



**MINISTÉRIO DO TURISMO
DIRECÇÃO NACIONAL DAS ÁREAS DE CONSERVAÇÃO**

PARQUE NACIONAL DO LIMPOPO

**ESTUDO DO POTENCIAL DO USO DE TERRA E CAPACIDADE DE CARGA
PARA A POPULAÇÃO DA ZONA DE APOIO DO PARQUE NACIONAL DO
LIMPOPO EM MOÇAMBIQUE**



**1.3. Potential small scale Eco-tourism in the Limpopo National Park - Support Zone
Final Report**



Maputo, 21 December 2012

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For providing design concepts on the essential facilities for the proposed camp sites in the . Designs that reflect the cultural building concepts within the current villages, and through that Architectural language is able to provide a design that for the benefits of the tourist reflect the building culture of the people within the park.

1. Executive summary

The fundamental reason for the research into the Eco-tourism potential is to identify sites, the commercial value, the market acceptance and the methodology to implement the commercial eco-tourism concept into the Support Zone of the Limpopo National Park.

To create a commercial environment on the strength of current tourism activities, but more so on the increased tourism activities in the future for the ultimate benefits of the local communities and their people within the support zone.

The research has shown and identified that there is a complete lack of Eco tourism activities in the support zone, areas where such commercial facilities should be developed, and where serious financial benefits to the communities can be derived.

The lack of camp sites, tourism craft markets, manufacture of souvenirs, and guided tours into the villages for cultural tourism experiences, are all commercially viable projects that must be entertained and developed.

With the considerable effort in the upgrading of main roads leading to the park and the internal roads, as well as infrastructure within the greater Limpopo National Park, new 4 x 4 routes, camp sites and lodges operated by concessionaires, will eventually increase the influx of tourists into the park, both from within Mozambique and from neighbouring countries, but mainly from South Africa.

It is therefore our sincere recommendations that the development of the 6 identified basic camp sites and the involvement of the local communities should be a priority for the Mozambique Ministry of Tourism, in ensuring a sustainable and successful tourism activity within the Limpopo National Park support zone;

- Implementation of 5 camping sites within the support zone
- Implementation of the Massingir community site (outside the support zone)
- Development of small scale handicraft manufacturing industry in the villages, through appropriate training in the manufacture and the distribution and sale thereof.
- Development of tourist markets in the 3 prime tourist centres;
 - Pafuri border post/town
 - Mapai town
 - Massingir town
- Cultural tourism - Tourism training programs for tour guides
- Tourism training for the local communities in the service provisions of the camping sites services.

2. Terms of reference

This study is the Agro-ecological Zoning and Carrying Capacity Assessment for the Support Zone of the Limpopo National Park in Mozambique. The study is expected to produce the following results: (i) a revised soil map with its database at a scale of 1:250 000; (ii) a land use and land cover maps with its database at a scale of 1: 250 000, (iii) agro-ecological zoning at a scale of 1: 250 000, (iv) characterization and assessment of potential land resources for different agricultural use (Food and cash crops, and livestock development); (v) map of potential for small scale Ecotourism projects, (vi) wildlife corridors, (vii) assessment of integrated carrying capacity.

This Terms of Reference are for the **Ecotourism Specialist** who will identify, map and describe the potential for small scale ecotourism business in the Limpopo National Park support Zone.

2.1. Outputs of the Component Potential for Small Scale Ecotourism Projects in the SZ

- List of potential Eco-Tourism business.
- Criteria for each type to be established and successful;

- The (GIS) mapping of spots where the different types would be possible, according to;
 - Site features,
 - Markets and other criteria.

- Model of Business plan for each type and size.
 - Key requirements for success.
 - Market assessment for each type and size.
 - Recommendations on quantity of each type/size that the market can absorb.
- Investment needs and pre-feasibility for each type and size.
- List of necessary interventions at institutional/infrastructural level and at managerial level for success.
 - This may include:
 - business linkages (with the Park and between them),
 - training,
 - finance,
 - Water supply, etc.

- Ecological restrictions on each business type

2.2. Tasks

Tasks may include the following:

- Literature review. Data collection and drafting of final methodology
- Draft a work plan of component;
- Draft a questionnaire for field work;
- Together with the local authorities conduct reconnaissance assessment and mapping of spots with potential for community ecotourism business
- Conduct field questionnaires
- Design eco-tourism projects
- Design business plans and pre-feasibility analysis for each type of business
- Draft recommendations on factors of success

2.3. Duration of Work

- The park research component will be implemented during two weeks in December 2010.
- The report shall be completed by Mid February 2011.

2.4. Place of work

- Maputo and Gaza Provinces
- Consul offices in Randburg. South Africa

2.5. Timing : December - February, 2010/11

3. Methodology of field study tour

- Research is to be undertaken in the 3 main areas of the support zone: Massingir – Mabalane – Chicualacuala districts
- A questionnaire was drafted for the field research/interviews
- Site orientation and briefing was provided by Rural Consult in Maputo and the Technical Manager Community Services from Limpopo National Park.
- Interpreter support was provided by Limpopo National Park
- Travel by 4 x 4 Land cruiser Truck & camping gear supplied by Limpopo National Park
- Inspection and assessment of potential eco-tourism sites
- GPS mapping of each selected site
- Photographic recording of such sites including all relevant data of the environment of the site.
- Record any particular tourism values of the sites.
- Record the availability of;
 - Fresh potable water
 - Electricity
 - Communication
- Visit community leaders and conduct interview.
- Record possible interventions within the potential sites.
- Ecological restrictions

3.1. Tourism potential in the Limpopo National Park – support zone

- **Data collection prior and during field research**

Analysis of current statistical information on tourism influx into the support zone gathered from the border post at Pafuri and available information from KNP.

- Existing statistics literature, maps, aerial photographs were reviewed and collected prior to commencement of work.
- The first activity was to verify the locations of villages within the support zone.
- Fieldwork commenced from the Mapai Station along the Limpopo River and up to the town of Pafuri.
- The return phase of fieldwork proceeded from Mapai Station down the Limpopo River to the confluence of the Olifants and Limpopo Rivers.
- GPS mapping of the entire route as well as the identification of suitable eco-tourism sites.
- The field survey, consisting of 1 tourism consultant, 1 interpreter and a 4 x 4 vehicle with driver, undertook the survey in the respective 31 villages. The team camped in the camp site just outside of Mapai village.

The reports consulted include the following:

- Research into community based tourism and benefits.”
- Development of the Limpopo National Park and it’s support zone – January 2006”
- Institutional research & Investment catalogue for TFCAs July 2007”
- Strategic Tourism plan for commercialisation – Dec 2010”
- Tourism Sector Mozambique – Irene Visser – 2004”
- Tourism Development Plan – 2004”
- Development of the Limpopo National Park and its support zone” January 2006
- Integrated Development & Business plan for the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park – July 2007
- Socio-economic, Demographic, Land-use and Attitudinal Survey of the communities residing in the Singuedzi River Basin, Limpopo National Park, Gaza Province, Mozambique - 2002

4. Introduction & Back ground

Over the last 8 years several separate reports have been initiated to deal with the potential developments of tourism facilities within the Support Zone of the Park.

Recommendations have been provided for a variety and diversity of facilities and number of facilities, all with the specific intent to create a viable and sustainable income stream through commercially operated facilities by concessionaires, for the communities within the park.

Tourism growth in the support zone is depending on the following conditions;

1. Political stability in the country
2. Quality and well managed facilities
3. Quality roads
4. Security & safety
5. Reliable concessionaires
6. Well managed park

Basic camping sites should have the following:

- Proper directional signage on the main road
- Proper and well maintained access road
- A main entrance
- Demarcated camping sites
- Central basic ablution blocks – Male & Female toilets & showers and wash hand basins (cold water only) from header tanks, which can be heated by the sun during daytime.
- Water is to be pumped from the river by diesel pumps into header tanks on each site.
- Demarcated waste handling area with bins (that is safe for monkeys). Local communities will be responsible for such waste handling and the disposal thereof. (Remuneration to be agreed upon)
- Communication (Mobile network coverage) at main trading centres such as Pafuri – Mapai – Massingir

Planning for tourism growth:

As tourism growth is a gradual process over time, and as the market expands and the demand increase, it would be appropriate to evaluate the changing demands and plan accordingly. Such proactive approaches can ensure the increase in a sustainable commercial activity and benefits to the communities.

The use of concessionaires in the support zone:

The use of concessionaires for the campsites, future chalets and self-catering units is not to be encouraged in the immediate future, as the commercial viability for a concessionaire in the initial years until growth has been achieved will not be achieved.

Furthermore demand for well-trained management, cleaning and general housekeeping of such facilities will be a too big responsibility for the local community to manage, unless proper training and management tools are being provided.

The local communities in the area should be given the opportunity to have small trading outlets, that will be operated when tourist are in the camp, to supply:

- Fire wood
- Fresh Produce
- Honey
- And any other sellable products.

5. Findings & analysis

5.1. Pafuri tourism traffic statistics 2008/9 - 2010

LIMPOPO NATIONAL PARK					
PAFURI BORDER POST - INCOMING TOURIST					
MONTH	2008	2009	% VAR	2010	%VAR
January	150	148	-1.30%	140	-5.4%
February	216	131	-39%	122	-7%
March	231	182	-21%	222	22%
April	138	274	66%	277	1%
May	212	276	30%	248	-10%
June	622	671	8%	534	-20%
July	377	482	28%	438	-9%
August	517	488	-5.60%	591	21%
September	396	525	32.60%	557	6%
October	356	291	-18%	595	104%
November	355	307	-13.50%	385	25%
December	1137	936	-17.70%	950	15%
Total	4707	4711	1%	5059	74%

General notes from interview with Chief Custom Officer Mr. Serrano Cupela;

The South African Tourist arrives in 4 x 4 vehicles with boats and camping trailers, and tends to drive right through to their destinations on the north or south coast.

- The most travelled route for the South African tourist is the Pafuri Gate to Mapai Gate, a very poor road in particular during the high summer season (November – December) which also has the highest rainfalls.
- Incoming tourism Traffic is seriously affected when the Limpopo River level is high, causing traffic not to be able to cross the river at Mapai, which is the route leading the main traffic to Vilankulo, Bazaruto Island, Benguerra Islands etc.
South African tourist then selects the eastern park entrance Giriyyondo, and crossing the park to Mapai Gate and onwards to the beach and island resorts.
- As a result of the very poor road conditions from Mapai Gate to Massingir Gate, resulting from the very heavy rains during the rainy season, only a very limited number of tourists travelled through the park to Massingir Gate. Most tourists do exit at Mapai Gate and take the gravel road, (National Road 208) a distance of some 260 km to Chokwe and onwards to coastal destinations such as Xai Xai – Bilene etc.

5.2. Tourism projections for the Limpopo National Park

“The Tourism Development Plan for the (Limpopo Tourism Consortium 2004) makes recommendations and projections to the number of camps and tourists that the park will accommodate. It projects that there will be 486.180 visitors a year. This figure is high in comparison with whole national tourism figure and annual growth rate.

These projections for LNP have to be considered as very optimistic and should be viewed with great caution. It is recommended that much more conservative figures are used in making economic projections for the area, certainly for the short – to medium term.” (Reference: Tourism development plan 2004).

We concur with the statement above, and recommend that proper research and planning be undertaken prior to any development.

5.3. General distances in relation to Limpopo National Park

LIMPOPO	Giriyondo	Massingir	Mapai	Pafuri
Giriyondo Gate	-	70 km	180 km	260 km
Massingir Gate	70 km	-	180 km	260 km
Mapai Gate	180 km	180 km	-	80 km
Pafuri Gate	260 km	260 km	80 km	-
KRUGER	Giriyondo	Massingir	Mapai	Pafuri
Phalaborwa	90 km	160 km	297 km	377 km
Letaba Camp	40 km	110 km	247 km	327 km
Punda Maria Camp	340 km	410 km	155 km	76 km
MOZAMBIQUE	Giriyondo	Massingir	Mapai	Pafuri
Xai Xai	322 km	252 km	432 km	512 km
Macia	260 km	190 km	370 km	450 km
Maputo	410 km	340 km	520 km	600 km
Inhambane	577km	507km	717km	797km
Vilankulo	813km	743km	953km	1033km
<i>Note: Suggested average speeds for travel within National Parks is 40km / hour and for travel in Mozambique is 80 km / hour</i>				

2010 + MITUR - Parque Nacional do Limpopo - Mozambique

5.4. Tourism camping sites within the support zone;

There are no formal campsites along the route in the support zone from Pafuri – Mapai (80 km) & Mapai – Massingir (180 km), with the exception of the National Park camping site in Mapai.

- The camping site is very well maintained, secure and good facilities such as ablution facilities and cooking facilities for campers. The camp and the facilities are cleaned daily.

Due to the lack of basic camping sites along the main route through the support zone, tourists take the long haul to their final destinations and travel through the park without stopping overnight.

By having camping sites located at the strategic right places with good basic facilities, such camps would be used for both incoming and returning tourist, and would render a good an

sustainable commercial opportunity for the local communities, by selling goods such as fire wood, souvenirs, fresh vegetables, honey etc..

The route travelled for the identification of the sites started at the Mapai village and onto Pafuri Gate, which is also the gate into the park as well as being the border post into South Africa. The return trip from Pafuri Gate went via Mapai Gate and onto Massingir Gate.

5.5. Commercial tourism activity within the support zone;

It was surprising to note that nowhere where there any signs of tourism related trading, craft making or craft markets.

Pafuri Gate – Border post – as an entry and exit point to Mozambique via the Limpopo National Park. The gate is mainly used by South African Tourists as well as Mozambicans and South Africans who cross for trading, family visits and returning home from having worked in neighbouring Countries.





Main road leading from the Pafuri border post



Trading store at Pafuri

The main activity seem to be revolving around the activities around the border post, local market trading of fresh produce and providing goods and services for the many Mozambicans & South Africans crossing the border.

The village does not have any form of tourism trading market or the selling of tourism souvenirs, nor a cultural centre. Therefore no commercial gains are derived from the incoming and outgoing tourists.

Mapai village – as a central trading village and the access & exit point for the majority of South African tourist going to and returning from the coastal resorts around Vilankulo and Xai Xai.





Colourful markets



The village is a vital point of trading for the immediate region, with the distribution of goods from the weekly goods & passenger train from Maputo.

The train runs weekly (Wednesdays) between Maputo and Sango, a town situated on the border to Zimbabwe.

The train serves both as passenger and goods train, providing a lifeline of support for distribution of goods from Maputo to the region along the Limpopo River and in return allowing the local communities to have their fruits, fresh produce, fresh meat sent by train to Maputo fresh produce markets and other traders. This constitutes an important commercial activity that is sustaining the communities in and out of the support zone of the Limpopo National Park.

Massingir Village – is a village close to the Massingir dam and is a central trading village for the immediate region around the Massingir dam as well as for the traffic between Chokwe and Massingir Gate.

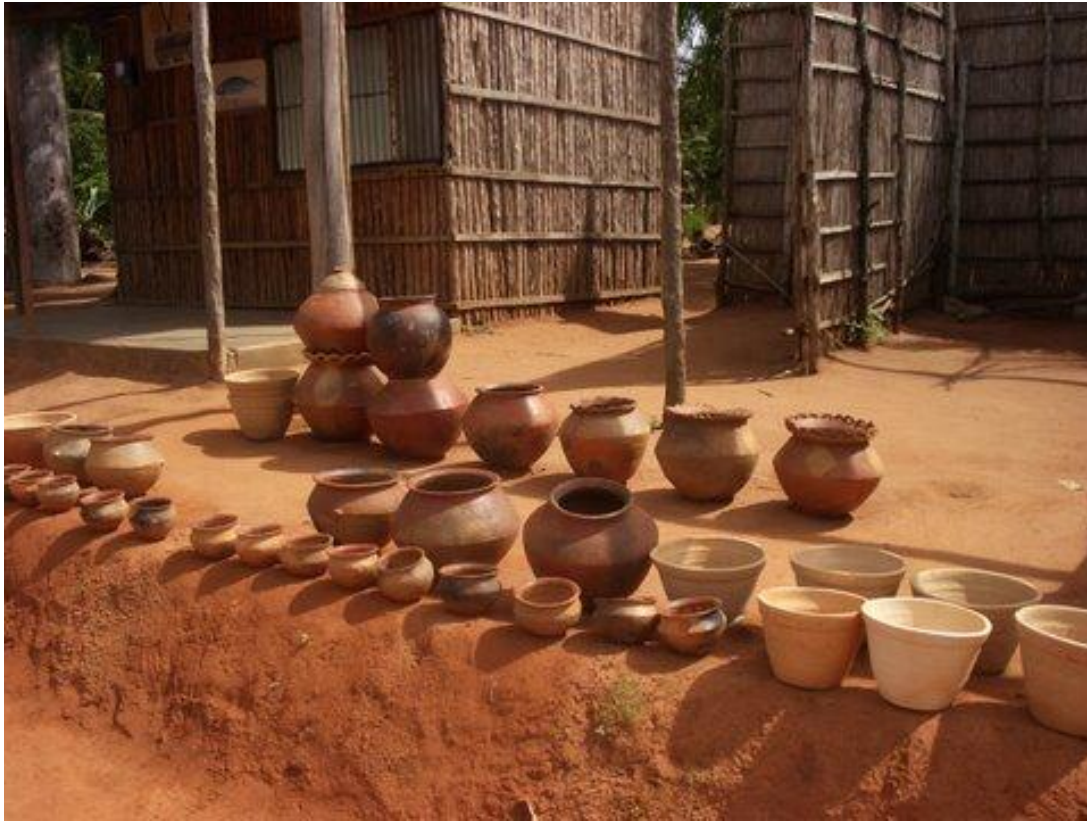


With the Massingir dam as a potential future tourism destination and with the traffic in and out of the Massingir Gate, the opportunities for tourism trade should be developed, in particular a tourist market similar to the tourism destinations along the coast.

A typical tourist trading stall along the road side on the coast







5.6. The condition of roads:

Road from Massingir to Chokwe;

There are currently plans for the repair and upgrading of the tarred road from Chokwe to Massingir Gate, the works are to commence early 2011. The upgrade will materially improve the traffic through Massingir to the support zone, and shorten the travelling time to and from the LNP.

Roads in the support zone;

As part of the Tourism Master plan 2004 provisions for the repair and upgrade of the roads from Pafuri to Massingir has been planned, and according to 's office at Massingir Gate, the roads will be repaired and put into a very good condition during the early part of 2011.

To secure a constant flow of tourist year round it is sincerely recommended that a causeway be built over the Limpopo River at Mapai. The flooding of the river at certain times of the year does have a negative impact on the incoming traffic into the park at Pafuri, which eventually has a negative impact on any tourism development proposals.



Crossing the Limpopo River



Crossing Limpopo River at Mapai Villaga



Crossing Limpopo River at Mapai village





It has eventually been realized by the Government and the LNP authorities that there is a serious need to have the roads graded and contoured to improve the commercial, tourism and private traffic taking place within the support zone.

This will be an improvement in particular for the tourism industry, as the number of tourists from South Africa will invariably increase, thus bringing more people through the Gates, the park and villages and subsequently increased opportunities for creating commercial activities with the subsequent benefits to the local communities in the support zone.

5.7. Villages in the support zone

The following 31 villages were visited between 7th and 12th of December 2010;

5.7.1. Pafuri district – Chicualacuala villages – 18 off

- Chipeluene – part of Hasane
- Hasane
- Nwamavique
- Panhame
- Maringa – part of Panhame
- Tchoe – part of Chicumbane
- Chicumbane –Mapai Rio
- Lisenga
- Sihogonhe – part of Matsilele
- Matsilele
- Mbehti – part of Matsilele
- Chicoro – part of Salane
- Salane
- Chitsutsuine
- Muguambane
- Ndlala – part of Mbuzi
- Mbuzi
- Chicumba

5.7.2. Mabalane District – Mabalane Villages – 10 off

- Muchacha
- Chicondzo
- Matafula/Mvundla
- Hasane/Mabalane
- Mahawane
- Matsambo
- Zulu
- Chirete-Ngacha
- Ndope

Massingir District – Massingir villages – 4 off

- Djelene
- Chibotane
- Macavene
- Massingir

Population in the villages within the support zone

(reference to data collected in 2006 – Support zone feasibility study report 2006)

Village Name	District	Posto Administrativo	Inhabitants number	Families number	School	Clinic	Well & Pump (working)	Pump not functional
Chiconzo	Mabalane	Combomune	397	98				1
Hassane (Combomune)	Mabalane	Combomune	356	68				
Macuva	Mabalane	Combomune	182	31				
Matafula	Mabalane	Combomune	333	82				
Matsambo	Mabalane	Combomune	960	240				
Muchache	Mabalane	Combomune	104	24				
Mvundla	Mabalane	Combomune	129	37				1
Zulo	Mabalane	Combomune	231	82				
Chicumbane	Chicualacuala	Mapai	1,226	268				
Chipuluene	Chicualacuala	Mapai	167	40				
Hassane (Mapai)	Chicualacuala	Mapai	242	50				
Lissenga	Chicualacuala	Mapai	673	121				
Nwamavique	Chicualacuala	Mapai	231	54				
Panhame	Chicualacuala	Mapai	336	120	1			
Tchoe	Chicualacuala	Mapai	437	113				
Chibotane	Massingir	Mavoze	972	262	1	1		1
Madingane	Massingir	Mavoze	359	78				
Chimangue	Mabalane	N'thlavene	251	89			1	
Dgelene	Mabalane	N'thlavene	620	194				
Maguezi	Mabalane	N'thlavene	257	89			1	
Mahanuque	Mabalane	N'thlavene	511	193			1	
Ndope	Mabalane	N'thlavene	832	250			1	
Ngacha	Mabalane	N'thlavene	618	221				
Nkumba	Mabalane	N'thlavene	221	82				
N'thlavene	Mabalane	N'thlavene	949	303			1	
Nyimbayinwe 'A'	Mabalane	N'thlavene	801	308			1	
Nyimbayinwe 'B'	Mabalane	N'thlavene	701	212				1
Chicoro	Chicualacuala	Pafuri	165	40				
Chicumba	Chicualacuala	Pafuri	328	100	1	1		
Chitsutsuine	Chicualacuala	Pafuri	363	83				
Matsilele	Chicualacuala	Pafuri	455	85				
Mbeti	Chicualacuala	Pafuri	215	53				
Mbuzi	Chicualacuala	Pafuri	196	64	1		1	
Mlalhangalene	Chicualacuala	Pafuri	170	53				
Muguambane	Chicualacuala	Pafuri	420	103				
Ndlala	Chicualacuala	Pafuri	191	39				
Salane	Chicualacuala	Pafuri	392	71				
Sihogonye	Chicualacuala	Pafuri						
Chipanzo	Massingir	Zulo	178	56				1
Cunze	Massingir	Zulo	511	102				
Macarringue	Massingir	Zulo	2,320	536	1	1	1	
Maconguele	Massingir	Zulo	419	122				1
Macuachane	Massingir	Zulo	322	82				
Munhamane	Massingir	Zulo	484	198				

TOTAL

20,225	5,490
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5.8. Interview of local community leaders

In preparation for the research, a questionnaire was prepared for the interview with the community leaders.

The following Community leaders were interviewed:

Mr Chief Mapai – Massingir District

Mr. Alves Maluleke – Chicualacuala District

Mr. Carlos Benzane – Mapai village

Mr. Armano Maluleke – Salane village

Other community leaders were either in the fields or away from the village at the time of the visit to the village. No prior arrangements had been made with such community leaders.

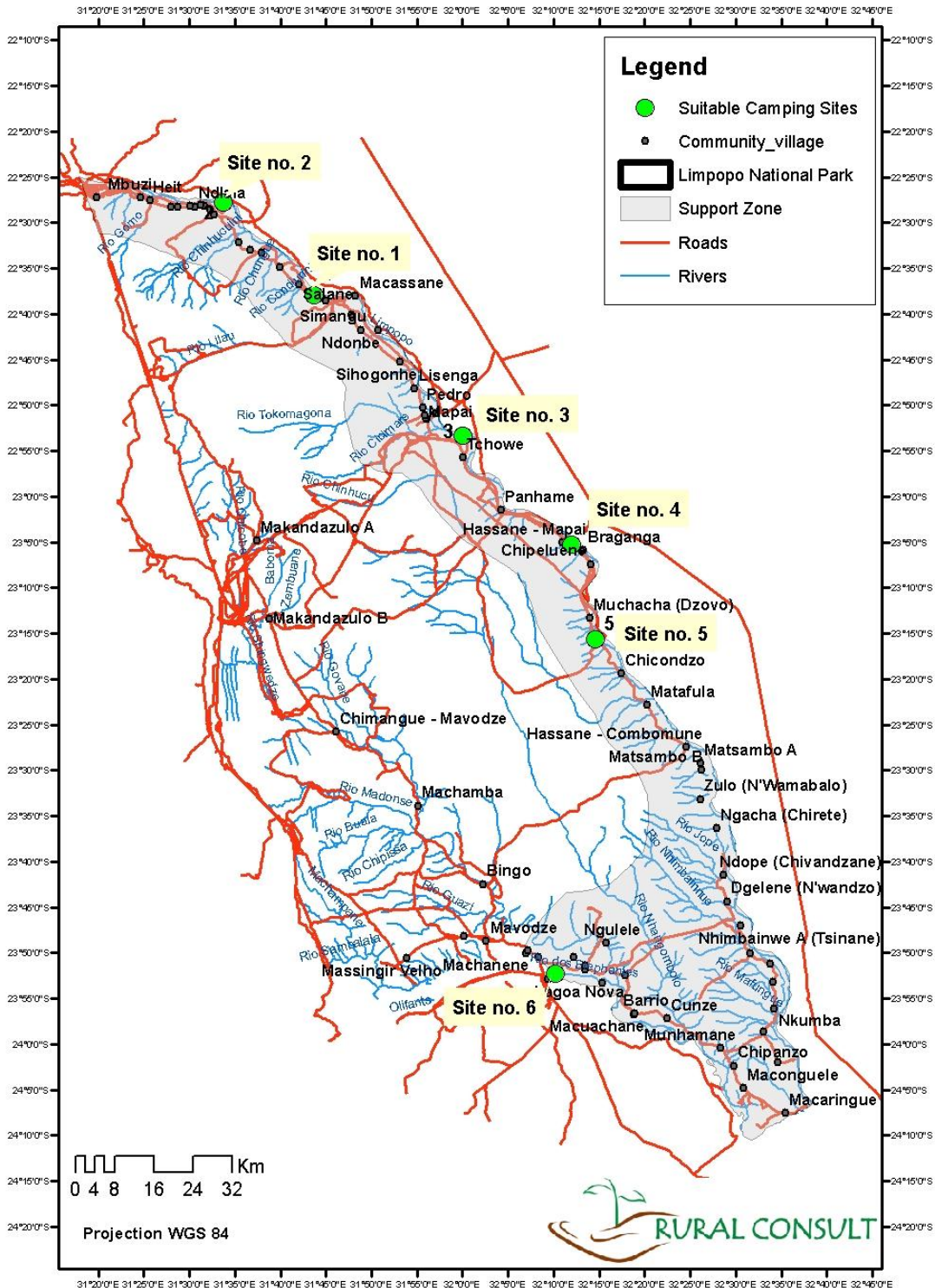
Summary of the essentials of the interview of the community leaders'

1. There is a fundamental desire to partake in and benefit from tourism, although the full understanding of the benefits of tourism is not yet understood.
2. It is expected that proper induction and training into tourism and its benefits will be provided to the relevant people in the communities, such as community leader.
3. There are individuals within the communities that have education such as teachers and church leaders that could be trained in tourism guiding etc. to supplement their income.
4. There are also individuals that can be trained for handicraft making. Suggestions were made to produce goods out of horns & hides.
5. The issue of cultural tourism was well received, and was considered very favourably, as that was one aspect of tourism they would be able to communicate over and understood to the full. There was a request that certain issue such as respect of privacy within the village to be communicated to tourists.
6. The issue of the English language is expected to be part of the training. As only the community leaders and teachers could master the English language.
7. There was very much interest in the opportunity to sell fresh produce, honey and fire wood to tourist in the proposed camp sites.
8. Service provisions to the camp sites by the relevant community people, is a service they expect to be remunerated for.

In general there was a positive attitude towards the concept of tourism and the potential for being part of the industry through active participation during employment and trade.

There was initially a certain amount of resentment against the Mozambique government for having over considerable time been promised various aspect of tourism from which they would benefit.

6. Identification & GPS mapping of suitable camping sites



6.1. Selected tourism development sites

5 sites have been selected inside the support zone along the Limpopo River:

- Site no. 1 (14) - by Salane/Chicoro village
- Site no. 2 (15) - by Muguambane village
- Site no. 3 (16) – by Tchoe village
- Site no. 4 (17) – by Hasane village
- Site no. 5 (18) - by Chicondzo village

1 site has been selected outside the support zone:

- Site no. 6 (19) - by Mashanguene village, close to the Massingir Gate & Elephants river.

- **Site no. 1**

1. Location: **31° 43' 43"E; 22° 37' 51"S** by Salane/Chicoro village
2. Photo series:







3. Site features: Great River view – large trees with shade – deep site to expand for growth. Close to the future game corridors, important to tourists.
4. Access road conditions: Poor access road – close to main road. Can be improved upon.
5. Ecological constraints: Close to river frontage, 3 meter drop to river edge, could present problem if river overflows.
6. Proposed type of camp;

<i>Phase 1</i>	<i>Basic camp with ablution facility</i>
<i>Phase 2</i>	<i>Basic camp extended to include trading store</i>

7. Support services to be provided to the camp by the community:

- Provision of water
- Cleaning of camp facilities
- Waste handling

8. Support services to be provided by the

- Construction services
- Maintenance
- Manpower
- Finance

- **Site no. 2**

1. Location: **31° 33' 48''E; 22° 27' 46''S** by Muguambane Village

2. Photo series:







Site no. 2 - Muguambane site - Elevated view from site over dry river bed



Site no 2 - Muguambane site - Elevated view of river bed from site



3. Site features:

- A remote site, away from the main road
- A site that has potential for longer stay tourists and not only as one night stop over.
- The site is close to the future game corridors and of importance to tourist.
- Great River view and river environment
- Large trees with shade
- Deep site to expand for growth.
- The power lines is a negative – but is mitigated by the great site

4. Access road conditions: Only 4 x 4 vehicles on access road – dry river bed crossing.

5. Ecological constraints: None

6. Proposed type of camp;

<i>Phase 1</i>	<i>Basic camp with ablution facility</i>
<i>Phase 2</i>	<i>Basic camp extended to include trading store</i>

7. Support services to be provided to the camp by the community:

Provision of water
 Cleaning of camp facilities
 Waste handling

8. Support services to be provided by the

- Construction services
- Maintenance
- Manpower
- Finance

• **Site no. 3**

1. Location: **32° 0' 4"E; 22° 53' 17"S** by Tchoe Village
2. Photo series:





3. Site features:

- River front site – long narrow site
- Ideal for one night stop over
- Great River view
- Large trees with shade along the site
- Deep site to expand for growth.
- Very close to palm plantation where palm wine is being produced.

4. Access road conditions: Only 4 x 4 vehicles on access road.

5. Ecological constraints: The supply of water could present a problem. Department of water affairs are planning a major dam in the vicinity of the site.

6. Proposed type of camp;
Phase 1 Basic camp with ablution facility
7. Support services to be provided to the camp by the community:
Provision of water
 - a. Cleaning of camp facilities
 - b. Waste handling
8. Support services to be provided by the
Construction services
Maintenance
Manpower
Finance

- **Site no. 4**

1. Location: **32 °12' 2"E; 23° 5' 11"S** by Hassane Village
2. Photo series:





3. Site features:

- The site is in a palm grove
- Ideal site for one night stop over
- Large trees with shade dispersed over the site
- Elongated site to expand for growth.

4. Access road conditions: Only 4 x 4 vehicles on access road

5. Ecological constraints: In a palm plantation – palm wine making

6. Proposed type of camp;

Phase 1 Basic camp with ablution facility

7. Support services to be provided to the camp by the community:

- Provision of water
- Cleaning of camp facilities
- Waste handling

8. Support services to be provided by the

- Construction services
- Maintenance
- Manpower
- Finance

• **Site no. 5**

1. Location: **32° 14' 37"E; 23° 15' 33"S** by Chicondzo Village

2. Photo series:







Site no.6. - Chicondza site - View of site



Site no 5. - Chicondzo Site - great view over river - safe distance from river edge



3. Site features:

- A beautiful river edge site
- Great River view
- Large trees with shade
- The site expanding along the river edge, expand for growth for extra camp sites but also chalets in the future.
- Negative: Close to small agricultural field

4. Access road conditions: Only 4 x 4 vehicles on access road – easy access to site from main road.
5. Ecological constraints: None
6. Proposed type of camp;

<i>Phase 2</i>	<i>Basic camp to include ablution facility & trading store</i>
<i>Phase 3</i>	<i>Basic camp extended to include self catering chalets</i>
7. Support services to be provided to the camp by the community:
 - Provision of water
 - Cleaning of camp facilities
 - Waste handling
8. Support services to be provided by the
 - Construction services
 - Maintenance
 - Manpower
 - Finance

• **Site no. 6**

1. Location: **32° 10' 15"E; 23° 52' 13"S** Massingir Community Lodge site
2. Photo series:









Site no 6. - Massingir Community Lodge Site - view into the site with many trees



Site no 6, Massingir Community Lodge Site - site view

3. Site features:

- The site is elevated and overlooking the Elephantes River
- Great River view
- Many large trees with shade
- Deep site to expand for growth.
- Ideal site for a permanent camp

4. Access road conditions: Only 4 x 4 vehicles on access road

5. Ecological constraints: None

6. Proposed type of camp;

Phase 3 - Basic camp extended to include self-catering chalets including ablution facility & trading store.

ALTERNATIVE: Consideration could be given to provide a permanent tented camp rather than chalets.

The tented camp would add an additional accommodation support to the chalet facilities at the Massingir gate.

7. Support services to be provided to the camp by the community:

- Provision of water
- Cleaning of camp facilities
- Waste handling

8. Support services to be provided by the

- Construction services
- Maintenance
- Manpower
- Finance

7. Identified potential Eco tourism type projects

(Reference to & content re-modelled from the PNL Tourism Development plan 2004)

7.1. Camp sites

Based upon the research in the support zone, evaluation of potential sites and considering the tourism growth factors in the and in the support zone, we have come to the conclusion that, within the immediate current tourism activity and in the anticipation of the growth in the short to medium term, the following three types should be considered;

Basic camp site

- 4 - 6 camp sites permitting 4 person per site
- A central ablution facility (male and female)
- Grey water will be split and will be disposed of in a French drain
- Effluent will be disposed of in a septic tank, linked to a French drain
- Each camp site will have a grill & cooking area, water tap and monkey proof dustbin

Basic camp site & trading store

- 4 - 6 camp sites permitting 4 person per site
- A central ablution facility (male and female)
- Grey water will be split and will be disposed of in a French drain
- Effluent will be disposed of in a septic tank, linked to a French drain
- Each camp site will have a grill & cooking area, water tap and monkey proof dustbin
- A small trading store for the local community operating when camp is occupied

Basic camp site & trading store & self-catering chalets

- 10 stands (4 persons per stand)
- A central ablution facility (male and female)
- Grey water will be split and will be disposed of in a French drain
- Effluent will be disposed of in a septic tank, linked to a French drain

- Each camp site will have a grill & cooking area, water tap and monkey proof dustbin
- A small trading store for the local community operating when camp is occupied.
- 4 self-catering chalets each with 2 x 2 bed rooms, 1 bath room & toilet, lounge & kitchen (gas operated).

Camping site features:

- Proper directional signage on the main road
- Proper and well maintained access road
- A main entrance & gate for registration of arrivals & departures
- Demarcated camping sites
- Demarcated and screened off waste handling area with bins (that is lock-safe for baboons). Local communities will be responsible for such waste handling and the disposal thereof. (Remuneration to be agreed upon)
- Communication (Mobile network coverage) at main trading centres such as Pafuri – Mapai – Massingir

7.2. Needs Analysis

The basic needs for the LNP authority are:

- Create an early opportunity to attract tourists to the LNP. This will not only generate income, but will also confirm certain market needs.
- Maximize the possible income generated for LNP, without negatively impacting on the wilderness qualities of the area.
- Maximize opportunities created for the local communities during development and operational phase. This includes labour, as well as the supply of products or services.
- Ensure that the integrity of the area is retained through effective conservation management of the area. This includes the protection of fauna and flora as well as managing other external and internal impacts.

7.3. Project Benefits

The expected project benefit includes the following:

- The three basic camp developments will allow visitors into the LNP support zone at a very early stage.
- Income will be generated for the LNP support zone community.
- Jobs and other opportunities will be created for the local communities.
- Money will flow into the region, which would benefit the communities.

7.4. Environmental Impacts

Environmental Guidelines must be developed by the LNP, which will also form part of the development process. The Environmental Guidelines must address all issues that can affect or impact on the environment. This will also define the EIA Process to be followed, as well as the

appointment of an independent Environmental Control Officer during the development and operational phase, to monitor the implementation of the development plan.

The environmental implications should be kept to a minimum with this type of development, and must be evaluated during the EIA Process.

7.5. Resource Requirements

The three camp site models will be designed and developed as part of the LNP Management Infrastructure. The Consultants appointed will design the facilities and manage the development. The resources required for these products for the various Phases are as follows:

Phase 1 - Planning Phase

- Management Infrastructure Consultants (Complete design and project planning)
- LNP Staff (Provide inputs in Planning Phase)
- EIA consultant to complete EIA
- Where applicable, concessionaires are to be selected and appointed.
- Identify suitable tourism training program suitable for the purpose of training the local community members.

Phase 2 - Development Phase

- Management Infrastructure Consultants (Manage the construction phase)
- Contractor(s) who will complete the development, with maximum local community employment.
- Commence the actual tourism industry training program

Phase 3 - Operational Phase

- LNP Staff and Management to hand over the sites to the local communities.
- LNP Staff to regularly inspect the facilities
- LNP staff to provide the maintenance & service requirements

7.6. Model of Business plan

7.6.1. Key requirements for success:

- Well researched and planned concept
- The right location
- An economical & acceptable design
- Well managed project development
- Well trained staff
- Good internal operational & control procedures
- Good and effective marketing
- Market related pricing structure
- Well maintained

7.6.2. Market assessment for each type;

- Our experience tells us that the particular type of tourist currently travelling through the park will make use of such facilities.
- The selected sites are basic, thus will be reasonable economic for tourist to make us of.
- The type of facilities is in line with similar site currently being developed within the greater LNP, so the standard theme of accommodation camps is carried through.

7.6.3. Recommendations on quantity of each type/size that the market can absorb;

- The identified sites and the particular

7.7. Feasibility study

A generic sample applicable to the tourism industry that is very suitable for the type of study required by the LNP authority in respect of the proposed Eco tourism developments:

Summary

- 1.1. Project Proposal
- 1.2. Summary of results
- 1.3. Conclusion

Sponsors

- 1.4. Sponsors
- 1.5. Capital structure

The project

1. Concept
2. Environmental aspects
3. Economic impact
4. Community aspects
5. Staffing
6. Implementation

SWOT (Strengths , Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats analysis) Analysis

1. Analysis
2. Operational risks
3. Potential
4. Preconditions for optimal operations

Strategic Marketing Plan

“The Operators Strategy”

Regional / International sales

National Business market

Conference market

Sales offices/Agent & Operators

Financial Assumptions

1. Basic Assumptions
2. Operational Assumptions
3. Capacities
4. Occupancies
5. Achievable Rates
6. Revenue Calculations
7. Departmental Profit Contributions
8. Depreciation & Amortization Schedule

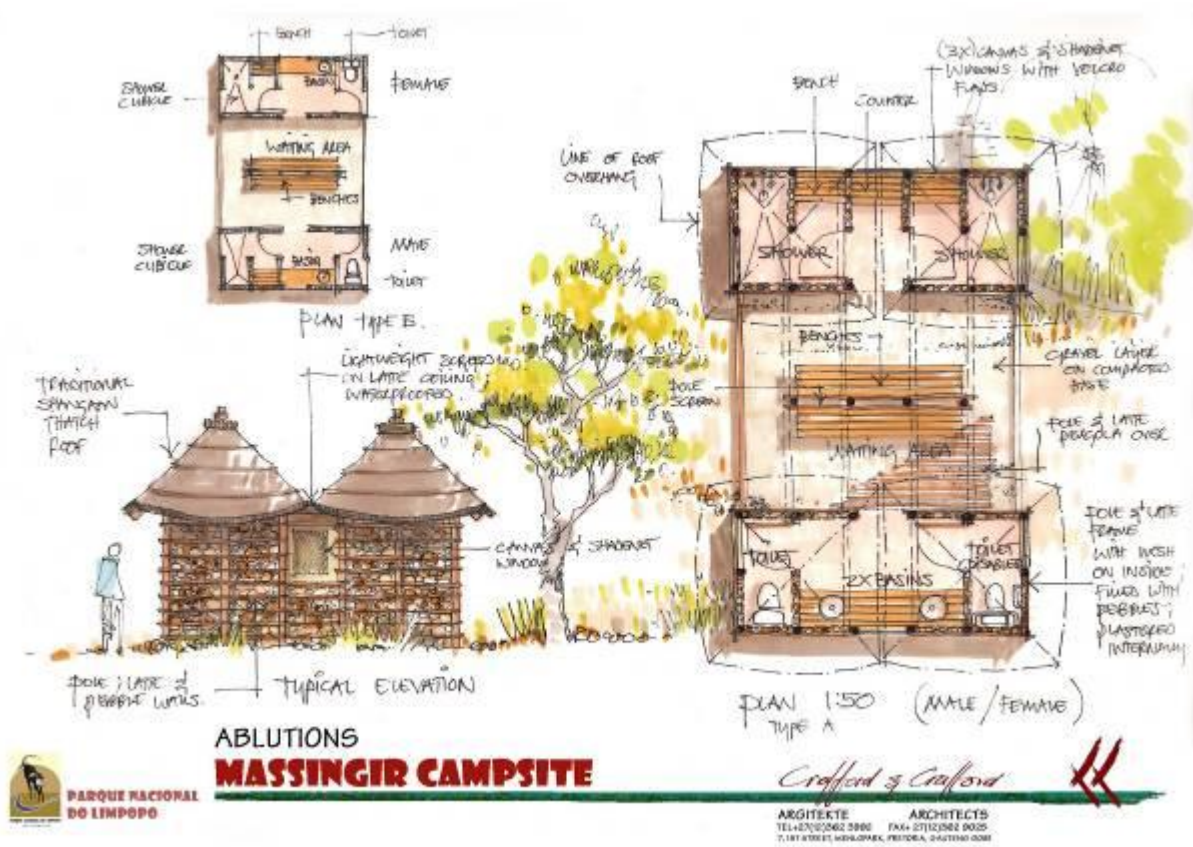
Financial Details

1. Investment Detail
 - a. Capex
 - b. Financing Plan
 - c. Term Loan Repayment & Interest
1. Ten Year Income Statement
2. Working Capital & Cash Flow Forecasts
3. Balance Sheet
4. Key Indicators
 - d. Internal Rate of Return
 - e. Return on Equity
 - f. Debt Service Coverage Ratio

7.8. Investment needs

Development cost for the 3 variations of camp sites can only be established when the *Phase 1 - Planning phase* has been completed, and the appropriate market research and feasibility studies have been completed, identifying the market needs and development cost, on which the planning can proceed.

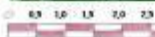
7.9. Camp facilities design concepts





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**WASH-UP AREA
PROPOSED 2 x 2 SHOWER CABIN**



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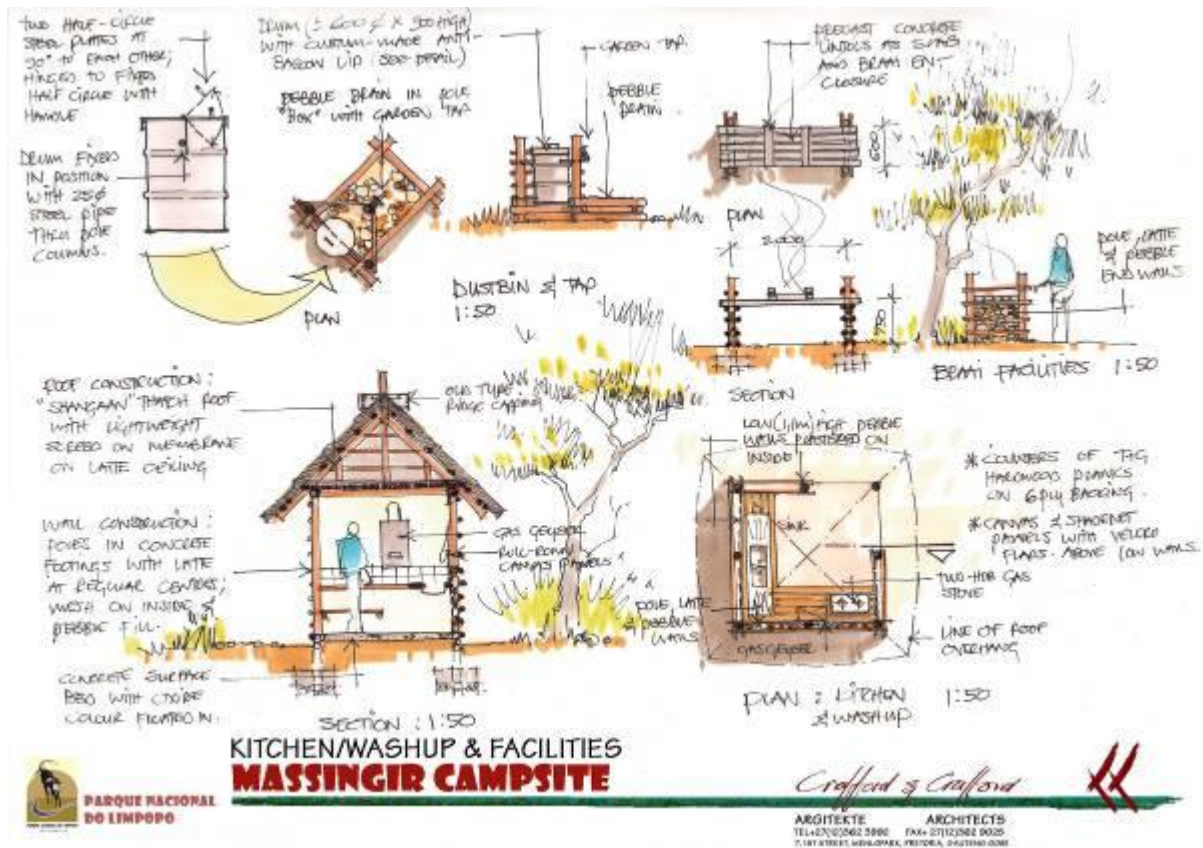
PARQUE NACIONAL DO LIMPOPO

**ABLUTIONS
MASSINGIR CAMPSITE**

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7.10. Cultural Tourism

Resulting from the interviews with the local community leaders, it became apparent that there is a great opportunity to develop Cultural Tourism in co-operation with the local communities under the guidance of the community leaders.

The introduction to the cultural aspects of the local people to tourist, including the customs and traditions of people, their heritage, history and way of life, including the farming tradition & a cattle farming, is of great value from a tourist point of view, and can be very beneficial as an income stream to the local communities.

The community leaders welcomed the opportunity to interact with tourist, and could see the commercial opportunity by the visiting of tourist to their villages. There is however a request that there would be a need to have proper training of the local guides and proper instructions including programs of tours in place and what is cultural acceptable to the local people when guests are walking around in the villages.

Consideration should be given to create a Historical - cultural centre in the Pafuri Town as part of the recognition of the MHINGA people's history and traditions; this would complement to tourism revenue generating aspect of the town and will also generate a wider interest in the local people of the region and the greater Limpopo National Park.

7.11. Tourism Craft Markets

Consideration should be given to the creation of specific tourism craft markets in the following locations;

- Pafuri town – close to the border exit
- Mapai town – close to the current market
- Massingir town – close to the current market

During the visits to the towns of Pafuri, Mapai & Massingir it became apparent that tourism craft markets are not part of the general market activities and that there are no tourism products/souvenirs etc. for sale in those towns, nor at any other place in the support zone.

Rationale:

As a result of the upgrading and considerable improvements to the roads between the Pafuri Gate and Massingir Gate, it is expected to increase the traffic of tourist over the next years to come. (refer to Tourism statistics from Pafuri)

With the tourism developments taking place in the South Eastern and central part of the , as part of the Master Plan for tourism developments in , the granting of concessions to private operators and the development of specific 4 x 4 routes and camps etc.. It is anticipated that there will equally be an increase in tourism influx into the supports zone, which will have a positive impact on the proposed commercial Eco tourism projects in the support zone.

Objective:

The establishment of a craft market should be the initiative of the local council, with support for the training of the local women and men, through the involvement of local community upliftment programs, where the women and men can be trained in the manufacture and sales of tourism handicraft.

Typical type of tourist souvenir stalls from Mozambique:



Choice of souvenirs: bags – paintings – handcrafted souvenirs.



Typical road side tourist stall





7.11.1. Basic requirements for the establishment of a small scale Tourism craft training & manufacturing

Rationale

Natural medicinal plants, bee keeping is already a natural activity in the LNP, which could, when properly addressed become an additional revenue earning activity. However when it comes to the harvesting of natural resources in the park. There are some controlling measures and monitoring currently in place, like who is harvesting, where and quantities.

Selling handicrafts and natural products such as Marula beer, Palm wine, and honey to the tourist, should be part of the revenue earning income in the support zone.

Objective

- Identify traditional handmade products such as; mats, clothing, tools, wooden carvings and the process on how to make them.
- Train local community members in handy craft making and have it sold on to the craft markets.

7.11.2. Establishment of craft markets and their location

Objective

To encourage local community representatives to establish small craft markets in the main trading villages such as Pafuri, Mapai and Massingir.

Create small viable income generating businesses

Location & signage;

- The location should preferably be close to the main road where the tourists are travelling.
- The market could be close by the local main market of the village to allow for spill- over trade, or close to a Petrol station, where tourist invariably will stop.
- Directional signage should be erected at the entry to the town to encourage travellers to consider stopping.
- Proper directional signage within the village directing the tourists to the craft market.

Type & quality of the stalls;

- The craft market should consist of small stalls, where individual traders can trade from.
- The stalls shall be easily accessible.
- The stalls shall have cover for protection against sun & rain.
- Safety and fair trade shall be the hallmark of the environment to ensure a success.

Support & Linkage:

Traders from Maputo and elsewhere in Mozambique should be contacted and encouraged to take their goods for sale at these small craft markets.

The following support and linkage will be required in order to secure the success of the eco tourism development projects;

- Linkage with Community organizations operating in the region such as Lupa Community Projects
- How to manufacture souvenirs
- Training in the sale of souvenirs

NGO support to be provided through community organizations such as Lupa Community Projects and similar organizations.

7.12. Tourism awareness and training

Rationale

The main revenue earner in the LNP should come from tourism and tourism related activities, but as there are very few tourism facilities to welcome tourist and for tourist to trade, such facilities should be developed, and the people should be trained in the tourism trade.

Objective

Training would assist the local community members to interact with tourism and tourist, as well as playing a vital role in the camp site facilities.

Activity

- Training in understanding tourism
- How to handle and welcome tourist
- How to trade with tourists
- Visit existing markets
- Visit lodges like Covane Lodge

7.13. Covane Community Lodge - Massingir District

The Covane Community Lodge is an example of a successful community project with direct ownership and participation by the Canhane Community.

The African Safari Lodge Foundation - ASLF has been involved with Covane Community Lodge (now known as Covane Fishing and Safari Lodge) since 2005, and there is great excitement regarding developments and the impending re launch in May 2011. This community-led initiative is located close to Massingir in Gaza Province on the outskirts of the Limpopo National Park. Owned by the Canhane community, the lodge was originally established with the support of Helvetas, a Swiss NGO, which has subsequently been taken over by Lupa, a Mozambique-based NGO.

The lodge is under new management and subject to raising the necessary financing, the Covane Fishing and Safari Lodge, is currently being transformed into a 3-4 star lodge through an innovative and transparent process between the Canhane community and private investors. The ASLF assisted the Canhane community to negotiate an operating and marketing contract with Transfrontier Parks Destinations.

In May 2011, the lodge will have a 'soft opening' with limited camping and water - based activities available.

(Reference: Extracts from: Eleanor Muller - August 10, 2010 [Under: African Safari Lodge Foundation newsletters](#))

Architectural design from Crafford & Crafford Architects.



COVANE COMMUNITY LODGE

SITE LAYOUT PLAN

Crafford & Crafford
ARCHITECTS



COVANE COMMUNITY LODGE

Crafford & Crafford
ARCHITECTS



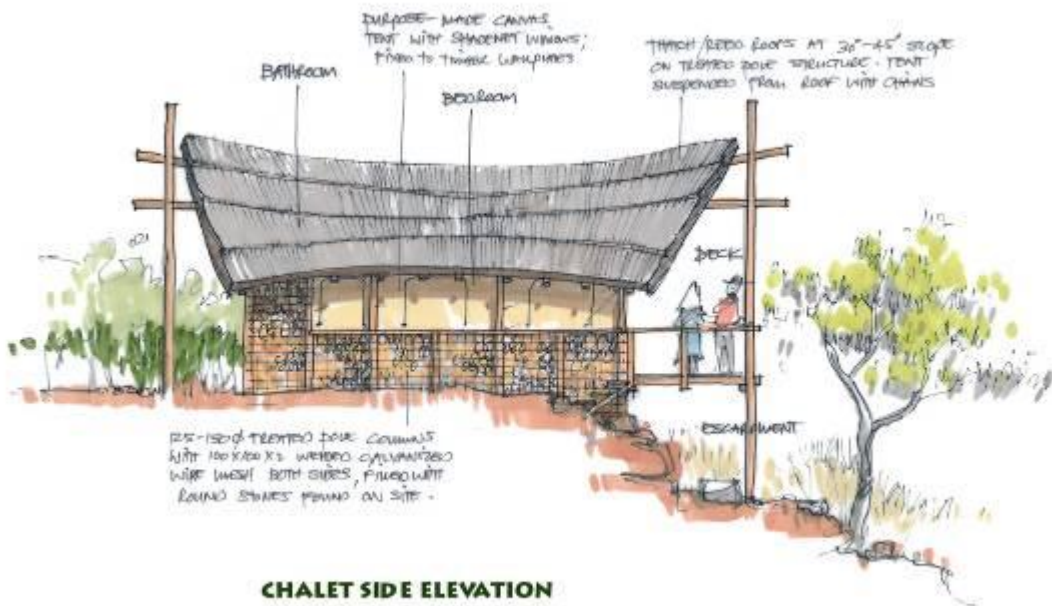
NORTH ELEVATION



**EAST ELEVATION
PROPOSED MAIN COMPLEX**

COVANE COMMUNITY LODGE

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CHALET SIDE ELEVATION

COVANE COMMUNITY LODGE

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Training at Covane Lodge

Paulo Pires, Director for Proserv Tourism Mozambique, is part of a team contracted by the ASLF to provide tourism and hospitality skills training to existing and new staff at Covane, and to build tourism awareness in the local community. He says that training is an essential component to the success of Covane lodge. 'Building infrastructure alone will not attract guests and make the place a sustainable business. We need to build skills to ensure that the community is able to involve themselves in the running of the lodge and that as many people in the community as possible benefit from the business.

Covane is unique because it involves a local community who have used existing legislation to first secure their land and then use it to establish a viable tourism business in partnership with a private partner. This was done through the hard work of many partners including Helvetas, who assisted the community with the registration of their land. We believe Covane sets an important example for other communities who have valuable tourism land at their disposal'.

(Reference: Extracts from: Eleanor Muller - August 10, 2010 Under: African Safari Lodge Foundation newsletters)

8. Conclusion

The results of the research do positively identify the need for development of Eco tourism projects as illustrated above. Although the occupation levels and subsequent viability is expected to be starting from a low base, we are confident that with proper analysis, planning and implementation, and most importantly the training of the local people, the tourism industry will add benefits through employment and trade for the local communities.

Furthermore on the strength of the improved infrastructures and the substantial tourism development projects within the Greater Limpopo National Park, there is sufficient substantiation to explore the implementation of the selected camp sites in the support zone.

The development of tourist markets, manufacture and sales of handicraft, introduction of cultural tours to selected villages, will add to the so needed commercialization and assistance to the communities within the support zone.

9. Recommendations

It is recommended that the identified tourism projects be pursued and explored for the eventual implementation;

- Implementation of 5 camping sites within the support zone
- Implementation of the Massingir community site (outside the support zone)
- Development of small scale handicraft manufacturing industry in the villages, through appropriate training in the manufacture and the distribution and sale thereof.
- Development of tourist markets in the 3 prime tourist centres;
 - Pafuri border post/town
 - Mapai town
 - Massingir town

- Tourism training programs for tour guides (Cultural Tourism)
- Tourism training for the camping sites services

A phased approach to the process is essential and would require the LNP authority to establish a master plan for the research & implementation of the proposed Eco - tourism projects.

“Unless this approach is adhered to and the right professional team appointed. The Limpopo National Park – support zone Eco-tourism initiative could become a textbook example on how to impoverish local communities in favour of conservation ideals and eco-tourism opportunities that mostly benefit a privileged minority of outsiders who do not suffer the negative consequences of these changes.” (Ref. Tourism Dev. Plan 2004)