

NNAWIB

Namibia National Association of Women in Business

Training Seminar on Community Participation and Influence in Municipal Development Policies¹

Rehoboth, 26.-29.06.2007
Ojtiwarongo, 03.-06.07. 2007

Objectives of training

This training is designed to:

- Make the citizens and organised community groups (CBOs) aware of their powers and co-responsibility in local governance while establishing a culture of democracy at local level.
- Encourage citizens to claim co-ownership of local institutions and partake in co-governance of local authorities.
- Promote interaction between elected councillors and community groups (CBOs).
- Promote the participation of community groups in local governance in various forms.

Ultimate GOAL OF THE TRAINING

To promote open, responsible and effective local government, through the enhancement of community based citizen participation, on particularly socio-economic matters at local level..

Training Programme organized with the support of



¹ This training programme has been designed by **Mr Andrew Niikondo**, Lecturer, Polytechnic of Namibia at the request of and with inputs from NNAWIB and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES).

Programme

DAY 1 - Building the knowledge base: Local Authorities as the grassroots level of government in Namibia

Session	Time	Topic/activity	Methodology
	08:00	Registration	
Session 1.1 - Introduction	08:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Welcome ▪ Official opening ▪ Introduction of participants ▪ Expectations ▪ Programme objective and learning outcomes ▪ Programme overview ▪ Introduction to Participant Workbook and materials ▪ Ground rules ▪ Daily rapporteurs and energising officers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plenary ▪ Individual, plenary ▪ Plenary ▪ Brainstorm ▪ Plenary
Part I: Role players in Local community development			
Session 1.2 – The right of citizens and communities to participate in their own affairs: Representative democracy beyond elections	10:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the public sector? • The role and function of local authorities in Namibia • The role and function of the local councillors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plenary brainstorm ▪
	11:15	BREAK	
	11:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group discussions <p>Are the community aware of the role and functions? Do the citizens know their right to have local authorities attend to their concerns?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plenary discussion
	12:15	Wrap-up presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wrap up presentation
	13:00	Lunch	
Session 1.3: - Discussions	14:00- 15:15-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group discussions continue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plenary
Session 1.4– Group work presentations	15:15-	Group work presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guided group exercise
	15:55	BREAK	
	16:15	Group work presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small group work and plenary
	16:55 17:00	End of session	Fill out daily evaluation form

DAY 2- Exploring public participation strategies at grassroots level

Session	Time	Topic/activity	Methodology
	08:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recap of previous day ▪ Overview of today's programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plenary by rapporteurs ▪ Facilitator
Part II: Empowering citizens to participate in local decision making			
Session 2.1 – Public participation strategies at grassroots	08:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A spectrum of different levels of influence - Public participation strategies through informing participants/citizens - Public participation strategies through consulting participants/citizens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation
	9:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public participation strategies through empowering citizens • Empowering women as participants in local decision making (gender policies) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
	10:45	BREAK	
	11:05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion topics <p>Discuss strategies of citizens' participation in decision making in your town. Highlight the problems and opportunities in this regard</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plenary: group work presentations and discussion
	12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wrap-up presentation and discussion
	13:00	LUNCH BREAK	
	14:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Energiser 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plenary
Session 2.2 – Other ways of Empowerment and encouragement for citizens' participation in local decision making	14:05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct advice and support • Ask for a councillors clinic to be set up • Lobbying • Attend public meetings • Attend public hearings • Use the media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brainstorm ▪ Debate on statements
	15:15	BREAK	
Session 2.3 –	15:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discussions <p>Do citizens use mechanisms and instruments to influence local policy decisions (public meetings, attending council meetings, calling on specific councillor etc).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small group work ▪ Plenary presentation and discussion
	16:55	End of session	Fill out daily evaluation form

DAY 3- Exploring role players in local development: NGOs and other role players

Session	Time	Topic/activity	Methodology
	08:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recap of previous day ▪ Overview of today's programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plenary by rapporteurs ▪ Facilitator
Part III: The role of community groups in implementing council decisions (Public private partnership)			
Session 3.1 The role of Community groups (CBOs) in evaluating the work of local authorities and local councillors	08:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are NGOs? • Difference between NGOs and CBOs • General Characteristics of NGOs • General characteristics of CBOs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation
	10:15	BREAK	
	10:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting Municipal needs through local authorities and CBOs partnership • The service problems of municipalities • The characteristics of consumers or local citizens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation
Session 3.2	11:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plenary presentation and discussion
	12:45	<p>Why partnership between community and local authorities is good for municipal decision making and service delivery?</p> <p>What are the service problems of your town council and why CBOs are not helping?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introduction to group work (afternoon) ▪ Guest presentation
	13:00	LUNCH BREAK	
	13:55	Energiser	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Participants
	14:00	Discussions continue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small group work ▪ Plenary presentation and discussion
	15:30	BREAK	
Session 3.3 –	15:50	Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small group work ▪ Plenary presentation and discussion
	16:50	End of session	Fill out daily evaluation form

DAY 4 - Exploring the response: The way forward

Session	Time	Topic/activity	Methodology
	8:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recap of previous day ▪ Overview of today's programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plenary by rapporteurs ▪ Facilitator
Part IV: Discussions and presenting proposals			
Session 4.1 - The way forward	8:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What the Council does • What the Community Based Organizations expects the council to do • Summary: Obstacles to community influence on policy and decision making at local level in Namibia: Rehoboth/Otjiwarongo case studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plenary presentation ▪ Small group work ▪ Plenary presentation and discussion
	10:30	BREAK	
	10:50	Evaluating the training content, learning outcome and facilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual: self-administered questionnaire • Plenary discussion of major issue
	12:15	<i>Closure and end of training</i>	Go well