



THINK NAMIBIA
Sustainable Forest
Management

MANAGEMENT OF A COMMUNITY FOREST

POSTER #4



Community Forests (CFs) are forests on communal lands which are managed **sustainably** by local communities to protect the forest resources in order to improve livelihoods. CFs are declared and gazetted under Namibia's Forestry Act of 2001 and aimed at:

- Reducing poverty and improving rural livelihoods
- Re-establishing local traditional rights over communal land
- Improving environmental and ecological sustainability

FOREST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES

A **Forest Management Committee (FMC)** is a group of people that represent the community, in running the affairs of the CF.



LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR FMCS

A FMC is a legal requirement for CFs, according to the **Forest Management Act of 2001**.

The committee is governed by a **Constitution** of the CF and by the **Forest Management Plan**.



APPOINTMENT OF FMC

The FMC members are elected at annual general meetings. People qualify to be voted onto the FMC if:

- They are residents of the CF
- Are above the age of 18
- Are able to read and write

Committee members serve for 3 years and may be re-elected at the end of their term of office.



THE IMPORTANCE OF A FMC

- 1 Requirement for signing the CF agreement.
- 2 Provides opportunities for collaborations with other institutions.
- 3 Ensures compliance with regulations and policies.
- 4 Promotes coordinated use of material and human resources.
- 5 Administers finances on behalf of the community.
- 6 Oversees the implementation of the Forest Management Plan.

A Forest Management Plan is a legal requirement for CF registration. It highlights the planned activities for the CF, including objectives and inventories.

FOREST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND THEIR ROLES

The FMC includes several positions, which may vary from one CF to another.

Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

Coordinate activities of the committee and report back to members and supporting institutions.

Treasurer and Vice Treasurer

Receive and deposit all monies on behalf of the FMC.

Secretary and Vice Secretary

Keep records of meetings and other admin duties.

The positions within an elected Forest Management Committee.



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