

# ANNUAL REPORT 2020/2021



Museums Association of Namibia  
Making Museums Matter - Since 1990

## COMPILED BY

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala - Operations Manager  
Mr Tuuda Haitula - Museum Development Officer

## ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY

Ms Nehoa Hilma Kautondokwa – Chairperson  
Mr Kavenauarue Tjiworo – Documentalist  
Ms Johanna Nghishiko – Conservator  
Mr Kevanhu Muifi – Curator, Museum of Namibian Fashion  
Mr Justin Diaz-Haingura – Intern

## LAYOUT AND DESIGN

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

## PHOTOGRAPHS

Museums Association of Namibia Archives  
Trace Garren - Townhouse Photography  
Individual Contributors - Credited

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## DISCLAIMER

While compiling this publication, the secretariat of the Museums Association of Namibia, has endeavored to ensure that all of the information and images are accurate representations of the organization's history. Any omissions or errors are in no way intentional and if picked up, we encourage the reader to inform us in order for them to be corrected in the next issue.



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ResiliArt

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ICOM AGM

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NAMCOR

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Stand Together Exhibition Interview with One Africa

Meeting with Robben Island Museum

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Old Wheeler's Club Museum, Windhoek  
Photo: Old Wheeler's Club



## SECTION 1

# FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION



Over the past twelve months, we, as individuals, families, organizations, communities, as a nation and as a planet, have been forced to truly evaluate the meaning of the word “normal” and our connection to it. From the day that the first COVID-19 cases were reported in Namibia, we have gone from “waiting to return to normal”, to “embracing the new normal”, to “what is normal...really?”. At this point, it is safe to say that most of us have come to realize that, as the adage reminds us, change is the only constant. Change is the only normal.

With hard work, creativity, and the willingness to step outside our comfort zones, we, as the heritage, arts and culture sector, have managed to remain relevant and find innovative ways to keep culture alive. With the feature on Namibian Heritage Week 2020, you will read about how different museums, heritage and arts institutions worked together to ensure that not only was culture kept alive, but using both social and formal media, reach new audiences. With the country locked down for part of the year and restrictions that continue until present, the MAN team was motivated to find innovative ways to ensure that we do what we do best... **make museums matter.**

## CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

Nehoa Hilma Kautondokwa

Through donations from the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, MAN was able to provide hand sanitizer and cleaning material to member museums in need. We also learnt that the inability to travel does not mean the inability to connect with our members. We therefore hosted numerous meetings, workshops, and even our Annual General Meeting (AGM) via the Zoom online platform. In as much as this technology is not available to all our members, the AGM had a large member turnout with 44 members attending the meeting. This is one of the highest turnouts to date. We have also strived to ensure that all current projects are completed, even though slightly delayed. And, as usual, we have pushed forward in seeking future projects that will continue to Make Museums Matter.

MAN turned 30 in 2020! We celebrated this giant milestone in May 2020, and we have published a 30th Anniversary publication which is available for free download from our website, under the “Journals and Publications” tab. The last 30 years of Making Museums Matter have been truly interesting with many exciting stories, projects and work done. In March 2021, we officially launch the Museum of Namibian Music as we continue to strive to Make Museums Matter within the new normal.

We believe that we can make these new museums happen thanks to the generous donations of time and effort by our wonderful volunteers, the financial contributions of our members and partners, the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture and external donors. The Museums Association of Namibia would cease to exist without them. However, there is more to be done to make these dreams come true and I would like to take this opportunity to invite everyone reading this Annual Report to also support our work.

In conclusion I would like to say that, looking forward, the reality is that the present global crisis should not be seen as an insurmountable problem threatening the existence of our sector. It is a challenge that can be met if we work together as a team with a positive and innovative frame of mind. Indeed, at this time, the creativity of the creative industries is an important asset for our country. One of MAN's important goals during this 31st Year of operations will be to reflect and to reshape MAN's vision to directly address the core developments in the museum sector that are likely to take place over the next few decades.

Our Annual Report aims to highlight some of MAN's achievements during the 2020-2021 Financial Year (to accompany our audited financial report). During this period, we received core funding from the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture of N\$1,058,000.00 during the year, which covered just under half of the core costs of the organisation (i.e. our office rental, salaries and utility bills). MAN continued to actively seek external project funding to support activities and regional museum development. I would like to congratulate the Secretariat on the fact that over the last few years we have managed to attract external funding that has more than matched the grant-in-aid we receive from the Ministry and brought important foreign exchange into Namibia. I would like to thank from the bottom of my heart the team that forms the heart of MAN - Ms. Ashipala, Mr Haitula and Dr Silvester. I know that the three young project workers who have joined us in 2019, Mr. Muifi, Ms. Nghishiko and Ms. Mwatondange and then Mr Tjiworo in 2020, will be inspired by the commitment and hard work of the team. I can't thank you enough for all the work and effort you put into making museums matter. When I travel abroad people assume that MAN is a massive organisation and I, myself, am constantly amazed by the incredible work that you accomplish with limited resources.

# STATEMENT FROM THE MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION OF NAMIBIA ON THE BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT AND COLONIAL MONUMENTS

Museums Association of Namibia Executive Committee

1.

The “Black Lives Matter” movement, originally a reaction to the disproportionate use of police force against black people in the United States, and its deadly consequences, has meanwhile spread world-wide. It has widened its scope in becoming a cultural movement that questions the prevalent amnesia of the global slave trade, institutionalised as well as subconscious racism, and in particular the memorialization of slave traders, colonialists and defenders of slavery through public monuments.

2.

In Namibia, the “Reiterdenkmal” (Rider monument or equestrian statue) has been removed in 2009 from its prominent place on a pedestal in Windhoek, and is now stored in the courtyard of the “Alte Feste” Museum. Although this happened before the “Black Lives Matter” movement, the criticism of that monument anticipates some key issues that are now taken up on a much wider scale: the “Rider”, presumably a war memorial to commemorate the victims of the war that took place in Namibia between 1904-1908, mourns only the Germans who lost their lives. It did not spare one word for the uncounted tens of thousands of black victims of the genocidal war. It was inaugurated by the then Governor of German South West Africa with the words that the “this Rider stands here to remind us that we are the masters of this country and will forever be”. [exact words to be verified].

3.

Currently, the Curt von François statue in front of the Windhoek Municipality building has come under criticism, and calls for its removal have been made.

When discussing colonial monuments, one has to consider three aspects:

- (1) the context of the period, and the events, and persons they commemorate
- (2) the circumstances, placing and purpose of the monument’s erection
- (3) the message the monument continues to send out with its current presence.

Applying these aspects to the statue at Windhoek Municipality, one can state the following facts:

About aspect no.1: The statue commemorates Major Curt von François. In 1889, the German government sent him to Namibia with a contingent of soldiers to enforce German rule after Chief Maharero Tjamuaha had expelled the German representative Heinrich Göring. Curt von François first established a military fort at Tsaobis to control the trade route from Walvis Bay, and in 1890, he moved with his soldiers to Windhoek and built a fort there. He made use of the fact that Windhoek, which had been established as a town 50 years earlier by Jonker Afrikaner, was at the time an unoccupied disputed territory between Maharero and Afrikaner’s son Jan Jonker. François requested further military reinforcements from Germany, and when those arrived in 1892, he led an unprovoked surprise attack against Hendrik Witbooi at Hoornkrans which killed 80 Nama, mostly women and children. Thus he started the first colonial war in Namibia. As he was entirely unsuccessful in this war, he was recalled to Germany and was replaced with Major Theodor Leutwein.

About aspect no.2: In 1965, while the apartheid Windhoek City Council was still busy removing the remaining residents of the Old Location to Katutura, they wanted to re-inforce the notion that Windhoek was a white city, and invented an anniversary to celebrate this idea. They could have celebrated the fact that Windhoek was established as an urban settlement by Jonker Afrikaner 125 years earlier, but in the apartheid mindset, the city had to have been founded by a colonial white man. Therefore they celebrated 75 years since Curt von François ordered to build a fort in Windhoek. To publicise the fiction of a pure white history, they ordered a bronze statue of the alleged “founder of Windhoek” to be erected in front of the municipal building. The statue was commissioned to be cast by a South African artist with relevant experience in creating apartheid sculptures.

About aspect no.3: Fifty-six years later, the statue still proclaims in front of the municipality building that a German colonial officer founded Windhoek in 1890. 129 years after he started the first colonial war in Namibia with a massacre of women and children, and two years after a bible that was looted at that occasion was finally returned to Namibia, Curt von François is still being honoured at a very prominent place in Windhoek with a more-than-life-size sculpture.

4.

The Museums Association of Namibia does not advocate the wholesale destruction of remnants of the colonial past. They are visual reminders of a history that should not be forgotten or erased, but should be truthfully told and put into its proper context. Such monuments should not be allowed to glorify a falsified history. It is upon us to find ways and means to use them productively to commemorate and teach history in a truthful manner. This is not an easy task but a matter of continued public discussion.

Demands to remove a monument that tells a distorted version of history are not demands to erase history. To the contrary, they are demands to remember and to discuss history. Remembering that the name Windhoek was given by Jonker Afrikaner should also mean to remember that people were living at the hot springs of Windhoek for many centuries before Jonker came and named the place, and that it used to be known under the names IAI-Ilgams and Otjomuise. The task is to find creative ways to enable that discussion. Such a discussion is not well served by leaving Curt von Francois standing at his current prominent space as the alleged “founding father of Windhoek”.

5.

The many options about how to deal with the existing statue, and how to deal with the space in front of the municipality build in case the statue is removed, should be a matter of public discussion, initiated by the City Council. The Windhoek City Museum might offer a place to display and explain Curt von François in his historical context. It is possible, but not a foregone conclusion, to replace the François statue with another statue of another historical person. Namibian artists should be called upon to come up with creative ideas and proposals how to tell the history of Windhoek through Public Art.

6.

Removing monuments cannot replace the larger, and more difficult, task to correct the skewed history of Namibia when this is told in school books, travel guides, popular literature and – last but not least – in museums. The Museums Association of Namibia is committed to this task.



## MAN VS COVID-19

Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

### WHAT HAPPENED?

Covid-19 caught the museum sector in Namibia and across the world by surprise and unfortunately, unprepared. The guidelines set out in the Museums Association of Namibia (MAN)'s "Dodging Danger - Emergency Planning and Response for Namibian Museums, Art Galleries, Archives and Libraries" handbook (available for download on the MAN Website) did not envisage the possibility of a pandemic as, historically, such an event only takes place around once every hundred years.

On Saturday the 14th March 2020, President Hage Geingob announced the first two confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Namibia and announced numerous measures to combat the spread of the disease, including the cancellation of all public gatherings. MAN responded by circulating the official statement by the president, as well as a booklet that provides guidance on the actions that should be taken to avoid the spread of COVID-19, to all its members via email. MAN continued to circulate updated, verified information about COVID-19 to its members via email and all social media platforms.

On Monday the 16th March 2020, in compliance with the announcement made by President Hage Geingob on Saturday 14th March 2020 canceling all public gatherings in response to the COVID-19 virus, MAN received a directive from the Director of Heritage and Culture Programs to instruct all museums to close for the public, to avoid the spread of the COVID-19 virus. MAN then shared the directive with all member museums via email, the website and all social media platforms.

### WHAT NOW? WHAT NEXT?

MAN continues to advise caution and compliance with all Government regulations to help us fight the pandemic. **MAN implores all its members to please adhere to the restrictions and regulations as set by the government.**

**We also encourage our members to find creative ways to take our exhibitions to our audiences as museums can play an important national educational role in these difficult times.**

Across the world the culture sector is developing ways of making available virtual versions of their exhibitions. This is an important way of ensuring that people still have access to culture at a time when there is increased stress and severely limited access to mental health support services.

On Friday the 3rd April 2020, MAN started a "featured" series on all its social media platforms in which it features a different Namibian Museum every Friday, giving a short summary about the museum, where it can be found, images of exhibitions and contact details for the museum.

MAN would like to, once again, encourage museums without social media pages, to take the opportunity to create, at the very least, a Facebook page. Where possible Namibian museums should share existing materials on their websites and social media. Any museum that does not yet have a strong internet presence should make use of MAN's platforms and use the lockdown as an opportunity to create a website and social media pages.

Apart from strengthening our digital presence, the MAN team has been working on research and content development for its existing projects such as the Museum of Namibian Music, the Museum of Namibian Fashion and the Zambezi Museum, amongst others, in preparation for the end of the lockdown, which will once again provide the opportunity for in-depth, stakeholder engagement.

### MAN MEMBER INFO WHATSAPP GROUP

Due to these uncertain times, which have led to many people working from home and sometimes not having access to the work emails or stable internet access, we have created a WhatsApp group for MAN members (strictly) in order to be able to share information about MAN activities with you.

We would like to keep the group for information sharing purposes only therefore, please note that the group is set so that only the admins can post. If you have any questions or comments, you can message the admins privately.

Please join the group using this link <https://chat.whatsapp.com/KyetW5GOVyVBvUbcDrd37f>

Please feel free to share the link with your colleagues and any other MAN members.

**NB: We will still be communicating via email, website and other social media platforms. Therefore, no members will be disadvantaged if they choose not to join the WhatsApp group.**



# STAFFING

The Museums Association of Namibia has three full-time permanent staff:



**DR JEREMY SILVESTER**  
**DIRECTOR**

PhD. African History (University of London)  
PGC. Education (University of London)  
MA. Southern African Studies (University of York)  
BA. (Joint Honours) History & English  
(University College Cardiff, University of Wales)



**MS NEHOA KAUTONDOKWA**  
**MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT MANAGER (UNTIL 14 JULY 2020)**

MA. Public & Visual History (UWC)  
Postgrad Dip. Museums & Heritage Studies (UWC)  
BA. Education (UNAM)



**MS NDAPEWOSHALI ASHIPALA**  
**OPERATIONS MANAGER**

Dip. Labour & Employment Studies (UNAM)  
Cert. Accounting & Auditing (UNAM)  
B.Sci. Finance Management (Hons) (IUM)



**MR TUUDA HAITULA**  
**MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (SINCE 01 NOVEMBER 2020)**

Dip. Labour & Employment Studies (UNAM)  
Post-Grad Dip. in Heritage Conservation & Mgt (UNAM)  
BA. (Hons) History and Industrial Psychology (UNAM)



**MR NAPHTALI CHIPASHA**  
**ACCOUNTING SERVICES AND FINANCIAL ADVISORY**  
Master of Business Administration (University of Nicosia)  
Bachelor of Accounting (UNAM)

MAN employs three Project Officers for the “Confronting Colonial Pasts, Envisioning Creative Futures:” Project on a fixed-term basis.



**MS JOHANNA NDAHEKELEKWA NGHISHIKO**  
**CONSERVATOR**

Post-Grad Dip. in Heritage Conservation & Mgt (UNAM)  
B. Natural Resources Mgt. [Conservation] (NUST)  
Nat. Dip. Natural Resources Mgt. [Conservation] (NUST)



**MR KEVANHU ALFRED MUIFI**  
**CURATOR | MUSEUMS OF NAMIBIAN FASHION**  
BA. (Hons) Ceramics and Industrial Psychology (UNAM)



**MS MARIA RANDY MWATONDONGE**  
**DOCUMENTALIST (UNTIL 31 JANUARY 2021)**

Post-Grad Dip. in Heritage Conservation & Mgt (UNAM)  
BA. (Hons) Records & Archives Management (UNAM)



**MR KAVENAUARUE TJIWORO**  
**DOCUMENTALIST (SINCE 01 FEBRUARY 2021)**

Post-Grad Dip. in Heritage Conservation & Mgt (UNAM)  
Bachelor Travel and Tourism Management (NUST)

# INTERNSHIPS

In service training is an effective way of offering students job and career development options that benefit both the student and the organisation. MAN offers internships to students undertaking courses in relevant fields. MAN tries to accommodate as many interns as possible during the year at both the MAN office and at member museums around the country.

In September 2017, MAN signed an MOA with Namibian University of Science and Technology (NUST) in which MAN agreed to provide a placement for students of NUST for the purpose of Work Integrated Learning (WIL). MAN continues to provide internships from other universities in Namibia as well as international students studying in the field of History, Tourism, Museums and Culture.

Applications for internships can be submitted to the Museums Association of Namibia together with an updated CV to [info@museums.com.na](mailto:info@museums.com.na) for the attention of Ms Ndapewoshali Ashipala, Operations Manager.



**JOSEF HANGULA**

Course: Degree in Bachelor of Tourism Management  
Institution: Namibian University of Science and Technology  
01 September 2020 – 30 October 2020



**JUSTIN DIAZ-HAINGURA**

Course: Degree in Bachelor of Tourism Management  
Institution: Namibian University of Science and Technology  
01 September 2020 – 09 July 2021



**JAHANIKA HENGOMBE**

Course: Degree in Bachelor of Tourism Management  
Institution: Namibian University of Science and Technology  
01 September 2020 – 31 January 2021



**MS ANNA HAMBELELA KASHULULU**

Course: Degree in Bachelor of Tourism Management  
Institution: Namibian University of Science and Technology  
08 February 2021 - 06 August 2021



**MS JEANENE HUSSELMANN**

Course: Degree in Bachelor of Tourism Management  
Institution: Namibian University of Science and Technology  
08 February 2021 – 09 July 2021



**MS ELINE NYAU**

Course: Bachelor Of Communication  
Institution: Namibian University of Science and Technology  
08 February 2021 – 09 July 2021

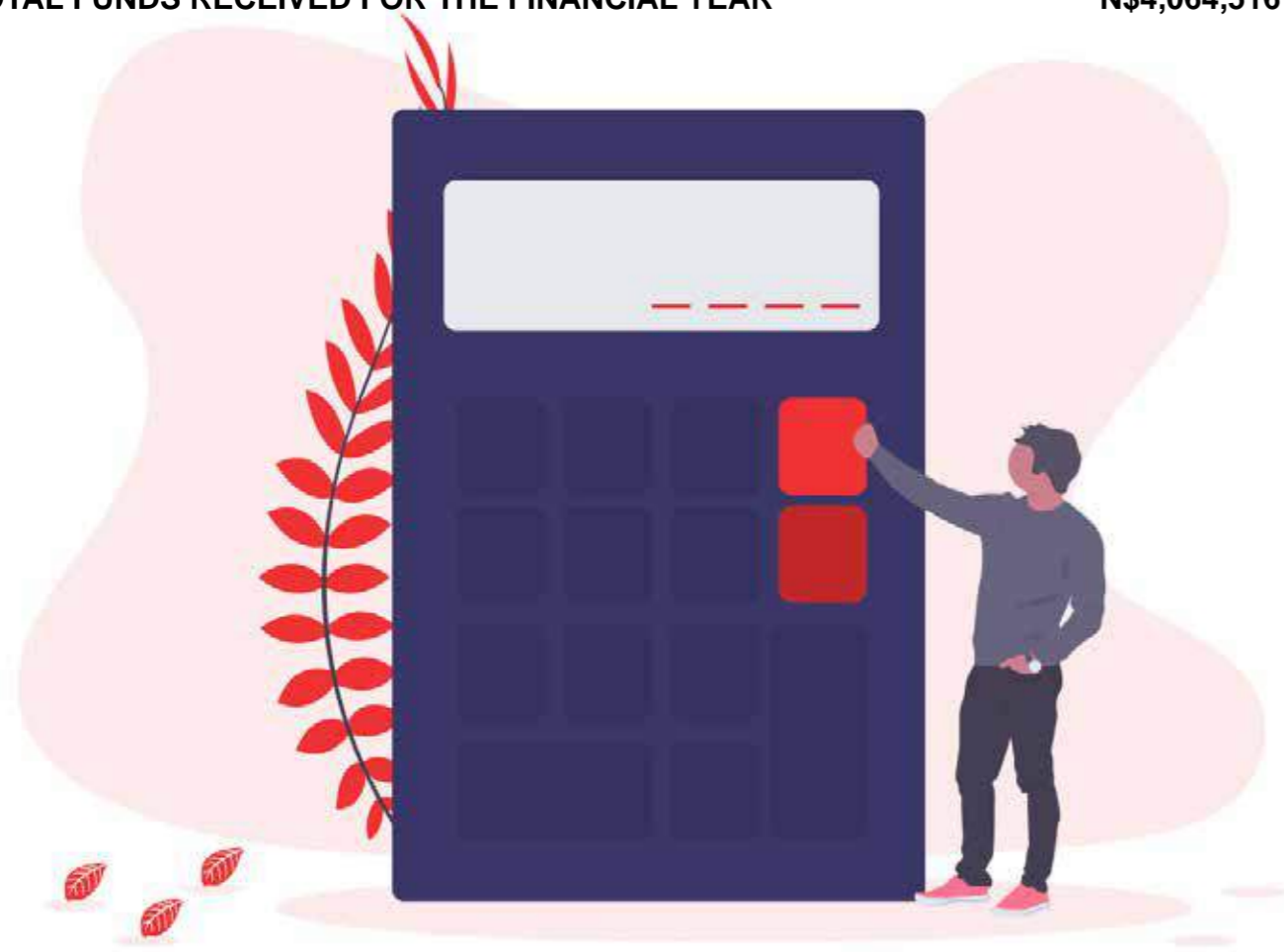


# 2020/2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

Funding raised by MAN for operational costs and numerous projects from 01 April 2020 - 31 March 2021.

SOURCE	AMOUNT
<b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, ARTS AND CULTURE</b>	N\$1,058,000.00
<b>EXTERNAL FUNDING SUPPORT/PROJECT</b>	
National Arts Council	N\$150,000
Ministry of International Relations	N\$89,598
UNESCO Virtual Museum of Fashion	N\$36,660
Usakos Museum	N\$78,236
Gerda Henkel Stieftung	N\$2,308,488
Tsumeb Cutural Village	N\$41,331
MAN Consulting Fees	N\$45,388
MAN Exhibition & Design	N\$245,517
ICOM Membership Fees	N\$5,500
Membership Fees	N\$5,800
<b>TOTAL FUNDS RECEIVED FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	<b>N\$4,064,516</b>



## GOING CONCERN

Going concern is defined as “the ability of the entity to continue operating in the next 12 months, it is able to meet its obligations and does not face any threat of liquidation.”

Is Museums Association of Namibia a Going Concern as at 31 March 2021? **Yes**. The organisation has the following commitments from donors for the next few financial years

1. European Union - Museum Development as a Tool for Strengthening Cultural Rights in Namibia  
End of Project/Funding: June 2021 Project/Grant Value: Euros 237,025.00
2. Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture (MOEAC)  
End of Project/Funding: None Project/Grant Value: To Be Confirmed
3. National Arts Council of Namibia – Namibian Heritage Week  
End of Project/Funding: None Project/Grant Value: N\$150,000.00
4. Gerda Henkel Foundation – Namibian Museum of Fashion  
End of Project/Funding: April 2022 Project/Grant Value: Euros 101,828.00
5. Hedmark County Municipality – Tsumeb Cultural Village  
End of Project/Funding: September 2021 Project/Grant Value: NOK 50,000.00
6. NAMCOR  
End of Project/Funding: October 2021 Project/Grant Value: N\$412,500.00
7. UNESCO - Virtual Museum of Namibian Fashion  
End of Project/Funding: August 2021 Project/Grant Value: N\$30,000.00
8. UNESCO - Zambezi Heritage Hunt  
End of Project/Funding: August 2021 Project/Grant Value: N\$40,000.00
9. Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation (Namibia)  
End of Project/Funding: March 2021 Project/Grant Value: N\$89,597.60
10. Goethe-Institut - Conceptualise policy & training programme (Museum Outreach Project)  
End of Project/Funding: December 2021 Project/Grant Value: N\$81,387.50
11. University of Basel - Usakos Museum  
End of Project/Funding: June 2021 Project/Grant Value: CHF 5,000.00



King Mandume Museum, Omhedi  
Photo: King Mandume Museum



**SECTION 2**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**01 APRIL 2020 – 31 MARCH 2021**

## 01 APRIL About Us

The Museums Association of Namibia (MAN) is a Section 21 Company not for Gain and was launched in 1990 after Namibia's independence as an Association representing the interests of museums in Namibia. Since 2002 it has been given responsibility by the Government of Namibia to facilitate local and regional museum development and receives an annual grant-in-aid from the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture.

The MAN manages regional museum development grants, organises planning workshops for individual museums and national training workshops on specialist areas of museum work. MAN also organises an Annual General Meeting and Conference which gives an opportunity for colleagues from museums and heritage institutions all over Namibia to meet and discuss the latest developments in the heritage sector. MAN produces a biannual newsletter that is distributed to heritage institutions throughout Namibia and also to all the important international museum networks.

The Executive Committee (EC) is the decision-making body of the Museums Association of Namibia. The Committee provides leadership and overall strategy for the organisation as well as assuring everyone that the organisation's finances are sound, its operations are legal and that its procedures work. The EC represents the membership of the organisation and oversees the long-term development of MAN. The Organisation is led and managed in line with its governing documents.

The role of an Executive Committee of the Museums Association of Namibia is a voluntary one. The current EC consists of, Ms Nehoa Hilma Kautondokwa (Chairperson), Mr Elliot Mowa (Vice Chair Person), Mr Werner Hillebrecht, Ms Ndeenda Shivute, Ms Chisengo Nikanor and Mr Aina Paulina Muulila.

The secretariat consists of Dr Jeremy Silvester (Director), Mr Tuuda Haitula (Museum Development Officer) and Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala (Operations Manager).

Additionally, the project staff employed by the Confronting Colonial Pasts, Envisioning Creative Futures: Collaborative Conservation and Knowledge Production of the Historical Collections from Namibia held at the Ethnological Museum Berlin and the National Museum of Namibia, Windhoek (WT) Project are Ms Johanna Nghishiko (Conservator), Ms Randy Mwatondange and then Mr Kavenauarue Tjiworo (Documentalist) and Mr Alfred Muifi (Curator – Museum of Namibian Fashion).

Lastly, man contracts an independent contractor, Mr Naphtali Chipasha (Accounting services and financial advisory)

The MAN team is currently working on numerous, exciting projects with different partners which include, but are not limited to;

1. European Union - Museum Development as a Tool for Strengthening Cultural Rights in Namibia
  - Oombale Dhi Ihaka Mobile Exhibition and Catalogue
  - Stand Together Mobile Exhibitions and Catalogue
  - Museum of Namibian Music
  - Zambezi Museum

2. National Arts Council of Namibia – Partnership to promote Namibian Heritage Week regionally.
3. The Confronting Colonial Pasts, Envisioning Creative Futures: Collaborative Conservation and Knowledge Production of the Historical Collections from Namibia held at the Ethnological Museum Berlin and the National Museum of Namibia, Windhoek (WT)
  - Museum of Namibian Fashion and the Virtual Museum of Namibian Fashion (MAN)
  - 2x MA Scholarships – Material Culture Research (UNAM)
  - Conservation + Documentation of ethnographic collection (NMN) – Return of objects from Berlin
4. Hedmark County Municipality – Renovations to Helvi Mpingana Kondombolo Cultural Village
5. Museum Outreach
6. NAMCOR - Development of Exhibition for National Maritime Museum
7. UNESCO - Virtual Museum of Namibian Fashion
8. UNESCO - Zambezi Heritage Hunt
10. University of Basel - Usakos Museum

**Museums Association of Namibia**  
*Making Museums Matter - Since 1990*

**WE'RE WORKING FROM HOME...  
BUT WE'RE STILL WORKING**

Please be informed that the Museums Association of Namibia staff will be working from home, with limited hours in the office, until further notice.

Please note that we will still be reachable via telephone, email, and social media.

Tel: +264 61 30 22 30      Cell: +264 85 2 30 22 30  
 Email: museums@iway.na      Facebook: Museums Association of Namibia  
 Web: www.museums.com.na      Twitter: @MuseumsANamibia  
 Instagram: @museums\_association\_of\_namibia

05 MAY 2020

## Museum of Namibian Fashion Stakeholders' Meetings

Kevanhu Alfred Muifi

On the 5th May 2020, the Museums Association of Namibia held a stakeholder's workshop to discuss the concept of establishing the Museum of Namibian Fashion. The museum will provide an opportunity for visitors to view historical items of clothing and accessories, as well as contemporary designs inspired by Namibia's rich history and cultural diversity.

The workshop produced some lively discussions about the definition of 'Namibian Fashion' which will be important to determine the scope of the museum. Participants also urged collaboration with archaeologists and rock art specialists so that the 'pre-photography' history of Namibian clothing can be included in the museum.

Part of the discussion during the workshop was the idea of exploring the option of a 'virtual museum of Namibian Fashion' as a tool to gather data from communities around Namibia during and after the Covid-19 pandemic.

During the workshop, Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala from MAN stated that "We believe that in these times of corona we have to do things differently. A virtual museum of fashion could create an interactive educational space where we can also showcase Namibian culture to international audiences". The website would not only enable visitors to view items but also to interact with them by adding comments and submitting photographs for possible display in the Virtual and Physical space of the Museum.

Further consultative workshops were held on 25th June 2020, 03 August 2020 and 04 January 2021.



# MAY 2020

10 MAY 2020

## Helvi Mpingana Kondombolo Cultural Village

Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

The Museums Association of Namibia (MAN), in collaboration with the Glomdalsmuseet aAnno museum and the Tsumeb Municipality is currently working on a project titled "HMK Cultural Village - Revitalization of the open-air museum" which aims to update and implement governing documents for the museum, the restoration of the homesteads in the open-air museum and develop and implement a basic level of information in the museum, since 2019.

MAN's role on the project is to regulate finances and activities in the project as well as to support and safeguard the implementation of the project's aims and activities.

Virtual meetings are held regularly between three institutions to ensure that the project progresses even though the world is currently dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic and the ramifications of the nation-wide lockdowns that prevented travel and large gatherings.

In the 2020/2021 financial year, meetings were held on the 11 May 2020, 27 May 2020, 10 November 2020, 15 January 2021 and 24 February 2021.

26 MAY 2020  
ResiliArt  
Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

ResiliArt Namibia, a collaborative partnership between the Directorate of Arts, Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, Turipamwe Design, Joe Vision Production, the EU and the UNESCO Windhoek Office will host the first of three Panels on the impact of COVID-19 on the heritage, arts and culture sector.

The ResiliArt debates address pressing issues affecting the livelihoods of cultural professionals, including the social and economic rights of artists, copyright protection, digitization of content and freedom of expression. The need to ensure that these issues are given the place they deserve in the political and social discussions that will shape the world after the crisis. Panel 2 titled “Culture/Heritage” took place on the 26th May 2020.

The session looked at the impact on the Culture/Heritage industry, given the closure or restrictions on visitors to heritage sites, museums and craft markets. The panel discussed how resilience can be embedded in the sector be and what possibilities exist for this sector to migrate to the digital sphere.

Members of the MAN team participated with Dr Jeremy Silvester being one of the panelists and Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala joining as the moderator for the session.



29 MAY 2020  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

On the 29th May 2020, the Executive Committee held the first of the four mandatory meetings for the financial year.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, all executive committee meetings in the 2020/2021 financial year were held via the Zoom online platform.





## JUNE 2020

10 JUNE

### Namibian Heritage Week Zoom Meetings

Dr Jeremy Silvester and Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

Namibian Heritage Week takes place in September every year and provides a platform for a decentralized celebration of Namibia's cultural diversity. The disruption that has been caused by the current pandemic has had a tremendous and ongoing impact on the transmission of cultural knowledge due to restrictions on cultural performances and access to cultural institutions, such as museums, heritage sites and art galleries. However, at a time when life has been disrupted culture has played an important role in helping Namibians to cope with the challenges they face to their physical and mental health due to COVID-19. We believe that Namibian Heritage Week is an important milestone in the calendar of heritage bodies and helps increase their local impact and national and international visibility.

The 2019/2020 financial year's partnership funding from the National Arts Council of Namibia enabled the Museums Association of Namibia to successfully support nineteen activities across Namibia. One condition of the grants facilitated by MAN was that activities were virtually across a range of social media platforms. The new approach demonstrated the resilience of the culture sector and its capacity to reach wider audiences through innovative approaches.

The Namibian Heritage Week Team (consisting of representatives from a wide range of cultural heritage institutions) meets monthly to plan and coordinate the week. The first meeting in the 2020/2021 financial year was held on 10 June 2020. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, all Namibian Heritage Week Team meetings in the 2020/2021 financial year were held via the Zoom online platform.

## JUNE 2020

17 JUNE

### Virtual Museum of Namibian Fashion

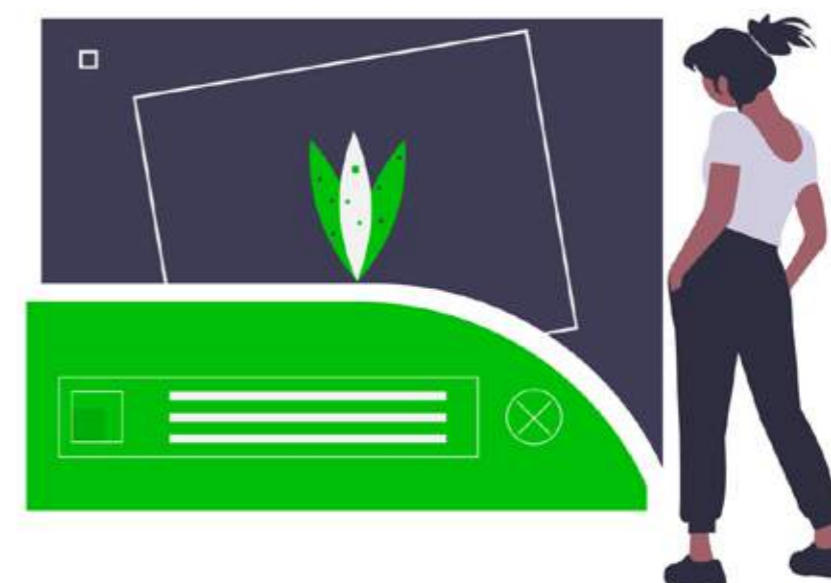
Kevanhu Alfred Muifi

UNESCO Namibia organised some excellent online discussions about the way in which the heritage sector might adapt to the current pandemic. Inspired by these sessions Museums Association of Namibia made a successful approach to UNESCO to obtain support for the development of a 'Virtual Museum of Namibian Fashion'. The Virtual online site will complement an initiative to establish a physical Museum of Namibian Fashion which will be based in Otjiwarongo.

The galleries in both the virtual and physical Museum will be as follows; Bead and shells, Hair and headdresses, Leather and Animal Skin processing, Metal Accessories, Plants, Bones and rocks, Tattoos and body scarification, Textiles, The People's Gallery, and Deep Roots, New fashion: The 'Deep Roots, New Fashion' Gallery showcases the work of Namibian fashion designers who incorporate features from our cultural roots to create new styles with a uniquely Namibian flavour.

The website enables visitors to view items and to interact with them by adding comments as well as submitting photographs for possible display in the virtual museum. Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala from MAN said, "The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us that we need to adapt and learn to do things differently. A virtual museum of fashion could create an interactive educational space where we can also showcase Namibian culture to both local and international audiences".

On the 17th of June 2020, the MAN team met with web developers to discuss the possible features the online platform could have. A zoom meeting was held on the 03rd of August 2020 with the Museum of Namibian Fashion working group to select the content which will be hosted in the Virtual Museum and as well as the additional gallery shop and research hub. The initial launch of the Virtual Museum of Namibian Fashion was planned to take place on 30th of November 2020 but had to be postponed because of technical problems. With numerous consultancies, the museum is expected to be launched on the 20th of August 2021.



## JUNE 2020

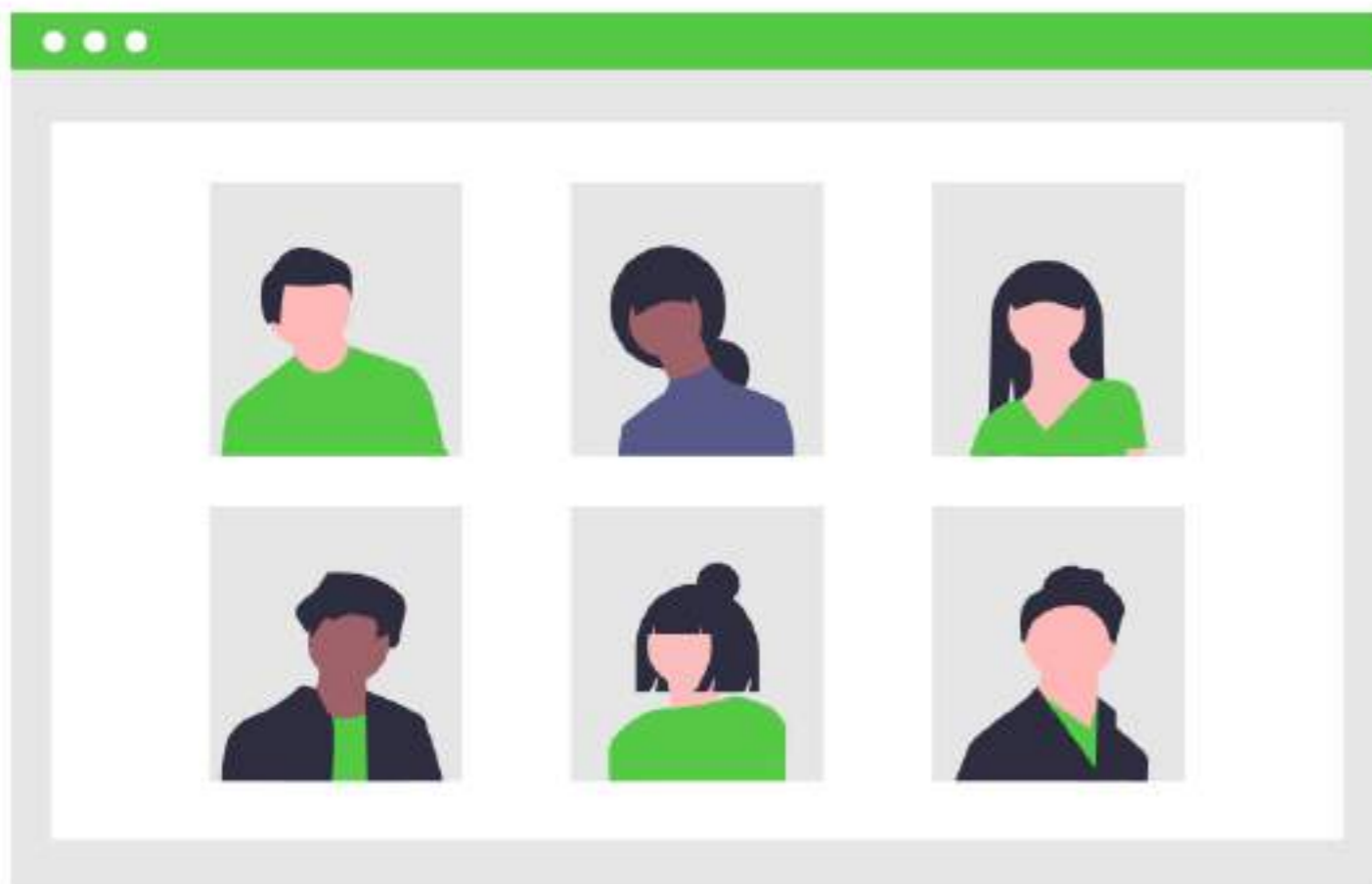
### 18 JUNE ICOM AGM

Johanna Ndahekeleleka Nghishiko

ICOM held the Annual Meetings for the 36th Ordinary General Assembly, which took place online on Friday 18 June 2021, attended by Ms. Nghishiko.

The discussions covered a range of topics including solidarity project funds, which encouraged NCs to participate. In addition, Ms. Nghishiko is nominated by the Executive Board with the other candidates to serve on the Working Group on Statutes and Rules.

The purpose of this group is to review the current Statutes and Internal Rules and recommend any necessary updates or changes.



### 14 JULY Farewell Nehoa

Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

It is with a heavy heart, and simultaneously, great joy, that on the 14th of July 2020, we bid our Museum Development Manager, Ms Nehoa Hilma Kautondokwa, farewell. Ms Kautondokwa has been with MAN since 2014 but her relationship with MAN began years before when she participated as a history teacher in MAN's national School Clubs and Museums Exhibition (SCAMX) competition.

While at MAN, Ms Kautondokwa poured her heart and soul into ensuring that MAN projects were successful. As part of "Team No Sleep", she has worked day and night and has gone far beyond the call of duty, to make sure that whatever she touched, she did so with excellence and precision, basically, making the impossible happen!

Ms Kautondokwa has played an integral role in every exhibition and publication produced by MAN during her tenure. Together with Dr Silvester, she has co-authored many exhibition displays and a number of exhibition catalogues, most recently - Oombale Dhi Ihaka: 'A Bond that cannot be Broken' (2019) and //Ha//xae (!Xung) Ma/aos (Hai//om) Gila lIKae (Ju'/hoansi) Têê /xai (Khwe) Dea /Xae (Naro) Stand Together (English) (2020). The two catalogues were both written in two languages (English and Oshindonga and English and Ju'/hoansi) to promote mother tongue which is central to the safeguarding of culture.

Ms Kautondokwa has been appointed as Chief Education Officer for Culture at the Namibia Commission for UNESCO (NATCOM), Ministry of Higher Education, Technology and Innovation. In the words of Dr Silvester "As the world faces new and unexpected challenges, I believe that our mission to promote positive values and to combat prejudice, hate and injustice will be more important than ever. We will continue to believe that our goal is not simply to make museums, but to Make Museums Matter? Whilst, in the future, we may sit in different offices I believe that we will still share the same vision!"

Farewell Nehoa! Thank you for Making Museums Matter!



## 17 JULY

### Visit to Old Wheelers Club

Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

On the 15th July 2020, the MAN Team and the MAN Executive Committee visited the Old Wheeler's club and received a guided tour.

In June 1986 twenty-six old-car enthusiasts got together to form a Club with the aim of encouraging the interest, ownership, use, restoration and preservation of motor vehicles older than twenty-five years and to promote competitions, exhibitions and other activities in the furtherance of these aims. Of the founder members, ten are still members today and the membership has subsequently grown to over five hundred members.

In 1988 The Club became recognised by 'Fédération Internationale des Véhicules Anciens' (FIVA) as a fully-fledged international motoring club, and from then on there was no stopping us! One of the major achievements of The Club is that it is the official body recognised by the Government of Namibia (NATIS) as the authority on old motor vehicles. Whether it was a carnival procession or a Miss Universe pageant, the Old Wheelers were there. During the Queen's Independence celebration visit, The Old Wheelers Club was called upon to provide cars.

During the 1999 London to Cape Town Rally, The Club provided cars and marshals as back-up for the competitors along the route through Namibia. The official feedback received was that we gave the most efficient support during the entire rally between London and Cape Town!

In 1991 vacant ground was bought from the municipality with the intention of building a clubhouse and motoring museum. On the 26th of January 2013 the ground breaking ceremony was held and in December 2013 the doors to the new clubhouse in Rugby Street were opened. Our next phase of development - the building of our National Motoring Museum - was successfully completed and we are planning our next initiatives, such as erecting an engine shed for stationary engines, expanding our museum, and more.



## 06 AUGUST 2020

### Executive Committee Meeting

Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

On the 06th August 2020, the Executive Committee held the second of the four mandatory meetings for the financial year.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, all executive committee meetings in the 2020/2021 financial year were held via the Zoom online platform.



## SEPTEMBER 2020

## 15 SEPTEMBER

### NAMCOR

Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

On the 15th of September 2020 the MAN Team met with the NAMCOR team to discuss the development of a permanent exhibition for NAMCOR in the National Maritime Museum in Lüderitz. Subsequent meetings were held between the two institutions and MAN was contracted to develop the permanent exhibition.

The MAN team will develop a storyline for the exhibition. The storyline will include the following three themes, although a more detailed exhibition plan will be developed after research and site visits have been made during the first phase of the project. The design of the exhibition will seek to capture the 'ambience' of NAMCOR facilities and operations.

The exhibition will consist of canvas or Perspex display panels. The exhibition will be designed to fit the designated space in the National Maritime Museum. It will consist of a set of printed canvas panels, artifacts, models and audio-visual screens. A 20-30-page A5 guide that summarizes the content of the exhibition, under the main exhibition headings/panels. The guidebook would be for sale at the Museum Shop and this would multiply the impact of the exhibition as the guide would circulate to a wider audience.

## 21 - 27 SEPTEMBER Namibian Heritage Week

Justin Diaz-Haingura

MAN received a grant of N\$ 150,000.00 this year from the National Arts Council. Not all regions applied for funding but out of the 20 institutions that applied for and received funding, 19 events were successfully organised and all progressed successfully in 8 regions namely Khomas, Erongo, Otjozondjupa, Karas, Ohangwena, Hardap, Oshikoto and Zambezi regions. The theme this year was “Ombazu Ndjiritutumuna” meaning “Building cultural resilience-the new normal” and was well incorporated into each event. Face masks agreed upon by the National Heritage week team and designed by Ms. Ashipala from the Museums Association of Namibia were distributed free of charge to participants this year contributing once again to the enhancement of the week.

This year there was not much change compared to last year in terms of regional participation with 8 regions having participated. Khomas this time around dominated in terms of heritage week funding applications.

For future years Omusati, Omaheke and Kunene must be encouraged because they have never applied for funding. Heritage week facemasks gave unity for the national event and the Heritage week team provided them for free.

Marketing via social media was successful and participants are encouraged to provide MAN with accurate information in good time so that they can be provided with promotional posters. TV marketing was very successful this year, but more needs to be done on radio for the future. The newspapers this year also captured the event more and the video that was produced by NBC that was on YouTube also helped a lot to market the event successfully.

The pandemic was a challenge throughout the country but luckily measures were put in place and protocols were followed and as a result Heritage week still successfully took place uninterrupted this year unlike many events that had to be postponed. It was proven that as long as measures are put in place and strictly adhered to, there should never be problems.

Whilst it was also a handicap that due to the limitations on crowds not as many people as during previous normal years could attend the various events. It was also the case that far more people joined Heritage Week virtually on social media than in previous years. Overall, Namibian Heritage Week 2020 was a great success.



**NAMIBIAN HERITAGE WEEK**  
21 – 27 September 2020

Windhoek, <b>Khomas</b>	Omuthiya, <b>Oshikoto</b>
Omhedi, <b>Ohangwena</b>	Swakopmund, <b>Erongo</b>
Oniipa, <b>Oshikoto</b>	Keetmanshoop, <b>//Karas</b>
Mariental, <b>Hardap</b>	Okahandja, <b>Otjozondjupa</b>
Katima Mulilo, <b>Zambezi</b>	Windhoek Rural, <b>Khomas</b>
Rehoboth, <b>Hardap</b>	Grashoek, <b>Otjozondjupa</b>
Karibib, <b>Erongo</b>	Tsumeb, <b>Oshikoto</b>

Powered by **ARTS & CULTURE** COVID-19 RELIEF FUND

*Ombazu Ndjiritutumuna* | Building Cultural Resilience - The New Normal

@namibian\_heritage\_week | Namibian Heritage Week | @NamHeritageWeek

## 22 SEPTEMBER

### Conservation at the National Museum of Namibia's Ethnographic Collection

Johanna Ndahekelelewa Nghishiko

A Conservator is responsible for preventive conservation at the National Museum of Namibia and providing support and advice to surrounding, and regional museums. However, priority is directed to the Gerda Henkel project which is a provenance research looking at the loaned objects "confronting colonial past, envisioning future projects". The work plans are greatly affected by the pandemic the world is faced with, but we thank God, that we are still able to do the little we can, to keep the work moving.

The conservator has developed crucial materials, for museum's conservation records which includes condition reporting forms, insect management record sheets, index cards (edit) with conservation work reporting field, and a work in progress policy documents for Integrated pest management and conservation policy.

The plans to renovate the facilities that were identified earlier 2019 (upon our employment inception) have not been successful due to lack of funds, however the ministry has given an update that the renovation will be relouked at in the 2021 financial budget.

The conservator has been working on the ethnographic collections, assessing the condition of each object from cupboard to cupboard, (there are 36 cupboards in the collection, where the objects are stored in categorised order), dusting, arranging, cleaning, treating, and packaging (packaging is mostly done to objects that need to retain moisture, to prevent them from deteriorating) the objects. Challenges: We have issues of termites in the collection, they are passing through small pin holes, and they are eating through wooden floor sealers and anything available made of paper and wood. We have discussed the issue with the maintenance officer to include it in the renovation plans. The Conservator is having the issue under control by making use Borax powder and water solution that we spray on the infested areas. It is a non-toxic method and so far, controlling the infestation breakouts. The conservator combines this method with traps (see pictures attached) putting them in the cupboards, conners and places are most likely to be infested as a better monitoring and controlling strategy.



## 06 OCTOBER

### ICOM Namibia

Johanna Ndahekelelewa Nghishiko

#### ICOM-NAMIBIA (NATIONAL COMMITTEE)

Is a membership association and a non-governmental organisation which establishes professional and ethical standards for museum activities. Moreover, as a forum of experts, it makes recommendations on issues related to cultural heritage, promotes capacity building and advances knowledge. Therefore, ICOM is the voice of museum professionals on international stage that raises public cultural awareness through global networks and co-operation programmes.

ICOM Namibia is a private entity serving as a national committee under ICOM's umbrella, which was established over 15 years ago. It serves as the voice for Namibian museums and museum professionals to be heard in ICOM's International Committees and Secretariat and network to get support on capacity building to effectively continue managing our museums and heritage sector. Currently it consists of 15 paid up members, which are falling under different ICOM international committees such as: 1. Conservation 2. Documentation 3. Museums and Collections of Archaeology and History 4. Education and Cultural Action 5. Museums and Collections of Ethnography 6. Museums and Collections of Decorative Arts and Design etc. there are more committees that Namibian heritage professionals can benefit from.

ICOM Namibia is therefore inviting all Namibian heritage professionals, students and non-museum professionals to become associate members in order to enjoy the benefits and opportunities which includes: Regular training and professional development opportunities; a great support for museums in fulfilling their missions; get access to more than 2000 publications by ICOM Committees through the online database; Able to attend conferences on various museum - related subjects; funding opportunities for museum projects etc. The annual individual Membership fees is as little as N\$ 500 – 00, and institution is N\$5000- 00 with unlimited members.

ICOM Namibia ICDAD (international committee) have been awarded a grant through Museum of Namibian Fashion, for their upcoming workshop on "Sustainable Fashion". There are more grants available for different committees under "ICOM Solidarity Projects", please visit ICOM's website for more details on the available projects and how to apply. The Chair is always available to assist with application edits and submissions.



## OCTOBER 2020

### 20 OCTOBER

#### Museum of Namibian Fashion Logo Competition

Kevanhu Alfred Muifi

On the 12th June 2020, the Museum of Namibian Fashion logo competition was launched to find an ideal logo for the brand identity of the new museum. The successful Candidate stood a chance to win a stay at a Lodge sponsored by the Gondwana Collection and a Safari Sweater and Card Holder sponsored Couture by Kim.

Originally the competition was supposed to end on the 31st of August 2020 but in consideration of the extension of the lockdown and the travel restriction during the Covid-19 pandemic, the Competition was postponed to the 20th October 2020.

During the Second running of the Competition Museums Association of Namibia managed to add a cash prize of N\$ 3000 in hopes of attracting more designers.

Over 46 submissions were received during the Overall competition. These Submissions were later handed over to the Museum of Namibian Fashion Committee to select the top five designs that will be placed on MAN's social media platforms for the general public to vote for the winner.

Ms Nangula Nashidi won the Competition with a total of 124 votes from the general public.



## OCTOBER 2020

### 28 OCTOBER

#### MAN Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

With the country locked down for part of the year and restrictions that continue until present, the MAN team was motivated to find innovative ways to ensure that we do what we do best... make museums matter. We also learnt that the inability to travel does not mean the inability to connect with our members. We therefore hosted numerous meetings, workshops, and on the 28th October 2020, we hosted our Annual General Meeting (AGM) via the Zoom online platform. In as much as this technology is not available to all our members, the AGM had a large member turnout with 44 members attending the meeting which was one of the highest turnouts to date.



## NOVEMBER 2020

### 01 NOVEMBER

#### Welcome Tuuda

Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

With the resignation of Ms Kautondokwa, the position of Museum Development Manager became vacant. The Executive Committee of MAN resolved that the position should be amended to Museum Development Officer and made an entry-level position, in order to meet MAN's mandate to facilitate the career development of professionals in the sector. It was therefore resolved that the position would be advertised as such. The position was advertised on MAN's website, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram platforms and circulated via WhatsApp on Wednesday 29 July 2020. It was further advertised in The Namibian Newspaper, the New Era, Namibian Sun and Allgemeine Zeitung Newspapers on Friday 07 August 2020. The deadline for applications was 31 August 2020.

To ensure the independent, impartial and fair selection of the best candidate, the recruitment process was carried out in three stages namely; shortlisting, written tests and oral interviews. At each stage, the candidates were evaluated by a different panel (therefore, three different panels formed of experts and academics within the sector). The final assessment was therefore based on the collective decisions of these three independent panels.

With that said, it is our pleasure to announce that as of the 01 November 2020, Mr Tuuda Haitula has been appointed as the Museum Development Officer. With an Honours Degree in History and Industrial Psychology, a Post-Graduate Diploma in Heritage Conservation and Management and a Diploma in Labour and Employment Studies (all from the University of Namibia), Mr Haitula makes a great addition to the MAN team. He is fluent in English, Afrikaans, Oshikwanyama and Rukwangali and has worked as a history teacher, payroll clerk, industrial relations officer and human resource officer, before joining MAN.

However, Mr Haitula is not a stranger to MAN or the sector. As a student, he volunteered, through his membership with the UNAM History Society, to assist with numerous MAN projects such as the stall at the Namibia Tourism Expo and the Changing History: WW1 and Namibia, mobile exhibition and teacher's handbook. From 2015 to 2016, he carried out an internship at MAN and in 2016, he was temporarily employed as the Acting Project Officer: Exhibition Development for the Exhibition Development in Namibian Museums Project.

At MAN, his main duties will include tasks related to providing support to member museums through administration and operations, museum and exhibition development and the MAN resource Centre. You can reach Mr Haitula for MAN related enquiries at mdo@museums.com.na.

# NOVEMBER 2020

## 02 – 06 NOVEMBER 2020

### Khorixas, Damara Living Museum, Twyfelfontein, Otjiwarongo, Tsumeb, and Omuthiya Trip

Tuuda Haitula

In November 2020, the MAN team had a combined trip that covered places such as Khorixas, Twyfelfontein, Damara Living Museum, Otjiwarongo, Tsumeb and Omuthiya. The aim of the trip was to identify a building to host the Museum of Namibian Fashion in Khorixas and Otjiwarongo, discuss the contract from Goethe Institute with Damara Living Museum, monitor the revitalization progress of the Helvi Mpingana Kondombolo Cultural Village in Tsumeb and evaluate the repair work done at the Museum of Namibian Music in Omuthiya.

The trip also coincided with the introduction to MAN's current project to Tuuda Haitula who had just joined MAN in November 2020, it was the ideal start for him to see the different projects that MAN was working on, and to create familiarity for him.

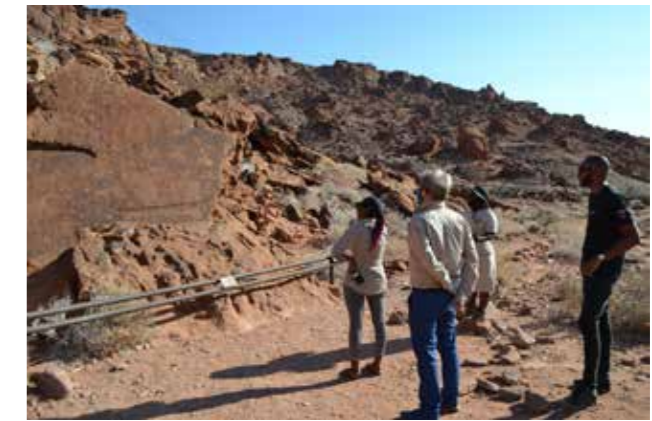
On the 2nd of November 2021, the MAN team stopped in Khorixas to view the cultural center, a site that was shortlisted as one of the places to host the Museum of Namibian Fashion, after the site visit, the MAN team had a meeting with the Khorixas Town Council where discussions were held regarding the potential of hosting the museum. A decision was not yet made at this meeting, however the Khorixas Town Council indicated their interest and willing to host the museum.

On the same day, the MAN team proceeded to Twyfelfontein to visit the international heritage site.

On the 3rd of November 2020, the team met with Mr. Hans from the Damara Living Museum to discuss the Museum Outreach Program contract and for him to sign it. On the same day, the team met with the Otjozondjupa Regional Council, first to view a building that can potentially host the Museum of Namibian Fashion, after which a meeting was held and the council expressed their interest in hosting the museum within their region.

On the 4th of November 2020, the team proceeded to Omuthiya, however, a stop was first made in Tsumeb for a visit at the Helvi Mpingana Kondombolo Cultural Village, the purpose of the visit was to monitor the progress on the revitalization of the cultural village, after the site visit, a meeting was held with the restitution committee to discuss and agree on a date for a workshop in which MAN would present governing documents for the cultural village. The MAN team proceeded to Omuthiya after the meeting.

On the 5th on November, the MAN team spent time at the Museum of Namibian Music evaluating the work done by the Ministry of Works who were tasked to do some renovations to the building before it can be opened to the public as a museum. MAN also delivered some musical objects and stands for the museum during the visit.



## 02 - 03 NOVEMBER

### Museum of Namibian Fashion: Locating A Building

Kevanhu Alfred Muifi

On the 2nd and 3rd of November 2020, The Museums Association of Namibia (MAN) visited Khorixas and Otjiwarongo. The purpose of the trip was to scout out possible venues for the Museum of Namibian Fashion. This involved visiting the Khorixas Cultural centre, meeting with the Khorixas Town Council, meeting the Directorate of Education, Arts and Culture-Otjozondjupa Region and visiting the old Otjozondjupa regional building. In Khorixas, the team had a brief meeting with the Khorixas Town Council Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Andreas Howoseb, who informed the team that the cultural centre is not yet in use, however, it had been officially handed over to Khorixas Town Council from Kunene Regional Council, a fortnight earlier, and is now under their management. The complex was constructed in 2014 as part of the 'Sustainable Culture Tourism in Namibia' project funded by the MDG-F Achievement Fund. The buildings had been constructed as a Crafts Centre in collaboration with NACOMA ('Namib Coast Biodiversity and Management Conservation').

The team reviewed the building as a potential site for the proposed Museum of Namibian Fashion. The main conclusion of the site visit was that the two rooms available as 'galleries' are too small and unsuitable as a venue for the proposed Museum of Namibian Fashion. The material used for the construction raises concerns as the two rooms that seem to have been intended for display purposes are built with sheets of corrugated iron, without ventilation. The rooms are hot and this would raise concerns for the conservation of clothes that might be displayed in those spaces. Three large concrete arches have been constructed at the entrance of the site, but it was not clear what their intended purpose was.

The team met with the Khorixas Council Committee which was represented by R.W //Gowaseb, SEO; Eben Xoagub, SEO; Andreas Howoseb, CEO; Hans Gowas, Accountant; Emmil Gomachab, Intern to discuss a potential partnership. It was agreed upon that Khorixas Town Council will obtain copies of the original proposal and architect's plan for the Khorixas Culture Centre and share these with MAN. MAN will provide Khorixas Town Council with Guidelines on establishing an Advisory Committee. MAN will contact NACOMA to see if they can provide information on the concept behind the Khorixas Culture Centre.

In Otjiwarongo, the team met with Otjozondjupa Regional Council and viewed the suggested possible building for the Museum of Namibian Fashion in Otjiwarongo. The Regional Directorate of the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture has requested the use of part of the building for the new Museum of Namibian Fashion but has not yet received a final reply from the Regional Council and this is likely to only take place after the November 2021 elections. The team managed to see both the inside and outside of the old Otjozondjupa Regional Council building. The new Council offices have been built at the same site, but the old office building remains in between the new structures.

In the meeting with the Otjozondjupa Regional Directorate of the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture Committee, The Regional Director of MEAC agreed to seek a response from the Otjozondjupa Regional Council on the request to be able to use part of the old Regional Council building for the museum of Namibian Fashion. Through the collaboration with the Directorate of Education, Arts and Culture in the Otjozondjupa region, The Museums Association of Namibia has managed to secure a building for the Museum of Namibian Fashion in Otjiwarongo. The Museum of Namibian Fashion is set to be launched in late 2021 or early 2022.



# NOVEMBER 2020

## 11 NOVEMBER

### Stand Together Exhibition Interview with One Africa

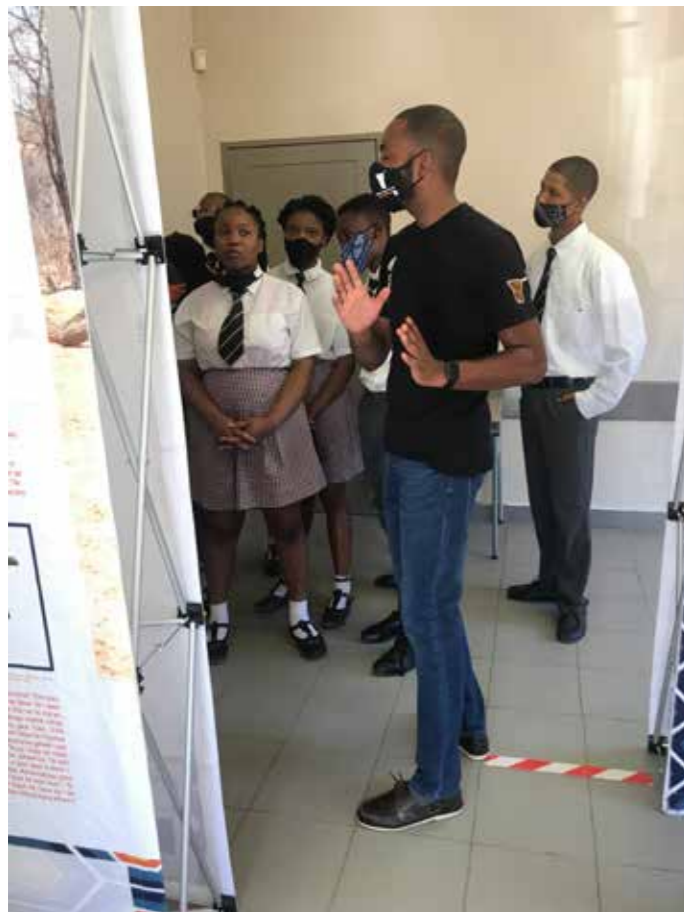
Tuuda Haitula

The aim of the mobile exhibition is for it to travel to many different corners of the country. On the 11th & 12th of November 2020, MAN took the 'Stand Together' Mobile Exhibition to Khomas High School, it was accompanied by a team comprising of Mr. Tuuda Haitula from MAN, Ms. Jahanika Hengombe, an intern from MAN and Ms. Tertu Fernando from the Namibia San Council.

Different learners from the school took turns to learn about the different San groups in Namibia through the guided tours of the mobile exhibition. The feedback from the learners was positive and they indicated that the visit was worth it and have learned a lot from the exhibition.

As a project that was funded by the European Union (EU), the EU organized for a recorded interview to be carried out at the school with MAN's Operations Manager, Ms. Ndapewoshali Ashipala. In the interview, they discussed the role that the EU has played on the project which had four components (two museums and two mobile exhibitions).

The purpose of the interview was for it to be added to the final documentary that One Africa was putting together for the European Union.



# NOVEMBER 2020

## 12 NOVEMBER

### Meeting with Robben Island Museum

Tuuda Haitula

Over the years when MAN was able to host the School Clubs and Museum Exhibition Competition (SCAMX), some of the winners were able to travel to Robben Island Museum and to take part in the Spring School.

In the meeting that was held on the 12th of November 2020, MAN received an invitation from the Robben Island Museum Public Heritage Education Department (RIMPHED) to join the 2020 Spring School. The Programme was scheduled to run from 15th – 19th December 2020. Target learners were Grade 10 – Grade 11. Five participants and one educator/official were invited to participate in the spring school 2020. MAN had identified Khomas High School as the participating school from Namibia.

In the meeting, the colleagues from Robben Island Museum highlighted the theme, which was shared heritage, shared culture & shared responsibilities, as well as the requirements and what every participating individual will be expected to do.

Due to the rising positive cases of Coronavirus in South Africa at the time, the spring school was indefinitely postponed.

## NOVEMBER 2020

### 17 NOVEMBER

#### Usakos Museum Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuuda Haitula

On the 17th of November 2020, the MAN Team comprised of Dr. Jeremy Silvester, Mr. Tuuda Haitula, Mr. Justin Diaz-Haingura and Ms. Jahanika Hengombe had a meeting with the Usakos Town Council. The purpose of the meeting was to meet the advisory committee and engage them on the challenges that they are facing and how MAN can assist. During the meeting, MAN agreed to give their support towards the development of the museum and seeing it materialize.

There was support from the Usakos Town Council, whose Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Ivin Lombard is also part of the museum's advisory committee. In the meeting, he urged the committee to work hard to ensure that the museum becomes a proud product of the residents of Usakos, he further informed the meeting that the Council can help with the renovations of the building that has been identified to host the museum. MAN advised the committee to conclude on the themes they would like to have in the museum so that they can start working on the content and exhibition development. It was also agreed that there will be a call for submissions and donations from the members of the community who might have stories and objects that will be in line with the identified themes.

After the meeting, the museum administrator, Mr. Chalden Sabab took the participants to the museum building for a tour and also to do an assessment of key areas that need renovation or upgrades. It was concluded that a final bill of quantities be carried out and for the committee to seek assistance from the community and private sector.

The meeting ended with a visit to the old train that is in the town of Usakos, which also needs to be renovated and possibly moved near the museum building.



## NOVEMBER 2020

### 23 NOVEMBER

#### Annual Planning Workshop

Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

On the 23rd November 2020, the Executive Committee held the third of the four mandatory meetings for the financial year. This was the first meeting held with the newly elected EC members and a new chairperson, Ms Nehoa Kautondokwa was elected.

The first meeting after the AGM is the Annual Planning Workshop in which the EC and the secretariat discuss the activities and budget for the next twelve months.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, all executive committee meetings in the 2020/2021 financial year were held via the Zoom online platform.

## NOVEMBER 2020

### 30 NOVEMBER

#### Creative Industry Platform Meeting

Tuuda Haitula

This was a meeting organized by the National Arts Council of Namibia (NACN) and MAN was invited together with other stakeholders. Meetings went on for the whole week, with everyday focusing on certain organizations and individuals.

We were welcomed by representatives from the NACN, the purpose of the meeting was to gather all relevant stakeholders linked to the cultural and arts sector to brainstorm and establish how to go about establishing the "Creative Namibia" platform. The platform will serve as a national guide on how to promote, protect and preserve aspects of arts and culture in Namibia.

During the meeting, the discussion was centered around the 4 objectives (Research, Coordination and Services, Capacity Building and Resource Mobilization) as listed on the invitation letter. There were still some questions that were not answered, such as who would run it, how will it be implemented, funding etc... The official launch is scheduled to take place in 2021.

MAN was not required to attend the rest of the meetings that took place through the week.

# DECEMBER 2020

## 18 DECEMBER MAN Year-end Function

Tuuda Haitula

After a long year full of many activities and challenges, the MAN team took a much needed break from the 18th of December 2020 to the 3rd of January 2021. Before the break, we had our annual Year-End Function on the 18th of December 2020 at Droomboss just outside Windhoek.

The Year-End Function was a picnic and Droombos was the ideal place to host such an event. We did our Secret Santa there as well and exchanged gifts, it was a beautiful day away from exhibitions and emails. Mimosas were had and we just relaxed. We had all the MAN staff members present, including the interns who worked with us during the 2020 year.

## Season's Greetings

Please note that we will be closed for the festive season as from **Friday 18th December 2020** and we will reopen for the new year on **Monday 04th January 2021**. We wish you and your loved ones a safe and happy festive season and we look forward to working with you towards Making Museums Matter in the new year.

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Instagram: [museums\\_association\\_of\\_namibia](https://www.instagram.com/museums_association_of_namibia)

Making Museums Matter - Since 1990



### WE'RE CHANGING OUR EMAIL ADDRESSES!

Please note that effective **04th January 2021**, the Museums Association of Namibia will be changing our email addresses to make us more accessible to our members. Please take note of the following primary email addresses;

GENERAL INFORMATION AND QUERIES: [info@museums.com.na](mailto:info@museums.com.na)

DIRECTOR: [director@museums.com.na](mailto:director@museums.com.na)

OPERATIONS MANAGER: [om@museums.com.na](mailto:om@museums.com.na)

MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT OFFICER: [mdu@museums.com.na](mailto:mdu@museums.com.na)



## Visit a Namibian Museum!

### BENEFITS OF VISITING A NAMIBIAN MUSEUM

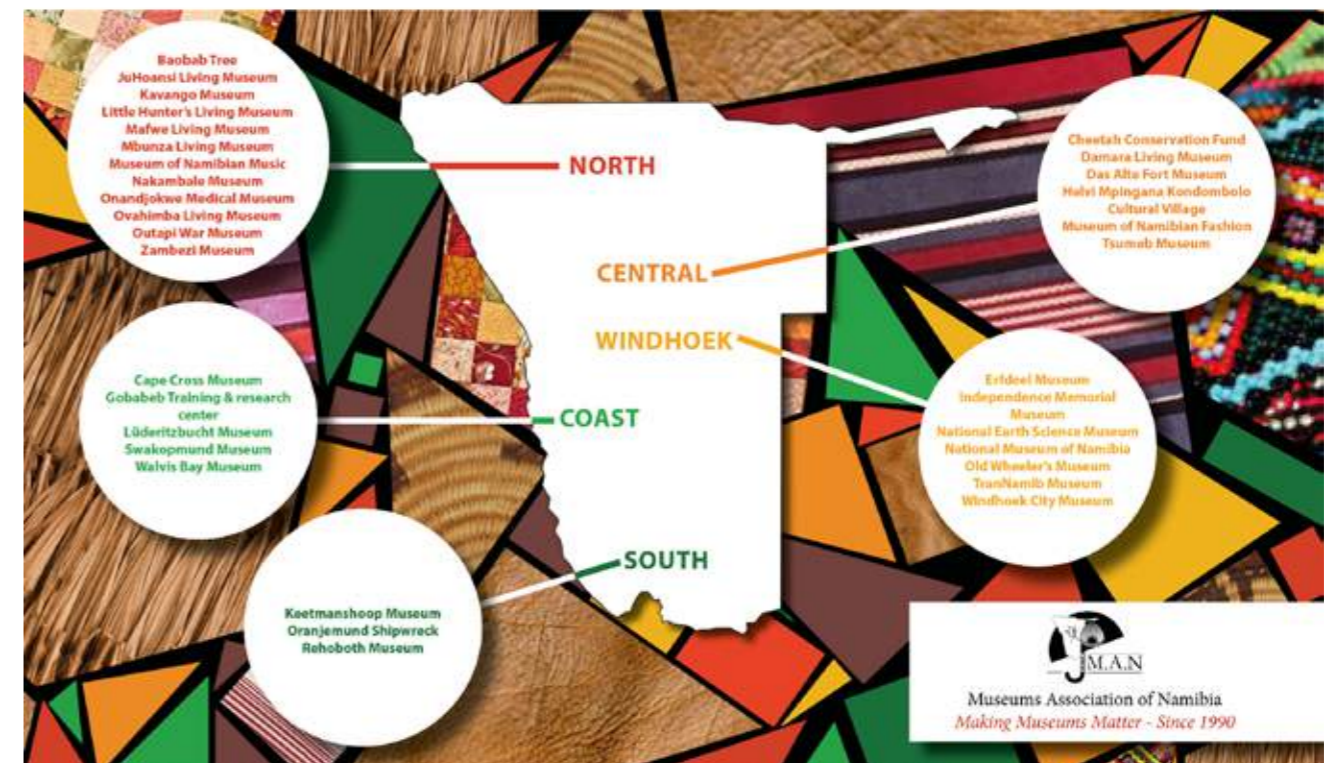
1. Museums make you feel good – They have a calming effect.
2. Museums make you smarter – They Expand your horizons and teach you lessons in humanity.
3. Museums provide an effective way of learning.
4. Museums are community centers.
5. Museums inspire - They offer ways to stimulate new ideas, resulting in the creation of more art, including music, architecture, interior designing, and creative writing.
6. Museums help bring change and development to communities.
7. Museums are a great way to spend time with friends and family - They are a great recreational activity that give you access to experiences that you don't usually experience every day. They also create great food for conversation.
8. A museum may be your next community partner or business endeavor.
9. Museums need your support in order to keep educating and inspiring people.
10. There is a museum close to you.

### HOW TO FIND A NAMIBIAN MUSEUM NEAR YOU

1. Visit [www.museums.com.na](http://www.museums.com.na) and click on the "Museums" tab.
2. Select the location where you are e.g. "Central" and you will see all of the museums near you.
3. Click on the museum(s) that interest you to see what you can find at that museum and other important information such as the museum's contact details, opening times etc.

Follow the Museums Association of Namibia on the following platforms to keep updated about activities and events in the heritage, arts and culture sector.

Museums Association of Namibia Museums\_Association\_of\_Namibia MuseumsANamibia Museums Association of Namibia



Museums Association of Namibia  
Making Museums Matter - Since 1990

# JANUARY 2021

## 05 JANUARY

### Meeting with European Union

Tuuda Haitula

On the 5th of January 2021, the MAN team had a Zoom meeting with the EU delegation to Namibia, with Ms. Silke Hofs.

The purpose of the meeting was to give a progress report on the Museum of Namibian Music and the Zambezi Museum. The progress report was mainly centered on the Museum of Namibian Music as it was the one near completion at the time. At this meeting, the idea of virtual launches for both museums were discussed and agreed upon. The timelines for both museums were also communicated and agreed that the Museum of Namibian Music would be launched on the 18th of March 2021 and the Zambezi Museum on the 18th of May 2021.

## 27-29 JANUARY

### Zambezi Museum Exhibition Planning Workshop

Tuuda Haitula

The MAN team travelled to Katima Mulilo in the Zambezi Region on the 27th of January 2021 for a one-day workshop.

The objectives of the workshop were to update the Zambezi Museum Committee on the progress of the content and exhibition development and the way the launch is going to be done, and:

1. Develop the displays and identify individuals who can assist with each planned section of the exhibition.
2. To produce the final 'shopping list' of any objects that will need to be acquired for the museum.

The workshop objectives were attained, as more members from different communities and areas of expertise were identified and volunteered to give their support towards the development of the museum exhibitions. The workshop participants also assisted in coming up with a shopping list for the objects to be on display in the museum. The MAN team returned to Windhoek on the 29th of January 2021.



# JANUARY 2021

## 27 JANUARY

### Gerda Henkel Project: Documentalist Training and Handover

Kavenauarue Tjiworo

As the new Documentalist, I officially started on 01 February 2021 based at the national Museum of Namibia however, the Museums Association of Namibia were able to arrange a two-week training and handover with my predecessor (Randy Mwatondange) who was leaving the country to pursue her Masters' degree. The first part of the induction comprised introducing me to the rest of the colleagues at the National Museum of Namibia, informed them that I will be taking over her role as the Documentalist and also took me through the Ethnographic collection room. Ms. Mwatondange also briefed me about the objects coming from Germany, the booklet with the proposed objects, the approved/selected objects and the space where they are supposed to be housed upon arrival.

Photography - I got training and gained more insight on how to take professional photographs of the objects, how to handle the objects when working on them and I managed to take self-training tutors on how to edit photographs using the Photo Editor software program.

Database – I learnt that one of my duties would be documenting and uploading photographs and object biography on online programs so that they would be accessible from anywhere. However, there is no such program as it stands, and scanning index cards and digitizing them is the only option for now until the online program is launched.

All in all, the training and handover made everything precise and it helped me settle in well in my new role. I am happy and comfortable working as a Documentalist and look to come with new initiatives in the near future that would have helped me and the institution to thrive.



## FEBRUARY 2021

### 09 FEBRUARY

#### NAMCOR Lüderitz trip

Tuuda Haitula

The MAN Team, with other stakeholders were invited to attend a physical meeting at Lüderitz on the 10th of February 2021 by the Lüderitz Maritime Museum.

The purpose of the meeting was to get a progress report on the development of the museum, as well as the Lüderitz Waterfront Project. The first part of the meeting was held in an office where there were 3D presentations of the building design, which was followed by a group discussion about the way forward and how all exhibitions should follow a specific theme. Since MAN is developing the NAMCOR exhibition space in the museum, MAN was interested in viewing the physical space and taking measurements that will be of importance value when designing the exhibitions.

The team returned to Windhoek on the 11th of February 2021.



## FEBRUARY 2021

### 17 - 19 FEBRUARY

#### Mudwaro: The Roots of Namibia Fashion Workshop

Kevanhu Alfred Muifi

The Museums Association of Namibia hosted the Mudwaro: The roots of Namibia Fashion Workshop at Midgard Country Estate From the 17th to 19th of February 2021. The workshop focused on showcasing Namibian Artefacts held at the Berlin Ethnographic Museum.

This workshop was part of the Gerda Henkel Foundation Project which is currently running. One component of the project that MAN is responsible for is the development of an exhibition that will feature the history of clothing and accessories in Namibia. The vision is that this exhibition should not only explain the traditional meaning of historical artefacts but also feature the creations of contemporary Namibian fashion designers (with an emphasis on those who draw inspiration from Namibia's unique history and cultural diversity). Whilst the current project funding only makes provision for the development of an exhibition, MAN believes that this could provide the springboard for the establishment of a permanent 'Museum of Namibian Fashion'. MAN, therefore, organized the Mudwaro: The Roots of Namibia Fashion Workshop with Namibian designers around Namibia.

One of the main purposes of the workshop was to expose Namibian fashion designers to Artefacts held by the Berlin Ethnographic Museum, which the designer will take inspiration from to create contemporary designs. At the end of the workshop, participants were asked to give feedback on the workshop and to identify any areas where MAN might improve when it comes to such workshops.

The participants were invited to write anonymously, although a few decided to add their names to their remarks. One of the participants at the workshop stated in their feedback that "I found the workshop enriching in terms of the cultural artefacts and how they were used as a means of self-expression, community representation, as well as livelihoods. It gives us an implicit but yet clear understanding of how life was back then. However, I take pride in knowing how there isn't much of a difference, when it comes to ancient art forms of expression to today's modern approach, artistically. If anything, it proves our ancestors have paved the way for art, in general, in the modern era. I thoroughly enjoyed the non-judgemental environment. I loved the respectful dialogue. I appreciated the inclusivity of the wonderfully presented historical data. I whole-heartedly encourage for more workshops of this nature, to be held". The workshop ended with a visit to the National Museum of Namibia, the Independence memorial museum and a farewell lunch.



## FEBRUARY 2021

### 23 FEBRUARY

#### Lüderitz Museum Follow Up Meeting – NAMCOR

Tuuda Haitula

After the trip to Lüderitz on the 10th of February, the MAN Team was invited to another physical meeting to the NAMCOR head office in Windhoek to give feedback on the trip to Lüderitz.

In the meeting, the MAN Team explained to the NAMCOR secretariat that were not present at the Lüderitz Museum about the space that has been allocated to NAMCOR and how MAN intends on developing it for them. In the same meeting, MAN presented NAMCOR with a list of objects that will be needed to go with the exhibition in their space at the museum.

NAMCOR appreciated the feedback and agreed to support MAN with the needs to successfully develop the exhibition.



## FEBRUARY 2021

### 23 FEBRUARY

#### Meeting with New Goethe-Institut Director

Tuuda Haitula

On 4th of January 2021, Mr. Dennis Schroeder took over as the Director of the Goethe-Institut Namibia.

The MAN Team was invited to a meeting to meet Mr. Schroeder at the Goethe-Institut to touch base and get to know him. The rather informal meeting was about knowing him as an individual, and more for him knowing MAN as an organization, especially the different projects that have been covered by the two institutions. Mr. Schroeder was also informed about the how MAN has been contracted by the Goethe-Institut to capacitate members of their identified museums through a workshop to capacitate them, as well as develop their museums. The workshop has been split into two weeks, to allow participants to take part in activities and give feedback when they return for the final week.

Mr. Schroeder indicated in the meeting that he looks forwards to working with MAN in the future on more projects.

## MARCH 2021

### 18 MARCH

#### Launch of the Museum of Namibian Music

Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

The Museums Association of Namibia (MAN), the Delegation of the European Union (EU) to Namibia and the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture (MoEAC) invited all Namibians and all citizens of the world, to attend the virtual launch of the Museum of Namibian Music at 11h00 on Thursday, 18th March 2021.

The development of the museum is one of the four components in a project titled Museum Development as a Tool for Strengthening Cultural Rights in Namibia, funded by the European Union (Euros 237,025.00) and implemented by MAN that was launched in Windhoek on the 27th November 2018.

The museum was officially opened by Honourable Faustina Caley, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, and 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.



## MARCH 2021

### 18 MARCH

#### Guest lecturing at IUM

Tuuda Haitula

On the 18th of March 2021, our Museum Development Officer, Mr. Tuuda Haitula was invited by Dr. Sisco Auala to be a guest lecture to a group of Tourism Students from the International University of Management.

The lecture covered MAN's activities in the tourism sector and how MAN contributes to it, especially on the part of heritage.

Mr. Haitula also spoke about the Museum of Namibian Music which was launched on the day of the lecture and encouraged the students to watch the launch as it was going to be virtual, and also to join MAN to become members.

The students appreciated the lecture and vowed to join MAN, and to follow MAN on Social Media to be updated about current events in the sector.



## MARCH 2021

### 18 MARCH

#### NESM exhibition Meeting

Tuuda Haitula

The National Earth Science Museum in Namibia is looking at upgrading their exhibition content in the museum, and as result, they have approached MAN to assist with the upgrade. MAN visited the museum on the 30th of March 2021 to view the current displays and see what they would like to change. The Chief Geoscientist, Helke Mocke informed the MAN team that they would like to update their displays, as well reword some of their articles and captions to make sure that a large audience finds them interesting and attractive.

MAN also identified a need to change the way content is displayed on the exhibitions. MAN has been tasked with rewording the content, and coming up with 'fresh' information and ideas, as well as new exhibition styles.

### 19 MARCH

#### Executive Committee Meeting

Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

On the 19th March 2021, the Executive Committee held the last of the four mandatory meetings for the financial year.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, all executive committee meetings in the 2020/2021 financial year were held via the Zoom online platform.

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY NAMIBIA



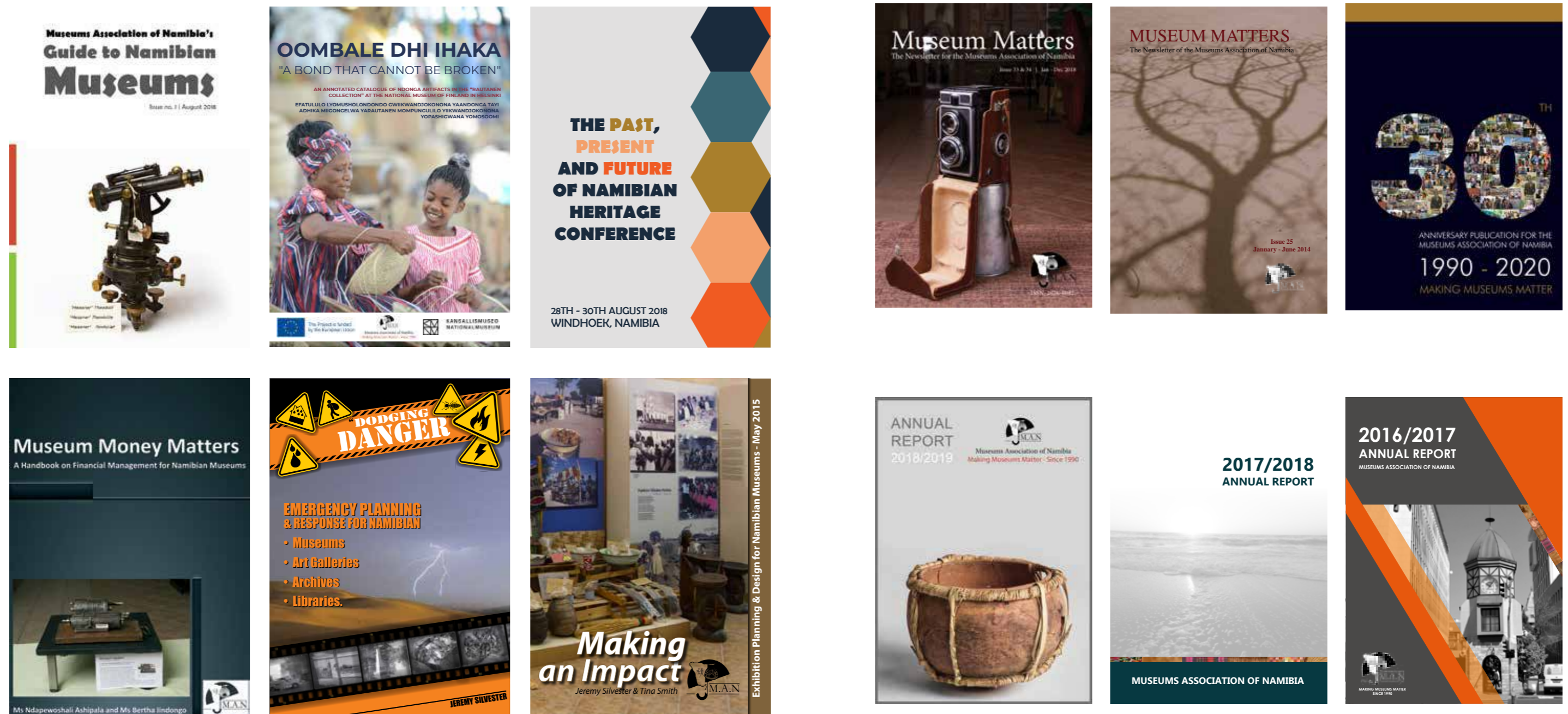
# MAN PUBLICATIONS

Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

Over the years, MAN has made a habit of documenting it's work through the Bi-Annual Newsletter "Museum Matters" and its Annual Reports. MAN also produces handbooks after workshops and guidebooks or catalogues to accompany mobile exhibitions. Recently, we have also produced a guide to Namibian Museums which will be updated annually.

You can download the publications, newsletters, exhibition handbooks, and catalogues, as well as the Guide to Namibian Museums, for FREE, on the MAN website under the Journal and Publications tab. <https://www.museums.com.na/journal-and-publications>. Hard copies are available at the MAN office and resource centre.

Below are a few covers of journals and publications produced by MAN. These covers represent a small fraction of the publications produced by MAN over the last 31 years.





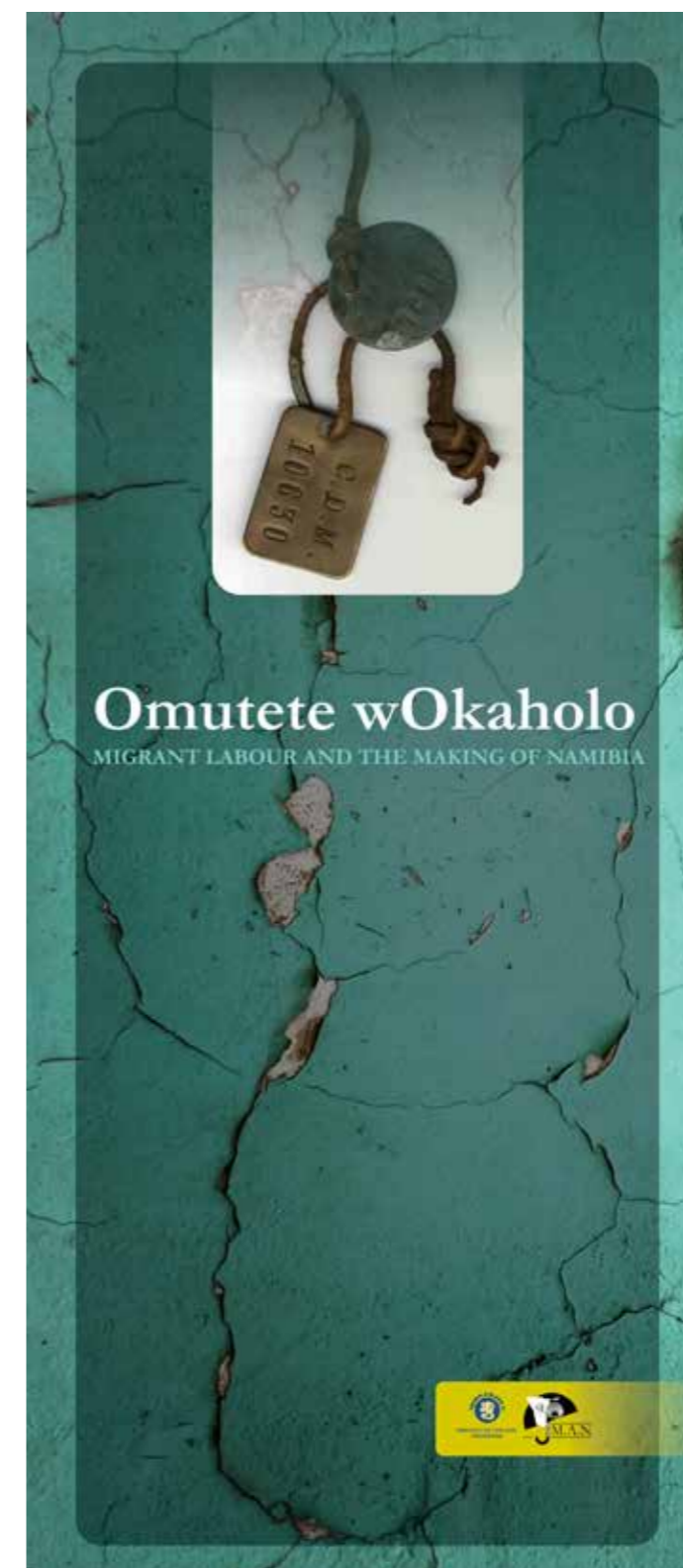
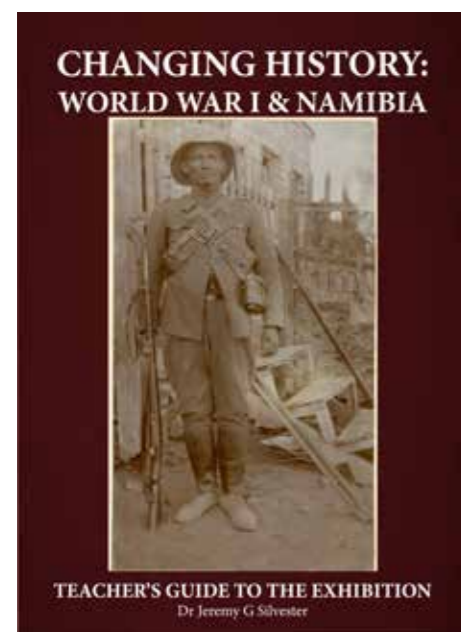
## MAN MOBILE EXHIBITIONS

Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

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.

To loan a mobile exhibition, complete the MAN Exhibition Loan Form available on the MAN website and send it to [info@museums.com.na](mailto:info@museums.com.na)

Our mobile exhibitions are easy to set up, take down, and transport. To learn how to set up and take down our mobile exhibitions, you can watch a tutorial on our YouTube channel.



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**I declare that the information on this form is true and correct.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Individual N\$120.00 ☐ Associate N\$200.00 ☐ Museum/Institution N\$400.00 ☐

*Please note that **Associate Members** are museums still in development and not yet open to the public*

Is this a (Choose one): New Membership ☐ Membership Renewal ☐

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Museums Association of Namibia, Standard Bank, Gustav Voigts Centre Branch,  
Windhoek, Acc. No. 246311029 (Savings Acc.)

Please reference your **name/name of the museum** with the payment and email a  
copy of your deposit slip/proof of payment to [info@museums.com.na](mailto:info@museums.com.na)

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*Thank you for your continued support.*

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THANK YOU  
FOR HELPING US



MAKE MUSEUMS MATTER!



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