

Strengthening Environmental Assessment (EA) practices in Namibia

Theme 1: Specialist studies in EIA's - how to promote a
more systematic approach

**Good practice in archaeological
assessments: John Kinahan**

Archaeological Guidelines

Intended for the client, **not** the specialist:

- Laws without regulations
- Industry without standards
- Promote interest and support
- Opportunity rather than obstruction
- AA/EA is the main (only?) funded research in Namibia
- Research must link with development

Role of the archaeologist

As scientist

- Operate to accepted standards of the discipline
- Retain full records of all fieldwork and analyses
- Consider the “knowledge dividend” i.e. EA must be RESEARCH DRIVEN

As consultant

- Independent of proponent and regulators
- Answerable to proponent i.r.o. confidentiality &c
- Advise proponent as to appropriate mitigation measures

Archaeology – why bother?

- Time depth *vs* synoptic description
 - Climate change – no buffers
- Landscape systems – time, space and process
 - High density & good precision
 - Human response – climate proxy

The last 2 000 years

