

Workshop: Managing Desertification Tipping Points on Freehold Farms



Date: Monday, 23 June 2025

Venue: Okakarara Trade Center (Okakarara Main Street, near Shoprite/Usave) & Hamakari Farm (15 km west of Okakarara on C22 road)

Programme

08:00 Welcoming coffee

09:00 Opening and welcome address

Prof. Anja Linstädter (University of Potsdam), Prof. Daniela-Cristina Stefan (UNAM), Prof. Eroid Naomab (NUST), Prof. Oliver Günther (University of Potsdam)

09:20 Overview of NamTip and presentation of Factsheets

Prof. Anja Linstädter (University of Potsdam), Dr. Stefan Liehr (ISOE)

09:50 Key project findings:

- ❖ Rangelands under pressure: Finding degradation indicators from vegetation and soils under drought and intense grazing
Florian Männer (University of Potsdam), Dr. Mark Bilton (NUST), Dr. Alexandra Sandhage-Hofmann (University of Bonn)
- ❖ Bush thinning and biomass use: Exploring opportunities to manage and prevent the tipping point of bush encroachment
Dr. Markus Rauchecker (ISOE), Dr. Mark Bilton (NUST)

10:30 Tea/coffee break

11:00 Poster presentations by EduVentures learners

11:15 Exploring future scenarios for rangeland management under climate change

Dr. Gunnar Dressler (UFZ)

12:15 Discussion on management implications of project findings and concrete recommendations to address land degradation

13:00 Lunch at Okakarara Trade Center

14:00 Field trip to Hamakari farm: visit to drought & grazing simulation experiment and bush thinning sites (incl. drone demonstration)

17:00 Closing (in the field)

Facilitation and moderation: Bertus Kruger (NNFU)

Contact:

Understanding and Managing Desertification Tipping Points in Dryland Social-Ecological Systems – A Namibian Perspective (NamTip)

Project website: <https://www.uni-potsdam.de/en/namtip>



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