries and local employment (Journal of Economic Geography, 2021). The region contains a well-developed communication network, with a paved road linking to both southern and northern Namibia.

5.7.4.2 Energy and sustainable practices

Interest in energy production and sustainable practices is growing within the Oshikoto region. There is a specific focus on biomass, wind energy and solar with various projects currently underway. The Otjikoto Biomass Power Station in Oshikoto is a flagship project generating energy from locally sourced wood chips (Energy Research Centre, University of Cape Town,

2020). Research has also been undertaken regarding the feasibility of upscaling solar energy within the region (Renewable Energy, 2020). The significant sun exposure in Oshikoto supports this form of renewable energy generation that would provide significant socio-economic benefits for local communities.

5.7.4.3 *Tsumeb smelter*

The Oshikoto region is rich in mineral resources and home to the Tsumeb smelter, which has historically been one of Namibia's primary mining projects. The mining sector of this region significantly impacts the local economy through employment, infrastructure developments and environmental rehabilitation efforts. The smelter was constructed in the early 1960's to process copper concentrates from the Tsumeb copper mine and is one of five commercial-scale smelters in Africa, linked to the port of Walvis Bay by railway (Dundee Precious Metals, 2020). The product of the smelter process is blister copper which contributes significantly to uranium and copper mining boosting Namibia's economy subsequently.

Once silica is successfully collected from quarrying activities of this Project, it will be delivered to the Sinomine Resource Group Tsumeb smelter. Silica is a raw material that is commonly imported and transported by rail.

5.7.5 COMMUNITY HEALTH

The Oshikoto region faces several health issues, including substance abuse, communicable disease and maternal health concerns. A study revealed a high prevalence of hypertension among adults in Oshikoto, with obesity and overweight being the main contributors. Public health system concerns are supported by the 538 cases of Covid-19 cases reported since 2021. Alcohol consumption is also rapidly increasing among women in Oshikoto, which is a main global contributing factor to morbidity, mortality and injuries.

6 IMPACT IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION

METHODOLOGY

6.1 INTRODUCTION

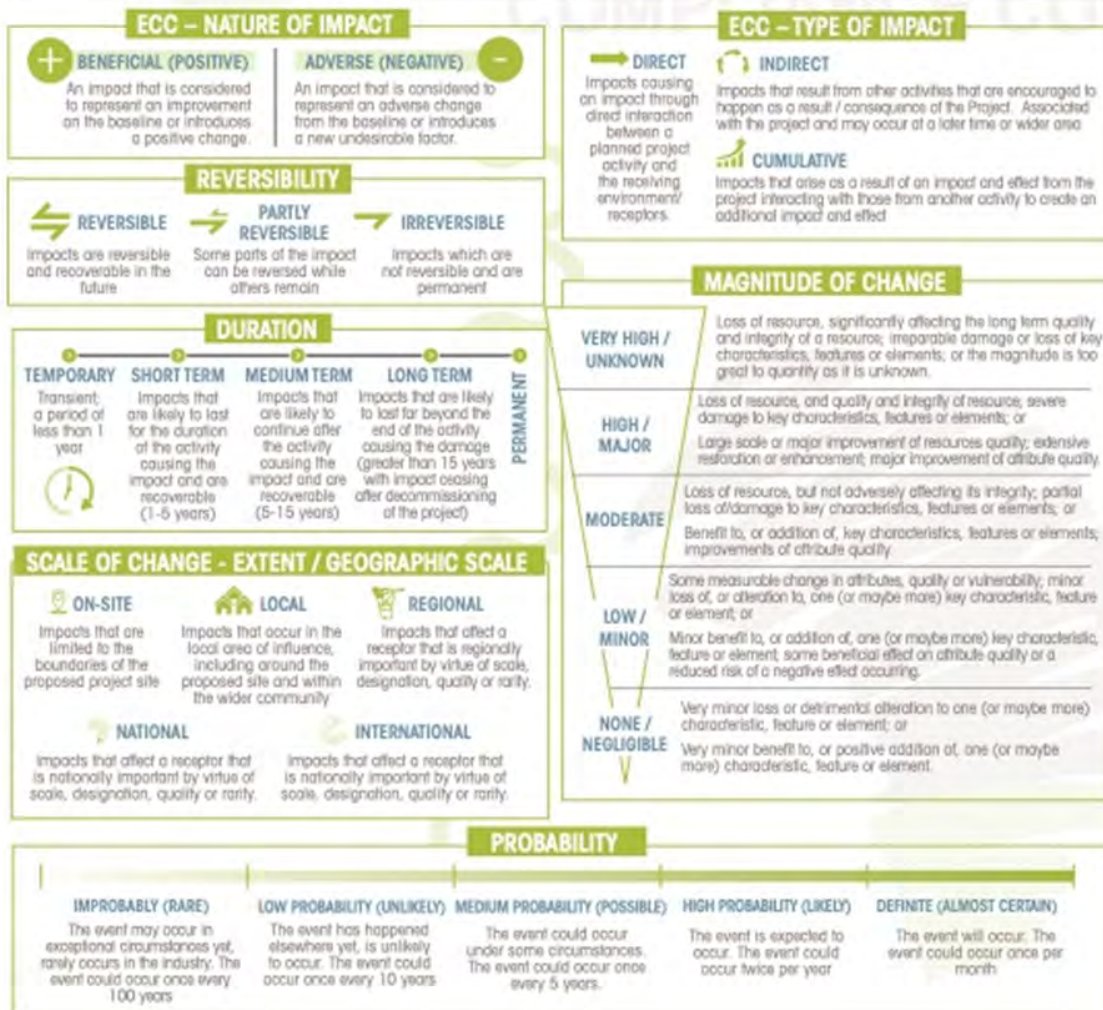
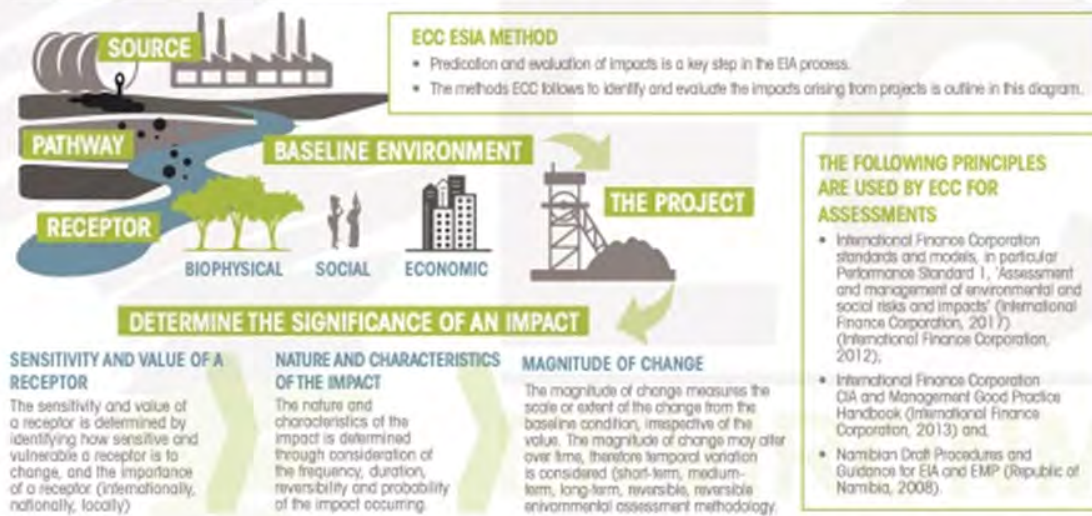
The impact assessment method described in this chapter by ECC is designed to systematically identify and evaluate potential environmental and social impacts that may arise from a proposed Project. The method takes into consideration the baseline characteristics of the Project area and assesses the significance of impacts based on various factors, including the sensitivity and value of environmental and social receptors, the nature and characteristics of the potential impact, and the magnitude of potential change.

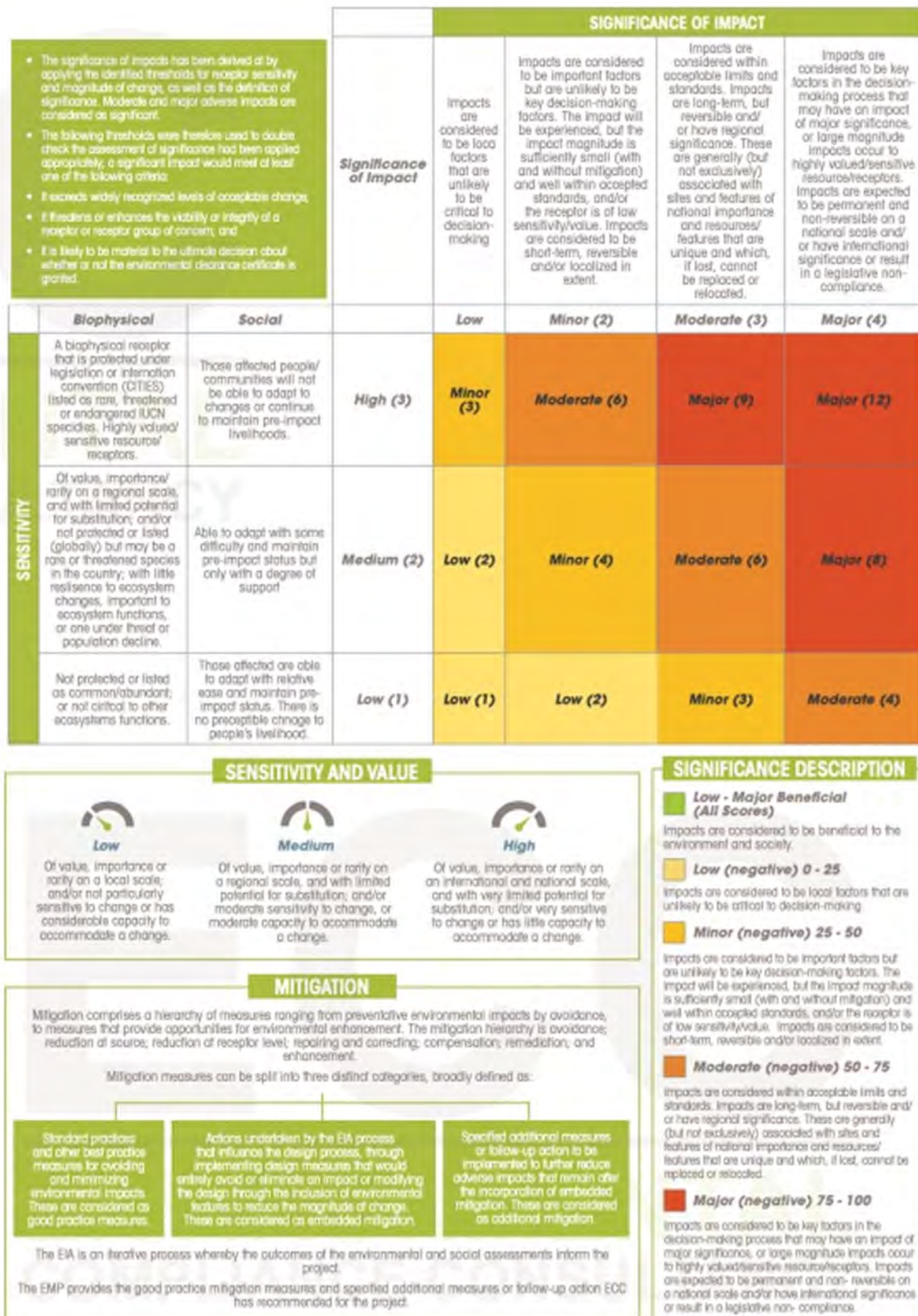
The method shown in Figure 10 provides assessment guidance that is used to evaluate impacts, and it also acknowledges any limitations, uncertainties, and assumptions associated with the assessment methodology. It outlines how impacts are identified and evaluated, and how the level of significance is derived. The method also addresses the application of mitigation measures in the assessment, and how additional mitigations are identified.

This chapter provides a structured approach for evaluating the potential impacts of a proposed Project on the environment and social aspects. It considers various factors to determine the significance of impacts and provides guidance on how to identify and evaluate potential impacts. It also recognises the limitations and uncertainties associated with impact assessment methodologies, which adds transparency and credibility to the assessment process.

Overall, this chapter provides a comprehensive and systematic approach for conducting impact assessments, which can help ensure that potential environmental and social impacts are thoroughly evaluated and addressed in the decision-making process for the proposed Project. However, it is important to note that the effectiveness of this method would ultimately depend on its implementation and the accuracy of the baseline data and assumptions used in the assessment. Therefore, regular reviews and updates of the methodology based on new information and feedback from stakeholders would be recommended to improve its accuracy and relevance.

ECC IMPACT PREDICTION AND EVALUATION METHODOLOGY





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Figure 10 - ECC ESIA methodology based on IFC standards

6.2 ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE

The principal documents used to inform the assessment method are:

- International Finance Corporation (IFC) standards and models, in particular Performance Standard 1, 'Assessment and management of environmental and social risks and impacts' (International Finance Corporation, 2012 and 2017);
- International Finance Corporation Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) and Management Good Practice Handbook (International Finance Corporation, 2013); and
- Namibian Draft Procedures and Guidance for EIA and EMP (Republic of Namibia, 2008).

6.3 LIMITATIONS, UNCERTAINTIES AND ASSUMPTIONS

The limitations and uncertainties associated with the assessment methodology in Namibia were observed to include the absence of topic-specific assessment guidance, with a generic methodology being applied based on IFC (International Finance Corporation) guidance and professional judgement with over 25 years of ESIA experience. This implies that there may be limitations in terms of tailoring the assessment to specific topics or issues relevant to Namibia, and that the methodology may not fully capture the unique characteristics and nuances of the local context.

It is important to note that the limitations and uncertainties identified in the assessment methodology, shown in Table 8, may introduce potential biases or inaccuracies in the assessment results. Therefore, it is recommended to regularly review and update the methodology to address these limitations and uncertainties, and to ensure that it remains robust and relevant for the specific context of Namibia. Additionally, incorporating stakeholder feedback and local knowledge can also contribute to improving the accuracy and comprehensiveness of the assessment process.

Table 8 - Limitations, uncertainties and assumptions

Limitation/uncertainty	Assumption
No loading and transportation schedule	During operations there is no specific schedule for the loading of loose silica material on site and the transportation of the material to the Tsumeb Smelter. Collection of material can range from once a day to a few times a month.
Environmental and social baseline data	Data gaps in specific environmental or social indicators and the accuracy and reliability of existing data sources.

6.4 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Cumulative impacts may arise as a result of other Project activities, or due to the combination of two or more projects in the Project area. A cumulative impact assessment (CIA) will be undertaken by applying the IFC CIA Good Practice Handbook (International Finance Corporation, 2013), which recommends that a rapid CIA is undertaken. A rapid CIA takes into consideration the challenges associated with a good CIA process, which include a lack of basic baseline data, uncertainty associated with anticipated development, limited government

capacity, and the absence of strategic regional, sectoral, or integrated resource planning schemes.

The following five-step rapid CIA process will be followed:

1. Scoping – determine spatial and temporal boundaries.
2. Scoping – identify valued environmental and social receptors and identify reasonably foreseeable developments.
3. Determine the present conditions of valued environmental and social receptors (the baseline).
4. Evaluate the significance of the cumulative impacts.
5. Identify mitigation measures to avoid or reduce cumulative impacts.

The following information will be applied to the assessment in line with the above steps and IFC guidance:

- The spatial and temporal boundaries of the CIA are the extent of the Project boundaries and the duration of the construction and operation phases of the proposed Project.
- Valued environmental and social receptors that may be affected.
- A review of existing and reasonable, anticipated and/or planned developments has been undertaken, which is based on the information presented in Chapter 4.
- The predicted future conditions of sensitive and common environmental and social receptors have been taken into consideration in the assessment.
- The assessment findings will be presented in the assessment report and will have the CIA applied in combination with professional judgment and published environmental assessment reports.
- A review of mitigation and monitoring measures will be undertaken, with any additional ones identified.

6.5 MITIGATION

Impacts that are identified throughout the ESIA process will be subjected to a process of impact mitigation, which is inherent in all aspects of the ESIA system. Embedded mitigation and good practice mitigation will be considered in the assessment. Additional mitigation measures will be identified when the significance of an impact requires it and causes the impact to be further reduced.

The principal of impact mitigation comprises a hierarchy of measures ranging from preventative environmental impacts by avoidance, to measures that provide opportunities for environmental enhancement and will be applied to all impacts associated with the proposed Project. The mitigation hierarchy is avoidance; reduction at source; reduction at receptor level; repairing and correcting; compensation; remediation; and enhancement. The environmental and social management plan (ESMP) for the Project provides good practice measures of the impact mitigation and specifies additional measures or follow-up action where required. On completion of the impact assessment, the mitigation measures from the impact assessment and recommendations are then incorporated into the ESMP. The ESMP is appended to this report (Appendix A).

Mitigation measures can be split into three distinct categories, broadly defined as:

- Actions undertaken by the ESIA process that influence the design process, through implementing design measures that would entirely avoid or eliminate an impact, or, modifying the design through the inclusion of environmental features to reduce the magnitude of change. These are considered embedded mitigation;
- Standard practices or other best practice measures for avoiding and minimising environmental impacts. These are considered good practice measures; and
- Specified additional measures or follow up actions to be implemented, to further reduce adverse impacts that remain after the incorporation of embedded mitigation. These are considered additional mitigation measures.

Where additional mitigation is identified, a final assessment of the significance of impacts (residual impacts) will be carried out, taking into consideration the additional mitigation.

The ESMP provides an outline of the good practice measures and specified additional measures or follow up actions to be undertaken. The Project ESMP becomes a legal document once approved by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA).

7 IMPACT ASSESSMENT FINDINGS AND PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES

This chapter presents the findings of the impact assessment for the proposed Project, with a focus on significant potential impacts. The designed of the proposed Project (as discussed in chapter 4) and best practice measures were considered during the assessment to identify likely significant impacts and recommend mitigation measures. Impacts deemed as not significant are listed in Table 9 and are not discussed further in this report.

The proposed operational activities are expected to be low intrusive. Therefore, the potential environmental and social impacts are expected to be minor, before mitigation measures are implemented.

Mitigation measures will focus on reducing the effects of the potential impacts and ensure an acceptable measure of operation can be maintained when an impact cannot be avoided completely. The ESMP has been drafted to accompany this scoping with impact assessment report, which sets out the management and mitigation measures for the Project.

The impacts deemed as not significant are discussed in section 7.1 of chapter 7, whereas the potential significant environmental and social impacts associated with the proposed Project are discussed in detail in section 7.2 of chapter 7.

7.1 IMPACTS DEEMED AS NOT SIGNIFICANT

Impacts that have been assessed as not being significant are summarised in Table 11 and are not discussed further. The listed impacts do not render any threat to the environment in a way that adversely challenges its resilience to continue in its modified form.

Table 9 - Table of non-significant impacts

Environmental and social topic	Potential impact	Summary of assessment findings
Vegetation clearing	Potential removal of pristine flora species in the immediate Project area.	The Project area is already disturbed and there are no protected species. However, 17.6 ha of vegetation may need to be removed and requires a permit which will be obtained by the Proponent.
Land use	The modified land may no longer be suitable for future developmental projects.	The Project site will occur on a mining claim situated on a farmland that has been set aside for quarrying activities.

Environmental and social topic	Potential impact	Summary of assessment findings
Waste generation during operations	Littering and pollution	– It is not expected that any waste will be produced as silica is collected once a day with one truck at most. – Additionally, the Proponent will implement procedures to effectively manage on-site waste and its disposal in an environmentally responsible manner.
Traffic volume impacts	Alteration of traffic flow	– Only one heavy vehicle will be used once a day at most.
Surface and groundwater quality	Potential use or penetration and contamination of surface and groundwater resources.	– No drilling activities will occur. – No water will be collected or used during operations. – In case of an emergency, large spillage of oil is assessed
Noise impacts	Prolonged noise pollution leading to potential hearing loss of employees on site	– Employees will be present on-site intermittently throughout the project's duration and long-term effects from the minor collection of material is unlikely to affect them.
Cultural heritage	Destruction of and damage to heritage sites and artifacts	– There are no known identified cultural or heritage sites on the 17.6 ha mining claim.

7.2 SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

7.2.1 SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT – ECONOMIC

The socio-economic impact assessment concept embraces both social and economic impacts. The economic and social impacts associated with the operations of raw silica material collection and transport to the Tsumeb Smelter include contributions to the Smelter process, local procurement and employment generation. An overview of the significant socio-economic before mitigation are shown in Figure 11. Each specific impact is discussed further in this section.



Figure 11 - Socio-economic impacts

7.2.1.1 *Contribution to the government revenue*

The Project involves the collection of raw silica material. The Tsumeb smelter's main purpose is to produce copper blister. Silica is an essential component for the Tsumeb smelter as it provides an essential role in the production of slag during the smelting process, by supporting the separation of valuable metals from the waste materials. The earnings from copper blister and sulphuric acid exports as of 2017 was ~ US\$140 million per year. Since then, an expansion was proposed with additional US\$66 million per year due to exports. The Project itself provides a benefit to the Tsumeb Smelter operation, indirectly contributing to the source of government revenue as a result of exports of the products mentioned in this section.

The impact could be reversible should operations cease. The impact is expected to continue throughout the life span of the Project – over a medium term (10 years) on a national scale. The impact is definite, as blister copper exports remains in high demand in Namibia, especially given that the Tsumeb smelter is one of only five of its kind in the world.

The magnitude of change is major as the proper functioning Tsumeb Smelter provides a significant benefit to the incoming revenue for the Namibian government. The sensitivity is considered medium due to the moderate contribution of the Project itself. The overall significance is deemed beneficial major.

7.2.1.2 Creation of employment

During operations, the Project will create job opportunities estimated at ~ 10 employees likely to be contracted or hired by Sinomine Resource Group. The Project involves employees to take on various tasks such as the collecting and loading of the raw silica material onto a heavy weight truck and the transport of the material ~ 15 km from the Project site to the Smelter. The impact is beneficial and direct, but also reversible as employment will be required based on the duration of the Project, which is over medium term (10 years). Due to the required skill sets for semi-skilled or unskilled workers, the extent of the impact is likely to be locally. The impact is possible as there may be a need for additional contractors or employees, however this depends on the needs of Sinomine Resource Group.

The magnitude of impact is minor due to the limited number of employees expected to be hired for the sole purpose of the Project. The sensitivity of the Project is low due to the local scale. Overall, the significance of impact is expected to be beneficial low (Table 10), thus no mitigation measures are required.

7.2.1.3 Procurement of goods and services

It is expected that during operations, equipment and other goods may need to be purchased or maintained and additional services may be needed from local businesses. The goods may range from heavy equipment to personal protective equipment (PPE). Services could potentially include the maintenance of parts of excavators, loaders or crushers and service of transportation. Procurement of goods and services is beneficial, directly impacting businesses. The impact may be reversible should the Project cease after a medium term (~10 years). The Project is likely to occur as good and services will be required throughout the 10-year span of the proposed Project.

The magnitude of impact is minor due to the limited amount of equipment required for a small-scale Project. The sensitivity of the Project is low due to the local scale of the impact. Overall, the significance of impact is expected to be beneficial minor, thus no mitigation measures are required.

Table 10 - Impacts related to employment creation, market competition and revenue for the government

Activity	Receptor	Impact	Nature of impact	Value and sensitivity	Magnitude of change	Significance of impact
Quarrying and collection of loose silica material - operations	National economy	Contribution to the source of revenue due to the vital role of silica in the Tsumeb Smelter process	Beneficial Indirect Reversible Medium term National Definite	Medium	Major	Beneficial Major (8)

Activity	Receptor	Impact	Nature of impact	Value and sensitivity	Magnitude of change	Significance of impact
		resulting in production of blister copper				
	Employees	Creation of jobs	Beneficial Direct Reversible Medium term Local Possible	Low	Minor	Beneficial Low (2)
	Local economy	Procurement of goods and services	Beneficial Direct Reversible Medium term Local Likely	Low	Minor	Beneficial Minor (3)

7.2.2 SOCIAL ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT – SOCIAL

Social impacts include the consequences to local farmers and the impact on their daily lives, farming activities and interactions. An overview of the social impacts is shown in Figure 12, before mitigation. Each specific impact is discussed in detail on the sections below.

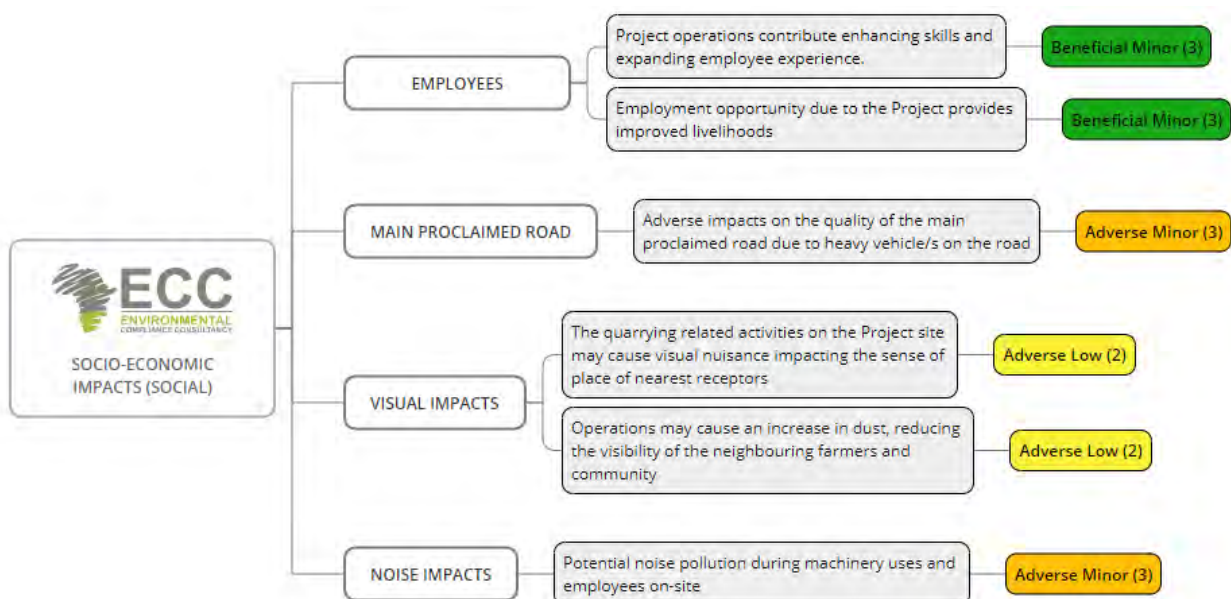


Figure 12 - An overview of the social impacts

7.2.2.1 *Enhancing skills and expanding employee experience*

During quarrying operations, employees will receive skill development and health and safety training, which will enhance and diversify their skills, allowing them to advance their career. Skills and proof of experience (i.e. competency) creates more opportunities in the future should employees apply for another job. Additionally hiring unskilled workers and providing them with on-the-job training can help strengthen the skill base of the local community. The impact is beneficial, directly enhancing the skills of employees and is irreversible. The skills developed during this Project is permanent. Should employees be hired during operations, it is likely that employees will be selected from the local area.

The magnitude of impact is minor due to the limited number of employees expected to be hired for the Project (~10 employees). The sensitivity of the Project is low due to the local scale. Overall, the significance of impact is rated beneficial minor (Table 11).

7.2.2.2 *Employment opportunity enhances improved livelihoods*

Employment plays a crucial role in improving people's financial status, accessibility to benefits, mental wellness and social inclusion. Having a job provides a steady income for basic needs such as food, shelter and utilities. Additionally, work could potentially provide benefits such as medical benefits. The impact directly improving the lives of potential employees and is reversible should the Project cease. The life span of the Project is expected to be ~10 years if not extended. The impact is definite to occur should employees be hired, as they are entitled to receive payment for labour according to the Namibian Labour Act (No. 11 of 2007).

The magnitude of impact is minor due to the limited number of employees expected to be hired for the Project. The sensitivity of the Project is low due to the local scale. Overall, the significance of impact is rated beneficial minor.

7.2.2.3 *Impacts on the quality of the main proclaimed road*

The main proclaimed road is the road extending from the B1 to the proposed Project and the Tschudi Copper Mine. Heavy vehicles, such as trucks, buses, and other large machinery, can have significant effects on gravel roads. The Tschudi Copper Mine is responsible for the maintenance of the road used by them and the neighbouring farmers. During operations, one (1) heavy truck will be used once a day at most. The nature of the impact is adverse and directly affecting the quality of the road. The impact is reversible as regular maintenance will improve any wear and tear caused by increased trips and the use of a heavy vehicle. The impact will occur over the life span of the Project (~10 years). Due to the use of 1 heavy vehicle on the road, the impact is possible impacting local farmers and the mine mostly.

The magnitude of impact is moderate due to the implications and discomfort it may cause the nearby farmers. The sensitivity of the Project is low due to the local scale. Overall, the significance of impact is rated minor. Mitigation measures include regular maintenance and upgrade such as surface replenishment. More mitigation measures are highlighted in the ESMP.

7.2.2.4 *Visual impacts and sense of place due to Project activities*

The quarrying related activities on the Project site may cause visual nuisance impacting the sense of place of the nearest receptors. Farming activities are as near as ~2 km from the Project site. This may impact the aesthetics of the area. However, there is a mine ~5 km from the Project site and the area itself has been previously disturbed. The nature of the impact is adverse, directly affecting receptors and reversible once Project activities cease. The impact will occur over the life span of the Project (~10 years), however dust emitted will not be continuous and will only be over a short term. The impact will possibly occur, affecting local farmers and Lodge !Uris.

The magnitude of impact is minor due to the minimal inconvenience it may cause. The sensitivity of the Project is low due to the local scale. Overall, the significance of impact is rated low. The impact mitigation measures are described in the ESMP.

7.2.2.5 *Visual impact due to dust emissions*

During the Project operations, dust may be emitted through various quarrying activities such as during excavation, loading and transportation of the loose material. Dust can create a haze in the atmosphere, especially over long distances (nuisance dust). This reduces the clarity of the horizon and can make everything appear blurred, reducing visibility of nearby farmers and residents.

The nature of the impact is adverse, directly affecting nearby receptors and reversible once Project activities cease. The impact will occur over the life span of the Project (~10 years) however, dust emitted will not be continuous and will only be over a short term. Due to the nearest farmers being ~ 2 km from the Project site it is not likely that they will be impacted however it may be possible.

The magnitude of impact is moderate due to the health issues associated with long term exposure. The sensitivity of the Project is low due to the local scale, as well as the unlikelihood of nearby farmers being impacted. Overall, the significance of impact is rated low. The impact mitigation measures are described in the ESMP.

7.2.2.6 *Noise pollution during operations*

Noise pollution during mining related activities and quarrying is still a concern even at a small scale particularly for communities located near operations. Small scale quarrying involves the use of heavy machinery as well as employees actively present on-site. Operations involve a loader and heavy truck that generates noise using machinery and handling of materials. This could become a nuisance to nearby communities and wildlife. The impact is adverse, direct and reversible once the Project operations cease after a medium term (~10 years), however noise will not be continuous throughout operations and is therefore deemed short term. The noise will impact local communities and the probability is likely.

The magnitude of impact is minor, as noise generated on-site will not be ongoing and is limited to simply the collection of loose material and the transport thereof and should be short-lived on a weekly basis. The sensitivity of the Project is low due to the local scale. Overall, the significance of impact is rated minor. Mitigation measures are discussed in the ESMP.

Table 11 - Social impact ratings

Activity	Receptor	Impact	Nature of impact	Value and sensitivity	Magnitude of change	Significance of impact
Quarrying and collection of loose silica material - operations	Employees	Enhancing skills and expanding employee experience	Beneficial Direct Irreversible Permanent Local Likely	Low	Minor	Beneficial Minor (3)
		Employment opportunity provides improved livelihoods	Beneficial Direct Reversible Medium term Local Likely	Low	Minor	Beneficial Minor (3)
	Neighbouring farmers and Lodge !Uris – road maintenance	Adverse impacts on the quality of the main proclaimed road due to heavy vehicle/s on the road	Adverse Direct Reversible Medium term Local Likely	Low	Moderate	Minor (3)
	Neighbouring farmers and Lodge !Uris – Visual	The quarrying related activities on the Project site may cause visual nuisance impacting the sense of place of nearest receptors	Adverse Direct Reversible Short term Local Possible	Low	Minor	Low (2)
		Increase in dust will reduce visibility of the neighbouring	Adverse Direct Reversible Short term Local Possible	Low	Moderate	Low (2)

Activity	Receptor	Impact	Nature of impact	Value and sensitivity	Magnitude of change	Significance of impact
		farmers and community				
	Neighbouring farmers and Lodge !Uris - Noise	Noise pollution during machinery uses and employees on site	Adverse Direct Reversible Short term Local Likely	Low	Minor	Minor (3)

7.2.3 EMPLOYEES OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Employee's health and safety are top priority in the workplace. Injuries sustained in the work environment can lead to partial disabilities or fatalities and can significantly impact an individual's long-term well-being. These injuries not only compromise health but can also limit future employment prospects. An overview of the likely occupational health and safety issues is presented in Figure 13 and discussed in more detail in the following section.



Figure 13 - Occupational health and safety impacts

7.2.3.1 Workplace safety: Potential risk of injury on the job

Workplace safety during small-scale quarrying operations, especially during the loading of loose materials, is critical to prevent accidents and ensure the well-being of workers. The handling of heavy machinery and equipment may pose significant hazards. Common injuries may result from slips, mishandling of power tools or falling materials. Minor injuries can include cuts, bruises and sprains while more severe injuries may include fractures, dislocations, or traumatic head injuries. In extreme cases, fatalities may occur due to machinery accidents or heavy vehicle accidents.

The nature of impact is adverse and will directly affect workers on-site. The duration of impact is rated permanent, although the operations are anticipated to be over a medium term (~ 10 years). Injuries sustained during these phases may be irreversible as they could result in serious, permanent disabilities or even fatalities. The potential risk of an accident occurring during operations is therefore rated possible.

The magnitude of impact is rated major due to varying degrees of injuries that could occur, while the sensitivity of impact is rated as medium as injuries could lead to permanent disabilities, which may restrict workers from securing future employment opportunities. Overall, the significance of impact, before mitigation measures is rated adverse moderate as shown in Table 12.

The Proponent is expected to abide to the following occupational health and safety measures which are also outlined in the ESMP:

- Incorporate occupational health and safety requirements into the bidding and tendering process to ensure contractors and subcontractors meet safety standards;
- Ensure that semi-skilled workers (if employed) receive comprehensive training and clear instructions on safe handling of tools and equipment;
- Conduct regular site inspections to monitor compliance with safety standards (e.g. ensuring that tools are securely stored and in a manner that prevent them from free falling); and
- Maintain accurate records of all injury statistics, track corrective actions and record learnt to improve safety practices on-site.

The impact post mitigation measures is rated adverse minor.

7.2.3.2 *Workplace safety: potential illness due to dust/chemical/fuel inhalation*

There are various illnesses that may be contracted through the dust, chemical or fuel emissions from the machinery used. Common dust that may be emitted include the following:

- **PM₁₀ (particulate matter 10):** PM₁₀ is defined as particles with a diameter of 10 microns or less which can be inhaled into the lungs and induce adverse health effects (California Air Resource Board, 2023). PM₁₀ also includes dust from construction sites, landfills and agriculture, wildfires and brush/waste burning, industrial sources, wind-blown dust from open lands, pollen and fragments of bacteria.
- **PM_{2.5} (particulate matter 2.5):** PM_{2.5} are fine particles that have a diameter less than 2.5 micrometres and remain suspended in the air for longer durations. The health risk with PM_{2.5} is that they can travel deep into the respiratory tract, reaching the lungs and entering the blood stream (Indoor Air Hygiene Institute, 2025).
- **Silica dust (respirable crystalline silica):** Silica dust is made up of small particles that can become airborne during work activities with materials that contain silica. Crystalline silica is typically found in soil, sand, concrete, mortar, granite and minerals and artificial stone (National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), 2024). Prolonged exposure to silica dust can lead to silicosis, a chronic lung disease, and is a known carcinogen.

Fuels and chemicals released from machinery used could be toxic in the long-term. Toxins particularly from diesel exhaust, contain carcinogens like benzene and formaldehyde, which increase the risk of cancers, particularly lung cancer (American Cancer Society, Inc, 2025).

The nature of impact is adverse and will directly affect workers on-site. The duration of impact is rated permanent, although the operations are anticipated to be over a medium term (~ 10 years). Injuries sustained during these phases may be irreversible as they could result in serious illness over the long-term or even fatalities. The potential risk of an illness to during operations is unlikely due to the small-scale activities and sporadic visits to the site.

The magnitude of impact is rated major due to the serious nature of the impact on the health of workers on site, while the sensitivity of impact is rated as medium as illness may impact the workers from securing future employment opportunities. Overall, the significance of impact, before mitigation measures employed is rated adverse minor. Mitigation measures are discussed in the Project ESMP.

Table 12 - Impacts related to occupational health and safety

Activity	Receptor	Impact	Nature of Impact	Value and Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Impact
Quarrying operations	Contractors and Employees	Potential injury on the job	Adverse Direct Irreversible Permanent On-site Possible	Medium	Major	Moderate (6)
		Illness due to dust or chemical/fuel inhalation	Adverse Direct Irreversible Permanent On-site Unlikely	Medium	Major	Minor (4)

7.2.4 BIOPHYSICAL IMPACTS

Biophysical impacts refer to the effects of human activities or processes on the physical and biological aspects of the environment. It encompasses changes to ecosystems, species, habitats, and the physical environment, such as air, water and soil. During operations notable biophysical impacts include soil disturbance, biodiversity and air quality impacts. An overview of the significant biophysical impacts before mitigation are shown in Figure 14. Each specific impact is discussed further in this section below.

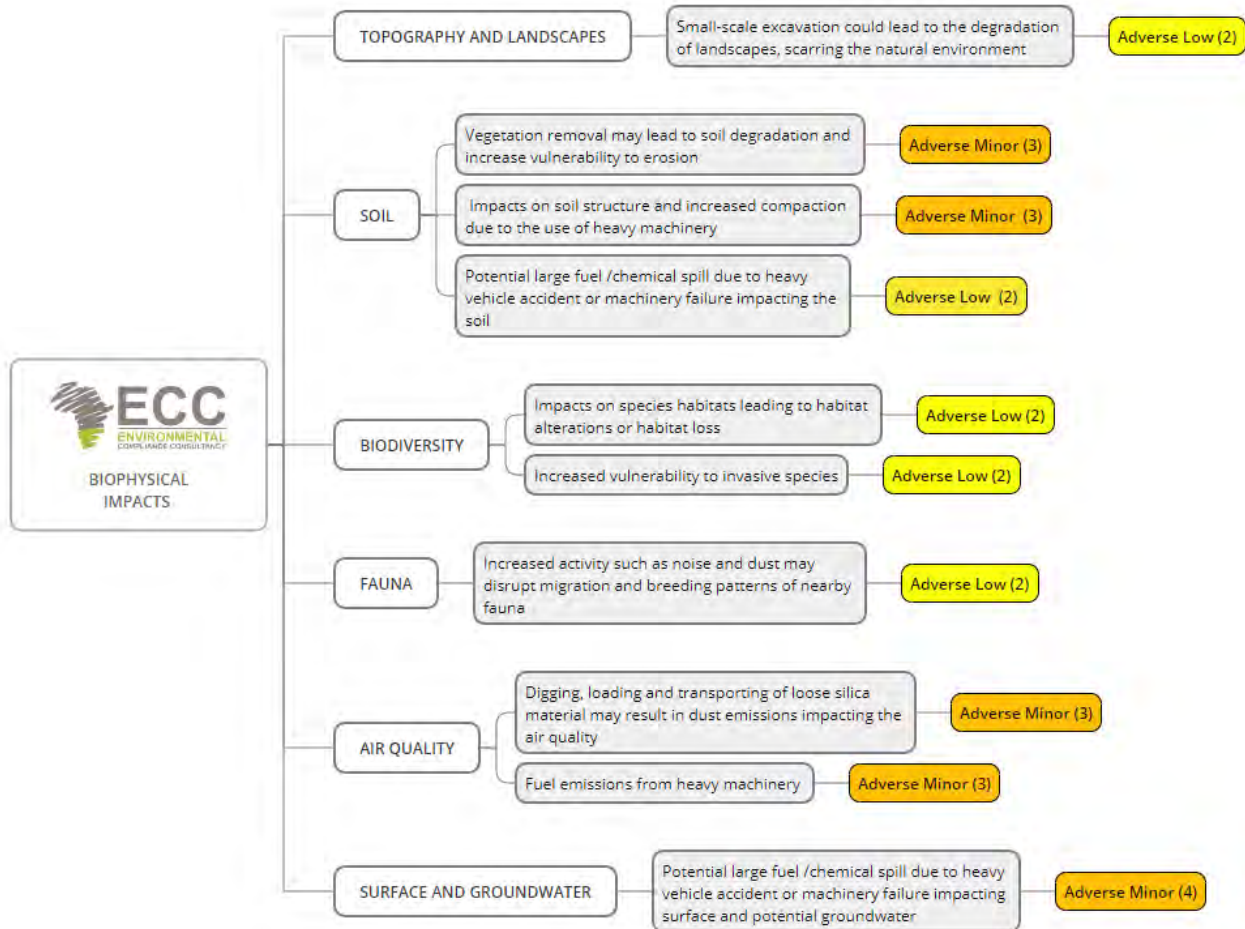


Figure 14 - Overview of impacts related to the biophysical environment

7.2.4.1 Landscape degradation due to small-scale quarrying

During the small-scale extraction of loose silica material, the land's surface is likely to be altered, leading to potential depressions or uneven terrains, changing the natural topography. This in turn impacts potential drainage patterns, soil and other biophysical aspects. The nature of the impact is adverse, affecting the landscaped and topography directly. The impact is reversible as rehabilitation of the area is proposed post quarrying activities. The impact will occur over a medium term (~10 years). The impact will be restricted to on-site activities and although the site area is already a disturbed site, further disturbance is likely.

The magnitude of impact is rated negligible as the area is a highly disturbed site where previous irrigation activities have occurred. The sensitivity rating of the impact is low, as all activities will be limited to the site. The significance of the impact is rated low. Mitigation measures are described in the Project ESMP.

7.2.4.2 Soil degradation and potential soil erosion

During extraction of silica material, the uppermost topsoil layer, rich in nutrients and organic matter, is often removed or disturbed. Exposed soils are often prone to erosion by wind and water. Due to the loss of topsoil, the land tends to be less productive and less able to support vegetation. The nature of the impact is adverse and affects the soil health directly. The impact is reversible due to rehabilitation likely to take place after the Project activities, as the area primarily

supports irrigation practices. The impact will occur over a medium term (~10 years). The impact will be limited to the Project site and due to the activities associated with small-scale quarrying and the removal of material from the site, the impact is highly likely.

The magnitude of the impact is rated minor, due to the slight impact on the already disturbed site and disturbed soil. The sensitivity rating of the impact is low, as only the soil on-site will be disturbed. The significance of the impact is rated minor. Mitigation measures are described in the Project ESMP.

7.2.4.3 *Impacts on the soil structure and increased compaction*

The physical disturbance of soil during the collection of a silica resource could potentially break down soil aggregates (the clumps of soil particles that hold together and help with water retention). This makes the soil less stable and more vulnerable to erosion. Additionally, the use of heavy machinery (such as excavators and trucks) during silica extraction can lead to soil compaction. Compacted soil results in less space in between soil particles, restricting water infiltration, root growth, and the movement of air in the soil. This ultimately leads to unhealthy soil for vegetation growth – less productivity.

The nature of the impact is adverse and affects the soil health directly. The impact is reversible due to rehabilitation likely to take place after the Project activities, as the area primarily supports irrigation practices. The impact will occur over a medium term (~10 years). The impact will be limited to the Project site and due to the activities associated with small-scale quarrying and the removal of material from the site, the impact is highly likely.

The magnitude of the impact is rated minor due to the slight impact on the already disturbed site and disturbed soil. The sensitivity rating of the impact is low, as only the soil on-site will be disturbed. The significance of the impact is rated minor. Mitigation measures are described in the Project ESMP.

7.2.4.4 *Potential large fuel /chemical spill impacting the soil*

Large transportation of raw silica material will be transported from the Project site to the Tsumeb smelter. During the use of machinery or heavy vehicles, incidents could occur leading to large spillage of chemicals or fuel contaminating the soil. It is vital that any potential accidents or emergency incidences are assessed and included in the ESMP to ensure the appropriate protocols are followed.

The nature of the impact is adverse and contaminates the soil directly. The impact is partly reversible due to mitigations that will be actioned should the impact occur, and ongoing rehabilitation will take place. The impact will occur over a long term (+15 years) as damage may be caused beyond the duration of the Project. The impact will be limited to the Project site and due the minimal machinery and vehicle use as well as the safety measures associated with Projects such as this, it is unlikely the impact will occur.

The magnitude of the impact is rated minor due to the emergency incident impacting the already disturbed site and disturbed soil. The sensitivity rating of the impact is low, as only the soil on-site will be affected. The significance of the impact is rated low. Mitigation measures are described in the Project ESMP.

7.2.4.5 *Potential species habitat alterations, degradation or loss*

During the Project activities, small species habitats may be altered, degraded or completely lost. The collection of silica is likely to disrupt vegetation growth and species habitat loss or degradation, leading to a decline in plant and animal species. Should silica be temporarily stored during transportation trips, this may result in additional clearing of land and impact on biodiversity. The nature of the impact is adverse and affects biodiversity directly. The impact is partly reversible due to rehabilitation practice that may reduce the risk of long-term destruction. The impact will occur over a medium term (~10 years). The potential loss of biodiversity is likely to be limited to the site of interest. The impact is expected to be probable.

The magnitude of the impact is rated minor as the Project area is already on a disturbed site. The sensitivity rating of the impact is low as species on-site will be impacted. The significance of the impact is rated low. Mitigation measures are described in the Project ESMP.

7.2.4.6 *Increased vulnerability to invasive species*

During the Project, potential removal or loss of vegetation creates an opportunity for adaptable invasive species that further impacts the biodiversity. Invasive alien species are able to outcompete native species, leading to long-term changes in composition and processes of ecosystems and a reduction in biodiversity. The nature of the impact is adverse and affect native biodiversity and the ecosystem. The impact is partly reversible due to programmes that will be implemented to reduce the presence of invasive alien species. The impact will occur over a medium term (~10 years). The vulnerability to invasive alien species will be contained within the Project site. As the site may already be vulnerable to invasive alien species the added vulnerability due to Project activities is probable.

The magnitude of the impact is rated minor, as the Project area is already on a disturbed site. The sensitivity rating of the impact is low as it is restricted to the Project site. The significance of the impact is rated low. Mitigation measures are highlighted in the Project ESMP.

7.2.4.7 *Noise and dust may disrupt migration and breeding patterns of nearby fauna*

Noise and dust generated during operations may cause stress in fauna such as nearby mammals, reptiles and amphibians, impacting their migration patterns, behaviour, obstructing communication such as mating calls. Excessive noise may lead to confusion and potential injury of fauna around or near the Project site. It has been reported that stress over time can lead to poorer health, faster aging, decreased reproduction, and greater susceptibility to diseases (American India Foundation, 2020). The potential impact is determined as adverse and direct. The impact will be partially reversible as faunal behaviour is slightly unpredictable however it is only likely to be affected by the Project activities over the medium term (~10 years). The impact will potentially affect local species. The impact is possible however, there are already mining activities occurring in the vicinity.

The magnitude of change is minor as there are already mining activities occurring near the Project site and the sensitivity will be low due to the local impact. The overall significance of the impact is deemed low. Noise control measures are further discussed in the ESMP.

7.2.4.8 *Dust emissions during operations*

Excavation, loading and hauling loose silica material may result in dust emissions impacting air quality. Dust emitted in the air during operations may degrade air quality, making it less breathable and potentially leading to smog formation. Silica is a sharp dust particle that can penetrate vegetation stomata and may be toxic to the health and survival of vegetation. Additionally, when it settles on vegetation, it may block sunlight causing reduced photosynthesis and further damage leaves of vegetation.

The nature of the impact is adverse and directly impacts air quality. The impact is reversible once operations conclude. The impact will occur over a medium term (~10 years). The dust emitted may extend past the Project site and reach local areas. Due to the Project activities which includes the collection, loading and transportation, it is likely that dust will be emitted.

The magnitude of the impact is rated minor due to the scale of the Project operations. The sensitivity rating of the impact is low due to the local scale. The significance of the impact is rated minor. Mitigation measures are outlined in the Project ESMP.

7.2.4.9 *Fuel emissions during operations*

Vehicle or equipment fuel emissions have a significant impact on the environment, contributing to a variety of environmental issues. These emissions primarily result from the combustion of gasoline and diesel. The burning of fuel in vehicles is one of the largest sources of CO₂ emissions globally (United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2025). Vehicles, particularly diesel vehicles emit nitrogen oxides (NO_x), which contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone.

The nature of the impact is adverse and affect air quality. The impact is partly reversible due to as the impact will be reduced once operations conclude, however not all effect can be reversed. The impact will occur over a medium term (~10 years). The impact on air quality will be over a local extent. The impact is considered to be likely due the regular use of a heavy vehicle on site.

The magnitude of the impact is rated minor due to the minor measurable alteration to the physical environment. The sensitivity rating of the impact is low due to the local scale. The significance of the impact is rated minor. Mitigation measures are listed in the Project ESMP.

7.2.4.10 *large fuel /chemical spill impacting surface and potential groundwater*

Large transportation of raw silica material is expected to be collected and transported from the Project site to the Tsumeb smelter. The use of machinery or heavy vehicles could potentially lead to incidents such as large spillage of chemicals or fuel contaminating nearby surface water/drainage area and groundwater. Any potential accidents or emergency incidences are assessed and included in the ESMP to ensure the appropriate protocols are followed.

The nature of the impact is adverse and contaminates surface water, drainage areas and groundwater directly. The impact is irreversible due to the accumulation in water and slow recovery of water sources. The impact will occur over a long term (+15 years) as damage may be caused beyond the duration of the Project. The extent of the impact will be regionally due to flowing water, runoff. The use of machinery and vehicle will be minimal, and safety measures are associated with proposed Projects, therefore the impact is deemed unlikely.

The magnitude of the impact is rated moderate due to the damage it may cause to nearby water sources. The sensitivity rating of the impact is medium, as a result of the regional scale of the impact (Table 13). The significance of the impact is rated minor. Mitigation measures are described in the Project ESMP.

Table 13 – Impacts related to the biophysical environment

Activity	Receptor	Impact	Nature of Impact	Value and Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Impact
Quarrying operations	Topography and landscape	Small-scale excavation could lead to the degradation of landscapes, scarring the natural environment	Adverse Direct Partly reversible Medium term On-site Likely	Low	Negligible	Low (2)
	Soil	Vegetation removal may lead to soil degradation and increase vulnerability to erosion	Adverse Direct Reversible Medium term On-site Likely	Low	Minor	Minor (3)
		Impacts on soil structure and increased compaction due to the use of heavy machinery	Adverse Direct Reversible Medium term On-site Likely	Low	Minor	Minor (3)
		Potential large fuel /chemical spill due to heavy vehicle accident or machinery	Adverse Direct Partly reversible Long term On-site	Low	Minor	Low (2)

Activity	Receptor	Impact	Nature of Impact	Value and Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Impact
		failure impacting the soil	Unlikely			
	Biodiversity	Impacts on species habitats leading to habitat alterations or habitat loss of flora and fauna	Adverse Direct Partly reversible Medium term On-site Possible	Low	Minor	Low (2)
		Increased vulnerability to invasive species	Adverse Direct Partly reversible Medium term On-site Possible	Low	Minor	Low (2)
	Fauna	Increased activity such as noise and dust may disrupt migration and breeding patterns of nearby fauna	Adverse Direct Partly reversible Medium term Local Possible	Low	Minor	Low (2)
	Air quality	Digging, loading and transporting of loose silica material may result in dust emissions impacting the air quality	Adverse Direct Reversible Medium term Local Likely	Low	Minor	Minor (3)

Activity	Receptor	Impact	Nature of Impact	Value and Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Impact
		Fuel emissions from heavy machinery	Adverse Direct Partly reversible Medium term Local Likely	Low	Minor	Minor (3)
	Surface and groundwater	Potential large fuel /chemical spill due to heavy vehicle accident or machinery failure impacting surface and potential groundwater	Adverse Direct Irreversible Long term Regional Unlikely	Medium	Moderate	Minor (4)

8 CONCLUSION

A scoping and impact assessment has been undertaken for the proposed Project to identify the potential impacts and evaluate their severity and significance. The potential impacts likely to be triggered by the Project include impacts related to contributions to the government revenue, employment, procurement of goods and services, employee occupational health and safety, soil, biodiversity, fauna, air quality, surface and groundwater. The scoping and impact assessment study identified that no major potential impacts required specialist studies. However, the impacts identified will need to be carefully monitored and managed according to the ESMP to ensure that the significance of these impacts are reduced as far as reasonably possible. Table 14 summarises the impacts before mitigation. On a scale of 1 to 12, low to high, the beneficial (B) and negative (N) impact significance is stated.

Table 14 - Summary of the significance rating before mitigation for the expected impact

Socioeconomic environment:		Socioeconomic Environment: social		Biophysical environment	
Contribution to the government revenue	B8	Enhancing skills, expanding employee experience	B3	Topography and landscape impacts	N2
Impact on employment creation	B2	Employment opportunity provides improved livelihoods	B3	Soil impacts	N3
Procurement of goods and services	B3	Quality of the main proclaimed road impacts	N2	Biodiversity impacts	N2
		Visual impacts due to sense of place and dust	N2	Fauna impacts	N2
		Noise pollution during machinery uses and employees on site	N3	Air quality impacts	N3
		Occupational health and safety - injury	N6	Surface and groundwater – large fuel/chemical spills	N4
		Occupational health and safety - illness	N4		

The assessment of this Project on the receiving environment has shown that the Project may have adverse moderate to low and beneficial impacts before mitigations (Table 14). These areas should be managed as per the management guidelines outlined in the ESMP (Appendix A). This will ensure that the Project remain compliant with the relevant legislation and environmental best practices.

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APPENDIX A – ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

APPENDIX B – BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

APPENDIX C – NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT

TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2025

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**Pregon Consulting
Engineers (Pty) Ltd.**

Pregon Consulting Engineers (Pty) Ltd. is a multi-disciplinary engineering and project management firm that specialises in the civil engineering discipline.

The firm requires the services of the following professional individual:

Position: Resident Engineer

Key Requirements:

- BSc. Eng / B.Eng. / B.Tech Degree in Civil Engineering.
- Relevant post graduate qualifications will be an added advantage.
- Registered or eligible for registration with the ECN as a Professional Engineer or Incorporated Engineer.
- Minimum of 15 years of relevant experience in the construction and/or site supervision of road projects.
- Prior experience serving as a Resident Engineer on bituminous surfaced road projects is essential.
- Bridge and major culvert structure design and construction project experience will be an added advantage.
- Strong knowledge of road construction techniques, materials, and processes.
- Familiarity with relevant civil engineering specifications and standards, regulations, and codes of practise.

Interested candidates who meet the above requirements are invited to submit a cover letter and comprehensive CV through to www.eliteemployment.com.na

Please feel free to contact us at: +264(83) 723 4153 for more information.

Application deadline: Friday, 21 February 2025

Please take note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.


VACANCY

Swakop Uranium, a Namibian state-owned uranium mining company, online geology jobs are self-motivated, energetic and wish to work in a high performance culture environment, to apply for the following role:

Graduate Trainee: Geologist

*To apply, please upload your CV and show **recently certified AND verified/ authenticated** relevant documents **plus a Certificate of Conduct not older than 6 months** to:*

<https://www.geological-survey.na/en/employment/vacancies/open>, or scan the QR code, or if apply via the NEDS platform by following this link: <https://www.neds.com.na/en/neds/guide>

***Note:** Those role that professional qualifications (professional qualifications) must be currently a **member** verified by the **Association** must be **not** obtained by the **NEDS** platform. For more information regarding eligibility of qualifications, please visit <https://www.geological-survey.na/en/employment/vacancies/open>*



SCAN ME

NOTICE OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION FOR THE PROPOSED SMALL-SCALE MINING AND QUARRYING ACTIVITIES ON MINING CLAIM 73963, ON FARM TUNIS 481, OSHIKOTO REGION, NAMIBIA

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd provides this notice to members of the public that an application for an environmental clearance certificate, in accordance with the Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2008 and associated 2012 Regulations, has been made for the proposed small-scale mining and quarrying activities on mining claim 73963, on Farm Tunis 481, Oshikoto Region, Namibia. Members of the public are invited to register as an interested and affected party (IAAP) and provide input into the environmental impact assessment process.

Applicant/Proponent: Three Muskeeters Investments (Pty) Ltd.
EAP: Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd (ECC)
Location: 15 km west of Tsumeb, Namibia

Proposed Activity:
The Proponent intends to collect silica gravel from the quarrying activities and deliver it to the Shomona Resource Group Tsumeb smelter, previously owned and operated by Shomona Precious Metals Tsumeb (SPMT). The proposed Project area will be 17.6 ha and the envisioned quarrying quantities per month are 1,500 Mtpa per month (after crushing and screening).

Project Location:
The Project site is approximately 15 km west of Tsumeb. The site can be accessed via the B1 Road (19.345354 S, 17.3852779 E).

Register:
1. Please register as an IAAP;
2. Register for the Project by scanning the QR code below or visit our website.
3. Registered IAPs will receive a project background information document (BID).

Public meeting:
ECC cordially invites interested and affected parties (IAAPs) and members of the public to the public meeting scheduled as follows:

Date: 25 February 2025
Venue: Makalani Hotel Conference Hall
Time: 18:00 - 20:00

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd
Registration System - 2025020000
Website: <http://ECC-2025020000.com>
Tel: +264-61-920 7040
E-Mail: info@environmentalcc.com
Website: www.environmentalcc.com





山金国际
SHANJIN INTERNATIONAL

OSINO
SECURITY

VACANCY

2018 01月 04日 星期二 09:00:00 AM

Job Summary:

We are seeking an experienced Security Consultant (Specialist Project Manager) to lead the design, implementation and commissioning of Integrated Security Management Systems and controls for our Tenth Mills Project. This is a two year fixed term contract position. The ideal candidate shall have a strong background in Managing Security Projects, the design and implementation of system integrations, and ensuring the effective deployment of security measures to protect assets and personnel in a (two year fixed term) project environment. This is a key leadership role responsible for end-to-end project delivery and coordination with internal and external stakeholders.

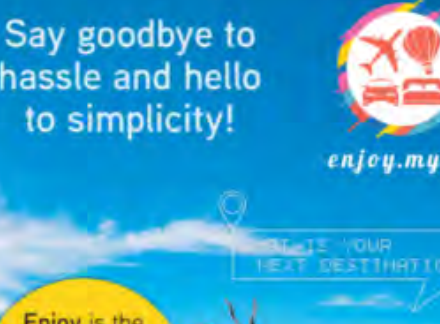
Key Responsibilities & Areas:

- Plan, execute, and manage security projects from inception to completion.
- Lead the design and implementation of integrated electronic security systems (CCTV, access control, intrusion detection, etc.).
- Manage the security systems integration to ensure the project is aligned with the overall project schedule.
- Develop and manage project budgets, timelines, and resources.
- Provide regular project updates and status reports to senior project management.

- Provide guidance in managing security projects and functions throughout 15 years experience.
- In-depth knowledge of the design, implementation and commissioning of integrated electronic security systems, physical security controls, and related technologies.
- Strong project management skills with the ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously.
- Relevant qualifications in Project Management and Security Management, or Security Risk Management are compulsory.
- Relevant Tertiary Qualification at NCF level 5 (Degree or National Higher Diploma or equivalent) in Project Management and Security Management or equivalent is required.

Qualifications:

- Possessing at least one within the project leadership team on the implementation of security strategies during



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CGN Swakop Uranium VACANCY

Swakop Uranium, a Namibian small-scale uranium mining, processing, and energy company, is currently seeking a Graduate Trainee: Human Resource Management.

Graduate Trainee: Human Resource Management

To apply, please upload your CV and other recently certified AND verified/authenticated relevant documents plus a Certificate of Conduct not older than 6 months to hr@swakopuranium.com or hr@swakopuranium.com, or scan the QR code and / or apply via the HRIS system by following the link <https://hris.swakopuranium.com>.

Please note that all relevant qualifications (provide qualifications received), must be recently certified and verified by the institution where it was obtained or the NQA. For more information regarding evaluation of qualifications, please visit www.nqa.org.

SCAN ME

NOTICE OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION FOR THE PROPOSED SMALL-SCALE MINING AND QUARRYING ACTIVITIES ON MINING CLAIM 73963, ON FARM !URIS 481, OSHIKOTO REGION, NAMIBIA

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd provides this notice to members of the public that an application for an environmental clearance certificate, in accordance with the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and associated 2012 Regulations, has been made for the proposed small-scale mining and quarrying activities on mining claim 73963, on Farm !Uris 481, Oshikoto Region, Namibia. Members of the public are invited to register as an interested and affected party (IAP) and provide input into the environmental impact assessment process.

Applicant/Proponent: Three Musketeers Investment (Pty) Ltd
EAP: Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd (ECC)
Location: 15 km west of Tsumeb, Namibia

Proposed Activity: The Proponent intends to mine silica gravel from the quarrying activities and deliver it to the Silica Resource Group Tsumeb smelter, previously owned and operated by Dunder Precious Metals Tsumeb (DPM). The proposed Project area will be 17.6 ha and the estimated quarrying quantities per month are 1,500 Mtpa per month (after crushing and screening).

Project Location: The Project site is approximately 15 km west of Tsumeb. The site can be accessed via the B1 Road (B-1243334 & 175687793).

Register:
1. Visit the register at www.ecc.com.
2. Register for the Project by scanning the QR code below or visit our website.
3. Registered IAPs will receive a project background information document (BIG).

Public meeting: ECC cordially invites interested and affected parties (IAPs) and members of the public to the public meeting scheduled as follows:

Date: 24 February 2025
Venue: Malakia Hotel Conference Hall
Time: 18:30 – 20:00

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd
Registration Number: 2020/000000000
Address: P.O. Box 1000, Windhoek, Namibia
Tel: +264 61 234 5678
E-mail: info@ecc.com
Website: www.ecc.com





VACANCY

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ABOUT MEATCO

Meatco, an equal opportunity employer, is a progressive organization involved in the production, processing, value addition, and marketing of red meat and associated by-products.

POSITION: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, F1 - 5 YEAR CONTRACT

Purpose of the job

The Meatco Board of Directors is seeking a strategic leader to drive and implement the strategies developed in line with the mandate of the Meatco Act and as agreed with the Meatco Board. In broad terms, this will include leadership of the Meatco Executive team and senior staff, ensuring sufficient raw material supply, maintaining the highest production and quality standards in production, whilst growing the Meatco brand in local, regional and international markets. The incumbent is expected to drive the vision, mission and values of the organization as an employer of choice and manage the business sustainably for the long-term benefit of the Namibian livestock sector.

Key Performance Areas

a) To professionally lead the corporation, provide the best quality service for its stakeholders and ensure overall growth for the business by implementing the strategic goals and objectives of the Company.

- To provide strategic leadership, direction and performance coaching to the Executive Management team under the guidance of the Board of Directors.
- Drive the annual budgeting and strategic review processes.
- Manage the organisation in accordance with principles of good corporate governance, ensuring sound financial, social and environmental processes and outcomes.
- Liaise and manage both primary and secondary external stakeholder relationships (i.e. Producers/Suppliers/Customers and Government).
- Plan, control and direct tasks and processes to monitor the organisation's output.
- Critically analyse and assess information to be able to take the right decisions and lead the organisation into prosperity.
- Resource management and organisational development.
- Motivate and develop personnel to attract and retain a skilled managerial team.
- Communicate regularly internally and externally on the strategic direction of the Corporation in order to keep producers and employees well informed.

Competency and Skill Requirements

- Bachelor's degree in business management, agriculture and / or finance.
- A Master of Business Administration will be an added advantage.
- At least 10 years' experience at a Senior Executive level (preferably CEO/MD).
- Proven leadership and strategic planning capabilities, ideally on an international level, in a complex environment in the meat processing industry.
- Experience in aligning goals and objectives with organisational capacity and fiscal, political, and human resources, financial acumen, with the ability to oversee the budget of a complex co-operation.
- Fearless and confident to make the tough calls while being sensitive to the uniquely Namibian business environment.
- Change management and business re-engineering experience will be considered an added benefit.

Remuneration and other

- The remuneration and other service benefits of the CEO is determined by the Board with the concurrence of the relevant Minister, with due regard to any directives laid down by the Minister under section 4(1) (e) of the PEGA.
- Market related with a performance-based component.
- Conditions of MEATCO employment will apply.
- Preference will be given to Namibian citizens.

Selection process

- The Meatco Board of Directors (or delegates) will spearhead the selection process.
- Shortlisted candidates may be required to deliver a presentation, through which they will be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate their preparedness, their promise and their excellence for the challenging position of CEO.
- Additionally, short-listed candidates shall be subjected to psychometric assessments as well as a competency and behaviour-based interview process.
- The top candidate recommended will be subjected to a vetting process.
- The successful candidate will be appointed to hold office for a period of five years and may be eligible for re-appointment at the discretion of the Meatco Board.

Please note that only short-listed applicants will be contacted. Suitable candidates from designated groups are encouraged to apply.

Closing Date: 21 February 2025

To Apply: Kindly direct your application, a cover letter, CV and certified copies of supporting documents to the Chairperson of the HRC Committee: info@meatco.com

Vacancy

Namib Mills (Pty) Ltd, an equal opportunity employer invites interested and qualified candidates looking for an exiting career in the FMCG industry to apply for the following positions in Otavi Namib Mills (Pty) Ltd:

APPENDIX D – SITE NOTICE

	
Coordinates: 19° 12' 29" S 17° 35' 39" E	Coordinates: 19° 12' 51" S 17° 37' 51" E

APPENDIX E – EAP CV'S

APPENDIX F – STAKEHOLDER LETTER