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ANNIVERSARY PUBLICATION FOR THE
MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION OF NAMIBIA

1990 - 2020

MAKING MUSEUMS MATTER



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Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala - Office Manager

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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 commissions 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.

30TH

ANNIVERSARY PUBLICATION FOR THE
MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION OF NAMIBIA

1990 - 2020

MAKING MUSEUMS MATTER

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Photo: Trace Garren

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MAN PUBLICATIONS OVER THE YEARS
MAN Publications

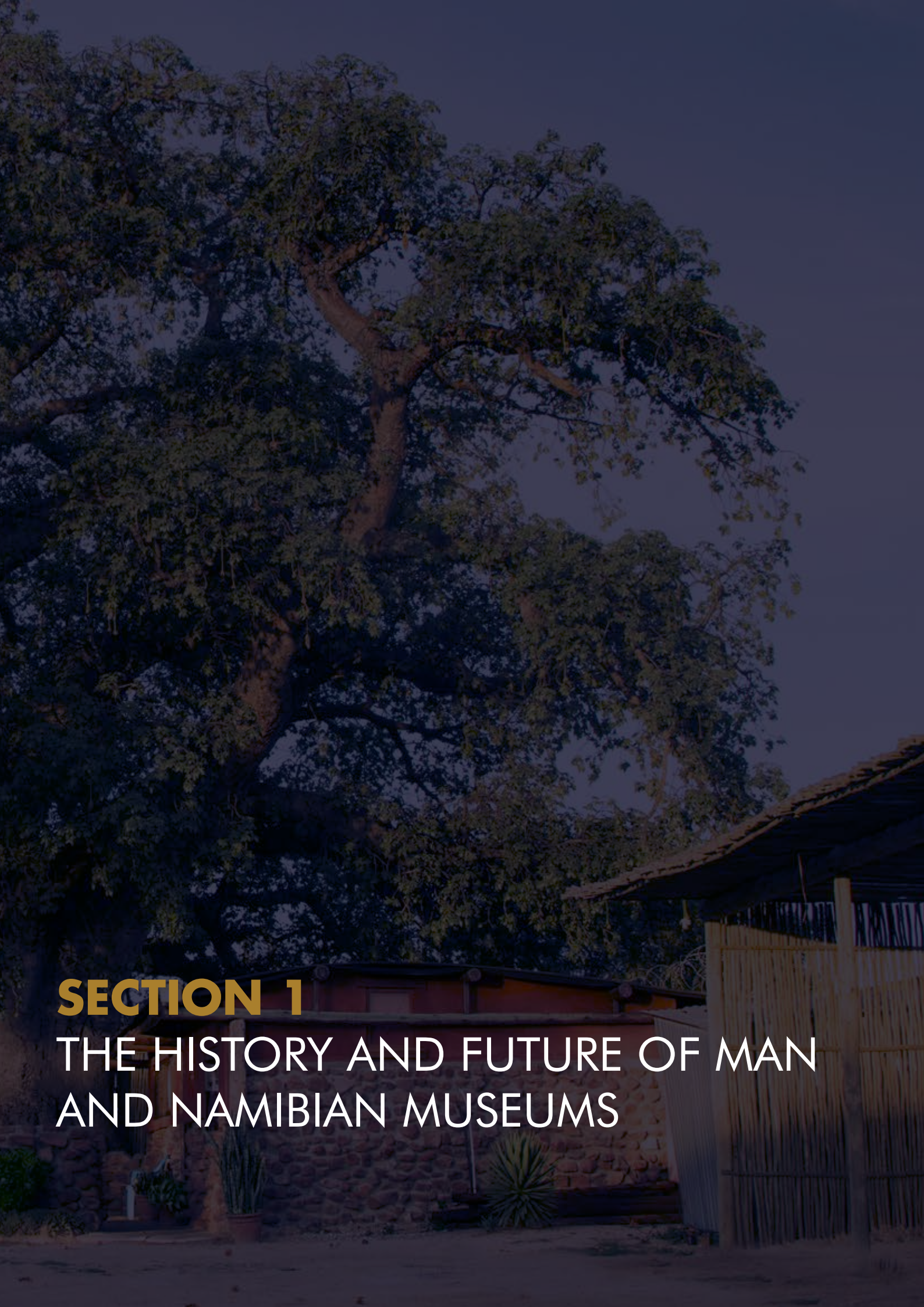
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MAN Membership Form



Ombalantu Baobab Tree
Photo: Trace Garren

SECTION 1

THE HISTORY AND FUTURE OF MAN AND NAMIBIAN MUSEUMS



THIRTY YEARS OF THE MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION OF NAMIBIA

Mr Gunther von Schumann & Dr Jeremy Silvester

The Museums Association of Namibia is almost as old as Namibia. Just a couple of months after independence (on International Museum Day after independence, 18th May, 1990) a large group of workers from museums, art galleries, libraries and archives met to discuss the establishment of an Association that would represent and support the cultural heritage sector. The meeting took place at the Alte Feste Museum (as it was known before it became the National Museum of Namibia).

Presentations at the meeting included those by Dr John Mendelsohn (the Head of the Museum), Mr Joe Madisia (who spoke about the Arts), Mr Willie Metzler (of Rehoboth Museum) and Dr Peter Katjavivi (the Chairperson of the National Monuments Council). An Advisory Committee was appointed to guide the formal establishment of MAN. The sixteen members of this Committee were: Ms Anzell Bayer, Dr Kudo Budack, Ms Annaleine Eins, Ms T. Emvula, Dr Peter Katjavivi, Mr J.P. Katangolo, Dr John Kinehan, Dr John Mendelsohn, Mr Willie Metzler, Ms Antje Otto-Reiner, Dr Beatrice Sandelowsky, Ms Ilse Schatz, Mr J. van Ewck, Mr Gunter von Schumann and Mr Michael Weber.

On 9th February, 1991 MAN's name and first constitution were adopted at a meeting hosted by Swakomund Museum. A five member Steering Committee (later known as the Executive Committee) came into operation: Dr John Mendelsohn, Dr Beatrice Sandelowsky, Ms Anzell Bayer, Ms Antje Otto and Mr Gunter von Schumann. Mr André Strauss represented the Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports and Culture at this important Conference and remained a passionate supporter of MAN until his untimely death. Special recognition should also be given to Mr von Schumann who served as MAN's Treasurer for twenty years (1990-2010) and, with Ms Otto continues to give the benefit of his years of experience with the organization.

Over the 30 years MAN has had 8 Chairpersons: Dr John Mendelsohn (1990- 1992), Dr Sandelowsky (1992-1998), Mr Werner Thaniseb (1998-2009), Ms Stella Imalwa (2009-2013), Mr Aaron Nambadi (2013-2016), Ms Hertha Ipinge (2017-2018), Dr Martha Akawa (2018-2019) and Ms Golda Ha-/Eiros (2019 to date). The Chairpersons have been supported over the years by Committee members who were elected for three year terms. MAN has been blessed by the dedicated service of many of those involved in Namibia's heritage sector, from all corners of Namibia, who have served one or more three year terms on our Executive Committee.

One of the mini-projects that MAN will undertake as part of our 30th Anniversary will be to create a roll of honour naming all those who have served as members of MAN's Committee over the last three decades. We would appreciate any help that members can provide in giving us the names and dates of those who served – particularly in the 1990s.

During the first few years of the organization MAN served as a network with members mainly covering their own expenses or obtaining support from their institutions to attend an Annual General Meeting. The AGM was an important forum and provided an opportunity for guest speakers to bring new ideas for members. For example, the 1991 conference included the Chairperson of SAMA (our sister organization in South Africa).

One of the early important activities of MAN (in partnership with the National Museum of Namibia) was to approach the UK based NGO Voluntary Service Overseas to secure two volunteers. MAN managed the funding for this project through its account. Christine and Peter Nias arrived in 1992 and spent three

years based at the National Museum of Namibia. The aim was to establish a mobile museum service based on a model that had been developed in Botswana to develop museums as educational resources. The team developed a pack of seven different 'Museum Advice' notes for museums and conducted seven workshops with teachers on topics such as 'How to use your local museum'. MAN was also involved in the development of the Rehoboth Museum resulting in the opening of new buildings and a research centre in 1996.

An important moment for MAN came in 2001 when we received funding from the Embassy of Finland and we also received a grant from the American Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation. The funding enabled us to employ a part-time Administrator for the first time and to establish a Secretariat to service our members more efficiently. In the same year Namibia's first cultural policy, Unity in Diversity, recognized MAN's role and responsibility for supporting regional museum development. Ms Frieda Kalinde Nambundunga, the Administrator, was based for one day a week at the office of the Mobile Museum Service at the National Museum of Namibia with Mr Werner Thaniseb (who had been appointed to continue the work started by Mr and Mrs Nias. Ms Nambundunga was succeeded by Ms Debbie Ithana in 2003 and by Ms Fransiska Kangombe in 2005.

The next important and significant step forward for MAN came in 2003 when we received our first Grant-in-Aid from the Government and the responsibility to promote regional museum development. One consequence of this grant was that we were able to secure our first independent office in the complex of the Namibia Scientific Society in 2005 and expand its Secretariat. Dr Jeremy Silvester was employed in a part-time capacity as the Project Planning and Training Officer in 2005 and was joined by a full-time Administrator, Mr Alfons Thaniseb. After Mr Thaniseb left, Ms Naitisi Izyenda was appointed to serve as MAN's Office Manager and Dr Silvester's post also became full-time. In the year Ms Izyenda left to join UNAM, three new appointments were made with Ms Bertha Indongo serving as MAN's first paid Finance Officer with Ms Ndapewoshali Ashipala starting as the Administrator and, later, being promoted to the post of Office Manager. Ms Nehoa Kapuka joined as a temporary Project Officer to work on a Finnish Embassy project, but was subsequently promoted and now serves as MAN's Museum Development Officer. Her post was filled by Ms Charmaine Tjizezenga. The newest members of the MAN team are Ms Johanna Nghishiiko, Ms Randy Mwatondange and Mr Kevanhu Muifi. A photographic essay will provide readers with reminders of some of the MAN members who have been active with the organization over the years and some of MAN's many achievements over the years. We can honestly say that MAN has achieved so much in terms of supporting regional museum development over the last thirty years that it is difficult to summarise it in a short article. Perhaps we need a young Namibian historian to write the history of MAN !

A number of highlights will be mentioned here. Over a period of ten years MAN managed over 80 regional museum development grants with funding provided by Government to help build the capacity of regional museums. MAN also ran the School Clubs and Museums Exhibition Competition for ten years with funds from our annual grant. History Clubs in schools throughout Namibia researched and developed small exhibitions about an aspect of the history or cultural heritage of their region. It was our most successful project for engaging with Namibian youth. SCAMX inspired many learners to consider studying and working in the heritage sector. MAN has also provided over sixty planning and training workshops for museums. The most recent workshops formed the basis for MAN training manuals (which are available for consultation on our website). It is unfortunate that we have not been able to run these important programmes for the last few years due to a reduction in our grant-in-aid from Government due to financial constraints on the budget.

The reduction in our grant-in-aid in recent years has encouraged MAN to develop a strategy

to reduce costs and increase external income. MAN has benefited substantially from external project support. External donors who have supported activities have included the European Union, the Gerda Henkel Foundation, the Finnish Embassy, the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation, the Arts Council of Namibia, the University of Basel, UNESCO, the Carl Schlettwein Foundation, the German Embassy, the Franco-Namibian Cultural Centre, the Goethe Centre, the British High Commission, the United Nations Environmental Programme, the International Labour Organisation.

A number of milestones have been achieved through these externally funded projects. We would just like to remind you of three of our many past projects. The Heritage Hunt enabled MAN to work with the National Heritage Council to document places in seven of our fourteen regions that were considered to be of significance by local communities. The Heritage Handbook provided an overview of the national and international legislation relating to cultural heritage with smaller booklets being distributed to all the regions that summarized the information in eight different local languages.

MAN has also been able to create nine new mobile exhibitions and two new permanent museum exhibitions (in Rundu and Keetmanshoop) and establish an entirely new museum (the Onandjokwe Medical Museums). The challenge remains that donors want to see tangible and visible outcomes and will only allow a small percentage of any grant to be spent on the core running costs of the organization. However, MAN remains confident that our track record of financial transparency and the delivery of results will enable us to continue to obtain support for our goal of 'Making Museums Matter'.

A PHOTO ESSAY ON THIRTY YEARS OF MAN ACTION



MAN worked on the display at the Warmbad Museum that opened in 2002. The display included a doll made by the local community to show the traditional patchwork dress.



MAN members at the 2003 AGM in Rundu, including Mr Werner Thaniseb (Chairperson), Mr Gunter von Schumann (Treasurer) and Ms Debbie Ithana (Administrator).



Dr Martha Akawa and Ms Hertha Lukileni attending the 2004 AGM in Kharas Region as students. Later they would both serve as Chairpersons of MAN.



Mr Frans Ihuwa, Ms Annaleen Eins and Mr Gunter von Schumann receive their Honorary Membership of MAN at the 2005 AGM in Tsumeb.



Cover of a pamphlet produced to accompany an exhibition produced by MAN in 2005 to mark the centenary of the death of Hendrik Witbooi. A workshop was also held that developed a plan for a Hendrik Witbooi Museum to be established in Gibeon.



MAN met with the Military Museum in 2005 to provide advice on the development of the museum.



Meeting with Ohamba Martha Nelumbu of Oukwanyama in 2005. MAN later produced a feasibility study for the establishment of a King Mandume Museum.



The Hendrik Witbooi mobile exhibition on show in Gibeon to mark the centenary of his death in 2005.



Mr Gerhard Gurirab (National Museum of Namibia), Mr Maurice Davies (Museums Association, UK), Dr Jeremy Silvester (MAN), Ms Fransiska Kangombe (MAN Administrator) and the late Mr Andre Strauss from the Directorate of Arts and Culture Programmes at the MAN AGM in Walvis Bay in 2006.



Members of MAN's Executive Committee at a Planning Workshop in 2006.



Ms Helena Showa, Mr Timoteus Mashuna and Ms Merret Schnarr, MAN interns who worked on the Namibia's Night Sky exhibition that was mounted at the National Art Gallery of Namibia in 2006



Hon Pohamba Shifeta with MAN's Chairperson, Werner Thaniseb at the 2007 AGM in Luderitz



MAN worked with the National Heritage Council for several years from 2006 to produce seven regional reports on heritage places of importance to communities. Here Ms Lovisa Ndaoya, Dr Vilho Shigwedha and Ms Lovisa Nampala model the t-shirts produced for the project.



Dr Bennett Kangumu with the MAN team that salvaged the artifacts from the old museum at Namutoni in 2007 whilst renovations were being carried out.



New poles obtained for the traditional homestead at Nakambale Museum in 2008.



MAN met with the !Aman Traditional Authority in 2009 to discuss plans to turn Josef Frederiks old house into a museum.



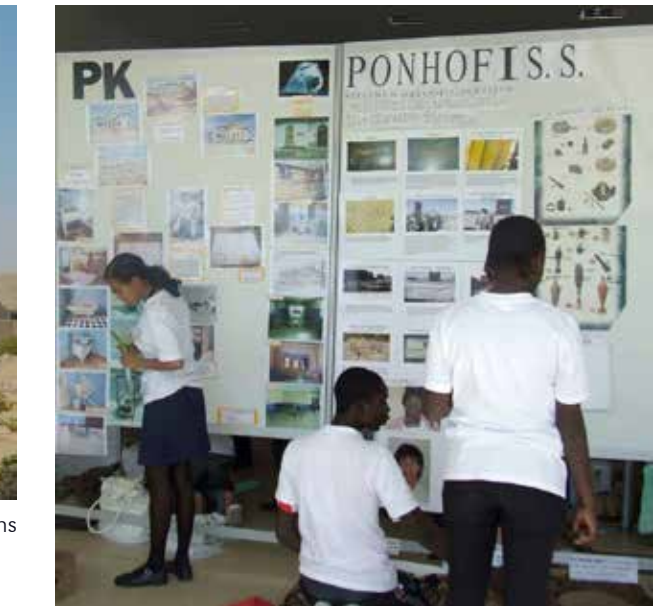
In 2009 MAN produced a report for NAMDEB with recommendations for the development of Kolmannskuppe



MAN produced t-shirts and baseball caps to celebrate its 20th birthday in 2010



Teachers at a training workshop for the SCAMX competition in 2010



Schools mounting their displays at the 2009 School Clubs and Exhibitions Competition. SCAMX ran for ten years and was MAN successful project for inspiring young people's interest in museums



A section of the Holocaust exhibition that was shown with an anti-prejudice workshop in 2010



Mr Floris Guntenaar and a MAN intern, Ms Limba Mupetami, work with Ms Antoinette Mostert of Keetmanshoop Museum to create a digital inventory of the collection. Ten museums were visited and provided with software in 2010



Steven Chifunyise facilitated a workshop on Intangible Cultural Heritage at the AGM in Okahandja in 2011



Meeting with the Advisory Committee of Nakambale Museum and the Finnish Embassy in 2011 to discuss renovations



Participants in a training workshop at the National Archives of Namibia in 2011



Rev Julius Mtuleni gives a guided tour of the building renovations for the Onadjokwe Medical Museum in 2012



MAN's stall at the Tourism Show in 2013. MAN participated for three years and won prizes each time.



VIPs at the official opening of the Onadjokwe Medical Museum in 2013



Members of MAN's Executive Committee during the Annual Planning Workshop in 2013



Museums receiving equipment during the signing ceremony for Regional Museum Development Grants in 2014



Support from ICOM enabled MAN to work on the Africa Accessioned project from 2014 which sought to identify museums in Europe with collections from Namibia and encourage collaborative projects



Part of MAN's Display during the Adventure Tourism Summit that took place in Swakopmund in 2013



Ms Bertha Indongo, MAN's Finance Officer, with some of the participants at the Financial Management for Namibian Museums training workshop in 2014.



Coastal High School from Erongo Region with their display at SCAMX 2014.



Curtains installed in Grootfontein in 2015. One of the museums that benefitted from more than 50 Regional Museum Development Grants facilitated by MAN up to 2015



H.E. Anna Saloranta, Ambassador of Finland and Mr Aaron Nambadi (MAN Chairperson) at MAN's 2016 AGM at the Namibia Scientific Society in Windhoek



Mounting the new Nama Khoen #Nisasib exhibition in Keetmanshoop Museum in 2016



The Chairperson, Mr Aaron Nambadi, presents gifts to H.E. President Pohamba and H.E. Anna Saloranta, Ambassador of Finland, at the opening of the Black and White Exhibition at Nakambale Museum in 2015



Twelve MAN members received Certificates in Museum Studies from the Commonwealth Association of Musuems at the 2015 AGM in Swakopmund. The awards were presented by the Director of IZIKO Museums in South Africa and Chairperson of CAM, Ms Rooksana Omar. Dr Silvester acted as the local tutor for the Certificate.



Hon John Mutowa, Mr Sebastian Kantemba and H.E. Anna Salotana at the launch of the Resistance on the Banks of the Kavango River exhibition and publication in Rundu in 2016



Ms Charmain Tjizezenga (MAN Project Officer) and Mr Aaron Nambadi (MAN Chairperson) at the exhibition launch in Rundu in 2016



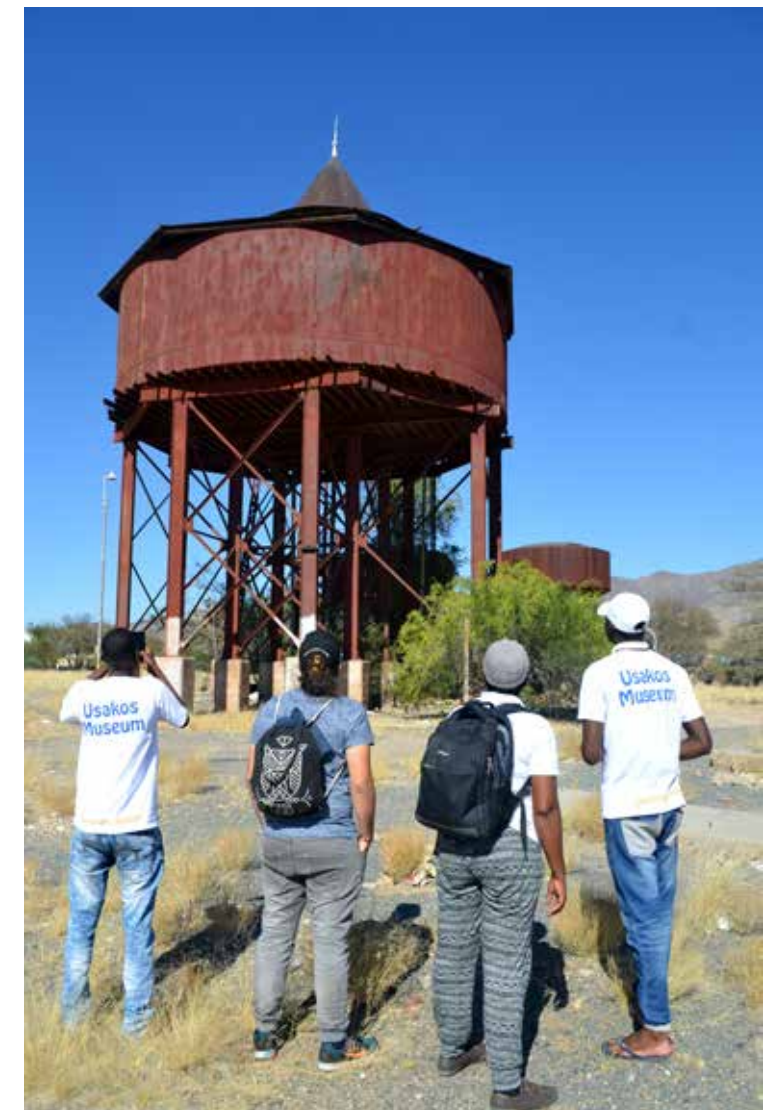
Dr Martha Akawa, MAN Chairperson at the opening of the International Committee of Training of (Museum) Professionals (ICTOP) Conference in 2017



Participants at the last SCAMX competition held in Otjiwarongo in 2017



H.E. Anna Saloranta and the MAN Team (Ms Charmaine Tjizezenga, Ms Ndapewoshali Ashipala, Dr Jeremy Silvester and Ms Nehoa Kautondokwa at the launch of the Changing Climate, Changing Namibia mobile exhibition at the Habitat Centre in 2017



Students from UNAM and Switzerland participate in a Winter School in 2017 to help develop the museum in Usakos



Ms Hertha Lukileni (MAN Chairperson) speaking at the opening of the Omutete wOkaholo exhibition at the John Muafangejo Arts Centre in 2017



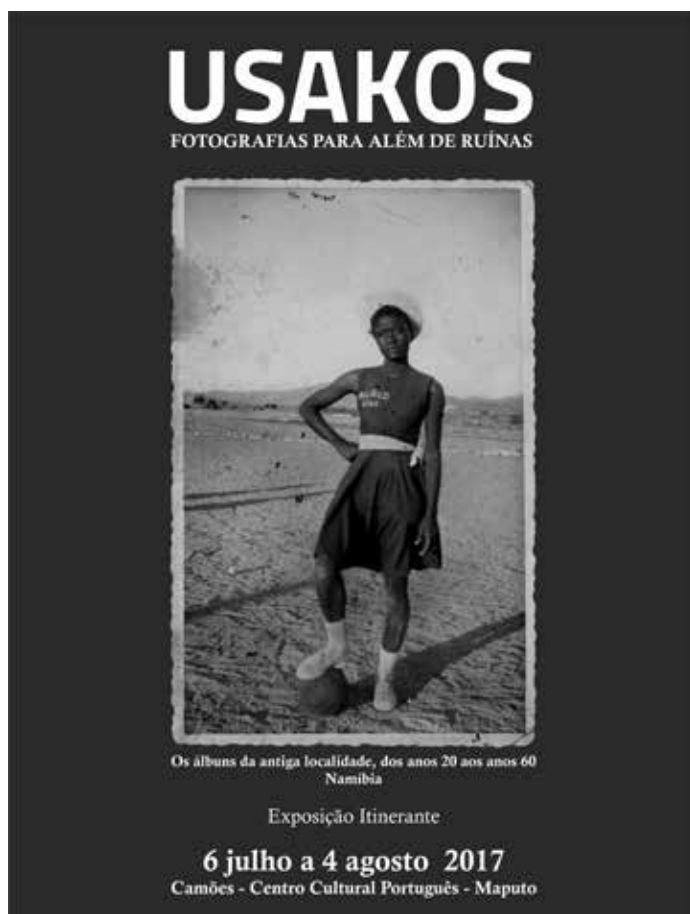
Ms Winnie Kanyimba (MAN) gives a guided tour of the Omutete wOkaholo' exhibition to Hon. Katrina Hanse-Himarwa, Minister of Education, Arts and Culture 2017



A Capoeira performance during the Conference. Past, Present and Future of Namibian Heritage Conference, 2018. Photo Moses Hamutenya



Dr Bennett Kangumu, Chairperson of the National Heritage Council meets some of the participants at the Past, Present and Future of Namibian Heritage Conference, 2018



Poster advertising the Usakos travelling exhibition in Maputo. The exhibition travelled to places as diverse as China, Germany, Jamaica, South Africa, the UK and the USA. 2017



Participants at the Workshop on Human Remains in Museums that took place at UNAM in 2018



Conference participants at UNAM. Past, Present and Future of Namibian Heritage Conference, 2018. Photo Wandile Kasibe



Ms Hertha Bukasa, Culture Officer for Otjozondjupa Region, spoke about the Herero dress. Past, Present and Future of Namibian Heritage Conference, 2018. Photo Moses Hamutenya



Ms Lovisa Nampala and Ms Nehoa Kautondokwa speaking about grave sites in northern Namibia. Past, Present and Future of Namibian Heritage Conference, 2018



Ms. Vitjitua Ndijharine (University of Hamburg), Ms Albertina Nekongo (National Archives of Namibia) and Mr Flexon Mizinga (National Museums Board, Zambia). Past, Present and Future of Namibian Heritage Conference, 2018 Photo. W. Kasibe

MAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND STAFF MEMBERS OVER THE YEARS

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala and Dr Jeremy Silvester

Over the years, the Museums Association of Namibia has been blessed with dedicated individuals who served on the Executive Committee, being the highest decision-making body of the organization, on a voluntary basis. Below is a list of individuals who served on the Executive Committee (EC). The MAN would not have able to achieve any of its accomplishments without the hard work, guiding wisdom and dedication of the individuals who volunteered as EC members.

Because of the small size of the organization, while continuously working on numerous projects, MAN requires staff to be hard-working, tenacious, dedicated and self-motivated. Included in the list below, is a list of individuals who have served as MAN staff members over years and have therefore, been at the helm of Making Museums Matter.

In addition to the EC and the staff members, MAN has trained many young professionals in the field through internship programs. However, the individuals who have carried out internships at MAN have played an indescribable role in the success of the organization. Although too many to list individually, MAN would like to thank every single intern and volunteer who has contributed to the past 30 years of helping Make Museums Matter.

1990 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms Anzell Bayer
Dr Kudo Budack
Ms Annaleine Eins
Ms T. Emvula
Dr Peter Katjavivi
Mr J.P. Katangolo
Dr John Kinehan
Dr John Mendelsohn
Mr Willie Metzler
Ms Antje Otto-Reiner
Dr Beatrice Sandelowsky
Ms Ilse Schatz
Mr J. van Ewck
Mr Gunter von Schumann
Mr Michael Weber

Rehoboth Museum
Former Government Ethnologist
National Art Gallery of Namibia

National Monuments Council

Archeaology Department, National Museum of Namibia
National Museum of Namibia
Rehoboth Museum
Ethnographic Department, National Musuem of Namibia
The University Centre for Studies in Namibia (TUCSIN)
Tsumeb Museum

Namibia Scientific Society
Swakopmund Museum

1990 - 1991 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms Anzell Bayer
Dr John Mendelsohn
Ms Antje Otto-Reiner
Dr Beatrice Sandelowsky
Mr Gunter von Schumann

Rehoboth Museum
National Museum of Namibia
Ethnographic Department, National Musuem of Namibia
The University Centre for Studies in Namibia (TUCSIN)
Namibia Scientific Society

1991 – 1992
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Mr John Mendelsohn (Chair)
Mr Gunter von Schumann (Treasurer)
Dr Beatrice Sandelowsky
Mrs Ann Bayer
Mrs Antje Otto-Reiner
Mr Michael Weber
Mr G. K. Zeze
Mr H. Ernst
Mr J. Mutonga

1994 - 1995
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Dr Beatrice Sandelowsky (Chair)
Mr Gunter von Schumann (Treasurer)
Mr Niko Kisting (Secretary)
Mr Andreas Vogt
Mr Michael Weber
Ms Esther Moombolah
Mr H. Ernst
Mrs Vera Tune
Mr John Mendelssohn

1996 - 1997
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Dr Beatrice Sandelowsky (Chair)
Mr Gunter von Schumann (Treasurer)
Mr Niko Kisting
Mr Andreas Vogt
Mr Michael Weber
Mr H. Ernst
Ms Janice McNamara
Dr Martti Eirola
Ms Antoinette Mostert

1998 - 1999
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Dr Beatrice Sandelowsky (Chairperson)
Ms. Lizette Vries (Secretary)
Mr Martti Eirola
Mr H. Ernst
Mr Michael Weber
Mr Niko Kisting
Ms Antoinette Mostert
Mr Gunter von Schumann
Mr N Namahuja (alternate)

1993 - 1994
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Dr Beatrice Sandelowsky (Chair)
Mr Gunter von Schumann (Treasurer)
Mr Andreas Vogt
Mr Michael Weber
Mr H. Ernst
Mr John Mendelssohn
Ms Vera Tune

1995 - 1996
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Dr Beatrice Sandelowsky (Chair)
Mr Gunter von Schumann (Treasurer)
Mr Niko Kisting (Secretary)
Mr Andreas Vogt
Mr Michael Weber
Mr John Mendelssohn
Ms Esther Moombolah
Mr H. Ernst
Mr P. Nias
Ms C. Nias

1997 - 1998
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Dr Beatrice Sandelowsky (Chairperson)
Ms. Lizette Vries (Secretary)
Mr Martti Eirola
Mr H. Ernst
Mr Michael Weber
Mr Niko Kisting
Ms Antoinette Mostert
Mr Gunter von Schumann
Mr N Namahuja (alternate)
Ms Janice McNamara
Ms Esther Moombolah
Mr Andreas Vogt

Mr Evast Mtota
Mr Andreas Vogt
Mr Bernard Schurz
Ms Janice McNamara

1999 - 2000

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr Werner Thaniseb (Chair)
Mr Goodman Gwasira
Ms Martha Gille (Secretary)
Mr Gunter von Schumann (Treasurer)

2001 - 2002

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms. Annaleen Eins	National Art Gallery of Namibia
Ms. Päivi Repo	Nakambale Museum
Mr. Werner Thaniseb	Mobile Museum Service, National Museum of Namibia
Mr. Bennett Kangumu	UNAM History Department
Dr Jeremy Silvester	UNAM History Department
Mr Gunter von Schumann	Namibia Scientific Society
Mr Gilbert Likando	UNAM Education Department
Ms Karen Rudman	Outjo Museum
Ms Antoinette Mostert	Keetmanshoop Museum
Ms Martha Gille	Rehoboth Museum
Ms Esther Moombolah-Goagoses	National Museum of Namibia
Mr Vilho Shigwedha	Regional History Project, UNAM Oshakati Campus

STAFF

Ms. Frieda Nambundunga MAN Administrator (part-time)

2002 - 2003

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms. Annaleen Eins	National Art Gallery of Namibia
Ms. Päivi Repo	Nakambale Museum
Mr. Werner Thaniseb	Mobile Museum Service, National Museum of Namibia
Mr. Bennett Kangumu	UNAM History Department
Dr. Jeremy Silvester	UNAM History Department
Mr. Gunter von Schumann	Namibia Scientific Society
Mr. Gilbert Likando	UNAM Education Department
Ms. Karen Rudman	Outjo Museum
Ms. Antoinette Mostert	Keetmanshoop Museum
Ms. Martha Gille	Rehoboth Museum
Ms. Esther Moombolah-Goagoses	National Museum of Namibia
Mr. Vilho Shigwedha	Regional History Project, UNAM Oshakati Campus
Mr. Goodman Gwasira	Archaeology Department, National Museum of Namibia

STAFF

Ms. Frieda Nambundunga MAN Administrator (part-time)

2003 - 2004

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms. Annaleen Eins	National Art Gallery of Namibia
Ms. Magdalena Kaanante	Nakambale Museum
Mr. Werner Thaniseb	Mobile Museum Service, National Museum of Namibia
Mr. Bennett Kangumu	American Cultural Centre
Dr. Jeremy Silvester	UNAM History Department
Mr. Gunter von Schumann	Namibia Scientific Society
Mr. Gilbert Likando	UNAM Education Department
Ms. Karen Rudman	Outjo Museum

Ms. Antoinette Mostert
Ms. Martha Gille
Ms. Esther Moombolah-Goagoses
Mr. Vilho Shigwedha
Mr. Goodman Gwasira
Mr. Michael Jimmy

STAFF

Ms. Ndapewa Ithana

2004 - 2005

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms. Annaleen Eins
Ms. Magdalena Kaanante
Mr. Werner Thaniseb
Mr. Bennett Kangumu
Dr. Jeremy Silvester
Mr. Gunter von Schumann
Mr. Gilbert Likando
Ms. Karen Rudman
Ms. Antoinette Mostert
Ms. Martha Strauss
Mr. Vilho Shigwedha
Mr. Goodman Gwasira
Ms. Erica Ndalikokule
Ms. Hertha Lukileni
Mr. Thomas Shapi
Ms. Chisengo Nikanor

STAFF

Ms. Ndapewa Ithana

2005 - 2006

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms Anneke Blizard
Ms Betty Hango-Rummukainen
Ms Magdalena Kanaate
Ms Hertha Lukileni
Mr Joseph Madisia
Ms Antoinette Mostert
Ms Chisengo Nikanor
Ms Karen Rudman
Mr Thomas Sharpi
Mr Vilho Shigwedha
Ms Martha Strauss
Mr Werner Thaniseb
Mr Gunter von Schumann

STAFF

Ms Fransiska Kangombe
Dr Jeremy Silvester

Keetmanshoop Museum
Rehoboth Museum
National Museum of Namibia
Regional History Project, UNAM Oshakati Campus
Archaeology Department, National Museum of Namibia
Namibian Community-based Tourism Association

MAN Administrator (part-time)

National Art Gallery of Namibia
Nakambale Museum
Mobile Museum Service, National Museum of Namibia
American Cultural Centre
UNAM History Department
Namibia Scientific Society
UNAM Education Department
Outjo Museum
Keetmanshoop Museum
Rehoboth Museum
Regional History Project, UNAM Oshakati Campus
Archaeology Department, National Museum of Namibia
Namibian Community-based Tourism Association
National Archives of Namibia
Culture Office, Kavango Region
Ethnography Department, National Museum of Namibia

MAN Administrator (part-time)

Walvis Bay Museum
History Department, National Museum of Namibia
Nakambale Museum, Olukonda.
National Archives of Namibia.
Director, National Art Gallery of Namibia
Keetmanshoop Museum
Ethnography Department, National Museum of Namibia
Outjo Museum
Senior Cultural Officer, Kavango Region.
Northern History Project, UNAM Oshakati Campus
Otjiwarongo Heritage Explorium.
Director, National Theatre of Namibia
Namibia Scientific Society

MAN Administrator (part-time)
Project Planning and Training Officer (part-time)

2006 - 2007

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms Anneke Blizard
Ms Betty Hango-Rummukainen
Ms Magdalena Kanaate
Mr Joseph Madisia
Ms Karen Rudman
Ms Martha Strauss
Mr Werner Thaniseb
Mr Gunter von Schumann
Mr Kaembo Kasiringua
Mrs Erica Pretorious
Ms Hertha Lukileni
Ms Lovisa Nampala
Ms Thelma van Rhyn
Ms Antoinette Mostert
Mr Achim Lenssen

STAFF

Dr Jeremy Silvester
Ms Napandulwe Shiweda

Walvis Bay Museum
History Department, National Museum of Namibia
Nakambale Museum, Olukonda.
Director, National Art Gallery of Namibia
Outjo Museum
Otjiwarongo Heritage Explorium.
Director, National Theatre of Namibia.
Namibia Scientific Society,
Tsumeb Municipality
Dr Lemmer High School, Rehoboth
National Archives of Namibia
Uukelo Combined School
Omaruru Museum
Keetmanshoop Museum
Swakopmund Museum

Project Planning and Training Officer (part-time)
Administrator (part-time)

2007 - 2008

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms Anneke Blizard
Ms Betty Hango-Rummukainen
Ms Magdalena Kanaate
Mr Joseph Madisia
Ms Karen Rudman
Ms Martha Strauss
Mr Werner Thaniseb
Mr Gunter von Schumann
Mr Kaembo Kasiringua
Mrs Erica Pretorious
Ms Hertha Lukileni
Ms Lovisa Nampala
Ms Thelma van Rhyn
Ms Antoinette Mostert
Mr Kletus Likuwa
Ms Elizabeth Kandjenge
Mr Achim Lenssen

STAFF

Dr Jeremy Silvester
Ms Alfons Thaniseb
Mr Gunter von Schumann

Walvis Bay Museum
History Department, National Museum of Namibia
Nakambale Museum, Olukonda.
Director, National Art Gallery of Namibia
Outjo Museum
Otjiwarongo Heritage Explorium.
Director, National Theatre of Namibia.
Namibia Scientific Society
Tsumeb Municipality
Dr Lemmer High School, Rehoboth
National Archives of Namibia
Uukelo Combined School
Omaruru Museum
Keetmanshoop Museum
Rundu Senior Secondary School
Culture Officer, Kavango Region
Swakopmund Museum

Project Planning and Training Officer (part-time)
Administrator
Finance Officer (part-time)

2008 - 2009

Note: In 2008 the size of the Executive Committee was reduced from 'up to 16 members' to 4.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Stella Imalwa
Antoinette Mostert
Lovisa Nampala
Werner Thaniseb

Tsumeb Municipality
Keetmanshoop Museum
Uukelo Combined School
National Theatre of Namibia

STAFF

Dr Jeremy Silvester
Ms Alfons Thaniseb
Mr Gunter von Schumann

Project Planning and Training Officer (part-time)
Administrator
Finance Officer (part-time)

2009 - 2010

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms Stella Imalwa
Mr Gerhardt Gurirab
Mr Kletus Likuwa
Mr Aaron Nambadi

STAFF

Dr Jeremy Silvester
Ms Naitsi lizyenda
Ms Elize van der Westhuizen

Tsumeb Municipality
Otjiwarongo Heritage Explorium
Rundu Senior Secondary School
City of Windhoek

Project Planning and Training Officer (part-time)
Office Manager
Finance Officer (voluntary)

2010 - 2011

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms Stella Imalwa
Mr Aaron Nambadi
Ms Grace Pujatura
Mr Issaskar Hiakaere

STAFF

Dr Jeremy Silvester
Ms Naitsi lizyenda
Ms Elize van der Westhuizen

Tsumeb Municipality
City of Windhoek
City of Windhoek
Kapinge Museum Project

Project Planning and Training Officer (part-time)
Operations Manager
Finance Officer (voluntary)

2011 - 2012

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms Stella Imalwa
Mr Aaron Nambadi
Ms Edelgartha Cito-Simana
Ms Martha Akawa

STAFF

Dr Jeremy Silvester
Ms Naitsi lizyenda
Ms Elize van der Westhuizen

Tsumeb Municipality
City of Windhoek
Gobabis Museum
History Department, University of Namibia

Project Planning and Training Officer (part-time)
Operations Manager
Finance Officer (voluntary)

2012 - 2013

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr Aaron Nambadi
Ms Stella Imalwa
Mr Ignatius Davids
Ms Brigitte Woxholt

STAFF

Dr Jeremy Silvester
Ms Naitsi lizyenda
Ms Elize van der Westhuizen

City of Windhoek
Tsumeb Municipality
Cheetah Conservation Fund
Swakopmund Museum

Project Planning and Training Officer
Operations Manager
Finance Officer (voluntary)

2013 - 2014

(In 2013 MAN's constitution was amended to increase the membership of the EC to six)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr Aaron Nambadi	City of Windhoek
Ms Stella Imalwa	Tsumeb Municipality
Mr Kletus Likuwa	University of the Western Cape
Mr Goodman Gwasira	University of Namibia
Ms Grace Pujatura	City of Windhoek
Ms Martha Akawa	University of Namibia

STAFF

Dr Jeremy Silvester	Project Planning and Training Officer
Ms Naitzi lizyenda	Operations Manager
Ms Bertha Indongo	Finance Officer
Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala	Administrative Officer

2014 - 2015

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dr Martha Akawa	University of Namibia
Ms Stella Imalwa	Tsumeb Municipality
Ms Hertha lipinge	National Archives of Namibia
Mr Kletus Likuwa	University of the Western Cape
Mr Aaron Nambadi	City of Windhoek
Mr Goodman Gwasira	University of Namibia

STAFF

Dr Jeremy Silvester	Project Development Manager
Ms Naitzi lizyenda	Operations Manager (left October, 2014)
Ms Bertha Indongo	Finance Officer
Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala	Human Resources and Administrative Officer
Ms Nehoa Kautondokwa	Project Officer: Exhibition Development (from Sept, 2014)
	Project Officer: Museum Development (from Feb, 2015)
Ms Charmaine Tjizezenga	Project Officer: Exhibition Development (from Feb, 2015)

2015 - 2016

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dr Martha Akawa	University of Namibia
Ms Stella Imalwa	Tsumeb Municipality
Ms Hertha lipinge	National Archives of Namibia
Ms Desiree Nanuses	National Art Gallery of Namibia
Mr Aaron Nambadi	City of Windhoek
Mr Goodman Gwasira	University of Namibia

STAFF

Dr Jeremy Silvester	Project Development Manager
Ms Bertha Indongo	Finance Officer
Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala	Human Resources and Administrative Officer
Ms Nehoa Kautondokwa	Project Officer: Museum Development
Ms Charmaine Tjizezenga	Project Officer: Exhibition Development

2016 - 2017

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dr Martha Akawa	University of Namibia
Ms Stella Imalwa	Tsumeb Municipality

Ms Hertha lipinge	National Archives of Namibia
Mr Goodman Gwasira	University of Namibia
Mr Werner Hillebrecht	Retired Head of National Archives of Namibia
Ms Helke Mocke	Earth Science Museum

STAFF

Dr Jeremy Silvester	Project Development Manager
Ms Bertha Indongo	Finance Officer
Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala	Human Resources and Administrative Officer
Ms Nehoa Kautondokwa	Project Officer: Museum Development

2017 - 2018

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dr Martha Akawa	University of Namibia
Ms Stella Imalwa	Tsumeb Municipality
Ms Hertha lipinge	National Archives of Namibia
Mr Werner Hillebrecht	Retired Head of National Archives of Namibia
Ms Helke Mocke	Earth Science Museum

STAFF

Dr Jeremy Silvester	Director
Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala	Office Manager
Ms Nehoa Kautondokwa	Museum Development Manager

2018 - 2019

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms Golda Ha-Eiros	Curator at the Ministry of Veteran Affairs
Mr Moses Mberira	Film Maker
Mr Werner Hillebrecht	Namibia History - Heritage – Documentation
Ms Ndeenda Shivute	Curatorial Coordinator at the National Art Gallery of Namibia

Ms Naitzikile lizyenda	Editor at UNAM Press at the University of Namibia
Ms Chisengo Nikanor	Chief Curator at Military Museum

STAFF

Dr Jeremy Silvester	Director
Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala	Office Manager
Ms Nehoa Kautondokwa	Museum Development Manager

2019 - 2020

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms Golda Ha-Eiros	Curator at the Ministry of Veteran Affairs
Mr Moses Mberira	Film Maker
Mr Werner Hillebrecht	Namibia History - Heritage – Documentation
Ms Ndeenda Shivute	Curatorial Coordinator at the National Art Gallery of Namibia

Ms Naitzikile lizyenda	Editor at UNAM Press at the University of Namibia
Ms Chisengo Nikanor	Chief Curator at Military Museum

STAFF

Dr Jeremy Silvester	Director
Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala	Office Manager
Ms Nehoa Kautondokwa	Museum Development Manager
Mr Alfred Kevanhu Muifi	Curator: Museum of Namibian Fashion
Ms Maria Randy Mwatondange	Documentalist
Ms Johanna Nghishiko	Conservator

REDEFINING “THE MUSEUM” ? ICOM NAMIBIA AND THE NEW MUSEUM DEFINITION

Dr Jeremy Silvester

ICOM Namibia, is a local body which represents and connects Namibian museums and professionals to the network of the International Council of Museums across the world. The National Committee was established in 2007 by a group of MAN members who wanted to ensure that Namibian museums had a voice in the international museum network. One of the first acts of the Committee was to successfully join other African colleagues in lobbying ICOM for lower membership fees for countries with lower budgets. The Committee has survived, but has a small membership. The payment of membership fees to the ICOM Headquarters in Paris has been facilitated by MAN. Recently the membership of ICOM Namibia has increased and it has been decided to establish a separate bank account for the Committee.

The main benefits of ICOM Namibia membership are to ensure Namibia has a voice in this important international network of museum professionals, give an opportunity for museum workers to join specialised international committees, access information through the ICOM web site, and have the possibility of obtaining small funding support. For example, ICOM Namibia was able to collaborate with MAN to fund the workshop on human remains in museums that took place at UNAM in 2018. ICOM Namibia is encouraging Namibian Museum professionals to become members so they can benefit from ICOM.

ICOM at its 25th general conference in Kyoto Japan 2019, had a heated discussions which revolved around a proposal to adopt a new definition of the museum. The current definition was adopted by ICOM in 2007 and reads:

“The museum is a non-profit, permanent institution in the service of society and its development, open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits the tangible and intangible heritage of humanity and its environment for the purposes of education, study and enjoyment”

A new Standing Committee known as the MDPP (Museum Definition, Prospects and Potentials) Committee tabled a resolution at Kyoto that proposed the following new definition:

“Museums are democratizing, inclusive and polyphonic spaces for critical dialogue about the pasts and the futures. Acknowledging and addressing the conflicts and challenges of the present, they hold artefacts and specimens in trust for society, safeguard diverse memories for future generations and guarantee equal rights and equal access to heritage for all people.

Museums are not for profit. They are participatory and transparent, and work in active partnership with and for diverse communities to collect, preserve, research, interpret, exhibit, and enhance understandings of the world, aiming to contribute to human dignity and social justice, global equality and planetary well being”.

The new definition was not adopted as an amendment was passed that requested further consultation with national ICOM Committees. The ICOM Namibia Committee submitted an input to the debate, but would welcome further comments from members. Comments can be submitted to Mr Tuuda Haitula, the Secretary of ICOM Namibia Committee, at htuuda@gmail.com.

UNAM HERITAGE PROGRAMME: FIVE YEARS ON

Mr Goodman Gwasira

The University of Namibia introduced The Post Graduate Diploma in Heritage Conservation and Management programme in 2015. The main objective is to produce skilled heritage managers who can provide competitive services in the areas of heritage tourism, heritage conservation and heritage entrepreneurship. The overall objective of the programme is to satisfy the professional needs in the heritage sector in Namibia and elsewhere in Africa. Thus the programme responds to national needs that were identified by the heritage sector stakeholders.

Over the past 5 years, since 2015, the programme has registered 38 students. Of these 28 have successfully completed their studies and are serving in various capacities in the heritage sector in Namibia e.g. in various museums and the National Heritage Council (some are still completing their modules). Others are working in different government ministries and departments such as Education, Arts and Culture, Veterans Affairs and National Archives. Some of the programme graduates have proceeded to higher degree studies such as Master of Arts at UNAM and at universities in Europe. In addition, some of the graduates have since established their own heritage enterprises in the tourism and hospitality industry. Thus, this programme prepares its graduates for self-employment as well. As part of programme coordination we maintain constant contact with graduates of the programme in an effort to monitor its impact and also to gain an understanding of how the programme is contributing to its founding objectives. The teaching staff component comprises of academics and professionals in the various fields that are covered in the curriculum. The professional staff are been sought from the Museums Association of Namibia and the National Heritage Council to ensure that the studies respond to the current practices in heritage management in Namibia.

The Post Graduate Diploma in Heritage Conservation and Management is fully accredited by the National Council for Higher Education in Namibia. It is registered on the Namibia Qualifications Framework by the NQA (NQF level 8). Currently the programme is undergoing a mandatory review that is required after every 5 years. We hope to redevelop it together with our industry stakeholders so that it continues to meet the national demands for qualified, skilled and competent heritage practitioners.

The course is offered on a block seminar basis so as to accommodate students who are working on a full-time basis. It takes a minimum of 1 year or a maximum of 2 years to complete the course. To qualify for registration in this programme a prospective student should be in possession of a bachelor's degree or a recognised equivalent qualification in the field of social and natural sciences. Students that have completed their bachelor studies and are still waiting for conferment of the degree can be conditionally accepted until they can submit their degree certificate and transcript. To find out more on how you can apply for this exciting programme contact the History Section at the University of Namibia or the Museums Association of Namibia.

OUR VISION FOR THE NEXT 30 YEARS: CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

Ms. Golda Ha-Eiros

On 30th May, 2020, Museums Association of Namibia (MAN) passed a milestone: Thirty years of 'Making Museums Matter' through honoring history, embracing cultural diversity and promoting unity. I believe that this is the perfect time to look back and reflect on our achievements, but also to discuss the challenges that face us and our vision for Namibian museum development over the next thirty years.

The Museums Association of Namibia recognises that the culture and heritage sectors in Namibia faces an unprecedented threat to their future, not only from the Corona Virus, but also the consequent economic and social pressures that the world will need to overcome. However, we also believe that we can grasp opportunities from the mouth of adversity. Firstly, COVID-19 has made people more aware of the importance of creating greater public access to digital sources of information. Today, it seems inevitable that Namibians will be increasingly connected to the internet. In the digital age Namibian Museums should be encouraged to find cost effective, practical and creative ways of sharing our cultural heritage online and developing interactive educational tools.

Traditionally, our museums have been centred on the authenticity of the objects. Our artifacts provide an 'aura' that links a visitor to another time and/or another place. But COVID-19 offers the potential for museums to share their collections and project Namibian perspectives on important issues to global audiences. Digital marketing can potentially increase the impact of the Namibian museum sector as we, increasingly, engage with a global audience of virtual visitors.

The second important development over recent years has been the growing volume of the conversation around decolonisation, repatriation and restitution. Debates that were, previously, limited to academics have been taken up at Government level. The Saar-Savoy Report in France, the development by the German Museums Association of guidelines on the return of human remains and sacred objects and the Arts Council call for a similar initiative to be developed in the UK all indicate a significant shift. Namibian museums and the communities they serve are able to collaborate in exciting new ways with European museums which have collections of Namibian cultural artifacts. We believe that this is a constructive way to build international relations, whilst the virtual or actual return of cultural artifacts can 'bring people together to reactivate dormant knowledge which ultimately creates new ways of understanding each other'. During the financial year covered by this report Namibia welcomed the return of a Bible and a whip that belonged to our national hero Kaptein Hendrick Witbooi. The historically important cultural artefacts were repatriated from Linden Museum in Stuttgart. Soon an additional set of objects from the Ethnological Museum in Berlin, will also travel back to Namibia, the transfer will include jewelry, clothing and other important artefacts. I've always been a firm believer that the repatriation of these cultural objects from museums that have, often kept them in storage, is the only way to reconnect them with communities that can provide their full cultural, social and historical meanings in Namibia.

MAN is aware that there is a perception that our museums are tourist attractions and our slogan ('Making Museums Matter') reflects our core commitment to increase the number of local visitors. When MAN was able to have a stall at the annual Tourism Show in Windhoek a few years ago, we used the opportunity to do a survey and to ask young Namibians what themes would attract them to visit a museum. We are very happy that we are now involved in the development of three new museums that will cover topics (Music, Fashion and Environmental Issues) that were on the wish list of many young people.



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 bumper 30th Anniversary 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 30th 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 2019-2020 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, Mrs. Kautondokwa and Dr Silvester. I know that the three young project workers who have joined us this year, Mr. Muifi, Ms. Nghishiiko and Ms. Mwatondange 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.



SECTION 2
ANNUAL REPORT
01 APRIL 2019 – 31 MARCH 2020

2019/2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

Funding raised by MAN for operational costs and numerous projects from 01 April 2019 - 31 March 2020.

SOURCE	AMOUNT
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, ARTS AND CULTURE	N\$1,058,000.00
EXTERNAL FUNDING SUPPORT	
UNESCO - IFCD: Namibian Tales	N\$ 201,121.49
European Union: Promoting Cultural Rights	N\$ 1,427,047.97
National Arts Council: Namibian Heritage Week	N\$ 140,000.00
University of Basel: Usakos Exhibition	N\$ 71,911.20
Past Present and Future of Namibian Heritage Conference	N\$10,000.00
Deadly Medicine Exhibition Project	N\$ 47,106.29
Gerda Henkel Foundation Project	N\$ 1,513,157.80
Hedmark County Municipality - Tsumeb Cultural Village	N\$ 39,471.29
Sales of Merchandise	N\$15,100.00
Membership Fees	N\$20,750.00
TOTAL FUNDS RECEIVED FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR	N\$ 4,543,666.04

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 2020? **Yes**. The organisation has the following commitments from donors in the for the next few financial years

1. European Union - Museum Development as a Tool for Strengthening Cultural Rights in Namibia
End of Project/Funding: September 2020 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. Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation (Namibia) Exhibition Project
End of Project/Funding: December 2021 Project/Grant Value: N\$1,000,000.00
6. United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Exhibition Project
End of Project/Funding: December 2021 Project/Grant Value: USD 5,000.00
7. Hedmark County Municipality – Tsumeb Cultural Village
End of Project/Funding: September 2021 Project/Grant Value: NOK 50,000.00



Rehoboth Museum
Photo: Trace Garren

15APRIL

Launch of Oombale Dhi Ihaka Exhibition

Dr Jeremy Silvester

The Museums Association of Namibia was privileged to have the Vice-President of Namibia, H.E. Nangolo Mbumba launch the Oombale Dhi Ihaka exhibition and catalogue at Nehale Senior Secondary School in Onayena. The Vice-President used the opportunity to request the return of a piece of a sacred stone of Ondonga which featured in the catalogue. The Deputy-Minister of Education, Arts and Culture (who was promoted in March 2020 to become the Minister) congratulated MAN on producing important educational materials on cultural heritage. She applauded the fact that the materials had parallel texts in English and Oshindonga. Ambassador Jana Hybaskova said that one of her last tasks of her term as Ambassador would be to attend the launch. She argued that the European Union, like Namibia, is a multi-cultural, multi-lingual society and that the exhibition showed the way in which culture was important in building mutual understanding and celebrating diversity.

Dr Martha Akawa, the Chairperson of MAN, highlighted the fact that whilst the exhibition focused on artifacts collected by the Finnish missionary, Martti Rautanen, it also featured information about the Oompampa (royal graves). She hoped that the catalogue would encourage action to ensure that these ancient, sacred sites obtain recognition as national heritage sites and are preserved and protected. Participants were entertained by a cultural group from Oshapapa Combined School who welcomed visitors as they arrived and performed traditional dances during the programme.

Note: The exhibition stayed in the north and MAN worked in collaboration with the Oshikoto region Culture Office to enable learners from different schools in the Oshikoto Region to visit the exhibition. The exhibition was shown over an eight week period at venues in Oniipa, Omuthiya and Tsumeb.



H.E. Jana Hybaskova, the Ambassador of the European Union, praises the catalogue



H.E. Vice President Nangolo Mbumba launching the exhibition



Some of those who worked on Oombale dhi Ihaka celebrating at the launch



Visitors wore outfits to celebrate their cultural heritage



The exhibition in the school hall



The cultural group welcoming visitors to the exhibition



VIPs and Contributors show copies of the catalogue (New Era)



Wendy and Anna, MAN interns welcoming visitors to the exhibition



Wendy and Samora, MAN Interns, helping at the launch

24 APRIL

Heritage Week Press Conference

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

On the 24th of April 2019, the Namibian Heritage Week Team, held a press conference at the National Theatre of Namibia to inform the media and the general public about the theme of Heritage Week 2020. The Team also used the opportunity to encourage the general public and organizations to participate in and host activities for Heritage Week 2019. MAN also used the opportunity to announce the Heritage Week Grants for 2019 and encourage institutions to apply for grants. The event was featured on the news on One Africa TV.



Ms Beverly van Wyk (Vice Chairperson of Namibian Heritage Week 2019, National Heritage Council), Ms Desiree Mentoor (Chairperson of Namibian Heritage Week 2019, National Theatre of Namibia) and Ms Ndapewoshali Ashipala (Museums Association of Namibia) speaking at the press conference.

24 - 25 APRIL (WINDHOEK)

01 - 31 AUGUST 2019 (LÜDERITZ)

Deadly Medicine: Creating the Master Race Exhibition

Ms Nehoa Hilma Kautondokwa

The Museums Association of Namibia, in partnership with the Cape Town Holocaust and Genocide Centre hosted an international travelling exhibition entitled, Deadly Medicine: Creating the Master Race, in Namibia. The exhibition, which was developed by the United State Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM), explores the Nazi regime's pseudo "Science of Race" and its implications for medical ethics and social responsibility. The exhibition further traces the development of the notion of 'eugenics', and how it was used in Nazi Germany to justify the killing of people with disabilities and mental health. The exhibition thus exposes the complicity of anthropologists and medical scientists involved in the creation of race. Therefore, exhibition public programming was designed to encourage discussions about ethics in society and the need to combat prejudice and discrimination, while at the same time challenging viewers to reflect on the present-day interest in genetic manipulation that promotes the possibility of human perfection. The exhibition further reminds professionals in the fields of medicine and law to critically review the policies guiding their work.

The exhibition is relevant and important to Namibia. The focus of the exhibition, Eugenics, a term invented by Francis Galton, has its roots in Namibia. Galton travelled extensively in Namibia during the 19th century, drawing specimens for his research. The German anthropologist and doctor Eugene Fischer conducted research in Rehoboth during the German colonial period to develop his theory of 'racial science'. Some of the initial 'research' that later informed the Nazi's pseudo-science and Nazi ideology of racial superiority, was conducted in today's Namibia. Also, such 'racial science' were later also applied to justify the Apartheid rule.

The exhibition was launched by Ms Esther Muinjangu, and was displayed in Windhoek, between 24th April and 24th May 2019, at the Arts Association of Namibia's gallery. Students visiting the exhibition were offered interactive guided tours. Educators visiting the exhibition expressed their gratitude to MAN, as it proved to be a valuable teaching and learning resource, providing a comparative perspective on the Holocaust, a theme featuring in both secondary and university curriculum.

Two workshops held on the 25th and 26th April 2019, facilitated by Mr Richard Freedman and Dr Jeremy Silvester, were aimed at providing an understanding of the holocaust in general, exhibition theme, as well as innovative teaching methodologies for teaching genocide. The workshops were attended by students specializing in History and Education, and Philosophy from the University of Namibia

The exhibition was also shown in Lüderitz, during the Annual General Meeting of the Museums Association of Namibia, which was attended by fifty museum workers from all over Namibia. In Lüderitz, the exhibition was launched by the Regional Councillor for !Nami#Nus constituency, Cllr Jan Scholtz. The exhibition was mounted in the gallery at the new Lüderitz Maritime Museum between 06th, July and 30th, August 2019.



Learners from Windhoek International School viewing the exhibition and engage in group discussion.



Mr Richard Freedman and Ms Esther Muinjangué officially open the exhibition in Windhoek.



Nadine Downing and Helke Mocke during the AGM with some of the MAN members taking an exhibition tour in Lüderitz.



Ms Naitsikkile Izyenda, Dr Napandulwe Shiwenda and Ms Maria Caley attending the exhibition opening at the Lüderitz Maritime Museum.



Dr Silvester and Cllr Scholtz at the launch of the exhibition in Lüderitz

MAY 2019

08 MAY Stolen from Africa? Workshop

Ms Nehoa Hilma Kautondokwa

Heritage institutions around the world are re-thinking approaches to their collection biographies, and curatorial practices. Dr Jeremy Silvester and Ms Nehoa Kautondokwa travelled to Switzerland to represent the Museums Association of Namibia at the 'Stolen from Africa?' Workshop in Basel, Switzerland, on 8th

May 2019. The workshop brought together curators, heritage practitioners and enthusiasts, and students from Germany, Namibia and Switzerland to discuss processes of restitution of Namibia's cultural heritage in Swiss institutions. The discussion was focused on locating Namibian cultural heritage in Swiss institutions, collecting norms and contexts, current curation practices, as well as museums collaboration possibilities and restitution processes.

The MAN team's presentations provided an overview of the Namibian heritage landscape and MAN's current projects, and repatriation processes focusing on the return to Namibia of Hendrik Witbooi's bible and whip from Linden Museum. On the same day, Dr Silvester and Ms Kautondokwa also participated as panelists in an evening public discussion entitled 'Decolonising Collections? On the Politics and Practices of Post-colonial Heritage Institutions'. The workshop concluded with participants drafting a statement directed and circulated to Swiss museums and heritage institutions, initiating a basis for restitution processes between Namibian and Swiss institutions.

Prior to the workshop, the MAN team travelled to Freiburg in Germany, and met with Ms Tina Brüderlin, Curator of Ethnography at Städtische Museen Freiburg, to review the Namibian collection at the museum. Whilst the team was not able to visit the storage units, a digital overview of the collection was provided. Collections donated by Governor Theodor Leutwein, anthropologist and doctor, Eugen Fischer, military physician Anton Lübbert and other Schutztruppe officers, Victor Franke and Henning von Burgsdorff, were identified as areas of great interest.

After the workshop, the MAN team also viewed Namibian collections at the Ethnographic Museum at the University of Zurich / Einstein Museum, History Museum in Bern and Museum der Kulturen (Museum of Culture), Basel. The collections at the three museums include cultural artifacts and botanical specimens from different regions in Namibia, with some also supplemented by photographs, letters, fieldwork notes and books, by collectors, who either worked or travelled in Namibia. Some museums have further published secondary literature such as exhibition catalogues. The discussions between the MAN team and three museum staff reveals that although inventories provide vague details of the origin of objects, collections provide important cultural and historical narratives as well as insights into relationships between communities. Thus, there is a need for establishing partnerships and work on collaborative projects for provenance research.



Mannequin displaying clothing of an Ovaherero woman on display at the Museum of Culture in Basel.

MAY 2019

20 -24 MAY MAN Audit 2019

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

The annual financial audit for the Museums Association of Namibia was carried out from the 20-24th May 2019. The audit was carried out by Grand Namibia and MAN received an Unqualified Opinion.

Often called a clean opinion, an unqualified opinion is an audit report that is issued when an auditor determines that each of the financial records provided by the small business is free of any misrepresentations. In addition, an unqualified opinion indicates that the financial records have been maintained in accordance with the standards known as Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). This is the best type of report a business can receive.

MAY 2019

23 - 25 MAY Refashioning Collaborations Workshop

Dr Jeremy Silvester

The workshop brought together a group of colleagues from countries such as Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe who had been involved in collaborative projects with Swiss partners. Three colleagues from the University of Namibia: Saima Ashipala, Goodman Gwasira and Ellison Tjirera attended with Dr Silvester from MAN. The workshop provided an opportunity to reflect on previous collaborative projects between Namibian and Swiss institutions and to discuss how the way in which collaborative projects are designed and implemented could be improved.

The main argument was that international collaboration should start with the development of project proposals, rather than Namibian partners being invited to join projects once funding had already been secured. One concern, from an NGO perspective, was that donors want to fund activities with a high degree of visibility and not provide core funding, such as staff wages, office rent and services.

A number of potential collaborative projects for the future were discussed which included the possibility of a trans-frontier research project on the landscape as a form of archive in which sites embodied memory. The project might be developed into a mobile exhibition that could encourage communities to map sites of memory and heritage significance. Discussions also took place with colleagues from the University of Fort Hare regarding the possibility of a joint research project that might explore the entangled history involving workers from the Ciskei who travelled to Namibia during the German colonial period. The research could provide the basis for a display at the new Usakos Museum. Discussion also took place about the ways in which stakeholders inside Namibia, such as MAN and UNAM, might collaborate more effectively on joint projects.



The Thirst for Knowledge meets Collecting Mania Exhibition expose the collector to the gaze as well.



Curators, heritage practitioners and enthusiasts, and students from Germany, Namibia and Switzerland discuss processes of restitution of Namibia's cultural heritage in Swiss institutions that participated in the 'Stolen from Africa?' Workshop.



Ms Isabella Bozsza, Dr Jeremy Silvester, Ms Nehoa Kautondokwa and Dr Giorgio Miescher at the Museum of Culture, Basel.



Dr Jeremy Silvester and Ms Isabella Bozsza reviewing the Namibian collection at the Museum of Culture, Basel.



Mr Samuel Bachmanand and Dr Jeremy Silvester at the Museum of History, Bern



Dr Jeremy Silvester, Ms Tina Brüderlin and Nehoa Kautondokwa meeting at the State Museum, Freiburg.



Prof. Dr Bernd-Stefan Grewe and Dr Jeremy Silvester meeting on Namibia – Linden Museum Project.



Group photograph of workshop participants

MAY 2019

30 MAY Executive Committee Meeting

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

On the 30th May 2020, the Executive Committee held the first of the four mandatory meetings for the financial year. The Meeting was held at the MAN office.

JUNE 2019

01 - 30 JUNE A month at the Ethnological Museum Berlin

Ms Nehoa Hilma Kautondokwa

Collaborative provenance research has increasingly become one of the avenues through which museums engage their collections. The Ethnological Museum Berlin (EM) with the Museums Association of Namibia initiated a project entitled 'Namibia Artefacts: Past and Future'. The project aims to promote and support collaborative provenance research into the historical collections from Namibia and understanding the collections in relation to the public in Germany and Namibia.

Ms Nehoa Kautondokwa travelled to Berlin to work on the project on 01st - 30th June 2019. The overall goal was to shortlist at least 150 out of 1400 artefacts, that could be exhibited in Namibia. This task required a good understanding of the collection, through cultural meanings, the artist and communities that made and use the artefacts, the collectors, as well as the museum as an institution that houses the collection today. Historical collections are a unique body of archive, as they are tangible traces of pre-colonial material culture for many communities in Namibia. The collections reflect not only the process of appropriation by German collectors, such as members of the military and colonial administration, missionaries and merchants, but also the ingenuity and creativity of Namibian people, and therefore, are an important resource for historical research, and at the same time source of inspiration for contemporary artists and designers.

Since the artefacts are not displayed in an exhibition, Ms Kautondokwa mostly spent time in the storage facilities studying the Namibian collection. The size of the collection, conservation needs as well the weather inhibited the physically examination of the whole collection. However, such a restriction also availed an opportunity to study both historical and current conservation practices reserved for the artefacts. Further, Ms Kautondokwa worked closely with the EM team to compile information about the artefacts through collectors' records such as letters, books and photographs. This has allowed the team to create biographies for some of the objects, leading to a better understanding of the material culture and thus easing the shortlisting process.

One of the components of the project is a development of an exhibition for display in both Namibia and Germany. There was therefore, time dedicated to studying the exhibition venue and visiting other museums in Berlin. Areas of interest included display technique and public programming. The visit was concluded with a filming of a documentary about the project which will also be shown as part of the exhibition.



Ms Nehoa Kautondokwa leads the discussion with Ms Cynthia Schimming and Ms Julia Binter during depot visit at the Ethnological Museum Berlin.



Ms Julia Binter and Ms Nehoa Kautondokwa taking out objects from the cabinet for the material culture analysis.



Ms Cynthia Schimming narrating on the culture of doll making amongst Ovaherero communities during depot filming sessions



The proposed exhibition venue in Germany.

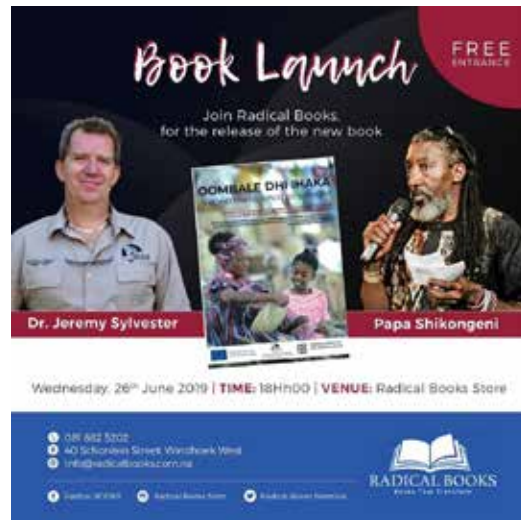
JUNE 2019

26 JUNE

Windhoek Launch of Oombale Dhi Ihaka

Dr Jeremy Silvester

A panel discussion about the concept and contents of the Oombale Dhi Ihaka catalogue was held at Radical Books in Windhoek West. The panelists were PAPA Shikongeni and Jeremy Silvester with other contributors, such as Sem Shikongo and Petrus Mbenzi, also contributing to the discussion. The event was held outdoors and was well attended with a lively discussion with a large and youthful audience that stretched into the night.



Advert for the Windhoek Launch and Discussion



Audience members posed next to the exhibition with their copies of the catalogue



Willem with a copy of the catalogue at Radical Books

JUNE 2019

26 JUNE

Meeting with Namibian Fashion Council

Dr Jeremy Silvester

MAN met with the Namibian Fashion Council (NFC) to discuss collaboration on the component of the Gerda Henkel project that seeks to establish a Museum of Namibian Fashion. It was agreed that MAN and MNF would work in partnership to organize a stakeholders workshop to brainstorm on the concept of a Museum of Namibian Fashion. Collaboration might also take place on a second workshop with fashion designers to engage with nineteenth century artifacts from the National Museum of Namibia and Ethnographic Museum in Berlin to learn about traditional craft design and techniques.



Members of the Namibian Fashion Council at MAN with Dr Silvester

JULY 2019

01 - 15 JULY

Dr Silvester at the Ethnographic Museum in Berlin

Dr Jeremy Silvester

Dr Silvester spent two weeks in Berlin and worked with Cynthia Schimming at the Ethnographic Museum. Whilst in Berlin he worked with colleagues on the development of the Gerda Henkel proposal that builds significantly on the project. It was noted that the museum had identified over 1,400 artifacts from Namibia in its collection and a statistical overview of the collection has been produced. The collection is geographically uneven with the largest group of objects having been collected from the Ovaherero and Ovambo communities whilst there are very few objects from the Kavango and Zambezi Regions. One of the important features of the collection is that it has a large number of objects from the very early years of German colonial rule ie. 1880s.

The Namibian objects can be viewed via the museum's web site, although the information provided is in German. Selected objects were viewed and the short-list of 150 objects halved to 76 (that would be presented to a workshop in Namibia). Whilst in Berlin Dr Silvester was able to also visit the Boden and Urban Art Museums, obtain copies of archive materials about the Wilhelmstal massacre of 1910 (that will feature in the new Usakos Museum) and copy important visual and archival material from a number of rare German publications.



A limited number of objects could be viewed every week



Reviewing the storage area



Street art in Berlin

18 JULY

Meeting with Usakos Museum Advisory Committee

Dr Jeremy Silvester

Dr Silvester travelled to Usakos for the day to attend a meeting of the Usakos Museum Advisory Committee. The meeting noted that new quotations for renovations will be required once the old town council offices are vacated. Members suggested a number of new display topics – Damara dresses, Womens' Rights, the Wilhelmstal massacre, a collection of objects linked to a Swiss railway engineer who had lived in Usakos and the inclusion of work by local artists.

The CEO, Mr Lombardt, led the Committee to view a buried locomotive on the outskirts of town and it was agreed that the story should be included in the new displays for the museum. The meeting was also attended by Mr Raffaele Perniol, an MA student from the University of Basel, who is researching the story of the Henschel locomotive that is displayed in the centre of town. The Committee also viewed an old railway carriage that is parked in the sidings at Usakos and discussed the possibility of requesting TransNamib for it to be repurposed to become part of the new museum.



Members of UMAC viewing displays for the new museum



Mr Lombardt at the site of the buried locomotive



The buried locomotive



The locomotive in the centre of Usakos



The old railway carriage at Usakos



The logo for Usakos Museum

30 - 31 JULY

Stand Together Workshop

Ms Nehoa Hilma Kautondokwa

The Museums Association of Namibia collaborated with the Namibia San Council to develop a mobile exhibition and handbook based on the largest collection in the world of historical artifacts from Namibia's San communities collected by Louis Fourie. The collection is currently held in Museum Africa, in Johannesburg, South Africa and it is a hundred years old, and is complimented by Fourie photograph collection held by the University of the Witwatersrand. A team of MAN staff and members of the Namibian San Council shortlisted photographs, and objects to be included in the exhibition and handbook. Consequently, a set of 275 high quality photographs reflecting the range of objects in the Fourie Collection were obtained on 33 cd-roms. Copies of the images were provided to the Namibian San Council and deposited with the National Archives of Namibia, with the provision that copyright rests with Museum Afrika. More photographs were obtained from the National Archive of Namibia, Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnography at Harvard University, Manon Steiner and Fenny Nakanyete. MAN further worked with a professional photographer to document life in Omaheke region, where most of the objects where obtained by Fourie.

An exhibition planning workshop attended by the MAN staff, members of the Namibia San Council and some elders from San communities took place on 30th-31st July, 2019, to discuss exhibition design and content. The workshop selected from the diverse archive 200 images to form the basis of the catalogue and provided the indigenous names and some information about their use. The participants also selected historical photographs from the National Archives of Namibia and identified those that they felt were negative representations. The workshop developed the skeleton plan for the mobile exhibition and agreed upon main themes and also approved topics for 'Hidden Histories' of Namibia's San communities. Although it was initially proposed that the exhibition should be titled 'Knowing the San', a decision was taken during the workshop that the exhibition should be called //Ha//xae ('Stand Together'). After the workshop, more translation was obtained for the title to be translated to other San languages, which are unintelligible to each other. It was also decided the text for the exhibition and handbook should be written in Ju/'hoansi and English.

Stand Together is a component under of the Museum Development as a Tool for Strengthening Cultural Rights in Namibia. The project is sponsored by the Delegation of the European Union to Namibia. This component is also co-sponsored by the Namibia Art Council.



Ms Sara Zungu and Ms Francina Khubes taking a closer look at the projection of photographs of artefacts during artefact identification session.



Members of the Namibia San Council and the Museums Association of Namibia staff who participated in the exhibition planning workshop.



MsTerttu Fernandu leading the discussion during the artefact indigenous names and use session.

05-08 AUGUST

MAN Annual General Meeting 2019 - Museums as Cultural Hubs

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala & Dr Jeremy Silvester

The Museums Association of Namibia (MAN) held its 29th Annual General Meeting in !Nami#Nus Constituency in the //Kharas Region on 6th-7th August. The meeting was attended by forty-two representatives of different museums and heritage institutions from all over Namibia who travelled south in a bus provided by the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture. Participants travelled to Lüderitz from as far away as Ombalantu Baobab Tree Heritage Centre and the Kavango Museum in Rundu. The AGM was hosted in the auditorium of the new Lüderitz Maritime Museum. The museum is still under construction, but one of the exciting parts of the AGM was the tour of the site provided by Mr Angel Tordesillas and Mr Fluxsman Samuehls.

The theme of this year's AGM and Conference was the ICOM theme for International Museums Day - 'Museums as Cultural Hubs'. People were welcomed to the AGM by the Deputy-Mayor of Lüderitz who thanked MAN for its reports which had provided recommendations for the town. She noted that whilst there was a saying that 'Diamonds are Forever', the fact was that the town had to prepare for a future where the diamond industry was no longer the main economic driver of the town's economy. She spoke strongly about the important history of the town and how the town could benefit from heritage tourism. Mr Manfred Anderson gave an entertaining introduction to the history of the community and reflected on the importance of creating a museum on Shark Island.

The inspiring keynote address by the Deputy Executive Director, Ms Veno Kauaria (read by Ms Helvi Nghimbwasha), argued that museums have a vital role to play in Namibia as educational resources that can help create greater mutual understanding between Namibians. She praised the work of the Museums Association of Namibia in supporting regional museum development. Ms Kauaria focused, in her speech, on the importance of recent changes in the museum sector in Germany. She pointed out that new guidelines on collections from 'colonial contexts' had created opportunities for partnerships between German and Namibian museums that could involve training, the development of museum buildings and the possible return of cultural artifacts of particular cultural or historical importance.

One important panel at the AGM provided the opportunity for museum workers to give their opinions on where the Cape Cross (made in Portugal and erected on the Namibian coast in 1486) should be kept following its return from Germany. Presentations were given by the Lüderitz Maritime Museum, the Cape Cross Museum, the National Museum of Namibia and the Swakopmund Museum. The three main factors that were considered were: Conservation considerations, Accessibility for visitors and the Context (in terms of positioning the padrao within a story-line).

The AGM also provided an opportunity for members to learn about new mobile exhibitions which were being produced by MAN, such as the Oombale dhi lhaka travelling exhibition. Another panel introduced new regional museum projects with four new museums being showcased. A very interesting and animated round table discussion also took place about the role of museums in Namibia. The panelists were asked whether the concept of a museum was a 'European' one and, if so, whether museums had a role in Namibia. The panelists confirmed that the idea of preserving our heritage was one that is found in all

Namibian communities. However, they argued that we can still do more to develop Namibian museums to reflect the importance of linking objects to our intangible cultural heritage (such as oral traditions and music) and our cultural landscapes.

The AGM participants brainstormed on ways to make Namibian Heritage Week (16th-22nd August) successful in the regions. Mr Tuuda Haitula and Ms Ndapewoshali Ashipala led a lively and frank discussion about 'human capital' in the museum sector. What are the challenges that museum curators face in their work and what can be done to retain professional staff? Curators expressed their concern about the pay and conditions and the fact that they often operated in isolation. One of the many recommendations made was that every museum should have an Advisory Committee that would provide support and help with programming.

The AGM concluded with the election of four new members to join the MAN Executive Committee. Six candidates stood for election and presented their manifestos. The successful candidates were: Ms Ndeende Shivute (National Art Gallery of Namibia), Ms Naitsikile lizyenda (University of Namibia), Mrs Chisengo Nikanor (Military Museum, Okahandja) and Mr Werner Hillebrecht (retired former head of the National Archives of Namibia). The AGM concluded with a tour of Kolmansuppe Ghost Town (sponsored by NAMDEB), a visit to Diaz Point, a tour of the NovaNam fish factory and a visit to Shark Island. The tour was followed by a wonderful 'Spanish Supper' – a crayfish paella cooked in a massive pan that was shared by all the participants and several local dignitaries.



Ignatius Davids from the Cheetah Conservation Fund



Anne-Marie IssaBrown Gariseb from Keetmanshoop Museum



Cllr Brigitte Frederick, Deputy-Mayor of Lüderitz welcome MAN members



Some of the AGM participants enjoying a tour of the forthcoming National Maritime Museum



Kileni Fernando from the Namibian San Council



Mr Angel Tordesillas introduces MAN to the National Maritime Museum

15 - 30 AUGUST

Ms Ashipala at the Ethnographic Museum in Berlin

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

Ms Ashipala spent two weeks in Berlin and worked with Cynthia Ms Golda-Ha eiros and Ms Hertha Bukassa at the Ethnographic Museum. Whilst in Berlin she worked with colleagues on the development of the exhibition. Ms Ashipala worked on researching the origins of the artefacts chosen to be displayed in the exhibition, the language and narrative of the exhibition and the manner in which the artefacts would be displayed in the exhibition. The Namibian objects can be viewed via the museum's web site, although the information provided is in German.



Ms Golda Ha-Eiros, Ms Hertha Bukassa and Ms Ashipala in Berlin.



The Humboldt Forum Building (under renovation) which will host the exhibition



Some of the artefacts that will be featured in the exhibition.

16 AUGUST

Executive Committee Meeting - Annual Planning Workshop

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

On the 16th August 2020, the Executive Committee held the second of the four mandatory meetings for the financial year. This was the first meeting after the AGM, held with the newly elected EC members and a new chairperson, Ms Golda Ha-Eiros was elected. The Meeting was held at the MAN office.

19 AUGUST

Object Selection Workshop

Dr Jeremy Silvester

MAN had facilitated a team of seven researchers that conducted research in Germany and Namibia to produce a short-list of 76 artifacts from Namibia from the collection of the Ethnographic Museum in Berlin. The artifacts were selected on the basis of their historical and cultural significance and their potential to support heritage development projects in Namibia (in particular the proposal to develop a Museum of Namibian Fashion). The next phase of the project, funded by the Gerda Henkel Foundation involves a partnership between MAN, the National Museum of Namibia (NMN) and the University of Namibia. In the larger context of the movement towards the repatriation of heritage objects from European museums, MAN sees this as a pilot project that will help develop the capacity of the Namibian museum sector and facilitate discussions around the processes involved in the return of objects.

The project has an Advisory Committee and members were invited to a workshop at the National Museum of Namibia where images and information about the objects was shared. After the meeting further meetings were held with members of the Advisory Committee who were unable to attend the workshop. The goal of the workshop was to select the objects that will travel back to Namibia and be used in a series of consultative and training workshops with community members, museum curators and fashion designers. The workshop agreed on a short-list of 22 objects. As it was not possible to view the Ethnographic Collection of the National Museum of Namibia it was agreed that the final selection by the Project Committee would only take place once the existing national collection had been reviewed. Subsequently several meetings took place with Ms Antje Otto, the former curator of the NMN's ethnographic collection, who shared her encyclopedic knowledge.



Ms Cynthia Schimming makes a point about one of the artifacts at the workshop



Some of the participants at the Advisory Committee object selection workshop2

31 AUGUST - 10 SEPTEMBER

International Council of Museums (ICOM) General Conference

Dr Jeremy Silvester and Ms Nehoa Hilma Kautondokwa

The 25th General Conference of the International Council of Museums took place in Kyoto, Japan from 1st-7th September. The central theme of the ICOM Conference in Kyoto, Museums as Cultural Hubs: The Future of Tradition. Debates focused on the ways in which museums can promote connections or create conflicts at the local, national and international level. The General Conference of ICOM takes place every three years and provides an opportunity for museum professionals from all over the world to meet and debate issues. ICOM had 30 specialised International Committee that bring together museum professions with common interests. The annual Conferences of each Committee were also held during the Conference and so there were an incredible number of presentations and discussions as well as a museum fair showcasing new technology and equipment. Two new international committees were established in Kyoto. One is the ICOM Disaster Resilient Museums Committee and the other is the ICOM International Committee on Ethical Dilemmas.

Ms Kautondokwa was invited to participate in a panel discussion in one of the main plenary sessions that discussed the issue of the repatriation of artifacts, as MAN is identified to have been facilitating successful restitution projects. The presentation was focused on restitution projects implemented by MAN with museums in South Africa, Finland and Germany. Panelists agreed that ICOM could play an important role in restitution projects around the world and developing best practices. ICOM is a well-established network of professionals and institutions and should list restitution as a priority focus area. Ms Kautondokwa and Dr Silvester also met with participants from other African countries for an open discussion about the challenges that had led to the stagnation of the African Council of Museums (AFRICOM).

Dr Silvester was invited to make presentations at the Conferences of the International Committee for Museums and Collections of Ethnography (ICME) and the International Committee for Museums and Collections of Instruments and Music (CIMCIM). During the ICME Conference Dr Silvester was elected to serve a three-year term on ICME's Executive Committee and now serves as the editor of ICME's newsletter. The two Committees combined for one all-day session hosted by Japan's National Museum of Ethnography at Osaka. It was particularly interesting to see the way in which the museum presented its collection and provided multilingual digital guides. The museum has also hosted an international training scheme for many years, although there has been no Namibian participant so far. Dr Silvester arrived in Kyoto a day early so that he could participate in a workshop on 31st August on Disaster Risk Management for Museum Professionals. Dr Silvester also took part in a two-day post-Conference tour hosted by the Okinawa Prefecture.

Okinawa was the site of a lengthy and extremely violent battle during World War Two and the tour had a particular focus on the way in which museums on the island deal with the past and seek to promote peace. Sites visited included the Peace Memorial Park and Museum which lists the names of all those known to have died in the Battle of Okinawa, regardless of their nationality. It was interesting that two of the museums visited provided a Japanese perspective on the sacrifices and suffering of the local population. The Himeyuri Peace Museum was dedicated to female students and teachers from one school who, as young teenagers, served as nurses with biographies personalizing the group, many of who were killed in the fighting during the attack, by American forces, on the island.

The Tsushima-maru Memorial Museum remembers the victims of a ship that was evacuating civilians from the island when it was sunk by an American submarine in 1944 with the loss of 80% of the 1,788 people on board. An old man who was one of the few children who survived the sinking by clinging to a raft shared his memories of the tragedy. The message of the need for world peace was reinforced during a subsequent visit to Hiroshima where the museum contained graphic images of the impact of the Atomic Bomb that exploded over the city on 6th August, 1945. The museum and the many monuments surrounding it illustrate the potential power of museums to encourage visitors to reflect and, perhaps even, commit to contributing to positive change.



Ms Kautondokwa during a site visit in Kyoto



A survivor of the sinking of the Tsushima Maru shares his memories



Dr Silvester with colleagues from ICME and CIMCIM



Demonstration of the digital tour guide at the Museum of Ethnography in Osaka



Kyoto, Japan's third largest city and former capital hosted the ICOM Conference

04 -06 SEPTEMBER

Oranjemund Shipwreck Museum Site Visit

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

At the invitation of the Directorate of Heritage and Culture Programs, Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, Ms Ashipala travelled to Oranjemund to view the collection of the Oranjemund Shipwreck, the proposed venue for the museum and meet with the different stakeholders in the town.

Museums Association of Namibia (MAN) 's role in the project would be to assist with the development with the museum. MAN will assist with expertise on regional museum development. The museum will serve the community as large as it will host the largest collection of underwater materials rescued/discovered. MAN would also play a role in ensuring that the exhibitions are both interactive and educational.

Namdeb will donate the power station building for the museum which is in the centre of the town and was therefore well located for tourism. A working group consisting of the different stakeholders (MAN, Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture and Oranjemund Town Council) was formed to drive the development of the museum and fundraising for the museum.



Ms Ashipala, Mr Eino N. Ngesheya, Ms Moombolah-Goagoses and Mr Charles Kakuru visiting the collection at the mine



Ms Ashipala and Ms Moombolah-Goagoses, Director of the Directorate of Heritage and Culture Programs, Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture visiting the collection at the mine

16 - 22 SEPTEMBER

Namibian Heritage Week

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

The Heritage Week Team received N\$140 000 from the National Arts Council. Although not every region applied for funding, events were successfully organised in 9 regions: Ohangwena, Erongo, //Karas, Oshikoto, Zambezi, Kavango East, Oshana, Otjozondjupa and Khomas. This year's theme was "Namibiab /ā/guaba Sao" (follow the Namibian beat) and most events managed to incorporate the theme in their events. T-Shirts with the slogan were given to participants free of charge this year which enhanced the national unity of the week. Next year the Heritage Week Team will specifically encourage the participation of the five regions which did not apply for funding this year: Hardap, Omusati, Omaheke, Kunene and Kavango West.

We had an increase in regional participation. In 2018 six regions participated and this year 9 regions participated. Khomas notably did not dominate this year's heritage week funding applications.

The opening event for Heritage Week was held at TransNamib train station. It opened with a musical performance by Sunshine Private School Marimba Band. Thereafter the program commenced with speeches by Desiree Mentor, chair of the Heritage Team, Ndapewoshali Ashipala, MAN, and the keynote speeches were delivered by Deputy Minister Anna Nghipondoka and the Director of Heritage and Culture Programmes in Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture Esther Moombolah-Goagoses. Vox Vitae choir graced the stage with traditional song and led the audience in singing the Namibian and AU anthems. The audience was welcomed onto the Desert Express train and provided with food and beverage. Heritage week T-Shirts were delivered across the regions throughout the weeks building up to heritage week which created unity amongst those celebrating the week. Posters had been designed for each event and radio interviews were organised to spread awareness about the weeks activities.

The event successfully kicked off Heritage Week by informing people about the history of heritage week, the events to take place during the week and the importance of the week. It was attended by approximately 200 people including UNESCO head of office, Djaffar Moussa-Elkadhum, and French Ambassador, Claire Bodonyl, amongst many more. The live music added a jovial emphasis to this year's theme "Follow the Namibian Beat". T-Shirts and posters remain an integral part of building cohesion and unity amongst those organising Heritage Week.



National Earth Science Museum



Official Opening



Kavango Museum

FREE ENTRY!
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!



NAMIBIAN HERITAGE WEEK

16 - 22 SEPTEMBER 2019

“Namibia's ǀo/ǀauba Sao”

Follow The Namibian Beat

<p>Windhoek, Khomas</p> <p>Omheddi, Ohangwena</p> <p>Ondangwa, Oshana</p> <p>Mariental, Hardap</p> <p>Kongola, Zambezi</p> <p>Okakarara, Otjozondjupa</p> <p>Karibib, Erongo</p> <p>Tsumeb, Oshikoto</p>	<p>Omuthiya, Oshikoto</p> <p>Swakopmund, Erongo</p> <p>Keetmanshoop, //Karas</p> <p>Waterberg, Otjozondjupa</p> <p>Onyuulaye, Oshikoto</p> <p>Ohamakari, Otjozondjupa</p> <p>Rundu, Kavango-East</p> <p>Omatupa, Otjozondjupa</p>
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 Namibian Heritage Week
 @NamHeritageWeek



Swakopmund Museum



COSDEF



Kavango Museum



Karibib



King Mandume Museum



Keetmanshoop Museum



National Earth Science Museum



NAMRIIK

18 - 20 SEPTEMBER

Museums Conversations

Ms Nehoa Hilma Kautondokwa

The “Museum Conversations” are a series of conferences run by the Goethe-Institutes in Africa and take place at the participating locations in cooperation with local national museums, museums associations, ministries and UNESCO. The project offers space for critical engagement for African museums to review issues surrounding their operations as well as share best museum practices. The Goethe-Institut Namibia hosted the eighth and final conference of the Museum Conversations project from 18 to 20 September 2019, in Windhoek, following other conferences in hosted in Rwanda, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Tanzania and Nigeria.

The 2019 edition was held under the theme ‘Restitution and the future of Museums in Africa’ and saw both practicing museum professionals and academics as well as artists in various disciplines discussing topics including restitution of both cultural material and human remains, digital media for museums, museum youth programmes and museum – community collaboration projects.

The Museums Association of Namibia was represented by Ms Katrine Vigne and Ms Nehoa Kautondokwa. Ms Kautondokwa facilitated a workshop on a restitution project that is currently under implementation in partnership with the National Museum of Namibia, University of Namibia, and the Ethnological Museum Berlin. The workshop participants who applauded the holistic nature of the project also concluded that restitution is a complex process and that each project is unique and shaped by communities and stakeholders involved. However, participants felt it requires relaxing restrictive legal frameworks and the process is most successful when there is genuine political will.

Ms Kautondokwa also presented a lecture on the School Clubs and Museum Exhibition Competition (SCAMX). SCAMX allowed school history and culture clubs to practise museum work by creating exhibitions about aspects of the history or culture of their regions and thus creating platforms for the youth to actively engage their communities but also creating historical narratives and documenting heritage practices and knowledge that would be otherwise unknown. The project is praised for inspiring the youth to take interest in history and heritage, and become actively involved in the development of the museum and heritage sector. Through SCAMX competition participants and their peers come to museums as important educational resources, and knowledge banks that preserve, value and display information about Namibia’s history, heritage and environment, and are not just mere tourist attractions. Museum professional attending the lecture were impressed with the project model, vowing to engage MAN after the conference to assist introduce the project in their countries. Participants also commended the MAN for overcoming complex project logistics and fundraising abilities.



20 SEPTEMBER

Tsumeb Cultural Village Site Visit and Workshop

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

At the invitation of the Tsumeb Municipality and the Helvi Mpingana Kondombolo Cultural Village (HMKCV), Ms Ashipala and Ms Kautondokwa attended the Consultative Stakeholders Workshop- Development of HMKCV on Friday the 20th September 2019. The workshop was held at the cultural village in Tsumeb.

The workshop started off with a tour of the homesteads and a special performance by the Hai//om Traditional Group at their homestead. The workshop addressed issues such as how to stimulate awareness in visitors with different backgrounds with a varied set of needs, as well as presentations on preserving cultural heritage by committee members from the Otjiherero, Ovahimaba, Hai//om and other homesteads.

Ms Ashipala made a presentation on sharing fresh cultural ideas with regards to engaging the youth and different stakeholders, creating unity through diversity and remaining current at all times. She further deliberated with the group, on how to turn the cultural village into an educational and cultural hub for Tsumeb residents of all demographics and Namibians as a whole.

Mr. Sigurd Nielsen: Curator for Cultural diversity at Glomdal/Ano Museum, Hedmark, Norway, discussed the focus, priorities and funding criteria of the project.

The workshop was well attended with most of the cultural groups in the country being represented. The group discussed the way forward with regards to the implementation of the project and the long-term future of the cultural village.



01 -03 OCTOBER

UNESCO 'Heritage Emergency Preparedness and Response' Workshop

Dr Jeremy Silvester

Mozambique experienced tremendous losses from two cyclones (named 'Idai' and 'Kenneth') that struck the northern coast of the country in 2019. UNESCO provided support for a 'Post Disaster Needs Assessment' (PDNA) to be conducted to assess and cost the impact that the disaster had had on the cultural heritage of the affected regions. The aim of the workshop was to introduce the participants (from nine different countries in Southern Africa) to build resilience and to lay the foundations for training that will build the capacity of countries in the region to deal with the impact of disaster on cultural heritage and provide assistance to neighbours when required. The core message of the workshop was that, whilst the priority in disaster preparedness is to prevent the loss of human life, it is important that countries are able to protect their cultural heritage when disaster strikes and include heritage impact assessments in post-disaster evaluations.

Dr Silvester attended the workshop from the Museums Association of Namibia as MAN had, in 2012, conducted a workshop on Disaster Planning for Namibian Museums, distributed Disaster Preparedness Kits to 20 museums and a Handbook on Disaster Management for Namibian Museums as well as providing equipment to help with post-disaster recovery (which is now based at the National Archives of Namibia). The workshop was also attended by Mr Boyson Ngonda, the Deputy-Director for National Heritage and Culture Programmes in the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture.

The workshop highlighted the central importance of improving the documentation and inventories of tangible (moveable and immobile) cultural heritage and intangible cultural heritage as a fundamental prerequisite for both disaster preparedness and combating illicit trafficking in cultural heritage. If a country is well prepared for the risk of various disasters than it will be more resilient ie. Able to recover quickly from a disaster. Mr Damir Djakovic, a UNESCO Culture Specialist, emphasised that one of the central aims of a recovery programme should be to Build Back Better. Dr Silvester compiled a report summarising the outcomes of the workshop with 23 recommendations for Namibia, including the proposal that a regional workshop should be held on the 1970 UNESCO Convention as this could be used to direct resources to strengthening national inventories. A copy of the report was submitted to the Disaster Risk Management Directorate in the Office of the Prime Minister.



The Turnhalle in Windhoek burning in 2007 (Namibia Accommodation)



Floods in northern Namibia (Southern Times)



Bush Fire near Windhoek 2014 (SA-Nam News)



Hurricane Idai hitting the coast of Mozambique, March 2019 (Wikipedia)



Hurricane Idai hitting the coast of Mozambique, March 2019 (Wikipedia)

07 - 09 OCTOBER

Best Practices: Collaborating with members of source communities on museum and archival collections Conference

Ms Nehoa Hilma Kautondokwa

Museum partnerships with communities are often complex relations due to communities' diversity, as well as, divergence interests between museum professionals and heritage practioners interests and those of communities. However, such collaborations have become invaluable processes in the museum operations, as the combination of indigenous and academic knowledge, leads to a multi-narrative, and thus widen museum audience and representation.

A conference hosted by the Oswin-Köhler-Archive, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt brought together representatives of members of communities and anthropological and linguistic editors, museum professionals, who work with materials in both museums and archives currently or successfully implemented a corroborative project with communities of origin. The conference discussion focused on challenges encountered, points of discussion and negotiation, as well as sharing "best practices" in museum – community collaborative initiatives. Ms Nehoa Kautondokwa represented the Museums Association of Namibia to share the practical work of the Museums Association of Namibia. Ms Kautondokwa presented about the San Culture and History Project that the MAN is co implementing with the Namibia San Council. Ms Kautondokwa and Mr Jonathan Fine of the Ethnological Museum Berlin. also co-presented on the restitution project that MAN is implementing in partnership with the Ethnological Museum Berlin, National Museum of Namibia, and the University of Namibia. The conference discussion concluded that community - museums partnerships often tend to be designed in a manner that communities' expertise is regarded lesser. This is often caused by conflicts between museums stringent governing policy framework and cultural laws guiding curatorial practice of the material culture. It was therefore suggested that for a collaborative museum -community to be successful, there is a need to modify institutional policy guidelines.

A group of people are gathered in a museum or gallery. In the foreground, a man in a white jacket and blue jeans is looking at a display case. To his right, a woman in a blue shirt and yellow pants is also looking at the display. In the background, a man in a dark jacket and a woman in a black jacket are standing near a red door. The room has a dark wooden floor and a white wall with a red door.

57

58

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

The project also provided for two MA Scholarships in Material Culture at the University of Namibia. The advertisement for the positions and scholarships were advertised in local newspapers, on the MAN website and circulated on all social media platforms. MAN received a total of 66 applications for the position of Curator of the Museum of Namibian Fashion, 68 for Documentalist, 52 for Conservator and 40 applications were received for the MA scholarships. The shortlisting and interviewing process was conducted by MAN, UNAM and NMN to identify the best candidates for the positions based on academic performance, work experience and the face-to-face interview.

[illegible]

30 OCTOBER - 30 NOVEMBER

Usakos Mobile Exhibition Tours Erongo Region

Dr Jeremy Silvester

The mobile exhibition Usakos: Photographs beyond Ruins. The Old Location Albums, 1920s – 1960s was officially handed over by MAN to the Usakos Town Council. MAN in collaboration with the Council and the Usakos Museum Advisory Committee (UMAC) then arranged for it to be shown at a variety of venues in the Erongo Museum. The aim of the tour was to raise awareness about the plan to launch the Usakos Museum in 2020. The exhibition also helped UMAC to locate former residents of the town living in the region that might want to contribute to the new museum.

The exhibition was shown at the Erongo Business and Tourism Expo on 30th October – 2nd November. At the opening of the Expo, Mr Ivin Lombardt, was also invited to give a presentation about the Usakos Museum project. After this the exhibition travelled to the #Nu Khoen (Damara) Annual Cultural Festival that took place at Okambahe on 8th-10th November. Limitations on space meant that the exhibition was mounted outside for the first time, but under the supervision of members of the UMAC team, the exhibition survived the elements. Many people who worked in Usakos retired to Okombahe, including Gisela Pieters and Olga //Garoës, two of the four women whose photograph collections feature in the exhibition.

The exhibition then travelled to the Henties Bay Expo on 27th-30th November where it attracted a lot of attention. Visitors included the Founding Father, H.E. Dr Sam Nujoma, who shared his memories of his early years working on the railway when Usakos was the hub for Namibia's railway network. UMAC presented him with a copy of the exhibition catalogue. The exhibition then travelled to Walvis Bay Museum so that it could be displayed for a longer period at the coastal town.

NOTE: At the start of 2020 Usakos Town Council started vacating their old building making it available to be transformed into Usakos Museum. MAN will be working with UMAC to source paint and other materials to renovate the building and develop new displays. Please contact MAN if you would like to help with the development of this exciting new community-based museum.



View of Usakos



A small truck is needed to move the Usakos exhibition.



The Mayor of Henties Bay visiting the exhibition



The Indonesian Ambassador visiting the exhibition at the Erongo Business and Tourism Expo



The Founding Father visiting the exhibition in Henties Bay



The outside venue at Okombahe



The sign, produced by MAN, that will be outside the new museum was used in the exhibition

NOVEMBER 2019

01 - 04 NOVEMBER

Site Handover of Museum of Namibian Music Building After Renovations

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

I visited the site on Friday the 01st November 2019. The museum was not ready to handover yet however, the progress was clear and I was assured that the building would be ready by Monday the 04th as scheduled. From my observation, the majority of the work had been completed. I then sent out a meeting confirmation to the two ministry parties to confirm that the meeting would proceed as planned, on Monday.

I was generally impressed by the work done by Mendoza Investments. The fresh coat of paint and skirting makes the Museum look new and ready to receive exhibitions. I would recommend that once they provide us with the quote for additional renovations, MAN should source funding to make it possible to get the renovations done before the museum opens.

To avoid any new wear and tear to the paint and other aspects for building, I have requested that the museum building now remains closed/locked and is no longer used until the exhibitions are erected and the museum is open to the public. I requested that Mr Negumbo provide one of the keys to the Culture Office in Omuthiya and delivers the second key to the MAN office.

Below are images of the museum building as at Monday 04 November 2019.



NOVEMBER 2019

15 NOVEMBER

Executive Committee Meeting

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

On the 15th November 2019, the Executive Committee held the third of the four mandatory meetings for the financial year, which was also the last meeting for the calendar year. The Meeting was held at the MAN office.

NOVEMBER 2019

19 - 22 NOVEMBER

Fieldwork in Kunene Region

Mr Kevanhu Alfred Muifi and Dr Jeremy Silvester

The Museums Association of Namibia (MAN) visited Outjo and Opuwo in the Kunene Region to visit a potential site for the proposed Museum of Namibian Fashion and to collect artifacts for the museum and the Museum of Namibian Music. The team included the Chairperson of the Fashion Museum Committee, Ms. Maria Caley; Dr Jeremy Silvester; Kevanhu Alfred Muifi, Museum of Namibian Fashion Curator and Mr. Kavenauarue Tjiworo (who is assisting MAN with research and collecting artifacts). In Outjo the team was joined by Mr. Brian Gonteb, the Senior Culture Officer for the Kunene Region at the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, who facilitated contacts and meetings. In Opuwo the team were also assisted by two other culture officers, Mr Magic Mburura and Ms Sennobia Katjiuongua.

On the first day a visit was made to the Franke House. It is one of Outjo's earliest buildings and currently houses the town's museum. MAN was concerned that the museum had been closed for several months. The building has deteriorated due to weathering and needs painting and some renovations, whilst the displays need updating. Since the building is over 100 years old and registered with the National Heritage Council it will be important that the NHC is consulted and involved in any renovations to the building.

The team reviewed the building as a potential site for the proposed Museum of Namibian Fashion. At the site there are two smaller buildings that might be used for training in traditional techniques for making clothing and accessories. Such workshops could attract more people to the museum and support local economic development. The team met with Outjo municipality represented by the CEO, Mr. Josef Abel Urib and Mr. S.D.J. Labuschagne (who is responsible for the museum) to discuss a potential partnership. It was agreed that MAN would submit a more detailed proposal to the Council to consider, although it was noted that MAN is considering a number of possible venues for the proposed museum.



Hair extensions on sale at the market in Opuwo



Mr Kavena Tjiworo who interviewed people as objects were collected.

On the second day of the short trip, the team visited the Outjo Tourist Centre which hosts a restaurant and has large spaces which could, potentially, be used for displays (both indoors and outside) as well as an outdoor stage. The team met Mr. Pieter Potgieter, who is the owner of the Centre and a member of the Destination Etosha marketing network. The idea was discussed of refreshing and relocating the displays in the Outjo Museum to the Centre to showcase the history of the town and open up the galleries at the Franke House to be transformed into the Museum of Namibian Fashion. Mr. Potgieter also discussed the idea of collaborating with MAN. The idea would be a 'passport' for museums within Namibia so that visitors could collect a different stamp in each museum or heritage site that they visited. Dr Silvester indicated that MAN had also thought about this as a good promotion, but MAN would need to get a sponsor interested and involve other stakeholders. The team stopped in Kamanjab to meet a number of local tailors who were members of the Khâimaseni Womens' Craft Centre, a community-based clothing project and commissioned the making of two dresses.

On the third day, in Opuwo, the team visited the local market and then proceeded to travel to the Ovahimba Living Museum (about 60 km outside Opuwo). The museum is run by the community and is the most recent member of the Museums Association of Namibia. We were able to discuss the training needs of the museum and to learn about the ways in which clothing reflects the different stages in life - from being a baby to a child and then reaching child-bearing age. The team visited two other communities where they purchased artefacts. At one village Mr Tjihove demonstrated the way in which an Outa (a bow that is braced and played as a musical instrument) was made. During the trip a total of 22 artifacts were obtained for the Museum of Namibian Fashion and three for the Museum of Namibian Fashion. One of the more interesting musical instruments was the Onjembo jozongombe which is made from the horn of an Oryx which has a bulb-like extension (made from bees wax) which lengthens the horn and makes it a challenging instrument to play. Mr Tjipurua explained that it is traditional played by young ovahimba men when they are herding at distant cattle posts. More detailed trip reports are available from MAN upon request.

Anyone wishing to book a tour of the Ovahimba Living Museum and Camp Site can call John Tjipurua on (+264) 818382556.



One of the dresses made by the women at Kamanjab



Fashion fusion with a mixture of patchwork material with a Herero dress design



The Onjembo jozongombe horn being blown



The Franke House which housed Outjo Museum



The turning to the Ovahimba Living Museum

01 - 04 DECEMBER

Field Research in Omaheke Region

Dr Jeremy Silvester

A MAN team led by Mr Moses Mberira (a member of MAN's Executive Committee) and consisting of Mr Kavena Tjiworo (Collector), Ms Apollia Dabe (Translator) and Mr Trace Garren (Photographer) conducted fieldwork in Omaheke Region. The team had three tasks. The team visited the areas where Dr Louis Fourie had obtained many of the artifacts that are in the collection in Museum Africa in Johannesburg which formed the basis for the exhibition on Namibia's San community that MAN has been working on as part of their EU funded project.

The team sought to verify the names given to the objects by members of the Naro, Ju/'Hoansi, !Xoon and N|hoan communities. MAN also wanted to document the contemporary lifestyles of the communities to ensure that the exhibition did not promote the false impression that San communities have not changed over time. Ms Dabe was recommended by the Namibian San Council as a local resident who could facilitate meetings with community elders and provide translation. Mr Tjiworo was tasked to collect and documents musical instruments for the Museum of Namibian Music and items of clothing and accessories that might be displayed in the Museum of Namibian Fashion. Two trip reports were submitted to MAN (one by Mr Tjiworo and the other by Mr Mberira and Ms Dabe). Folders of photographs from the trip with captions were also submitted by Mr Garren and Mr Mberira.

The team held meetings at Aminuis, Blouberg, Buite Pos, Corridor 17, Donkerbos, Drimiopsis, Epukiro Pos 3, Gobabis, Skoonheid, Talismanus and Zelda. The team also met and briefed Hon. Ignatius Kariseb, the Regional Councillor for the Kalahari Constituency in the Omaheke Regional Council. The team also met Chief Langmann, the leader of the Ju'/hoansi community at Skoonheid to inform him about the aims of the project. The team collected multiple names for twenty-two of the objects in the Fourie collection that had not been previously named. A total of twenty-two artifacts for the Museum of Namibian Fashion and seven artifacts for the Museum of Namibia Music were collected and documented.



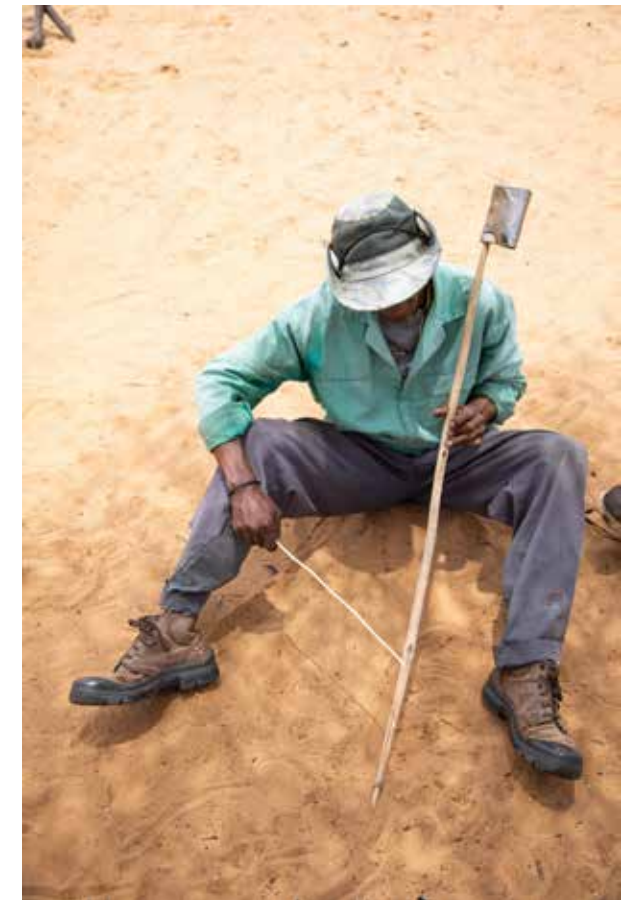
Demonstrating the use of a bow as a musical instrument



Mr Kavena Tjiworo conducting interviews in the Omaheke



Mr Klaudius Konteb wearing a sack waistcoat. Corridor 17B (Trace Garren).



Mr Lukas Huka playing a !oma (Trace Garren)



Ms Christina Marman (Trace Garren)



Trace Garren photographing images for the Stand Together exhibition (Moses Mberira)



Ms Appolonia Dabe playing an instrument that is often known as an mbira.

11 DECEMBER

Donation of Catalogues to Schools

Dr Jeremy Silvester

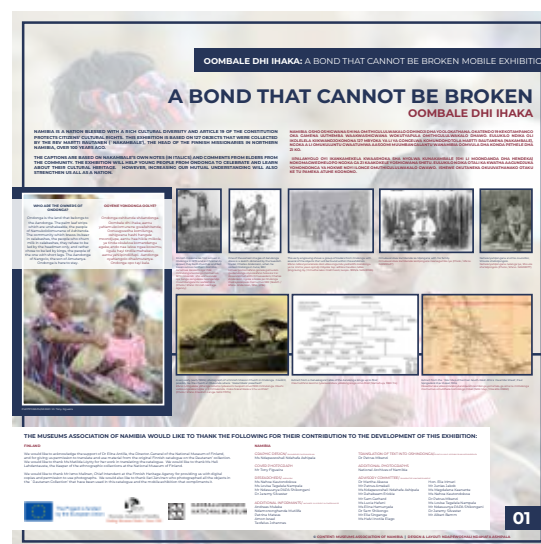
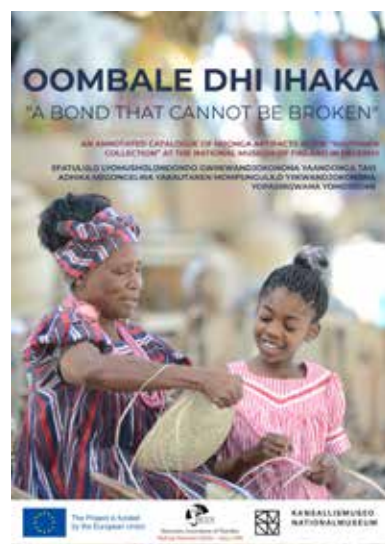
The Museums Association of Namibia donated copies of the Oombale Dhi Ihaka: A Bond that cannot be Broken catalogue to the School Libraries and Archive Service, of the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture. MAN produced the mobile exhibition and catalogue as part of the Museum Development as a Tool for Strengthening Cultural Rights in Namibia project funded by the European Union.

The catalogues will be distributed to secondary schools and community libraries throughout every region of Namibia. The donation took place in the foyer of the National Archives and National Library of Namibia in Windhoek.

The exhibition and catalogue are based on photographs of 127 cultural artefacts which were collected by the Finnish missionary, Martti Rautanen ('Nakambale') over a hundred years ago and provide a unique insight into the cultural heritage of the Ondonga kingdom.

Information about the objects was also obtained from local elders. The section on the artefacts has been supplemented by oral history, recorded in the 1930s, that gives an account of the genealogy of the Aakwaniilwa (kings) of Ondonga. The catalogue also provides important information about some of the burial sites of the early leaders of the kingdom which are important heritage sites in northern Namibia. The exhibition and catalogue feature the story of a piece of a sacred stone from the Kingdom of Ondonga which, it was discovered, is also still held by the National Museum of Finland.

The donation was accepted by Ms Sarah Negumbo, the Director of Namibian Library and Archive Services at the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture. She committed the Directorate to distributing the booklet to every secondary school library as well as all the community libraries in the regions. H.E Sinikka Antila, the Ambassador of the Delegation of the European Union to Namibia, emphasized the importance of sharing cultural knowledge with learners as a way of building mutual understanding in a multicultural nation. Ms Naitisi lizyenda spoke on behalf of MAN's Executive Committee and thanked the MAN team and all those involved in creating the catalogue.





Museums Association of Namibia
Making Museums Matter - Since 1990

Dear MAN Members

Please note that we will be closed for the festive season as from Friday 13th December 2019 and we will reopen for the new year on Monday 06th January 2020. 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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Twitter: [@MuseumsANamibia](https://twitter.com/MuseumsANamibia)

10 JANUARY

Final Selection Workshop

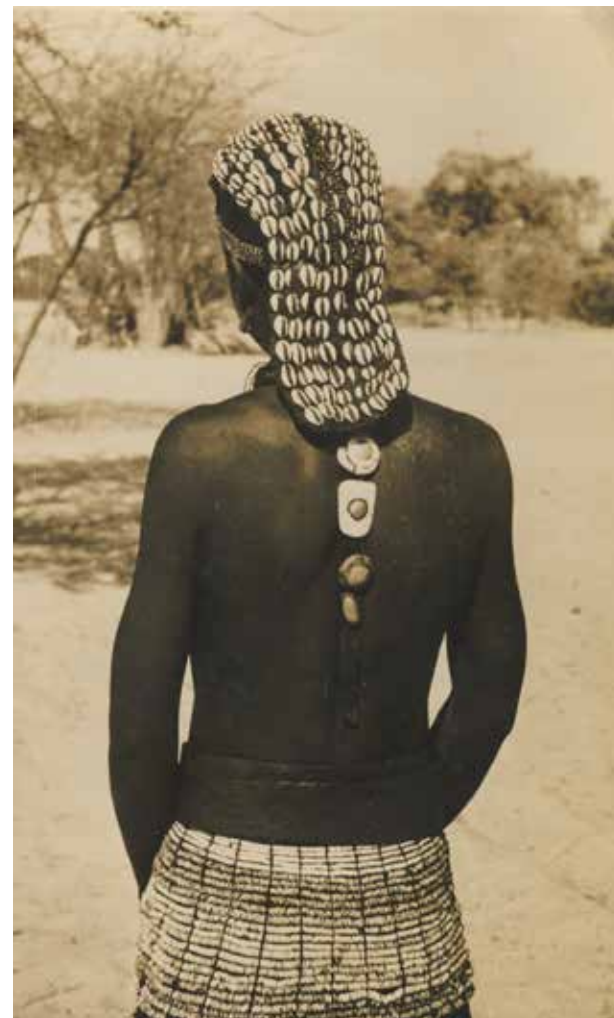
Dr Jeremy Silvester

The Project Committee met to review the selection that had been made by the Advisory Committee in August. During the six months that had passed since the workshop MAN had been able to speak with Ms Antje Otto. Ms Otto had worked as the curator of the Ethnographic Collection at the National Museum of Namibia and she was able to provide important information and point out where the museum already had examples of some of the objects that had been selected. Meetings were also held with some members of the Advisory Committee who had been unable to attend the meeting in August.

Whilst the project planned for the return of 20 objects as part of the collaborative project with the National Museum of Namibia, the University of Namibia and the Ethnographic Museum of Berlin, a total of 23 objects were selected. The National Museum of Namibia is currently preparing a suitable storage area for the artifacts. The next stage of the project will see a series of workshops with community members, museum curators and fashion designers. The workshops will explore the ways in which the historical artifacts can impact on Namibia on the promotion and preservation of our cultural heritage. Two MA scholarships have also been awarded. The students will conduct research related to the artifacts and to the process and debates surrounding the return of objects to Namibia.



Historical artifacts are laden with memories and cultural significance.



Hairstyle of a woman in northern Namibia.

12 -19 FEBRUARY

UNESCO Southern Summer School

Mr Kevanhu Alfred Muifi

Mr Kevanhu Muifi, the Curator of the Museum of Namibian Fashion, took part in the 2020 UNESCO Southern Summer School which started with sessions at the University of Namibia (UNAM) and then included a tour of heritage sites in northern Namibia. The title of the Summer School was Digital communication of indigenous African heritage and fashion. The training program started on 12th February with a fashion show held at Unam. The catwalk showcased outfits created by fashion students and lecturers from both UNAM and the College of the Arts (COTA).

The aim of the Southern Summer School was to investigate how digital technologies can be used to communicate, promote and market African fashion designs and promote cultural tourism. The school offered participants perspectives of the Namibian cultural tourism and fashion industries to provide concrete case studies for discussion. The school consisted of lectures, site visits and practical exercises.

Our first case study was on Anchor Adventures Tours which is a company that provides cultural experience tours around Namibia, focussing on village and township experiences. The Company has a website and uses social media for marketing. The second case study was Katutura Fashion Week which organises an annual programme of events. The week showcases work from both local and international fashion designers. The show is a big success and manages to draw crowds from different backgrounds. The weekly event markets itself through social media, but has no website as yet. The final case in Windhoek was the Owela Museum. The museum does not use technology at all to attract visitors with no web site and no presence on social media (although information about the museum can be found on MAN's web site). The Owela Display Centre is an ethnographic museum.



Omukwaniilwa (King) Fillemon Shuumbwa Nangolo



The participants having a conversation with Bishop Shekutaamba Nambala

Mr Muifi participated in a focus group with learners from a history class at Windhoek High School that discussed the displays in the Owela Display Centre. The learners were excited to give their opinions about the museum. It was a useful exercise that MAN members might think of replicating for their museums to learn what interests young people in a particular museum and what complaints they have.

The training continued in Oniipa where the group was welcomed by the Mayor. In Oniipa we also had three case studies. The first was Onandjokwe Medical Museum which displays artifacts in the first missionary hospital in northern Namibia. Our second visit was to Nakambale Museum which is located in the house where the Rev. Rautanen worked in northern Namibia. It shows the history of missionary work in the region, but also has displays about Ovambo culture. The final example of cultural heritage involved a visit to Ondangwa Open Market where local vendors sell a variety of products, from clothing to food. The Mayor was also able to arrange a visit to the new palace where the group was welcomed by the Omukwaniilwa (King) of Ondonga. In his welcoming remarks, the Omukwaniilwa Fillemon Shuumbwa Nangolo stressed the importance of using Information Technology (IT) to preserve culture and market Ondonga's heritage to the world.



The Participants receiving their certificates



The participants having a conversation with Bishop Shekutaamba Nambala

14 FEBRUARY

Executive Committee Meeting

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

On the 14th February 2020, the Executive Committee held the fourth of the four mandatory meetings for the financial year, which was also the last meeting for the financial year. The Meeting was held at the MAN office.

FEBRUARY 2020

20 FEBRUARY

Stand Together Mobile Exhibition & Catalogue Launched in Tsumeb

Dr Jeremy Silvester

The //Ha//xae (!Xung) Ma/aos (Hai//om) G||a ||Kae (Ju'/hoansi) Têê /xai (Khwe) Dea /Xae (Naro) Stand Together (English) mobile exhibition was launched at Etosha Secondary School in Tsumeb. The exhibition was the result of a collaboration between the Namibian San Council (NSC), the Museums Association of Namibia, Museum Africa and the National Arts Council of Namibia. The title of the exhibition is written in five of the languages spoken by the eight recognized San communities in Namibia (all of whom were represented at the launch).

The exhibition was officially launched by Hon. Martin Andjaba, Minister of Education, Arts and Culture whose speech was read on his behalf by Ms Aletta Eises, Regional Director for Oshikoto Region. In his speech the Minister stressed the importance of language in preserving culture and congratulated the project team for their hard work. Ms Saara Zungu, the Chairperson of the Namibian San Council, delivered her speech in !Xung. She invited NSC members onto the stage to sing a song in celebration of the launch of the exhibition. She said the research and production process had been a long journey, but that the exhibition and accompanying catalogue would be an important resource to restore the cultural pride of the San youth.

H.E. Sinikka Antila, Ambassador of the European Union Delegation to Namibia, (the new Ambassador took up her post in November, 2019) explained that the launch marked the completion of the second of the four components of the Museum Development as a Tool for Strengthening Cultural Rights project sponsored by the European Union. The final goals of the project will be to launch the Zambezi Museum in Katima Mulilo and the Museum of Namibian Music in Omuthiya.

Learners from Tsintsabis Combined School provided cultural performances with the meaning of the dances being explained by Tertu Fernando, Chairperson of the //Ana-Jeh San Trust, who acted as Director of Ceremonies. After the launch the mobile exhibition was transferred to the Helvi Mpingana Kondombolo Cultural Village to allow more local residents and learners to view the exhibition.



Ambassador Antilla with Mr Moussa and Ms Elago from the UNESCO Office



Ambassador Sinikka Antilla of the European Union



Learners from Etosha Secondary School viewing the exhibition



Ms Eises delivers the Minister's speech



Mr Erwin Nashikaku, Special Advisor to the Governor of Oshikoto Region, speaking at the event.



Ms Eises, Mr Mousa and Ambassador Antilla with copies of the catalogue



Ms Fernandu and Ms Ha-Eiros



Ms Golda Ha-Eiros speaking at the launch



Ms Sarah Zungu, Chairperson of the Namibian San Council



Performers from Tsintsabis Combined School

FEBRUARY 2020

25 - 27 FEBRUARY Namibian Music Exhibition Planning Workshop

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

From the 25th-27th February, 2020, the Museums Association of Namibia hosted a two-day workshop for stakeholders to finalize the planning of the exhibition plan for the Museum of Namibian Music at Lake Oanob Resort, Hardap Region.

The workshop acted as a feedback and further planning session from the research and collecting done by the MAN team as a result of the Stakeholder's Workshop held in Omuthiya from the 19th-20th February 2018. The workshop was attended by 12 stakeholders from the Oshikoto Region Culture Office, NASCAM, Stolen Moments, Directorate of Arts, MAN and individual artists and creatives.



Mr Baby Doeseb (Stolen Moments) and Mr John Max (NASCAM)



Ms Elina Hamunyela, Ms Ester Leonard and Ms Aina Paulina Muulila from the Directorate of Culture, Oshikoto Region



Mr Baby Doeseb (Stolen Moments) and Mr John Max (NASCAM), Big Ben (Musician), Ms Mkariko Amagulu (Directorate of Arts)



Mr Kevanhu Muifi addressing the workshop



Ms Nehoa Hilma Kautondokwa and Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala (MAN)



PAPA Shikongeni (Artist)



More images from the workshop



MARCH 2020

05 - 06 MARCH Beyond Collecting: New Ethics for Museums in Transition

Ms Golda Ha-Eiros

The realization that African cultural heritage objects from colonial context are, held in many museums in Europe has evoked numerous conversations universally and as a result initiated debate about the provenance and significance of African artefacts amongst other theories. The conference entitled 'Beyond Collecting: New Ethics for Museums in Transition' organized by the Goethe-Institut, in collaboration with the National Museum of Tanzania aimed at addressing some of these theories by focusing on the needs and priorities of museums in originating communities.

This conference was attended by Ms. !Ha-Eiros in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania on 05-06th March 2020. The conference further considered philosophical and ethical foundations for future museum co-operations, in both tangible and intangible cultural heritage which was introduced in the keynote address by Dr. Winani Thebele, curator at the Botswana National Museum. The conference was made up of five internal panel discussions, addressing priorities and needs in the current on-going debates on dealing with collections from colonial contexts, restitution and future collaborations, especially from perspectives in Africa or the Pacific. Further sessions were on the return of human remains, objects of cultural and natural history collections, and deliberating on how future museum models could be conceived, and what the roles of intangible/immaterial cultural heritage could play in such a future museum.

The conference concluded with an interesting public discussion and an interpretive multimedia dance performance entitled 'Vinyago- Indigenous Voices', the artistic intervention explored African spiritual objects, mainly masks in German museums with colonial history performed by the Art for Social and Economic Development in Africa-Asante Sana!



Vinyago – Indigenous voices - Multimedia Dance Performance Photo: Prof. Ciraj Rassool



Panel 1- Reviewing the Status Quo: Current Debates on Collections from Colonial Contexts and Restitution – Ethical, Legal and Economic Aspects

MARCH 2020

09 - 13 MARCH Commonwealth Association of Museums Triennale Conference

Dr Jeremy Silvester

The Triennial Conference of the Commonwealth Association of Namibia took place at the South African Museum in Cape Town. Dr Silvester was able to participate, as a CAM Board member, at no cost to MAN. Two workshops were held over the first two days, one focused on dealing with 'difficult history', whilst Dr Silvester participated in the second on Collections Management and Preventive Conservation of Human Remains. The focus of the workshop was on the practical and ethical challenges for museums that hold human remains. Participants received an extremely useful pack of articles, guidelines and practical information on human remains in museums as well as copies of all the presentations that were made.

The three day Conference was held under the theme Living Forward, Looking Back: Museum Practices for Postcolonial Futures. The Conference was one of the last to take place before the Corona pandemic closed countries and communications down, so a few speakers were unable to attend. However, the Conference was attended by over a hundred participants and included a number of excellent presentations. One of the exciting features of the Commonwealth Association of Museums network is that it facilitates 'South-South' contacts and partnerships.

Professor Ciraj Rassool from the University of the Western Cape gave a thought provoking and challenging keynote address entitled 'Undoing the Empire of the Museum' that challenged participants to reflect on the ways in which their collection was created and the violent ways in which knowledge of subject peoples has been constructed. Presentations that were of particular relevance to Namibia included Nichodimas Cooper's presentation on the heritage of the Nama community in Botswana and, Lesley Machindza from Great Zimbabwe University speaking about the challenges facing Zimbabwe's museum. Angela Kabiru spoke about the challenges of dealing with the history of Mau Mau in Kenyan museums and a panel discussion reflected on the controversies surrounding the extensive collections of human remains held in South African museums.

Dr Silvester was elected to serve on the CAM Board for a second three year term (2020-2023). In his election manifesto he indicated that his priorities will be to develop CAM's Distance Learning Programme for museum curators and to work on the issue of the repatriation of sacred objects and human remains held in museums in the UK. The Conference adopted the Cape Town declaration which will help to shape CAM's strategic planning over the next three years.



Conference participants listen attentively to a comment from Prof. Rassool.



The Family Nation Choir welcomes the participants to the Conference



Mwinalini Venkateswaran from India speaking on a panel that also included participants from Australia, Nigeria, New Zealand and Pakistan.



Dr Silvester took part in a panel on the repatriation of human remains and sacred artifacts

MARCH 2020

16 MARCH - 30 APRIL

MAN Responds to COVID-19 Pandemic

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

MARCH AND APRIL 2020 have been months that have made the whole world have to reevaluate their “normal”. With the global pandemic, COVID-19 causing museums and other organisations to either close down or have their employees work from home, the world at large has had to face new challenges and learn to navigate unknown matters.

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? NOW NEXT?

Because Namibia is under a state of emergency for six months, the country has been under (initially partial and then full) lockdown since the 28th March 2020. Today 30th April 2020, the president of Namibia announced that the lockdown which was set to end on the 04th of May 2020 will end and new regulations and restrictions (through different stages) will be used to govern the Namibia until September 2020. Therefore, even though the lockdown will end, life will not be “back to normal” any time soon. Therefore, please adhere to the restrictions and regulations as set by the government.

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, 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.

URGENT NOTICE

CLOSURE OF NAMIBIAN MUSEUMS

Monday 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, all Namibian Museums have been advised to close until further notice.

Updates and information on when the museums will re-open, will be communicated on the Museums Association of Namibia website www.museums.com.na and social media pages (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram).



MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION OF NAMIBIA
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#MANTurns30

MAN turns 30 in May 2020! Keep an eye on our website & social media pages to see the exciting activities throughout the year!

31 MARCH
Documenting the National Museum of Namibia
Collection

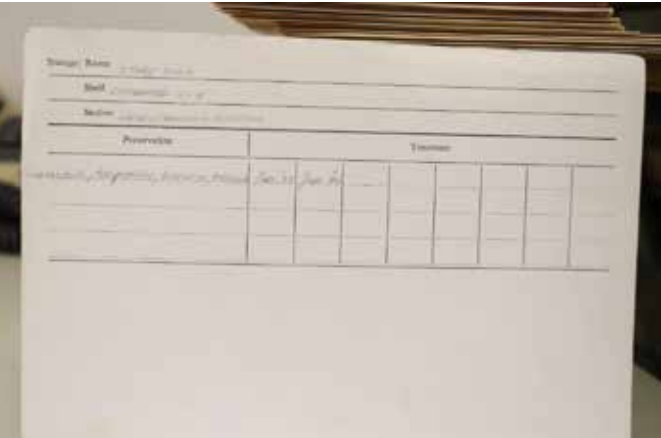
Ms Maria Randy Mwatondange

On the 15th November 2019, I officially started as Documentalist on the Gerda Henkel Foundation funded project. As the documentalist I am expected to document and digitize the entire ethnographic collection of the National Museum of Namibia. This includes: creating an object database with digitized object information, creating professional photographs of the artifacts and establishing a website to provide virtual access to the collection accompanied by a catalogue.

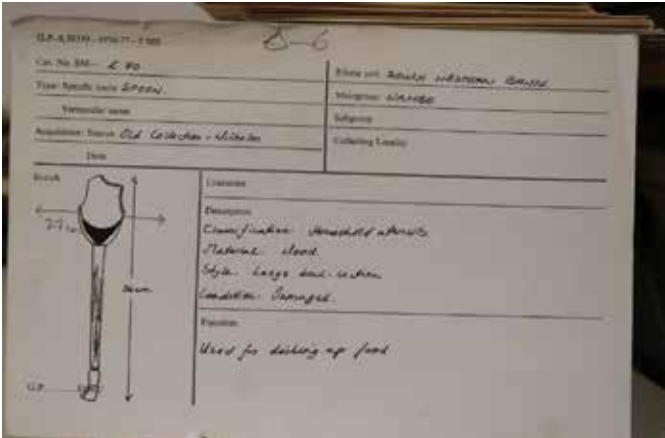
I have thus far produced and shared a detailed report which reviews the Cultural Heritage Databases currently in use in Namibia and made recommendations for the digital documentation of the Ethnographic Collection of the National Museum of Namibia. The aim of the report was to provide a baseline on the current use of cultural heritage databases in Namibia to provide information to facilitate a decision on the selection of a database for the documentation of the Ethnographic Collection of the National Museum of Namibia. The report has highlighted three database systems to be considered for documenting the museum’s ethnographic Collection. The report presents the strengths and weaknesses of the three available options based on the practical requirements that were raised by the colleagues at the National Museum of Namibia, Museums Association of Namibia and the University of Namibia.

An important physical task was to work with Ms. Nghishiko and Mrs. Nakale, the Curator of the Owela Display Centre (where many of the ethnographic objects in our collection are displayed) to carry out housekeeping tasks. The work has been described by the Conservator, but to facilitate proper documentation of the objects we cleaned two potential storage areas which can be used to create a better work space (one of which was a former classroom area).

I have been working on the draft of an Emergency/ Disaster Management Policy for the Ethnographic Collection which will be implemented once it has been reviewed and approved by the National Museum of Namibia. My ambition for the future will be to reach an agreement on the use of a database so that we can create a digital database, with images, of the entire ethnographic collection of the National Museum of Namibia. I will also be working on creating photographic images of every object in the collection and scanning the existing index cards which contain valuable information and will be an important part of building the database. I also intend to conduct research on the way in which the collection can be used to develop a programme of educational activities.



Index card - Back



Index card - Front



Cleaning the Collection Storage



After the cleaning

31 MARCH

Conserving the National Museum of Namibia's Ethnographic Collection

Ms Johanna Ndahekelelewa Nghishiko

My journey as a Conservator on 18th November 2019. I am working on a Gerda Henkel Foundation funded project. It is a collaboration between the Berlin Ethnological Museum, National Museum of Namibia, Museums Association of Namibia and the University of Namibia. One of the weaknesses of the museum sector in Namibia has been the lack of trained conservators to assist museums with preserving their precious collections. I am employed by MAN on a two year contract and work at the National Museum of Namibia with a special focus on the Ethnographic Collection.

As a Conservator, my objectives are to conserve, preserve, restore and also to train other museum curators on preventive conservation. Our main challenges are insect control and managing our environmental. One priority in the Gerda Henkel project will be to produce condition reports and to take care of a set of objects collected from Namibia during the German colonial period with the aim of reconnecting these important historical artifacts with the communities where they came from.

I spent the first few weeks familiarizing myself with the collection and the conservation tools, equipment and chemicals available as well as the general condition of the collection. A thorough Facility Condition Assessment (FCA) was carried out in order to determine the extent to which the facility is fit for purpose. A FCA also includes a risk analysis of the physical resources. Potential work and storage spaces were also identified and evaluated and a report provided with recommendations for some renovation work. Photographs of the facility were taken and a floor plans developed to share with the team at the Berlin Ethnological Museum, although the facility report has yet to be finalized and submitted to Berlin.

I have been working on the development of the museum's conservation records which include; condition reporting forms, insect management record sheets and conservation work reporting. I am currently reviewing our museum storage space. One of the most important aspect of conservation which reduces the risk to a collection is to ensure that there is enough space for staff to circulate and view the objects in storage without causing damage or being unable to spot new insect infestations. Overcrowding in storage is one of the most common challenges that museums face and which reduces capacity.

The Conservator and the Documentalist, with the help of Mrs. Olivia Nakale, a Senior Curator, carried out a successful fumigation as part of the housekeeping for the ethnographic collection's storage area. The objects and cabinets were reorganised after the cleaning, to create a work space. A potential new storage room are also cleaned and is currently awaiting renovation. I also participated in an Object Selection Workshop which selected twenty-three objects that will travel from the Ethnographic Museum to the National Museum of Namibia.

I have been working on a Conservation Policy which will form a section of the National Museum of Namibia's policy which is currently under development. I am also working on an Integrated Pest Management Plan which will be shared with all the museums in Namibia. I am looking forward to carrying out research on traditional conservation methods and to creating synergies with international museums and conservation institutes to seek measures for tackling conservation issues in Namibian museums and heritage institutions at large. I am currently studying an online course in chemistry at the South African Institute for Heritage Science and Conservation so that I can better understand 'the agents of deterioration' that threaten old objects.



Attending the final object selection meeting @NMN



Cleaning and re-arranging the ethnographic collection storage



The cover of a catalogue from 1980 featuring information about the Ethnographic Collection at the National Museum of Namibia and other collections. The linocut was by a young Namibian artist called John Muafengejo. The catalogue was compiled by Antje Otto and a team with the support of the Arts Association. Ms Otto has also produced an, unpublished, catalogue of the Social History collection of the National Museum of Namibia that is currently held in storage.

31 MARCH

Museum of Namibian Fashion Overview

Mr Kevanhu Alfred Muifi

The decision to try to establish a Museum of Namibian Fashion is based on research conducted by MAN that indicated that such a museum would appeal to Namibian youth. The Curator was appointed with three primary tasks. Firstly, to obtain a suitable venue for the museum; Secondly, to gather information and artifacts to provide the basis for displays; and thirdly, to build up a network of stakeholders and organize consultations about the contents of the proposed museum. The temporary curatorial post is funded by the Gerda Henkel Foundation, and another goal of the project will be to establish a permanent curatorial position.

MAN has been involved in discussions regarding a number of potential venues. One option is the old museum in Outjo. MAN believes in decentralization of cultural heritage destinations and Outjo is on one of the main routes to the north-west and also, normally, has a lot of tourist traffic for Etosha. However, MAN is also reviewing a number of other options, including a cultural centre in Khorixas and a venue in Windhoek.

Forty-two items have already been collected over the period of five months to establish the initial collection for the Museum of Namibian Fashion and MAN is renting a temporary storage space where the artifacts are being kept safely. Nineteen objects were collected and documented during a fieldtrip to Kunene region (see report of 19th November) and another twenty-one objects during a fieldtrip to Omaheke. MAN has also, to date received one donation and purchased one item.

The Curator of Museum of Namibian Fashion had a meeting with the University of Namibia's Visual Art department. The meeting included the head of department Ms. Loini lizyenda, Ms. Maria Caley and Ms. Shakirra Classon. The aim of the meeting was to discuss the possibility of collaborating with Unam Visual Arts department to develop and market the fashion residency and to develop training at the Museum of Namibian Fashion. A meeting was also held with the Namibian Fashion Council members (Merja lileka and Jaimee-lee Diergaardt). The NFC agreed to collaborate with MAN on the project and the organization of workshops and help MAN contact established and young Namibian designers. Meetings have also been held with a number of individual fashion designers, such as Cynthia Schimming, Leah Misika and the organisers of the Katutura Fashion Week. MAN has established a contact list. One of the aims of the project will be to organize a workshop where young fashion designers can learn about historical clothing and accessories by viewing images and objects from museum collections. The aim is to inspire Namibian fashion designers to draw on traditional designs and techniques to develop uniquely Namibian designs and products.

Anyone wishing to donate or support the Museum of Namibian Fashion project should contact the curator, Mr. Kevanhu Muifi via the MAN office.



Model of the Outjo Museum



The delegation meeting with the Outjo Municipality



Mr. John Tjipurua wearing modern Himba attire



Headdress on sale at the Opuwo craft shop



Ovahimba headdress



MAN director (Dr Jeremy Silvester) holding up variety of shells sold at the craft market



SECTION 3

MAN PUBLICATIONS

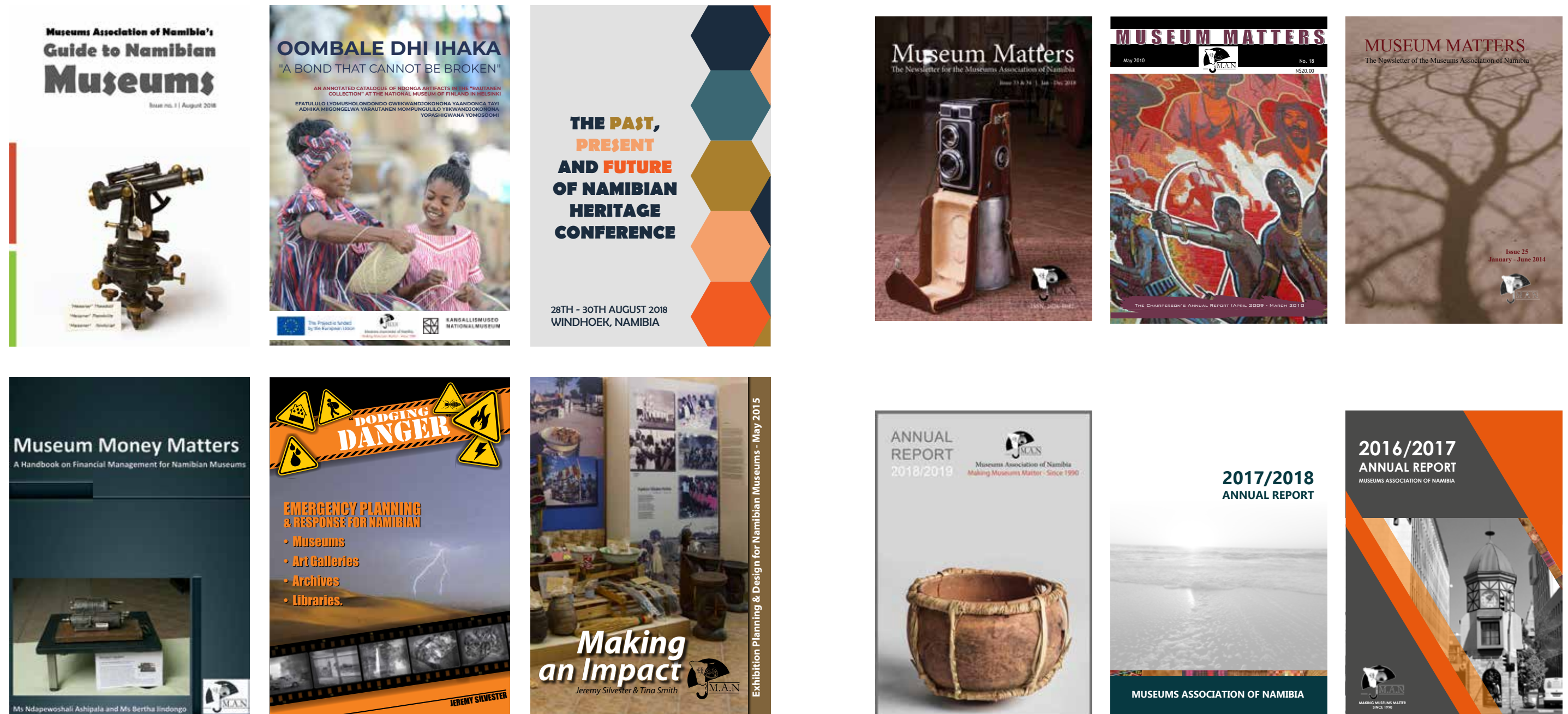
MAN PUBLICATIONS

Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala

Over the years, MAN has made a habit of documenting its 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 30 years.





Keetmanshoop Museum
Photo: Trace Garren

SECTION 3
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30



YEARS OF
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