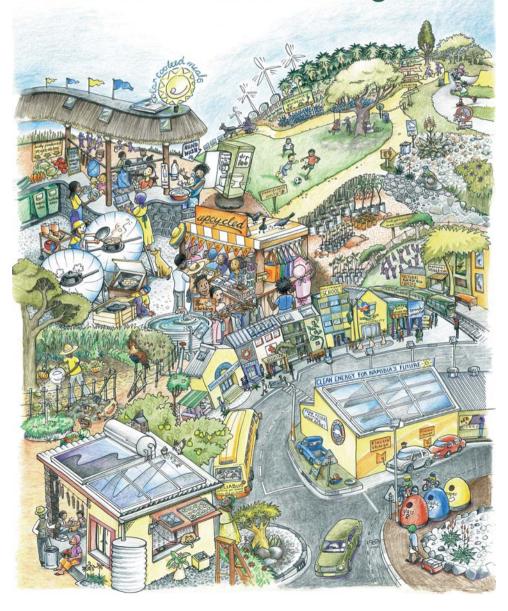


Vol. 16 No. 1

2020

Sustainable Urban Living



Namibia is Urbanising - Will it be Sustainable?

What is important for you to have where you live?

Grocery store? School? Church? Clinic? Wi-Fi? Johs? **Directions:** Look at the drawings. If something important to you is missing then draw it in the box. Rate the different services below from 1 (most important) to 10 (least important) by writing the number into the circle. My own: rocer - Book

In Namibia and around the world, many people have moved from rural to urban areas as they want to have access to these types of services. Many are looking for better schools while others seek work as environmental conditions become more severe and challenging. This has changed Namibia's demographics.

Demographics:

information about different aspects of a population of people (i.e. age, gender, language...)

ON-LINE RESOURCES: Watch these videos to learn more:

► From MICT on Namibia@30 to learn about Namibia's development in the past 30 years since Independence: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Td8fkc_dDfl

Let's Check the Statistics and Ask the People

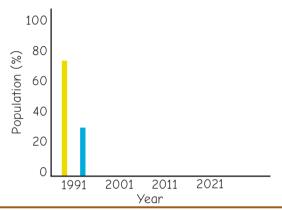


Since 2018 more Namibians now live in urban areas than in rural areas. That may sound surprising considering Namibia is generally thought of as a more rural country with wide open spaces. Let's graph these new demographics.

Directions: Show the change in population. Use the data in the Namibian Population table to complete the bar graph. The year 1991 has been done for you.

Namibian Population Year Rural Urban (Pop.) 73% 1991 27% 2001 67% 33% 2011 57% 43% 2021* 47% 53%





With this shift in population dynamics, there are now new environmental challenges, but also new sustainable development opportunities for Namibia's urban areas. Most of our cities and towns have been growing faster than proper urban planning can be done. How do our urban residents feel about it?



I love living in town! I can see my friends, go shopping and get free Wi-Fi, if you know the right spots! I also like those things, but I wish that some things wouldn't be so expensive... like getting (to town.

Agreed, but I wish people would stop littering and taking plastic bags from shops. I also really wish that it would be safer to cycle to town and just meet friends in a park without feeling in danger!



Both of you are right! I want to be able to have a comfortable life, but it shouldn't have to be so expensive and we definitely should not have to sacrifice our health and make the environment dirty! We are part of a global community after all.

What can we do to help Namibia develop sustainable urban areas?

Urban Areas need Local Citizens



It is our responsibility to learn more about how our lifestyle choices impact the environment and society. We rely on healthy ecosystems for our food, clean air and water, shelter, clothing and much more. Let's explore the neighbourhood and see for ourselves!

Directions: Go on a walk around your neighbourhood to observe and determine how sustainable it is. Colour in the circle to rate each topic. The first one is done for you.

	A Problem	Not Good	Getting Better	Good	Great
Waste management: Litter, recycling facilities, waste removal	0	0	W	\bigcirc	
Transport: Good road network, access to inexpensive public transport bicycle lanes	0	0	0	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Green public spaces: Trees, parks, sport facilities playgrounds	0	0	0	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Community centres: Entertainment for young and old, cultural events, youth centres	0	0	0	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Renewable energy: Wind solar electricity, solar hot water heaters, fuel-efficier stoves, biogas		0	0	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Water: Clean, accessible to all, water saving measures, no broken pipes		0	0	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Buildings: Well-maintained, sustainable design, no broken windows or vandalism	0	0	0	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
Local stores: Locally produced food and items such as clothes, locallyowned stores	0	0	0	\bigcirc	\bigcirc



Only 3% of the land worldwide is occupied by cities, but 60-80% of all energy is consumed there! Now let us find out some of the key areas we need to address to improve our urban areas.

Sustainable Housing & Basic Services



Urban housing is a big problem. We do not have enough affordable housing for the average person to buy or rent. This is a pressing issue that

We also need better access to basic services such as water, electricity, food, waste management and proper sanitation.



needs to be solved

Our cities and towns will become uncomfortable to live in if we do not reduce our energy and CO₂. intensive lifestyles. We can do this by not wasting resources and reducing pollution.

Directions: Learn about each of the sustainable actions you can take and tick it
off once you have done it. Know your consumption! Make a record of how much N\$ your household spends on electricity and water. Month water water cost (kwh) cost wour like standard temperature - insulate! Shade the North side of your house in summer. Let sunlight in during winter. Let sunlight in during winter. Recycle & Upcycle Reuse containers for food storage. Take part in recycling programmes. Don't litter! Sanitation Build a tippy tap. Wash your hands regularly with soap.
Clean using natural products All purpose cleaner recipe: 1 part white vinegar, 1 part water & Lemon rind & rosemary Mix together and let stand for 1 week before use. Every drop counts We know this is true, but do you do anything about it?? Re-use kitchen water in the garden. Time your shower to the length of your favourite song

- ▶ Water management in Namibia from the GCF: https://vimeo.com/441002913
- ► A municipality and schools join forces in **urban gardening**: https://youtube/watch?v=J20ClzcGOU8&feature=youtu.be
- ▶ Directions on how to make a tippy tap from Watershed Management Group: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qdpd3roZjYw



Sustainable Transport, Consumption & Clean Air



In urban areas there is easy access to stores. What and how much we purchase has a large impact on the environment.

Exactly, things that we buy, such as cell phones and clothes, are made with materials, energy and water. Waste and pollution are produced throughout the life cycle of the product.



Namibia's transport system is mostly built around vehicles. In urban areas, even in Namibia, the increasing traffic is a problem due to the increasing levels of **smog** (intense air pollution – **sm**oke + fog).

Directions: Learn about each of the su	stainable actions you can take and tick it
off once you have done it.	Be a smart shopper!
Now you own it:	Support local products.
□ Buy to last. □ Take care of it!	Reduce packaging (always
Repair it.	take your own bag).
	☐ Buy and sell 2nd hand.☐ Compare cost and quality.
	Don't just buy to buy!
CATHO CATHO	Buy in wash
	COCAL CONVCUENT
Make alternative mainstream:	
Cycle or walk: Get to where you	
need to go while exercising.	
☐ Ride share. ☐ Check out e-mobility!	
Compare these methods of travel	
(based on an average speed for 1 hour)	
Distance CO2 pollution Calories burned Car 60 km 7 kg 80-120	The state of the s
Bicycle 15 km 0 kg 500-750	Improve road safety!
Walk 05 km 0 kg 250-400	Don't drive or ride with someone
Reduce CO ₂ and other air pollution:	
Avoid unnecessary trips due to poor	alcohol or drugs.
planning. Drive with fuel efficiency in mind	Respect pedestrians & cyclists, share the road!
(constant slower speed to reduce	Cross the road at designated
stop and go).	
	locations.

ON-LINE RESOURCES: Watch these videos to learn more:

- Explore how this start-up is making E-bikes in Namibia https://www.dw.com/en/a-sunny-future-for-e-bikes-in-namibia/av-48013690
- ► Check out the waste your clothes produce in "The Story of Microfibers' https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqkekY5t7KY&feature=emb_logo
- ► Inform yourself about climate change in Namibia in this Think Namibia video: https://vimeo.com/179763238

Community, Natural Heritage & Green Public Spaces

Many of our urban areas are developed without any proper planning.

This results in large areas of housing without community services and green public spaces.

We need nature in our cities and towns. Trees provide protection from temperatures and winds. They absorb CO_2 produced by vehicles and factories. And, they provide habitat for animals!

We need to also make sure to protect our cultural and natural heritage. This can easily disappear through rapid, uncontrolled building.

off once you have done it.
Support Youth Centres Take part in youth activities. Suggest and lead your own activities around sustainability.
Plant and protect trees Find an existing project and offer to help. Get seedlings and start a nursery. Protect trees from being Recreation & exercise Meet your friends to play sports and exercise. Take a walk to get some fresh air and relieve stress. Observe and identify birds.
unnecessarily removed. Inform yourself Stay up to date with town developments. Attend public meetings. Share information with others. Learn about your town's history and important cultural sites.

ON-LINE RESOURCES: Watch these videos to learn more:

- ► Learn how every citizen plays their part in this zero waste community in Japan: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OS9uhASKyjA
- Hear what the Young African Leaders Initiative say about the value of volunteering: https://yali.state.gov/yaliserves-joy-of-volunteering-2/
- ➤ See how trees can make cities happier places to live:

 https://www.youtube.com/watch?time continue=4&v=ucXzRLo&feature=emb logo

Global Citizens Building Partnerships

Since 2015, countries around the world are 1 NO PROVIETY working towards achieving a more sustainable and

just world for all people. Seventeen different goals have been agreed upon

called the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals. These are also called the SDGs







































We can understand the SDGs more easily if we categorise them into these three groups:

Economy, Society & Environment For example, SDG1 aims to eliminate poverty. The main focus is on people and society.

Ok, the SDGs sound great. But how can I use them in my daily life?

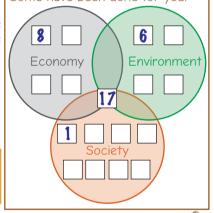
> I use the Good Life Goals. These are the SDGs simplified into personal

💁 action. For example, SDG11 📊 is about making our cities and communities sustainable. The Good Life Goal for SDG11

is called "Love Where you Live".

It has these five actions:

Directions: Write the number of the SDGs into the correct circle. Some have been done for you.



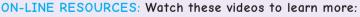
11 LOVE WHERE YOULVE

Love Where You Live Actions:

- 1) Learn about, and take part in, local decisions.
- 2) Prepare for emergencies.
- 3) Get to know your neighbours and welcome new people.
- 4) Protect local trees, wildlife and natural areas.
- 5) Demand safe and good quality public transport

Make sure to watch the video to learn about all the

> Good Life Goals.



- ► Explore the SDGs in the World's Largest Lesson: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cBxN9E5f7pc
- ▶ Learn about all the Good Life Goals here: https://www.youtube.com/ watch?time continue=4&v=bbrYODvkvGk&feature=emb logo
- ▶ UNESCO's Think, Live and Act together explains Education for Sustainable Development: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m7lStCVBf0A

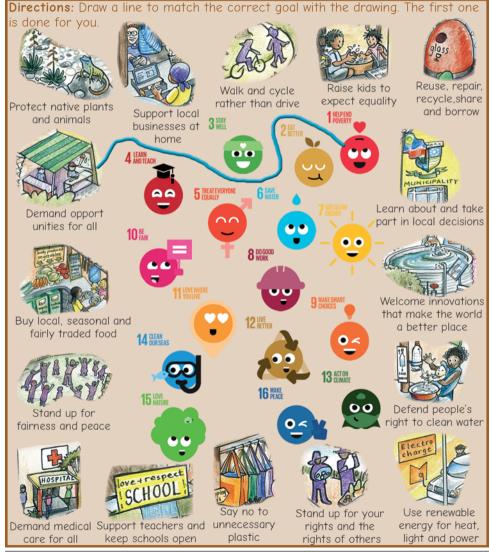
Match the Good Life Goals & Win!

Win a full-sized poster of "Urban Sustainable Living" by matching the Good Life Goals correctly. Submit your answers to NaDEET: by post: NaDEET, PO Box 8702, Swakopmund, or WhatsApp photo: 081 367 5310 or email: admin@nadeet.org

The first ten correct entries will win a poster.

Competition runs until 31 May 2021. Open to Namibia only. With your entry include your full name and contact details,

either phone, email or postal address.



Personalities in Conservation

Name: Reinhold Mangundu Number of years on the Job: 5

Name of Organisation: For Progress Namibia Project



FOR PROGRESS NAMIBIA PROJECT

Tell us about your work with For Progress Namibia Project?

Through the For Progress Namibia Project, I have been closely working with local communities to find a new common definition of a good life and progress for Namibian citizens. The project works towards building value in communities characterized by healthy and thriving social,

and ecological systems. Currently, I'm working with the Sonder Water Community located in Katutura-East Constituency. Together with the residents, we have been involved in setting up home gardens to improve food security and promote the well-being of all residents.

You are involved in community sustainability projects; what issues are you tackling?

One of the cross-cutting issues I'm seeking to address is poverty and hunger. As a result of inequality, many communities remain highly vulnerable, especially with the current Covid-19 global pandemic. By promoting local sustainable food systems, I not only seek to improve livelihoods but to restore environmental dignity.

Perhaps most important, I also seek to reconnect fellow young Namibians with the natural world. Educating them about the importance of the environment enhances their consciousness and reconnects them to the beauty of the living world beyond their digital connection.

As an activist of sustainability, how do you spend your time when you are not doing formal work and what other roles do you serve?

It is no secret that my life mainly resonates around people and planet. So, I have dedicated most of my weekends to voluntary work in communities. Getting my hands dirty as a way of reconnecting with living soils in gardens. During the week, I spend most of my time navigating through stories and articles around sustainability transitions. This is because I'm currently pursuing my Masters in Sustainable Development with Stellenbosch University. As a research student, I find it comforting to study and engage in various studies seeking new sustainability perspectives.



What do you think is the role of young people in conservation in urban areas? Young people are leaders, collaborators and innovators. They can actively play a role in the implementation of climate change adaption strategies, with a particular focus on establishing urban gardens and creating platforms for more localized food networks. Through actively partaking in innovation hubs, they can explore and navigate alternatives together. These alternatives act as small leverage points for rethinking urban areas, towards more green cities characterized by low carbon footprints and enhanced ecological systems.



Holden Mole is the name. NaDEET's my hangout spot. I love Namibia. My number one job is to get the basics — my food, water and shelter. "Education is the key"— I know everyone says it, but it is true. So if you don't know, ask me.

Holden Mole, NaDEET, PO Box 8702, Swakopmund email to: admin@nadeet.org or post them on NaDEET's Facebook page

Dear Holden.

What is an electric vehicle and how does it work?

Rebekka in Okahandia

Dear Rebekka,

An electric vehicle uses electricity as a power source to move forward instead of diesel or petrol (fossil fuels) like in the vehicles we generally know in Namibia.

Pure electric cars can use a battery that has stored the electricity to move independently or they need to be connected to an electricity grid whilst moving. For example, in some countries, there are trains with overhead electricity lines or trains using the metal tracks as electricity conductors. This is a big advantage in an underground train system as there are no polluting exhaust gases and there is much less noise in the densely populated urban area.



For independently moving vehicles, like cars, the battery can get charged from solar or from a traditional



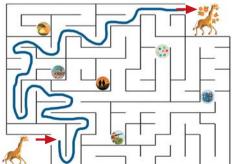
source (such as your wall plug which is probably fossil fuel powered). Often golf carts or forklifts in warehouses use this e-technology. The problem is that batteries have a low energy density per volume or weight compared to fossil fuels. The vehicle therefore cannot go as far before needing to be charged at a charging station. Many electric cars are actually hybrid vehicles which use a combination of sources such as a batteries and petrol/diesel or batteries. Another example of a hybrid vehicle is an e-bike which uses batteries to support human-power to extend the distance one can go.

Cheers for now, Holden

Updates from last Issue

Here are the updates from "Are you sticking your neck out for giraffe?". If you missed it, check it out here: https://nadeet.org/bush-telegraph-series

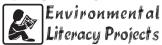
From page 7



From page 10

Directions: Study the picture and fill in the answers to each question.

- 1) How many animals in total do you see? **26**
- 2) How many different types of animals do you see? 3
- 3) Of the giraffe, how many are sitting? 2
- 4) How many birds can you find? 14
- 5) How many ossicones can you see? 17
- 6) How long do you think the sleeping giraffe has been asleep? You choose
- 7) How fast could the giraffe be running? up to 50 km/hr



Sponsored by:







Illustrations: Michelle Gaugler





NaDEET Head Office:

Tel: +264 (0)81 367 5310 Fax: +264 (0)88 655 2669

P.O. Box 8702, Swakopmund, NAMIBIA

admin@nadeet.org ~ www.nadeet.org





Join the Bush Telegraph Reader Club!

You can now get the Bush Telegraph in the post or electronically!				
Yes, sign me up, my name:				
Postal address:				
Email address:	WhatsApp:			

I am a teacher and would like extra copies for my learners.