

# 2016/2017 ANNUAL REPORT

MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION OF NAMIBIA



MAKING MUSEUMS MATTER  
SINCE 1990



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# FORWARD

MAN believes that museums have a major role to play in the development of our country. Museums draw people to a destination and provide a multiplier effect for the local economy. Museums are educational resources that showcase our natural and cultural heritage to inspire learners. Museums are culture banks that preserve our memories and the objects that have significance to our communities. MAN believes that the growth of new museums and transformation and improvement of existing museums is important.

Our small, but dedicated and hard-working team, have achieved a great deal over the twelve month period covered by this report. MAN continued to give priority to exhibition development for Namibian museums as we implemented the second year of a project funded by the Embassy of Finland in Namibia. The AGM of 24th June, 2016 marked the end of the term of Mr Aaron Nambadi as Chairperson. Mr Nambadi served for four years as Chairperson and seven years on the Executive Committee. We would like to thank him for his commitment and passion during his term in office. We would also like to thank Ms Charmaine Tjizezenga who served as the Project Officer: Exhibition Development for the Finnish project, whose two year contract also came to an end during the year. We miss her friendly smile in the MAN Office and Resource Centre

Ms Hertha Ipinge, the Head of the National Archives of Namibia (at the time), was elected as the new Chairperson of MAN. Dr Martha Akawa was elected as Vice-Chairperson and the other members of the Executive Committee are Ms Stella Imalwa, Mr Werner Hillebrecht, Ms Helke Molke and Mr Goodman Gwasira. We would also like to thank the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture for its continuing support in the form of a grant-in-aid. We welcome the opportunity to work in partnership with the Government to achieve our common goals. Unfortunately, due to economic constraints, the level of our grant has remained at only N\$1 million – a significant reduction from the level of support that we received in previous years. Whilst we have been able to raise project funding from external sources, we face serious financial challenges.

Members will have noticed that, this year, we have already cut or reduced several of our programmes - such as our regional museum development grants, our annual school competition, our training workshops and our support for training and internships for young Namibians. We believe that this report illustrates MAN's achievements over the years and hope that the new financial year will bring increased funding that will enable us to deliver more to our members so we can contribute to the changes that we would all like to see. The strength of MAN is our members and we are optimistic that there will be ways to obtain the financial resources we need to continue 'Making Museums Matter' for all Namibians.

## FINANCE FOR SMALL NGOS WORKSHOP, 7TH APRIL, 2016

Ms Lindongo and Dr Silvester attended a workshop at NICE organised by the Embassy of Finland which provided grantees with guidance on improving the financial procedures and financial management of their NGOs.

## ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE POLICY VALIDATION WORKSHOP 19TH APRIL, 2016



Dr Silvester attended a one day workshop at which the final draft of the policy was presented to stakeholders for validation. The role of MAN in supporting regional museum development is clearly defined in the new policy and a number of other recommendations made by MAN in their six-page submission made during the consultations have also been incorporated into the policy.

## VISIT TO THE HOLOCAUST MUSEUM, WASHINGTON DC 22ND APRIL- 4TH MAY, 2016

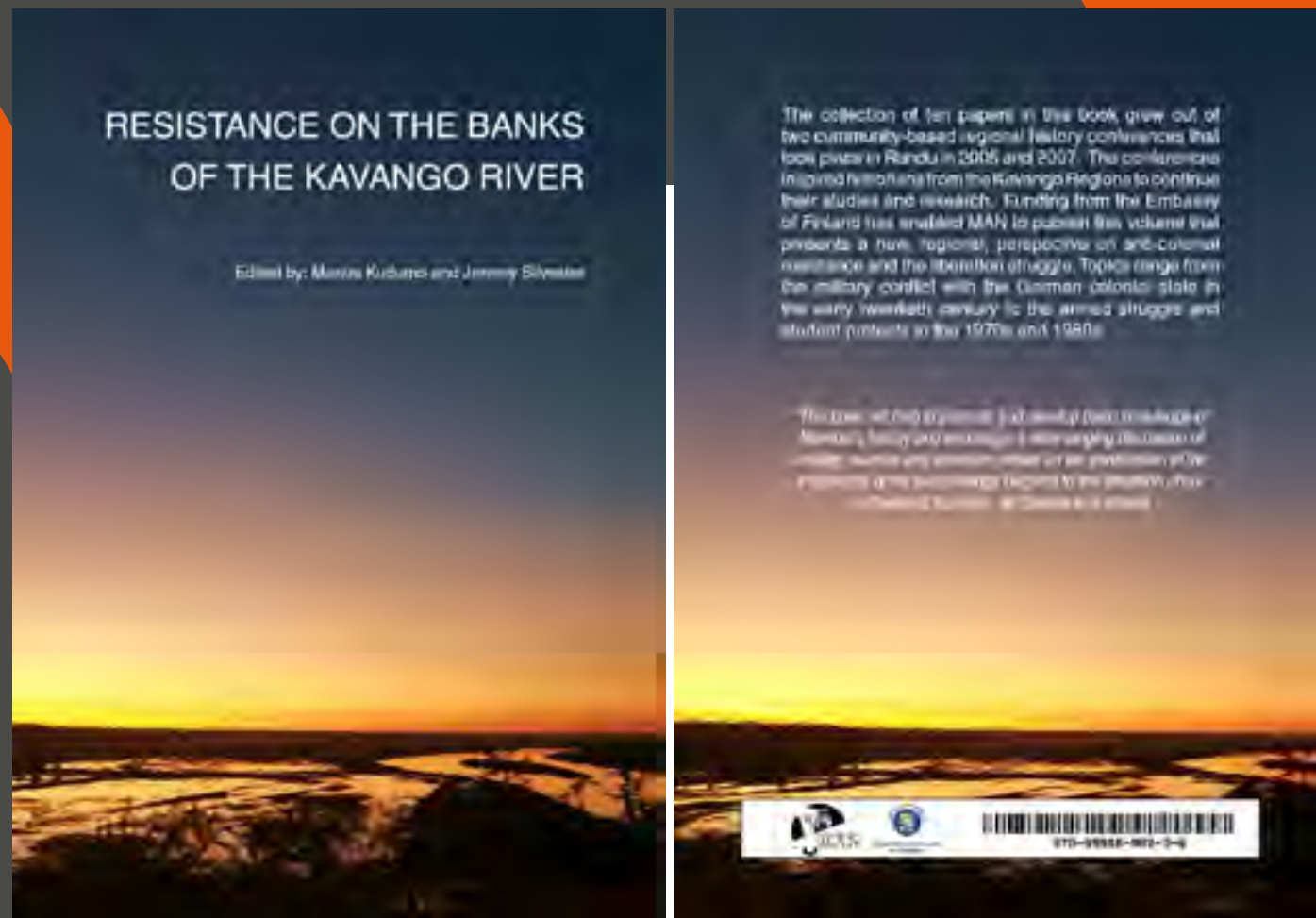
Ms Kapuka was invited to visit the Holocaust Museum in Washington DC to work on the development of a mobile exhibition on The Namibian Genocide being developed by MAN and to discuss the possibility of a 'Museums Connect' project for 2017. The visit was a follow-up to the International Conference on Holocaust Education that took place in 2015 and was attended by Ms Kapuka and colleagues from UNAM and NIED. The team successfully obtained funding support which can be accessed when MAN organises a workshop to develop materials to help teachers to use the exhibition as a teaching aid.





## PUBLICATION OF 'RESISTANCE ON THE BANKS OF THE KAVANGO RIVER', 26TH APRIL, 2016

A total of 500 copies of the book 'Resistance on the Banks of the Kavango River' have been printed. Half the books were provided to the 'Kavango Museum', whilst MAN retained the other copies. It was agreed that any income from sales of the book would be used for museum development. The book has 271 pages and consists of ten chapters with an introduction, a short block of photographs and an index. The book was produced entirely by MAN with the graphic design and lay-out being done by Ms Ashipala.



## MEETING WITH DIRECTORATE OF TOURISM, MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & TOURISM, 28TH APRIL, 2016

The Director of Tourism invited MAN and the National Heritage Council to a meeting to discuss possible future collaboration in the promotion of community-based tourism sites. Dr Silvester and Mr Haitula attended on behalf of MAN.

## MOUNTING OF 'RESISTANCE ON THE BANKS OF THE KAVANGO RIVER' EXHIBITION, 9TH-10TH MAY, 2016

A team of MAN staff consisting of Ms Winnie Kanyimba, Dr Jeremy Silvester and Ms Charmaine Tjizeznga, travelled to Rundu on the 09th May 2016 to mount the exhibition at Maria Mwengere Culture and Environment Centre in the Kavango Museum. The colleagues had three days to complete the mounting of the exhibition, it was hard work but they managed to complete their task with the help of the museum's curator, Ms Helvi Mbwalala. The team supervised the mounting of a professional hanging-system on three of the four walls of the large hall-like museum space. The fourth side consists of a line of large display cabinets. The new exhibition covered two walls, whilst, after discussions with Ms Mbwalala, it was decided that the third wall would be used to promote the work of local artists and craft workers.



The hanging system was professionally installed. Whilst time-consuming it is very important that the rails are level and at a suitable height.



Ms Charmaine Tjizeznga and Ms Winnie Kanyimba mounting the Resistance on the Banks of the Kavango River exhibition in the Kavango Museum

## APPLICATION SUBMITTED TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY, 22ND APRIL, 2016

An online application was submitted to the IFCD which provides funding in support of projects related to UNESCO's 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expression. The online application was complex and the MAN team learned a great deal through the process. The project entitled 'Namibian Tales: Engaging marginalised Namibian communities into the global music market' would involve a collaboration between a Namibian musician, Shishani, and local San musicians. The project will promote the unique sounds of Namibia to a global audience and build local capacity for marketing music internationally.



## MOUNTING OF NAMA KHOEN ǀNĪSASIB EXHIBITION 16TH-18TH MAY, 2016

Ms Charmaine Tjizezenga and Dr Jeremy Silvester travelled to Keetmanshoop to install the new permanent exhibition at the Keetmanshoop Museum. The new installation consisted of a series of canvas banner walls, an exhibition of traditional medicine models created by local craft workers and a sign in the museum garden explaining the concept of the Heitsi / Eiseb.

## NAMA KHOEN ǀNĪSASIB EXHIBITION LAUNCH, KEETMANSHOOP MUSEUM, 19TH MAY, 2016

A new permanent exhibition at the museum was launched on the 19th May 2016. The title Nama Khoen ǀNĪsasib ('Nama Pride'). It was combined with the unveiling of a statue of Hendrick Tseib, created by the local artist, Papa Shikongeni. The joint launch reflected MAN's commitment to building closer co-operation between the museum and arts sector.

The Minister of Education, Arts and Culture, Hon. Katrina Hanse-Himarwa officially opened the exhibition and urged young people to visit the museum to learn about the history and culture of their people. She praised the Embassy of Finland and MAN for its work. There was a number of invited guests at the launch including the ǀKaras Regional Governor, Lucia Basson and the Chairperson of the Museums Association of Namibia, Mr Aaron Nambadi. Mr Nambadi read a short speech on behalf of the Ambassador of Finland who was, unfortunately, unable to attend due to a prior commitment.

The Keetmanshoop Municipality provided additional support for the launch with speeches taking place in a large tent erected in the centre of town. The event included most of the Nama traditional leaders of southern Namibia and there was also a smaller tent where local entrepreneurs were able to sell traditional food, traditional dresses and traditional medicine. A large number of local residents attended the launch, more than could be seated on the 300 chairs that had been provided and the event received substantial media coverage.



Hon. Katrina Hanse-Himarwa enjoyed one of the cultural performances so much that she and members of the community joined the performers during the launch.



A local traditional healer helped to create the new display on traditional Nama medicine and there was a stall where the public could buy. A large doll was also designed by a member of the new Museum Advisory Committee to help name and explain the different features of a Nama woman's dress.

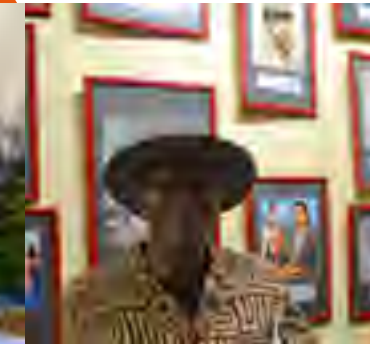


## LAUNCH OF EXHIBITION AT KAVANGO MUSEUM 3RD JUNE, 2016

The launch of the book and exhibition took place at the Kavango Museum. The book was officially launched by Hon. John Mutorwa, Minister of Agriculture, Water and Forestry and the exhibition was officially launched by Her Excellency, Anne Saloranta, Ambassador of the Embassy of Finland. A total of 75 copies of the book were sold at the launch and a lot of local residents attended. Special arrangements were made to enable groups from local secondary schools to attend. A Cultural group and a choir entertained the crowd and lunch was provided to all participants at the end of the launch. The event received substantial media coverage.



Ms Sirka Ausiku, Governor of Kavango West Region at the top table with HE. Anne Saloranta, Ambassador of Finland and Hon. John Mutorwa, Minister of Agriculture, Water and For



A PLAN commander who donated photos to the exhibition.



Jaako Kaangayi choir performing at the launch

## CHANGING HISTORY EXHIBITION TRAVELS

### SWAKOPMUND (ERONGO REGION), 6TH-8TH JUNE, 2016

Funding was obtained from the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany to enable the Changing History exhibition to travel to four different regions. The funding also enabled MAN to produce and print copies of a Teacher's Handbook. A copy of this was provided to each teacher who brought a school group to the exhibition. Students from UNAM History Society volunteered to assist MAN by writing and ringing schools at each town that the exhibition travelled to and making appointments for groups of learners to obtain a guided tour.

Two UNAM history students travelled with the exhibition to its first destination. Swakopmund - Ms Karina Ephraim and Mr Frans Neputa. The exhibition was on show on 6th-8th June, 2016. The exhibition was hosted by Swakopmund Museum and, as a popular tourist destination, this meant that the organized visits by school groups were supplemented by many visits by smaller groups of tourists. Schools who sent groups of learners to the exhibition included Swakopmund Secondary School and Kuisebmond Secondary School (Walvis Bay). The students estimated that over 120 learners visited the exhibition over the three days of the exhibition and a further 50 tourists engaged with the students as they viewed the panels.



## GOBABIS, 13TH-15TH JUNE, 2016

The exhibition travelled accompanied by Mr Frans Neputa and Mr Dickson Moombolah from UNAM History Society. The Omaheke Region is one of the regions of Namibia that does not have a functional museum. However, the Directorate of Archives and Library Services recently completed the construction of a new library. The exhibition was, therefore, held at the new library and opened with a small function featuring the Mayor of Gobabis, Sila Bezuidenhout, and the Regional Councillor for Gobabis, Hon. Philipus Katamelo.



## ONDANGWA, 5TH-7TH SEPTEMBER, 2016

The Oshana Region is one of the regions of Namibia that does not, yet, have a functioning museum. MAN decided that it would like to mount the exhibition in one of the two large urban centres of the region and consulted with the Regional Councillor for Ondangwa, Hon. Elia Ilimari, regarding a suitable venue for the exhibition. Hon. Ilimari recommended Andimba Toivo ya Toivo Secondary School in Ondangwa which had a large assembly hall. The Principal was contacted and agreed that the exhibition could be hosted by the school. Mr Tauno Hiholiwe and Erasmus Iyambo from the UNAM History Society gave tours of the exhibition to groups of learners and then arranged for the exhibition to be couriered straight to Tsumeb without travelling back to Windhoek (to save travel costs).



## TSUMEB, 19TH - 21ST SEPTEMBER, 2016

The final destination of the exhibition was the Helvi Mpigana Gwakondolo Cultural Village in Tsumeb. The students who accompanied the exhibition were Dickson Mombolah and Frans Neputa from UNAM History Society. Tsumeb Municipality arranged a small event to launch the exhibition and to mark the start of Namibian Heritage Week in the town. The event featured welcoming remarks from the Mayor of Tsumeb, Veueza Kasiringua, and performances from young musicians from the Tsumeb Arts Performance Centre. The Ambassador of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany was, unfortunately, unable to attend the event due to prior commitments.



## OMUKWA: AFRICA'S TREE OF LIFE EXHIBITION TRAVELS

### SWAKOPMUND MUSEUM, 9TH-24TH JUNE, 2016

MAN's mobile exhibition on baobab trees travelled to Swakopmund and was on display at Swakopmund Museum for two and a half weeks. The exhibition attracted a lot of interest from visitors.

### OLUFUKO FESTIVAL: 24TH-31ST AUGUST, 2016

Two student volunteers from the History Society of the University of Namibia travelled to Outapi in Omusati Region to mount the 'Omukwa' mobile exhibition during the Olufuko Festival. The festival ran from 24th-31st August, 2016 and celebrates the traditional female initiation ceremony in northern Namibia. Whilst the space provided to MAN was small, the exhibition generated a great deal of interest from festival participants and helped promote the idea of developing a Baobab Museum in Outapi.





## OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE 'MUTI OR MEDICINE' MOBILE EXHIBITION, 31ST AUGUST, 2016

The exhibition was launched at the campus of the School of Health Science of the University of Namibia in Windhoek, Khomas Region. The launch took place at the medical school. The venue was deliberately selected with the aim of engaging with medical students. Assistant pro vice chancellor Dr Kalumbi Shangula of the School of Health Science launched the exhibition which was also attended by the Dean of the School of Pharmacy, Dr T. Rennie. MAN was happy that, after seeing the exhibition, the management requested that it remain at the School for two weeks longer than originally planned.

The Embassy of Finland was represented by Ms Marika Matengu, FLC Programme Coordinator. The launch of the exhibition was followed by a Panel Discussion involving Ms Maria Kooper (a herbalist), Mr Papa Shikongeni (a spiritual healer) and Dr Teopolina Tueumuna (a general practitioner). The presentations provoked a lively discussion amongst the medical students who attended the discussion. The exhibition launch received good media coverage in The Windhoek Express (1st September), Namibian Sun (5th September), The Namibian newspaper (6th September), Informante (22nd-28th September), Prime Focus (September)



Panelist: Dr Tueumuna, Ms Kooper & Papa Shikongeni



Ms Matengu delivering her speech at the launch



Mrs Kooper with some of her herbs.



Ms Winnie Kanyimba and Ms Charmaine Tjizezenga putting up the "Muti or Medicine" Mobile Exhibition at UNAM Medical School before the launch.

## OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF 'OMTETE WOKAHOLO' MOBILE EXHIBITION IN WALVIS BAY, 21ST SEPTEMBER, 2016

The exhibition was launched at the Hall at the Civic Centre in Walvis Bay. The Minister of Education, Arts and Culture had agreed to launch the exhibition, but, unfortunately, due to the teachers' dispute had to withdraw. The exhibition was, therefore, launched by Hon. Cleophas Mutjavikua, Governor of the Erongo Region. Her Excellency Ms Anne Saloranta, Ambassador of the Embassy of Finland in Namibia also spoke at the occasion. The Mayor of Walvis Bay, HW. Immanuel Wilfred and five of his Councillors attended the launch. The attendance of so many Council members was particularly useful as they re-confirmed their commitment to the proposed 'Compound Museum' that features in the exhibition.

One feature of this launch was that MAN placed a particular emphasis on invited teachers and learners from local schools to the event. On the day of the launch more than ten groups of learners from different local schools were given guided tours. Ms Antoinette Mostert, the Curator of Walvis Bay Museum, created a quiz for school learners to complete. The launch received good media coverage in the Namibian Sun (22nd September), The Namibian (23rd September), Allgemeine Zeitung (23rd September), Erongo (6th October) and featured as a news item on NBC (26th September).



One of the school groups who visited the exhibition being given a guided tour by Ms Antoinette Mostert, curator of the Walvis Bay Museum.



Her Excellency Ms Anne Saloranta, Ambassador of the Embassy of Finland and Ms Hertha Iipinge, Chairperson of the Museums Association of Namibia



Some of the members of Namib Marimbas who performed at the launch of the exhibition wearing t-shirts to promote Namibian Heritage Week.



Hon. Cleophas Mutjavikua, Governor of the Erongo Region, officially launched the exhibition.



## OMUKWA MOBILE EXHIBITION SHOWN AT KAVANGO MUSEUM, RUNDU: 19TH-26TH SEPTEMBER 2016

It is important that mobile exhibitions are mobile. After the exhibition on Baobab trees had been shown in Outapi it travelled to Kavango East and was mounted in Kavango Museum in Rundu for Namibian Heritage Week.

## MUTI OR MEDICINE MOBILE EXHIBITION TRAVELS TO REHOBOTH, 16TH-30TH SEPTEMBER 2016

The exhibition travelled to Rehoboth Museum where it was displayed for Namibian Heritage Week. The exhibition was then transferred to the foyer of Rehoboth Medical Centre.

## SUBMISSION OF 'CONCEPT NOTE' TO EUROPEAN UNION, 18TH OCTOBER - 15TH NOVEMBER, 2016

MAN worked on a concept note and draft budget in response to a call for proposals from the European Union. The proposal was developed following a briefing provided to the culture sector by the EU Delegation on 18th October. The proposal was entitled 'Museum Development as a Tool for Strengthening Cultural Rights in Namibia' with a focus on the development of new permanent and temporary exhibitions in regions where there has been no community-based museum development. If successful, the project will focus on exhibition work with communities in Omuthiya, Katima Mulilo, Tsumkwe and Olukonda.

## NOTIFICATION OF GRANT FROM INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY, 19TH DECEMBER, 2016

A letter was received from the International Fund for Cultural Diversity indicating that MAN's application for funding had been one of only six submitted to the Fund for 2016 that had been successful. An extensive amount of work was required to draw up detailed budgets and action plans in Excel.

## HISTORICAL ROCK ART & ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH, 19TH JANUARY, 2017

Dr Silvester took part in a seminar at the Franco-Namibian Cultural Centre about an exhibition of photographs entitled 'White Lady, Black Lady' about the documentation of rock art in Namibia. Dr Silvester made a presentation about the exhibition process. The exhibition was donated to Namibia and MAN has been requested to facilitate storage in its Exhibition Bank at the National Archives of Namibia.

## EXHIBITION LAUNCH DATE SET FOR CHANGING CLIMATE, CHANGING NAMIBIA, 20TH JANUARY, 2017

The mobile exhibition on climate change that is the last of the mobile exhibitions to be completed with funding from the Embassy of Finland will be completed by the end of March. At the final planning meeting of the Working Group the launch date was set for Thursday, 27th April. The working group has met regularly and includes colleagues from Eduventures, the Namibia Nature Foundation, the Ozone Unit, GIZ and the Hans Seidel Foundation. The Exhibition was launched on the 17th April 2017.



## AWARD OF NATIONAL ARTS COUNCIL OF NAMIBIA (NACN) GRANT, 1ST FEBRUARY, 2017

The Museums Association of Namibia was informed that it had been awarded a grant from the NACN to support a project entitled 'Re-viewing San Culture'. The project will contribute to the design of an exhibition and a catalogue of the collection of San artifacts from Namibia held by Museum Afrika in Johannesburg.

## NAMIBIAN HERITAGE WEEK, 7TH FEBRUARY, 2017

At the first meeting of the Heritage Week Team for 2017, MAN was asked to Co-Chair the Heritage Week Working Group with the Directorate of Heritage and Culture Programmes. The dates for the week have been set for 18th-24th September. The poster for Heritage Week 2017 was designed by Ms Ndapewoshali Ndahafa Ashipala of the Museums Association of Namibia.





## LAUNCH OF OMUTETE WOKAHOLO: MIGRANT LABOUR & THE MAKING OF NAMIBIA, 8TH FEBRUARY, 2017

The mobile exhibition was launched in Windhoek by Hon. Katrina Hanse-Himarwa, Minister of Education, Arts and Culture. The exhibition was held for a week at the COTA Gallery in the Katutura Community Arts Centre, part of the former workers compound.



## HUMAN REMAINS IN IZIKO MUSEUMS, 13TH-14TH FEBRUARY, 2017

A workshop took place in Cape Town with IZIKO museums where they presented information about human remains in their collection that had been un-ethically collected, including a significant number from Namibia. The museum wishes to de-accession the remains and investigate the possibility of returning the remains to their country/community of origin.



## INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY, 27TH FEBRUARY, 2017

A contract was signed with the IFCD of UNESCO for a two-year project that will seek to promote Namibian music and the incorporation of traditional sounds into contemporary compositions. MAN will work with the internationally acclaimed Namibian singer Shishani and the 'Namibian Tales' band. The project will have a particular focus on the San communities in the villages around Tsumkwe.



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Cultural Expressions



## AGREEMENT TO FACILITATE ICTOP'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 28TH FEBRUARY, 2017

An agreement was reached with ICTOP, the committee of the International Council of Museums that is responsible for the training of museum professionals. ICTOP will hold its Conference in Namibia with a theme that will focus on training curators in working with communities. The Conference will provide an opportunity to invite colleagues teaching museums courses in Southern Africa. The dates for the Conference have been set for 10th-12th October 2017.



## SPONSORED NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT FOR SCAMX, 14TH MARCH, 2017



### Attention History Teachers!

#### SCAMX is back!

The Museums Association of Namibia is calling for entries for the 10th annual School Clubs and Museums Exhibition (SCAMX) Competition.

#### Who can Enter?

The competition is open to learners in Grades 8-12 who belong to School History/Culture Clubs (if you don't have one ask us how to start one!). Submit a proposal to create an exhibition on this year's theme: "Traditional Music and Dance". The schools with the best proposals from each region will be selected to take part in this year's competition.

#### How to Enter!

Schools wishing to enter the competition should log on to [www.museumsnamibia.com](http://www.museumsnamibia.com) to download an application form and information sheet. Information is also available on MAN's Facebook Page or contact Ms Kapuka on 061 302230 or by email on [museums@iway.na](mailto:museums@iway.na)



The deadline for applications is 31 March 2017

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## MAN STARTS WORK ON DEVELOPING DISPLAYS FOR WINDHOEK CITY MUSEUM, NOVEMBER 2016

Ms Naiti Izyenda and Dr Jeremy Silvester of the Museums Association of Namibia had previously developed an exhibition plan for the new Windhoek City Museum. The Municipality has now approached MAN to work on the creation of displays and interpretive panels for the new museum. The museum will consist of six galleries with permanent displays and one for temporary exhibitions. The museum is due to be completed by December, 2017.







# Thank You



## •“BLACK AND WHITE - PHOTOGRAPHS OF EARLY NAMIBIA”

A permanent exhibition hosted by Nakambale Museum in Olukonda, Northern Namibia

## •“NAMA KHOEN ǀNĪSASIB”

A permanent exhibition on Nama History and Culture hosted by Keetmanshoop Museum, Keetmanshoop, Southern Namibia

## •“RESISTANCE ON THE BANKS OF THE KAVANGO RIVER”

A permanent exhibition on the role of the Kavango region in the liberation struggle hosted by the Kavango Museum in Rundu, North-East Namibia

## •“RESISTANCE ON THE BANKS OF THE KAVANGO RIVER”

A manuscript by several authors about the role of the Kavango Region during the struggle for the independence for Namibia, available from the Museums Association of Namibia

## •“OMUKWA - AFRICA'S TREE OF LIFE”

A mobile exhibition on Omukwa (the Baobab Tree) and the unique fortress trees of Ombalantu.

## •“MUTI OR MEDICINE”

A mobile exhibition on traditional medicine in Namibia

## •“OMUTETE WOKAHOLO - MIGRANT LABOUR AND THE MAKING OF NAMIBIA”

A mobile exhibition on the migrant labour system in Namibia.

## •“CHANGING NAMIBIA, CHANGING CLIMATE”

A mobile exhibition on climate change in Namibia

The Museums Association of Namibia would like to thank the Embassy of Finland in Namibia for funding the 'Exhibition Development for Namibian Museums' project over the last two years. Some of the achievements of the project are listed here.

Our mobile exhibitions are available for loan. Contact the Museums Association of Namibia.

 Museums Association of Namibia

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