



**Ministry of Mines & Energy**

*"promoting Namibia's mineral, geological and energy resources"*

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# **Strategic Environmental Management Plan for the central Namib Uranium Mining Province - 2014 Annual Report**

## **Official Release**



**Gloria Simubali**  
**Acting Director**

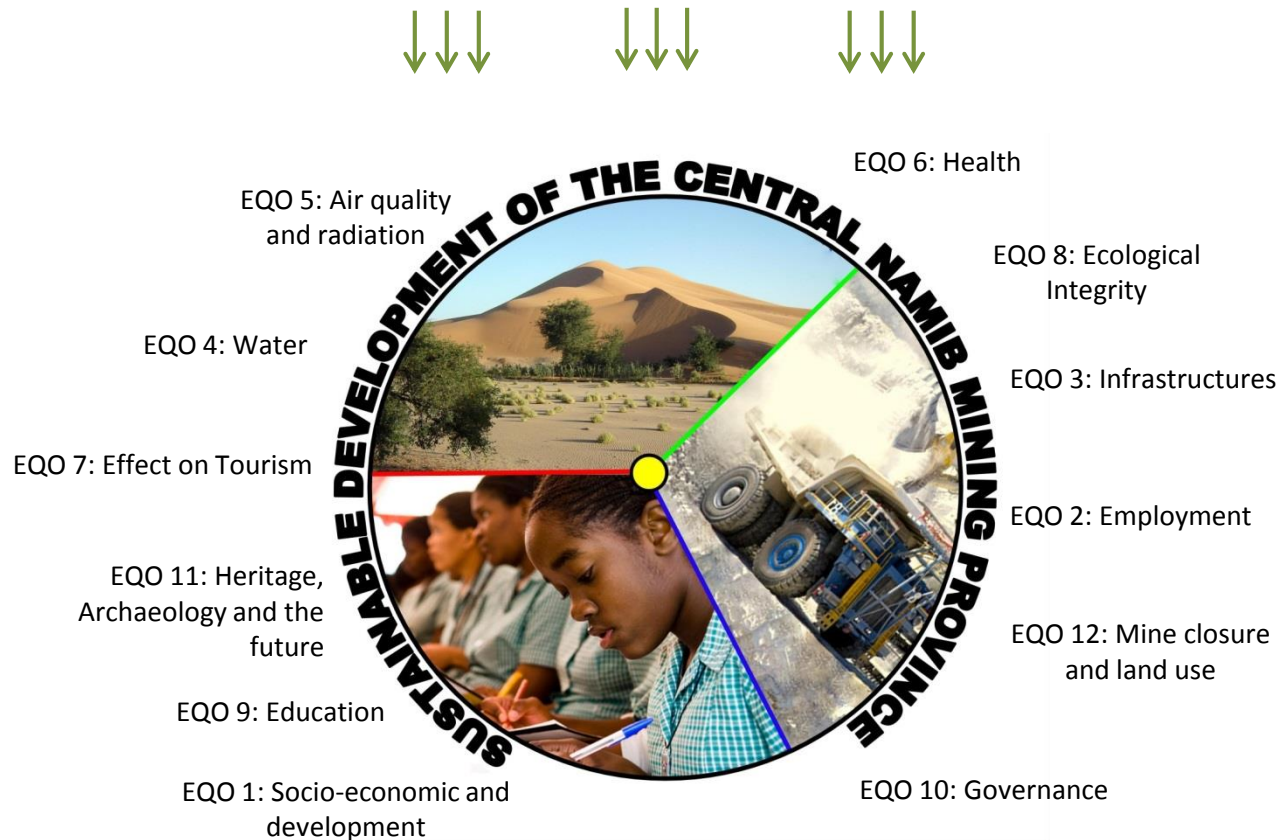
**Geological Survey of Namibia**

**28 April 2016**



# SEMP Background

SEMP is a roadmap for addressing cumulative impacts of existing and potential developments, within which individual projects have to be planned and implemented.



- ❖ SEMP 12 Environmental Quality Objectives (EQOs)
- ❖ Measuring the extent of uranium mining impact in Erongo Region
- ❖ Based on **122 indicators**, **45 targets** and **37 desired outcomes**
- ❖ Each indicator is assessed in terms of whether it is “Not Met”, “In Progress”, “Met”, or “Exceeded”

The desired outcome is that development and utilization of Namibia's uranium resources significantly contribute to the goal of sustainable development for the Erongo Region and Namibia as a whole.



# SEMP Governance



## Strategic Environmental Management Plan(SEMP) Steering Committee



Chair: Ministry of Mines and Energy(MME)- Geological Survey of Namibia

Members: Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry(MWAF)- Department of Water Affairs,  
Ministry of Health and Social Services(MoHSS)- National Radiation Protection Authority(NRPA),  
Ministry of Environment and Tourism(MET), Gobabeb Research and Training Centre- Namibia Ecological  
Restoration and Monitoring Unit(NERMU), Namibian Coast Conservation and Management (NACOMA),  
Namibia Uranium Association(NUA)

### SEMP OFFICE (Geological Survey of Namibia)

Task: Secretariat for the SEMP implementation (monitoring, meetings, reporting)  
Advice to MME (Minister, Mining Commissioner, Mineral Prospecting and Mining Rights Committee  
(MPMRC) and organs state on sustainability parameter. Facilitation of dialogue between stakeholders  
and SEMP SC.

### SEMP TEAM

Working Groups of key persons from SEMP office, Government and Specialists  
Tasks: Monitoring, compilation and assessment of information

#### Regular Monitoring

**Groundwater**  
DWAf,(GSN)

**Radiation and Air**  
NRPA, GSN

**Health**  
MoHSS

**Tourism**  
NERMU, MET, Gobabeb, Tours and  
Safari Association(TASA), CTAN

**Ecology, Sense of Place**  
NERMU, Gobabeb, MET

**Heritage and future**  
NERMU, Gobabeb, National  
Heritage Council(NHC)

#### Regular consultation

**Water Supply**  
Namwater

**Electricity Supply**  
Nampower, ErongoRED,  
Electricity Control Board(ECB)

**Mining and Exploration  
Companies**  
Chamber of Mines

**Transport Infrastructure**  
Ministry of Works and Transport (MoWT),  
Road Authority, TransNamib, NamPort

**Social Infrastructures**  
Ministry of education (MoE)  
Municipalities

**Housing Infrastructures**  
Municipalities

#### Consultation

**Political decision makers**

**Local Experts**

**Non-governmental  
organizations**

**Civil society**

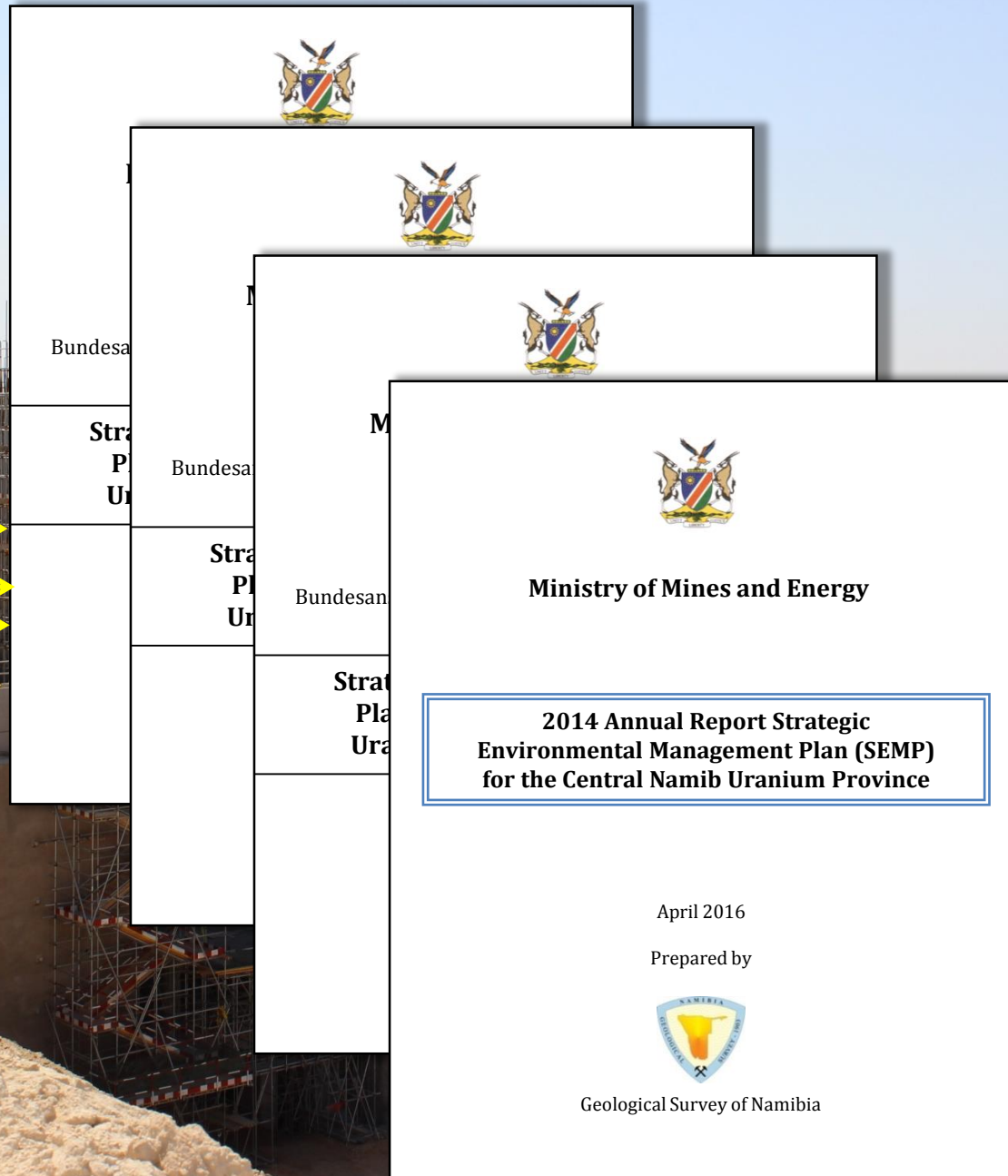
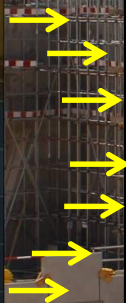
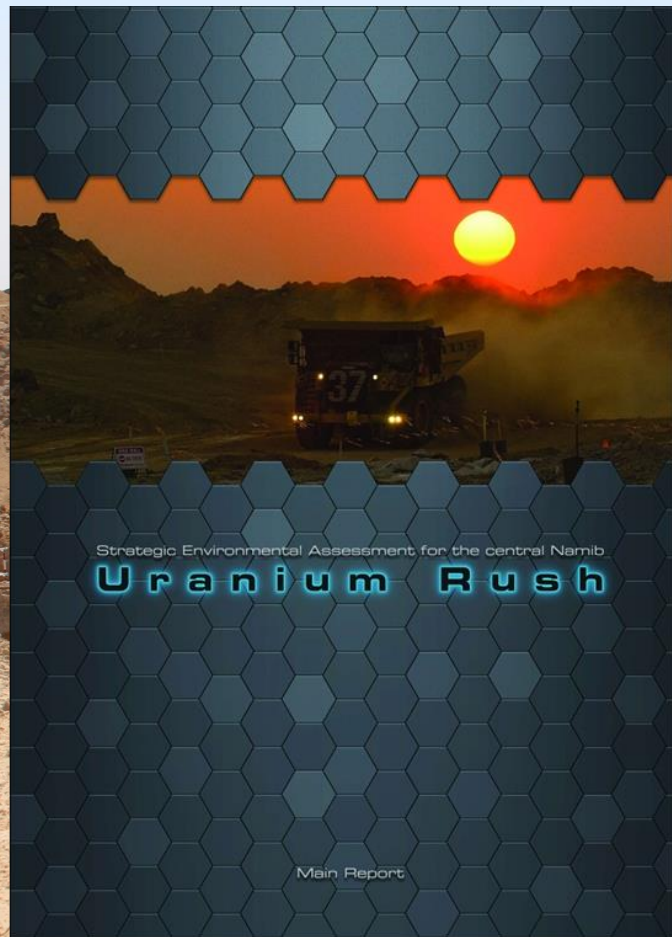
**International experts**

**Regional and Urban  
landuse planner**

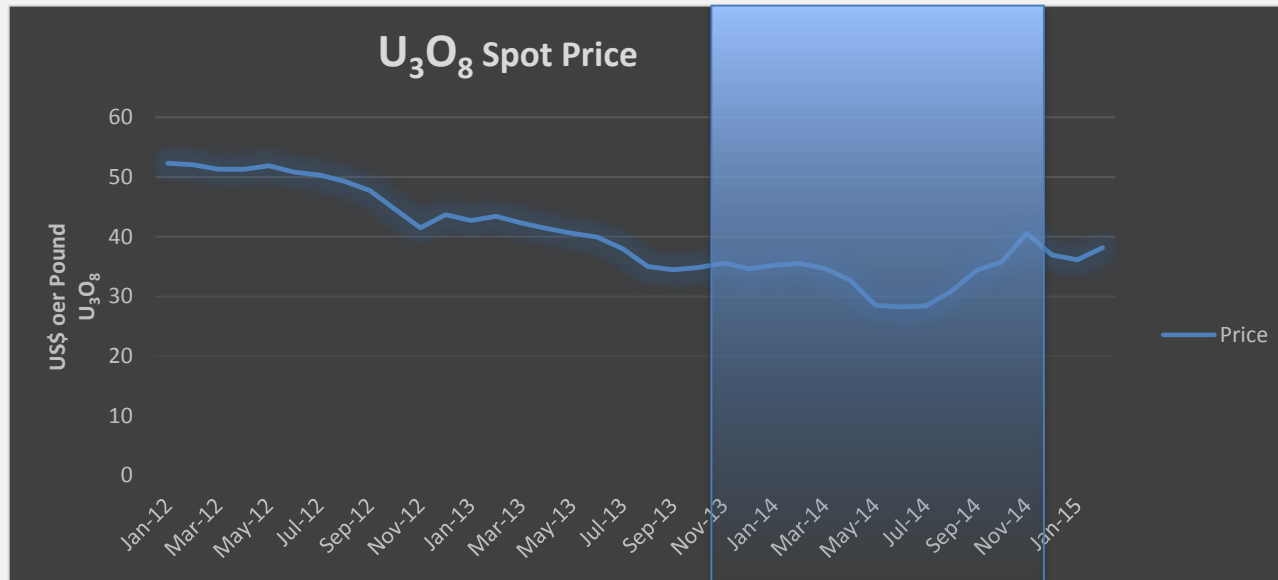
**Basin Management  
Committee**

- Comprises 3 components:
  - Steering Committee – chaired by MME
  - SEMP Office – housed at the GSN, operated by the Engineering and Environmental Geology Division
  - SEMP Team
  
- All the relevant stakeholders provide data on a voluntary basis!

# SEMP thus far .....



# 2014 Central Namib Uranium mining Scenario



U3O8 Spot Price, Source: <http://www.indexmundi.com/commodities/?commodity=uranium&months=60>

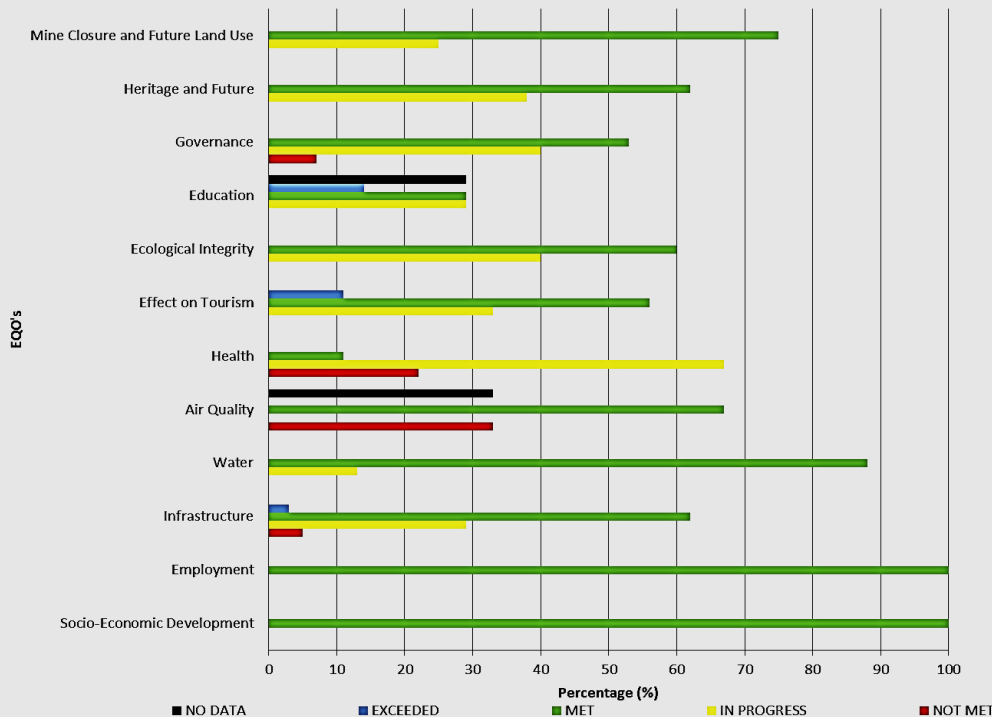
- First quarter of 2014 the uranium spot price (U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>) at US\$ 34.65/lb
- Fell to US\$ 28/lb during June and July 2014
- Peaked at US\$ 44/lb on November 17<sup>th</sup>
- Declined to its year-end value of US\$ 35/lb

- ❖ Rössing Uranium and Langer Heinrich were the only producing uranium mines, with the Husab project still being developed (**SEA Scenario 1**)
- ❖ Rössing Uranium retrenched **204** employees
- ❖ Trekkopje mine remained on care and maintenance
- ❖ Bannerman Mining Resources (Namibia) constructed a heap leach demonstration plant at its Etango uranium project
- ❖ Marenica Energy Namibia relocated offices to Windhoek
- ❖ Reptile Uranium's exploration programme consisted of drilling, sampling, geochemical assays and a ground radiometric survey, but also retrenched 12 employees.
- ❖ The Norasa Uranium Project (Valencia & Namibplaas) pre-feasibility study was completed

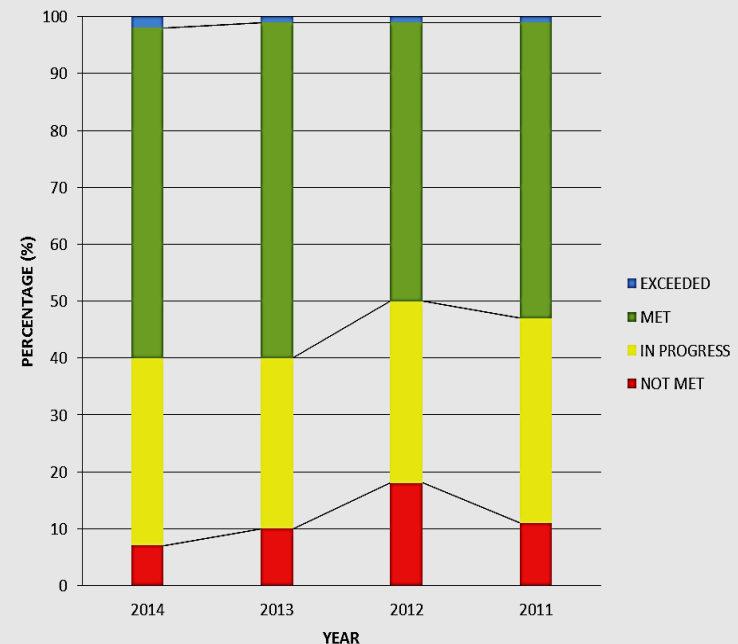
# EQO Performances

- ❖ The overall performance of the 2014 SEMP is slightly better than the preceding years
- ❖ 58 % of the indicators are MET, with 33% IN PROGRESS, 7% NOT MET and 2% EXCEEDED
- ❖ More indicators exceeded the performance compared to the past years. Amongst these is the bursary provision that was more than work-permit holders at Langer Heinrich and Rössing Mines
- ❖ The “Not Met” indicators are constituted by the lack of an independent epidemiological study that would measure change in the incidence rate of industrial diseases attributed to uranium mining; and the insufficient fund availed for unpaved roads within the region amongst others.

**Environmental Quality Objective (EQO) Performance - 2014**



**EQO Performance Trends**



# Upcoming SEMP Projects

- Advanced Air Quality and Management for the Uranium Province- commenced April 2016
- Specialized Groundwater Quality Monitoring in the Swakop/Khan Rivers- starting June 2016

The Strategic Environmental Management Plan's objective remains a priority. Cumulative efforts by both the regulating authorities , the uranium industry and other land users are made to enhance the economics of uranium mining and mitigation measures are put in place and implemented to minimize the impact of mining on the environment.

The 2014 Annual SEMP report is available  
([http://www.mme.gov.na/files/publications/b4a\\_SEMP\\_2014\\_report.pdf](http://www.mme.gov.na/files/publications/b4a_SEMP_2014_report.pdf))

**The 2014 SEMP Annual Report  
is  
Officially Launched**

**Thank You**