



MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT AS A TOOL FOR STRENGTHENING CULTURAL RIGHTS IN NAMIBIA

MUSEUM AND MOBILE EXHIBITION GUIDEBOOK



A project implemented by the
Museums Association of Namibia



In collaboration with the Ministry
of Education, Arts and Culture
in the Republic of Namibia



This project is funded by
the European Union



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PUBLISHER

MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION OF NAMIBIA

Physical: 131, 2nd Floor, Maerua Park, Centaurus Road, Windhoek, Namibia

Postal: P.O.Box 147 Windhoek, Namibia

Tel: +264 61 30 22 30

Email: info@museums.com.na

Web: www.museums.com.na

Facebook: Museums Association of Namibia

Instagram: @museums_association_of_namibia

Twitter: @MuseumsANamibia

YouTube: Museums Association of Namibia

COMPILATION, DESIGN & LAYOUT: Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

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CONTENTS

i.	Introduction to the Project
Page 1:	The Museum of Namibian Music
Page 7:	Zambezi Museum
Page 15:	Stand Together Mobile Exhibition
Page 17:	Oombale Dhi Ihaka Mobile Exhibition

INTRODUCTION TO THE PROJECT

Her Excellency, Jana Hybaskova, Ambassador of the European Union to Namibia officially launched a project titled 'Museum Development as a Tool for Strengthening Cultural Rights in Namibia' at 10am on Monday, 27th November, 2017.

The launch took place at Jo Jo's Music and Art Café in the central courtyard of the Namibian Crafts Centre in Windhoek. It included performances by the Namibian Marimba Band and Ms H and Enchante and speeches by representatives of the Museums Association of Namibia (MAN) and the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture.

The European Union provided 237,025.00 Euros to support activities carried out by MAN to support regional museum development. The MAN worked in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture to develop two new museums. The project had four components.

2019: The launch of the **Oombale Dhi Ihaka "A Bond That Cannot Be Broken"** took place on 15th April, 2019 at Nehale Senior Secondary School, Onayena Constituency, Oshikoto Region. The exhibition was launched by H.E. Hon. Nangolo Mbumba, Vice-President of the Republic of Namibia. The launch was the first milestone in the project. The launch was also attended by Her Excellency, Jana Hybaskova, the Ambassador of the Delegation of the European Union to Namibia. The exhibition is based on photographs of 127 cultural artifacts which were collected by the Finnish missionary, Martti Rautanen "Nakambale" over a hundred years ago and provides a unique insight into the cultural heritage of the Ondonga kingdom. The section on the historical artifacts has been supplemented by an oral history, recorded in the 1930s, giving an account of the early Aakwaniilwa and important information about the burial sites of some of the early leaders of the kingdom. The exhibition and catalogue also features the story of a fragment of the "Power Stone" of Ondonga which was also discovered in the National Museum of Finland.

2020: Produced in collaboration with the Namibian San Council (NSC), The exhibition titled **//Ha//xae (!Kung), Ma/ aos (Hai//om), Glla !IKae (Ju'/hoansi), Têê /xai (Khwe), Dea /Xae (Naro), Stand Together (English)** was launched by the Acting Minister of Education, Arts and Culture, Hon. Martin Andjaba, at Etosha Secondary School on the 20th February 2020. The Namibian San Council decided that the title of the exhibition should be in several of the different languages of Namibia's San communities. The multilingual title reflects the diversity within Namibia's San communities

and the importance the Council places on the preservation of the different San languages as being central to the protection of their cultural rights. The exhibition and catalogue is in both English and Ju'/hoansi (the San language that, the Council feels, has been most developed, to date, into a written form).

2021: The **Museum of Namibian Music** was officially opened by Honourable Faustina Caley, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture on the 18th March 2021. The launch featured speeches from Her Excellency Ambassador Sinikka Antila the Ambassador of the Delegation of the European Union to Namibia and different stakeholders in the project, as well as performances from KP Illest, Rose BLVC and the Waapandula Cultural Group. The Museum of Namibian Music is located next to the regional library in the heart of Omuthiya in Oshikoto Region. The working group that made the development of the museum possible, consisted of stakeholders in the form of musicians across all cultures, genres and demographics, archivists, culture officers from the Directorate of Heritage and Culture Programs, music lecturers from COTA, UNAM and APC, tourism and intellectual property experts from the Ministry of Environment and Tourism and NASCAM, museum experts, composers and musicologists.

The **Zambezi Museum** was officially opened by Honourable Faustina Caley, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture on the 18th May 2021 which was also International Museums Day. The launch featured speeches from Her Excellency Ambassador Sinikka Antila the Ambassador of the Delegation of the European Union to Namibia and different stakeholders in the project, as well as cultural performances with drums and mashamba and a virtual tour of the museum. The development of the exhibitions in the museum has been guided by an Advisory Committee (ZAMAC). The Committee is encouraging people to provide more information, artifacts, photographs and stories to help the museum expand its collections and create new displays. ZAMAC has made a particular appeal for assistance in identifying places of importance in the region so that it can help create a map of important heritage sites in the region.

The launches of the Museums were virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This meant that people from every region of Namibia, and across the world, were able to attend the launch if they could connect online. The launches are accessible on the MAN Youtube Channel and Facebook Page.

  Museums Association of Namibia



MUSEUM OF NAMIBIAN MUSIC

Music is all about creating harmony. When we sing together and dance together, our voices and bodies connect and communicate. Music can help us express our feelings – love, anger, happiness, sadness. Whether we are performers or listeners music matters to us all.

The Museum of Namibian Music (MUNAMU) creates a space where we can celebrate our musical heritage and the musical diversity that we have in our country. Our definition of Namibian music includes all music made by Namibians, but the museum gives special recognition to the cultural traditions that provide our musical roots.

There are many stories to be told and we believe that MUNAMU should be a “living” museum where performances can take place and displays are regularly changed and updated. MUNAMU also provides a space where we can collect and preserve our musical history.

Please contact the museum if you have suggestions, images, objects or stories that can help us to document the past, the present and the future of Namibian Music.

Email: museumofnamibianmusic@gmail.com

Facebook: Museum of Namibian Music

Instagram: @museumofnamibianmusic

Address: Omuthiya Cultural Centre, Omuthiya, Oshikoto Region, Namibia

GALLERY 1A

Musical Roots: Traditional Namibian Musical Instruments

!Gao !gao sib di /òn: Namibiab di
!hao !nasib /òn di //kai #ui !khaib
(Khoekhoegowab)

This gallery showcases some of the traditional musical instruments played by communities in Namibia and we will regularly rotate the instruments on display. The unique sounds of these instruments can provide inspiration to Namibian composers.



GALLERY 1B

Musical Roots: Traditional Namibian Musical Instruments

Thitô ya dipina: Diletšo tsa dipina
tsa setšo sa Namibia (Setswana)

This gallery showcases some of the traditional musical instruments played by communities in Namibia and we will regularly rotate the instruments on display. The unique sounds of these instruments can provide inspiration to Namibian composers.



GALLERY 2

Songs from the Liberation Struggle

Marusumo Gekondjero Manguruko
(Rukwangali)

Music has a long history of being a form of protest. Ovaherero singers deliver Omitandu (praise songs) at events and festivals that have been passed down through the generations and reminds listeners of acts of resistance. When the national liberation struggle started, protest songs played an important role inside Namibia, in the camps in exile and in the solidarity movement. This Gallery reflects the role of music in the struggle for Namibian independence.



GALLERY 3

My Nation, My Pride (National Anthems)

Naha yaka, Buikumuso bwaka
(Pina ya naha) (Silozi)

Every country in the world has a National Anthem. Singing it encourages people to feel part of the nation. This gallery tells the story of the making of Namibia's national anthem and provides an introduction to other African anthems.



GALLERY 4

Namibian Stars of the Decade

Namibie Se Sterre van die Dekade
(Afrikaans)

This gallery celebrates the musicians who were awarded the male and female artist of the year awards at the SANLAM-NBC Music Awards (2003 – 2010) and the Namibian Music Awards (NAMA) from 2011 to 2020. The awards for artist of the year are given to individuals or a group of musicians to acknowledge their contribution and impact towards the music industry, usually based on a set out time frame, by the award organisers.



GALLERY 5

The Namibian Musical Hall of Fame

Ondjugo goongalelo ya tseyika
nawa koyendji yihikomwa
yaNamibia (Oshindonga)

The Hall of Fame is reserved for musicians who have received recognition for their contribution to building Namibia's musical heritage. The initial group of musicians to be inducted into the Hall of Fame are those who received a 'lifetime achievement award' at the Namibia Music Awards (NAMAs). Photographs used in the Hall of Fame were mainly sourced from the artists or their families.



GALLERY 6

When We Dance

Djxani (Ju Hoansi)

This gallery showcases dance. Dance as a musical practice has always been part of Namibian cultural life and it can be found in secular and sacred rituals of local people. Namibian dance as part of the African heritage is not just meant to be aesthetically pleasing, it is also largely functional as it is also embedded in the rites and social activities such as weddings, funerals, labour, festivals, births, healings, commemorations and memorials.

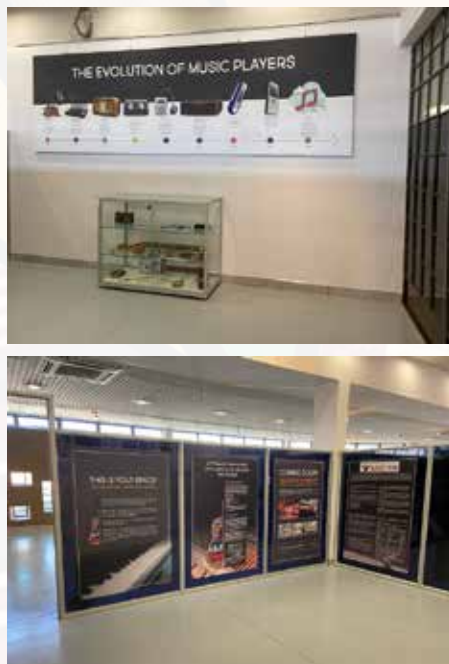


GALLERY 7

This Is Your Space: Our Temporary Exhibition Gallery

Namibia has such a rich musical heritage that we know that it will be impossible to tell all the histories and stories if our museum remains static. New music, new objects and new information will also emerge. For this reason, the museum will aim to regularly update its displays.

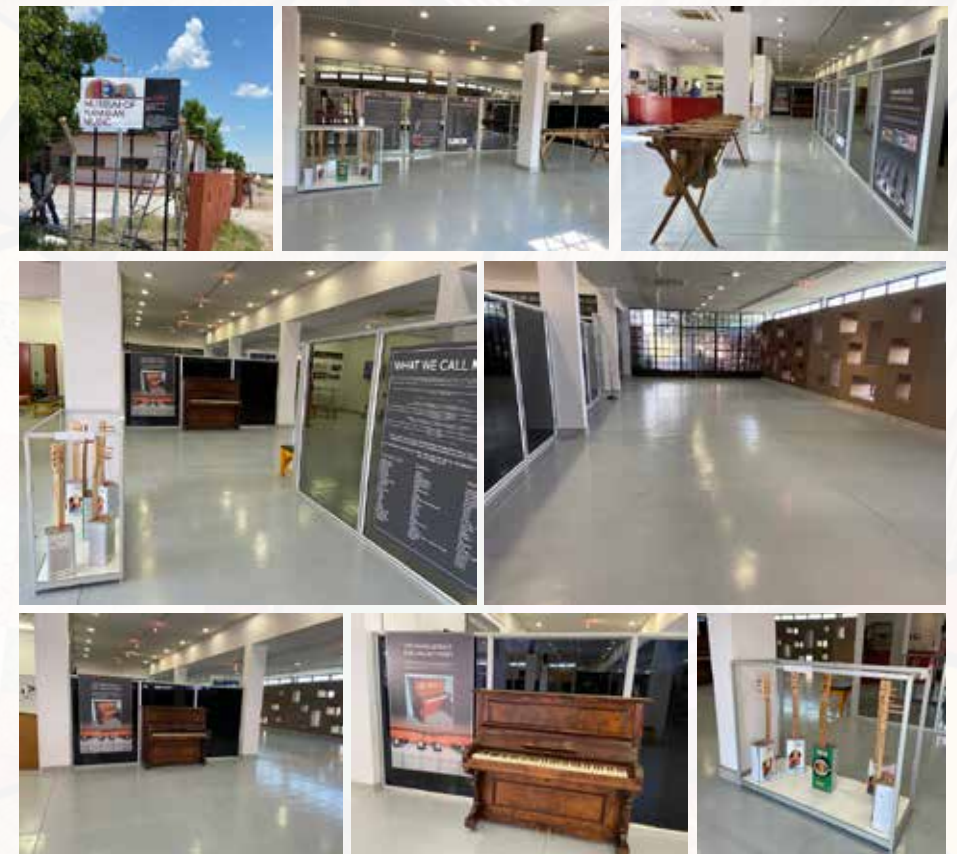
We would also like to use this gallery as a space for temporary exhibitions. MUNAMU can give birth to these displays that can then travel, in a mobile version, around Namibia. If people can't reach the Museum of Namibian Music than these mobile exhibitions will be able to reach the people!



VIEWING ROOM



THE MUSEUM AT A GLANCE





The Zambezi is the region with the greatest biodiversity in Namibia. **THE ZAMBEZI MUSEUM** (ZAMU) is located in Katima Mulilo and is at the heart of the Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA). KAZA coordinates activities to safeguard the wildlife and environment with the neighbouring countries of Angola, Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The Zambezi Museum focuses on the environmental difficulties that face communities living in the Zambezi Region. The region has a complex history and the museum reflects the way in which the landscape reflects the memories of the people who live here and the ways they have managed the environment.

The museum shows the ways in which people are developing strategies to co-habit with wildlife, prevent deforestation, manage fish stocks and cope with climate change. The museum aims to be an "ecomuseum" and to develop into Namibia's first "Green Museum".

Please contact the museum if you have suggestions, images, objects or stories that can help us to develop the museum as a space where we can discuss environmental issues and see the way culture has engaged with the natural resources of our region.

Tel: +264 66 253 755

Email: zambezimuseum@gmail.com

Facebook: Zambezi Museum

Instagram: @zambezimuseum

Address: Community Library, Dr. Hage Geingob Drive, Katima Mulilo, Zambezi Region, Namibia

GALLERY 1

English: Zambezi: Namibia's Garden? Climate Change and Conservation Agriculture

Silosi: Zambezi: Simu ya Namibia? Kucinca kwa mayemo alihalimu ni Pukelezo ya Njmo



GALLERY 2

English: Water: Friend and Foe. Coping with Seasonal Flooding

Silosi: Mezi: Mulikani ni Sila. Kutalimana ni muunda wa myaha



GALLERY 3

English: Fishing Forever? Sustainable fishing

Silozi: Bundui bwa kamita? Bundui sakata



GALLERY 4

English: Living with Wildlife

Silozi: Kupila ni lifolofolo zanaheñi



GALLERY 5

English: Histories of the Region – Heritage Sites & Sacred Spaces

Silozi: Litaba zakale za sikiliti – Libaka zakale ni libaka zabutokwa



GALLERY 6

English: Traditional Medicine

Silozi: Milyani ya Sizo



GALLERY 7

English: Forests as a Sustainable Resource

Silozi: Mishitu kuba simbule sakata



GALLERY 8

English: The Namibian Liberation Struggle and the Zambezi Region

Silozi: Ndwa ya Kulwanela Tukuluho mwa Namibia ni Sikilifi sa Zambezi



GALLERY 9

English: The Namibian Liberation Struggle and the Zambezi Region

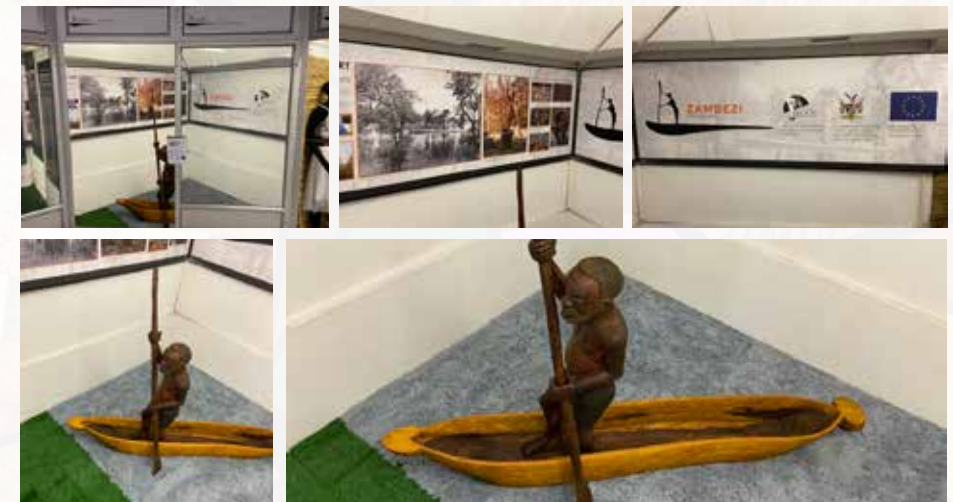
Silozi: Ndwa ya Kulwanela Tukuluho mwa Namibia ni Sikilifi sa Zambezi



GALLERY 10

English: Zambezi Art

Silozi: Zakuwanisa mwa Zambezi



GALLERY 11

English: Temporary Exhibition Gallery: Zambezi Style

Silozi: Ponahazo swalelele ya lika zakuswanisa: Mukwa wa Zambezi



GALLERY 12

English: Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA)

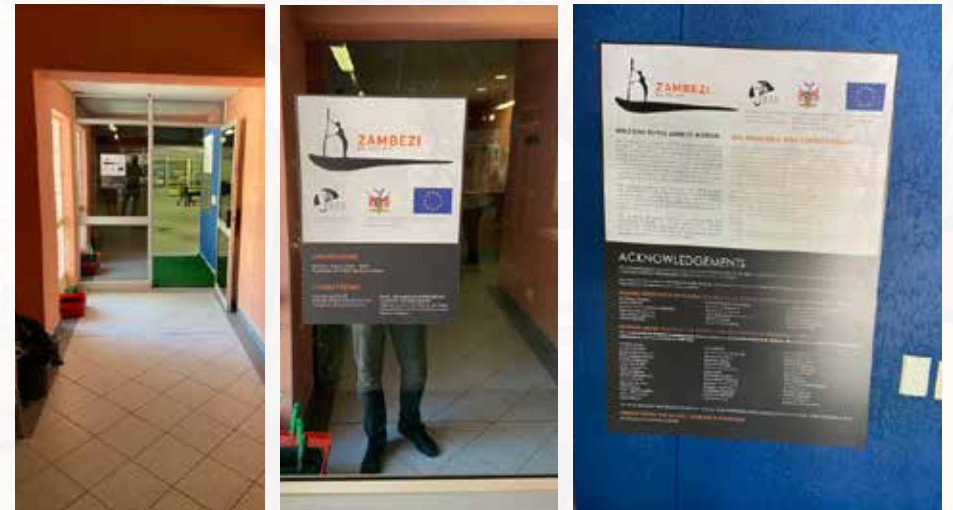
Silozi: Za katengo kapukelezo ya lifolofolo mwa Kavango ni Zambezi (KAZA)



THE CONSERVATION ROOM



THE MUSEUM AT A GLANCE



OOMBALE DHI IHAKA

"A BOND THAT CANNOT BE BROKEN"



A mobile exhibition and catalogue titled **Oombale Dhi Ihaka: A Bond That Cannot Be Broken**, was developed by the Museums Association of Namibia (MAN), with funding from the European Union.

The exhibition was based on photographs of 126 cultural artefacts that had been collected by the Finnish missionary, Martti Rautanen (better known in the north as "Nakambale").

The objects are currently held by the National Museum of Finland.



STAND TOGETHER

//HA//XAE (IKUNG) MA/AOS (HAI//OM) GIIA IIAE (JU//HOANSI) TÊÊ /XAI (KHWE) DEA/XAE (NARO)

The Museums Association of Namibia has developed numerous mobile exhibitions in our aim to have “museums without walls” which is a way to bring museums to the people, no matter where they are. For that reason, we encourage our member museums, schools, and institutions to borrow our exhibitions to showcase in their towns and regions.

The “**Stand Together**” Mobile Exhibition and Catalogue feature images and objects from the Fourie Collection at Museum Africa in Johannesburg **about San cultural heritage**. The exhibition was developed by the Museums Association of Namibia in collaboration with the Namibia San Council and Museum Africa, with funding from the Delegation of the European Union in Namibia and the National Arts Council of Namibia.

The mobile exhibitions are available for loan from the Museums Association of Namibia. To loan a mobile exhibition, one should complete the MAN Exhibition Loan Form. The catalogue is available for free download.

To get the MAN Exhibition Loan Form and/or download the catalogue, visit the Museums Association of Namibia's website www.museums.com.na and navigate to “**Mobile Exhibitions**”.







Namibia is blessed with cultural diversity. In a multi-cultural society, museums can play a vital role in building mutual understanding and challenging cultural stereotypes. The European Union has funded the Museums Association of Namibia (MAN) to support four projects which will help to ***Make Museums Matter.***

