



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT,
FORESTRY AND TOURISM



PRESS RELEASE

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SUCCESSFUL INTERVENTIONS FOR HIPPOS IN SALAMBALA CONSERVANCY

We are pleased to inform the public that the Ministry's recent interventions to rescue the hippos stranded in the Salambala Conservancy have been highly successful. The ongoing drought had caused the pond where these hippos lived to dry up significantly, leaving only mud.

In May 2024, the situation was deemed critical and required immediate action. The Ministry committed to resolving the crisis and has taken several significant steps. Our latest effort involved procuring a high-capacity water pump and generator, valued at N\$66,531. The pump, which delivers 18,000 liters per hour, was installed in June.

Since its installation, water levels in the pond have risen, providing much-needed relief and hope for the hippos' survival. Our goal is to maintain sufficient water levels in the pond until the next rainy season. This new pump replaces a smaller unit purchased in April, which had limited effectiveness. Additionally, the Ministry has installed a solar-powered system to complement the generator, ensuring water is pumped during daylight hours. We have also supplied over 2,600 liters of fuel to Salambala Conservancy staff responsible for operating the pump.

These efforts highlight the Ministry's commitment to wildlife conservation and the crucial role it plays in the social and economic advancement of communities, particularly in communal areas.

While the situation is improving, we will continue to monitor it closely and take appropriate measures as needed. We are also pleased to report that there have been no mortalities among the hippos to date. The pond remains an essential source of drinking water for both wildlife and livestock in the region. The Ministry remains dedicated to addressing conservation challenges and advancing benefits for all citizens.

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