

# Conservation Relief, Recovery and Resilience Facility (CRRRF)

## Beneficiaries Update - Quarters 4-8

The Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism remains committed to addressing the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic within the CBNRM sector in Namibia



**C** COVID-19 has devastated the global economy in all sectors that contribute to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of many countries. Tourism is the third largest economic sector in Namibia on which the communal conservancies' areas depend. Communal conservancies, Community Forests and Tourism Joint Venture (JV) Partners are custodians of the natural resources, particularly the conservation of wildlife within their jurisdictions, while at the same time, conservation-related sectors support communities in poverty alleviation. Since Namibia went into its first nationwide lockdown as a result of COVID-19 in March 2020, most tourism-related businesses have been impacted by international border closures and travel restrictions. As a sector that is directly dependent on the tourism industry, the Community-Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) needed urgent assistance to help in the face of the impacts of COVID-19.

As a result, the government of the Republic of Namibia, through the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism

(MEFT), set up the Conservation Relief, Recovery and Resilience Facility (CRRRF). The goal of the CRRRF is to mobilise and provide financial relief to CBNRM institutions in order to support their operations. The Namibian government has consulted several local and international development partners to mobilise resources and contribute to the facility, while working closely with organisations within the CBNRM sector for implementation in the communal conservancies and community forests. These partners include Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia (EIF), Namibia Association of CBNRM Support Organisations (NACSO), Community Conservation Fund of Namibia (CCFN), World Wildlife Fund Namibia (WWF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), NedBank Namibia, Namibia Nature Foundation (NNF), B2Gold, Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation (IRDNC), Namibia Chamber of Environment, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), KfW Development Bank, Tourism Supporting Conservation Trust (TOSCO),

Nyae Nyae Development Foundation of Namibia (NNDNF) and Laurie.

The facility disburses COVID-19 relief grants to conservancies, community forests and tourism business enterprises on a quarterly basis. Over the past five quarters, spanning from February 2021 to April 2022, the facility disbursed over **21 million Namibia Dollars** and over **26 million Namibia Dollars** to tourism business enterprises in conservancies.

Quarterly grant reports submitted by the beneficiaries indicate the impact these grants have had on operations of these CBNRM entities. Beneficiaries have expressed immense gratitude towards the CRRRF initiative and all key players.

*"The CRRRF grants assisted our conservancy to continue operating, monitor wildlife and conduct patrols and kept all our staff employed during the pandemic"* - Lorna Dax- (Former Manager- #Koadi //hoas Conservancy)

Figure 1: Quarterly disbursements of grants to conservancies and community forests

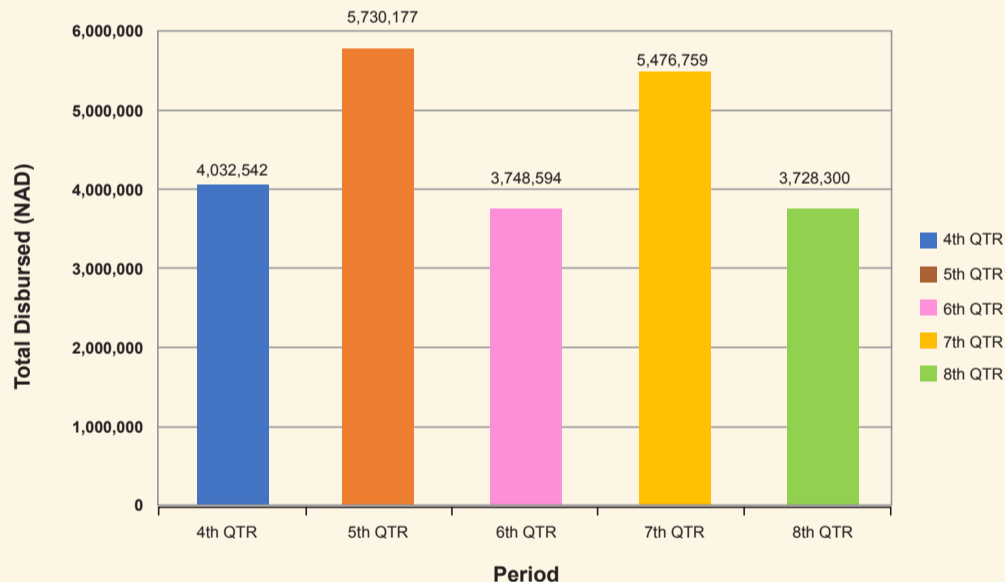
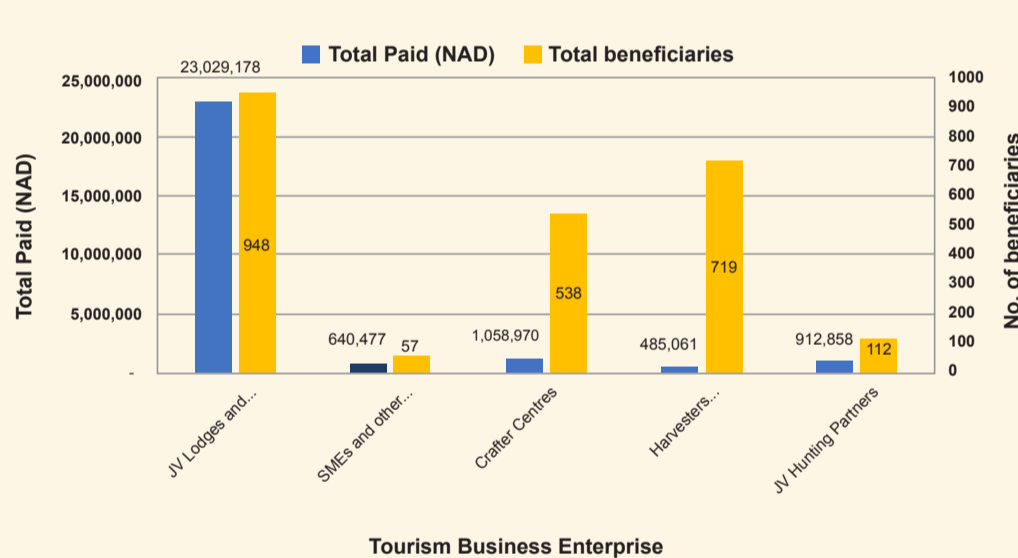


Figure 2: Disbursements of grants to Tourism Business Enterprises



The assistance provided through the CRRRF will facilitate medium to long-term recovery and resilience of the CBNRM entities to safeguard the environment, secure their tourism and other natural resource-based enterprises that pay for conservation costs and generate livelihood benefits.

Table 1: Disbursement of Funds to other COVID-19 Mitigation related support

Measures	No. of entities	No. of people	Total Disbursed (NAD)
Support to Alternative Income (Astrotourism research-Nyae Nyae conservancy)	1	-	48,162.00
Procurement and delivery of COVID-19 PPE to conservancies and community Forests (Disposable Masks, Sanitisers, Sanitiser stands)	86		
Production and Delivery of Reusable masks and buffs	50	200,000	5,949,808.43
Construction of the Hobatere Concession Boundary Fence (#Koadi //hoas and Ehi-rovipuka conservancies)	2	16	1,597,629.00
Construction of Predator-Proof kraals in Puros and Doro Nawas conservancies	2	10	73,983.10
Support to Implementation of the COVID 19 related measures to NACSO Secretariat, working groups and field-based NGOs	5	20	8,999,800.00

