

# MUNICIPALITY OF OKAHANDJA



## PRESS RELEASE

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### TENURE SECURITY INTERVENTION IN THE INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS OF OKAHANDJA THROUGH TENURE RESPONSIVE LAND USE PLANNING.

The Municipal Council of Okahandja in partnership with NUST (Namibia University of Science and Technology), SDFN (Shack Dwellers Federation of Namibia) / NHAG (National Housing Action Group) & the residents of Okahandja informal settlements initiated the informal settlement upgrading project in Ekunde 1, 2, 3 & 6 and Five Rand Informal settlements. The aim is to create opportunities for the community to express their ideas and views on the future development of their town. These informal settlement upgrading project comprises of 5 phases and the following three phases are completed.

#### 1. PROFILING

Profiling was done to gain an understanding of the identified community and informal settlements as a whole. This exercise has been done through community meeting discussions. The community members mapped out the boundaries of their informal settlements. This activity has been successfully completed and documented.

#### 2. ENUMERATION

This is a socio-economic survey done in all five identified informal settlements and crucial information has been collected by the local CLIP (Community Land Information Program) team supported by NHAG/SFDN, NUST and Municipality staff members. Key information for planning purposes such as average income per household, population and developmental priorities has been compiled.

- a) Ekunde 1, 2, 3 & 6 has **3,499 households** and the total **population of 10,823**, as per the data collected.
- b) Five Rand Informal settlement has **1,238 households** and the total **population of 1,952**, as per the data collected.

#### 3. PLANNING

The first activity undertaken during the planning was the site analysis of the informal settlements to gain an understanding of the environmental, social cultural, economic issues and spatial patterns. Planning has been done through community planning studios held at the subject informal settlements in collaboration with NUST, NHAG/SFDN and the Municipality staff members. The main purpose of this exercise is to alleviate informal settlements, create opportunities for the community to express their ideas, views and provide affordable security of tenure to low and ultra-low income people living in informal settlements. The layout for both townships have been presented to the community and the Council.

- a) *Ekunde 1, 2, 3 & 6 preliminary layout has been finalized and comprises of 4,446 erven of which 4,162 are single residential.*
- b) *Five Rand Informal settlement preliminary layout has been finalized and comprises of 852 erven of which 813 are single residential.*

The next two phases of this project are (a) **Land Survey, Re-blocking and Servicing** and (b) **Housing Opportunities**.

The Municipal Council of Okahandja would like to take this opportunity to thank all stakeholders involved for their valuable contribution towards the success of this vital project that will provide affordable security of tenure to high density residents of the Five Rand and Ekunde informal settlements.

#### ISSUED BY:

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