



## WORKSHOP REPORT

### RINAWA – Guideline Validation Workshop [Activity 1.5 on WP1]

Hosted by SAWC at the Birchwood Hotel, Johannesburg  
13 February 2025



# RINAWA - Validation workshop on R&I guidelines

## Workshop Report

### CONTEXT

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The RINaWa project is about **‘Strengthening Research and Innovation (R&I) in Natural Resources Management (NRM) and Waste Management (WM)’**. It is being implemented in four target countries: Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia-

“It is in response to the Southern African Development Community’s (SADC’s) Regional Development Agenda and the 2020-2030 SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP). The project, thus, seeks to address challenges confronting SADC as it strives to support the region in attaining sustainable natural resource management and waste management through the respective frameworks. The Research and Innovation outputs aim to facilitate effective implementation of the RISDP actions on NRM and WM. It is therefore relevant to both the government needs and the citizens of the SADC region at large, including the local communities who are the primary beneficiaries. The project targets the research and tertiary education Institutions, government entities, local and national groupings, value chain actors and the public-private sector linkage.

The main objective of the project is to strengthen sustainable WM and NRM in the targeted countries of the Southern African region. Its specific Strategic Objectives (SOs) (outcomes) are as follows:

- **SO1:** Research and tertiary education institutes applying up-to-date research and training in waste management WM and NRM.
- **SO2:** Government entities drafting, implementing, and monitoring WM and NRM policies based on scientifically developed evidence.
- **SO3:** Strengthened and effective participation of local and national groupings from society (IPLCs, CBOs, CSOs) in evidence-based decision-making in WM and NRM.
- **SO4:** Effective WM and NRM practices applied by value chain actors from the formal and informal sectors and
- **SO5:** Improved collaboration between experts from the public and private sectors on WM and NRM R&I issues (science-policy-practice interface).

To realize these NRM-WM specific objectives, the project adopts a wider (ecosystem-based) approach that seeks to innovatively strengthen capacity through Science, Action, Policy and Engagement. The specific activities of the project are as follows:

- i. **Capacity strengthening of research and tertiary education institutes** in delivering research and training in WM and NRM.
- ii. **Capacity strengthening of government entities** in drafting, implementing, and monitoring WM and NRM policies.

- iii. **Capacity enhancement of local and national groupings from society** in effective participation and decision making in sustainable WM and NRM based on scientifically driven evidence.
- iv. **Demonstration of innovative operational and management solutions to value chain actors** in the WM+NRM sectors.
- v. **Effective collaboration of Actors** from the science-policy-practice on WM and NRM issues.

The project is coordinated by the SADC Secretariat, implemented jointly by The College of African Wildlife Management (CAWM)-Mweka, Tanzania and The World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) – Mozambique and supported on the ground by four local multipliers operating within the target countries. These are Sky berry Botswana Proprietary Limited (Botswana), Southern African Wildlife College (SAWC) (South Africa), Community Wildlife Management Areas Consortium (CWMAC) (Tanzania) and Repensar (Mozambique).

The **Southern African Wildlife College is the responsible for deliverable 1.5: Conduct training on building capacity in financial, technical and managerial aspects of R&I and develop guidelines**, which is part of Work Package 1. In 2024 the SAWC compiled the guidelines, a sub-activity of 1.5. This report is for the Guideline Validation Workshop held in February 2025.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

<b>Key contributors</b>	Prof. Msafiri Mkonda and Dr Casper Bonyongo.
<b>Project name</b>	RINaWa Project
<b>Workshop title</b>	Research and Innovation Guideline Validation Workshop
<b>Date of Workshop</b>	13 February 2025 (Arrived in Johannesburg on 12 February and departed 14 February 2025)
<b>Venue</b>	The Sofia Conference Room at the Birchwood Hotel, Johannesburg, South Africa
<b>Attendees</b>	9 x attendees + 3 x SAWC facilitators = 12 attended in person (See Appendix 1 and signed attendance register)  [21 invitations were sent out to previous participants of RINAWA Workshops, 2 never responded, 1 was studying in the Netherlands and 2 were unable to attend).  10 x Online Virtual Attendance (for part or all of workshop): see Appendix 1  [All SADC and implementing partners of RINaWa were invited to attend online, plus all previous participants of the April 2024 Arusha workshop].
<b>Attendance register?</b>	Yes. See appendix
<b>Summary of purpose of the workshop</b>	<i>To review the final draft of the Research and Innovation Guidelines for the RINaWa Programme, as per activity 1.5 in Work Package 1.</i>

## PROGRAMME

# PROGRAMME

## Guidelines Validation Workshop for Research and Innovation in Natural Resource Management and Waste Management Programme

Hybrid Workshop: Birchwood Hotel and Online Platform  
12 – 14 February 2025

- 12 February: In-person Participants arrive in Johannesburg  
13 February: Hybrid workshop  
14 February: Depart for home

### Final Draft Programme for the Validation Workshop 13 February 2025

Final Draft Programme for the Validation Workshop 13 February 2025			
Time	Programme Item	Responsible Person / People	Additional Notes
08h30 – 08h45	Registration	All those attending in person	In the Birchwood conference Centre
08h45 – 09h00	Welcome, Context and Purpose of Workshop	Jen Newenham (SAWC)	Online participants to join the session
09h00 – 09h30	Introductions and group photo	All	In-person & participants online: Name organisation & sector representing (waste / NRM)  Online Group photo too
09h30 – 10h00	The approach to the task of developing the Guidelines	Prof. Msafiri Mkonda	
10h00 – 10h30	Tea & body break		
10h30 – 12h00	Overview of the Technical Objectives & Associated Guidelines	Dr Casper Bonyongo	Casper and Msafiri will take the participants through the Guidelines developed.
	Overview of the Managerial Objectives & Associated Guidelines	Prof. Msafiri Mkonda	
	Overview of the Financial Objectives & Associated Guidelines	Dr Casper Bonyongo	
	Overview of the Opportunities for R&I	Prof. Msafiri Mkonda	
12h00 – 13h00	Lunch		
13h00 – ca. 15h00	Split into 2 Groups:  WM & NRM: go through guidelines – discuss and finalise	Dr Casper Bonyongo to lead NRM discussions  Prof Msafiri Mkonda to lead WM discussion	The plan is to allow online participants to split into different virtual rooms to join the rooms of their interest / expertise (WM / NRM)  2 hours allocated but may be shorter



<b>15h00 – 15h30</b>	<b>Tea &amp; body break</b>		
<b>15h30 – 16h10</b>	<b>Plenary:</b> Summary of each group's findings / changes recommended – if any	Dr Casper Bonyongo to lead NRM discussions  Prof Msafiri Mkonda to lead WM discussion	
<b>16h10 – 16h30</b>	<b>Closure and thank you</b>	Jen Newenham	Wrap up and say thank you and goodbye to our online participants
<b>16h30 – 17h00</b>	<b>Logistics</b>	Jen Newenham, & all in-person participants	To be confirmed on the day.
<b>18h30 – 21h00</b>	<b>Dinner - For all in-person participants at the Birchwood Hotel</b>		

## PROCEEDINGS

<b>Welcome and Purpose</b> <b>J. Newenham</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Everyone was welcomed and thanked for their attendance.</li> <li>Jenny provided some context to getting to this point in the process: SAWC was allocated two main deliverables: Developing the Research and Innovation Guidelines for research and tertiary institutions and hosting the Science Cafes in Maputo and Lilongwe.</li> <li>Four short-term consultants were appointed to assist the SAWC in developing the Guidelines. The Guidelines were drafted and shared with RINaWa partners for inputs.</li> <li>Most participants at the Validation Workshop had been involved in previous RINaWa activities.</li> <li>Jenny highlighted the purpose of the day: To validate the drafted guidelines and provide any edits. It is not intended to re-write the whole document.</li> </ul>
<b>Presentation</b>  <b>Prof Mkonda</b> (as a SAWC appointed staff to assist with RINaWa deliverables)	<p>The SAWC short-term consulting staff provided context and led the participants through the Draft Guidelines.</p> <p>Msafiri provided an overview of the process used to develop the Guidelines. This was captured in Part 1 of the Document, which provides context and the approach to the process.</p> <p>Msafiri then provided a summary of the Managerial Guidelines developed so far. These are a component of Part 2 – the actual guidelines.</p>
<b>Presentation</b>  <b>Dr Bonyongo</b> (as a SAWC appointed staff to assist with RINaWa deliverables)	<p>Casper provided the summary of the Technical and Financial Guidelines. These are also in Part 2 of the Guideline Documents.</p>

<b>Assessing the current Guidelines</b> <b>Lead by Dr Bonyongo</b>	<p>With the small group it was decided that it was not necessary to have breakaway groups.</p> <p>The afternoon session the participants assessed the guidelines which were compiled.</p> <p>Casper led the process and provided a presentation to guide the process in assessing each of the guidelines.</p> <p>All the guidelines had been captured in an excel spreadsheet for ease in assessing them against the criteria.</p> <p>The following assessment criteria were used. Each guideline (under the topics: technical, managerial and financial) was rated on a scale of 0 – 3 (where 0 = low and 3 = high):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevance,</li> <li>• Avoidance of duplication,</li> <li>• Feasibility,</li> <li>• Ethical acceptability,</li> <li>• Political acceptability,</li> <li>• Applicability, and</li> <li>• Urgency</li> </ul> <p>The discussions amongst the in-person participants were robust and very interactive. Their input was valuable and will help to fine tune the guidelines.</p> <p>This session took quite a bit longer than planned.</p>
<b>Highlight good practices</b> – e.g. practices that are working, innovative, partnerships, learning opportunities, willingness to engage, willingness to change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall, the group felt that the Draft Guidelines were good and appreciated the effort that had gone into them. They felt only some fine tuning was required.</li> <li>• Good to have all four target countries of RINaWa Programme represented (Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia) as well as South Africa.</li> <li>• All but one of the participants had participated in other RINaWa discussions / workshops, and so little context / background to the project was required. As a result most of the group knew each other quite well, which contributed to the ease of the discussions.</li> </ul>
<b>Highlight challenges/ problems</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unfortunately, it wasn't as engaging with online participants as was hoped and desired. Only a few comments were forthcoming. The sound may have been partly a challenge (even though a speaker was brought in, but also the quick discussions held by the in-person participants made it challenging for online participants to be more involved (even though the online screen was managed and followed. Nevertheless, the online participants' presence was appreciated.</li> <li>• There were some comments and queries regarding the title: "Mentoring". However, in the latest log frame and Workplan this had been edited so the new title was updated.</li> <li>• How can the document be a practical tool for universities? So that it doesn't sit on a shelf. I.e. ensure uptake of the document.</li> <li>• Address typos etc.</li> </ul>

Reflect on <b>things learnt</b> from the meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to link the Guidelines with being more practical (especially for the tertiary institutions, which have a less academic approach and are more applied).</li> <li>• There was a need to approach the Guideline development from a more general perspective so that they are more inclusive, because if there was more focus on certain aspects they would become too 'exclusive'.</li> <li>• How to incorporate Indigenous Knowledge Systems.</li> <li>• Other key points to keep in mind: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Data protection policy</li> <li>○ Ethics</li> <li>○ Use of artificial intelligence (AI).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>[Most of these matters should be incorporated into the Institution's own Strategy document] as it is very difficult to be too prescriptive.</p>
List any <b>documents or data obtained</b> at the meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part 1 and Part 2 of the Final Draft of the R&amp;I Guidelines</li> <li>• Presentations by Msafiri Mkonda</li> <li>• Presentations by Casper Bonyongo</li> </ul>

## WAY FORWARD

It was agreed that the next steps were:

1. Prof. Mkonda and Dr. Bonyongo will finalise the version 2 of the Final Draft of the Guidelines, taking on board the comments and edits arising from the workshop.
2. J. Newenham will share Final Draft version 2 of the Guidelines with all participants (in-person and online) for their final edits / comments. The PDF of the presentations will also be shared with all participants.
3. The SAWC team will prepare the final Guideline documents.
4. The final Guidelines Documents will then be shared with SADC partners and implementing partners of the RINaWa Programme.
5. J. Newenham will in the meantime prepare the Validation Workshop Report

## CONCLUSION

It was a very valuable session, with a great diversity of academics, most of whom have been involved in the RINaWa Programme from its initial activities. There were two representatives from each of the target countries.

The small group allowed for good discussions, but if time allowed it would have been good to have additional in-person participants contributing to the conversation.

Although the Guidelines focus on tertiary institutions and academics, it must be remembered that capacity is also needed in the more practical aspects, especially revolving around waste management. Also, much of the innovation (in waste management) happens on the ground and not in tertiary institutions.

## GALLERY







## APPENDICES

ATTENDED IN PERSON			
Name of stakeholder:	Contact Information:	Country:	Organization:
Prof. Msafiri Mkonda	<a href="mailto:msafiri@sua.ac.tz">msafiri@sua.ac.tz</a>	Tanzania	Sokoine University of Agriculture, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies / Consultant
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Dr. Monica Gondwe	<a href="mailto:mfgondwe@gmail.com">mfgondwe@gmail.com</a>	Malawi	Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife
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



















SOUTHERN AFRICAN  
WILDLIFE COLLEGE  
TRAINING BEYOND BOUNDARIES

**ATTENDANCE REGISTER:**

PURPOSE: ..... RINAWA GUIDELINE VALIDATION WORKSHOP .....

DATES: From: .....12..... To: ...14 February 2025..... LOCATION/S: .....Johannesburg, Birchwood Hotel, South Africa.....

TRAINER/S or FACILITATOR/S: .....Jenny Newenham, Kuda Musengi, Natasha Khosa .....

NO.	SURNAME	FIRST NAMES	TITLE	ORGANISATION	EMAIL ADDRESS	SIGNATURES		
						12 February 2025	13 February 2025	
1	NEWENHAM	JENNY	MS	% SAWC	jnewenham@sawc.org.za			✓
2	M.C. Bonyongo	Casper	Dr	Consultant	casper@caawm.org			✓
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12	SICHIMWA	CLEMENT	Mr	UNZA	Csichimwa@gmail.com			✓
13								
14								
15								

**ATTENDING ONLINE**

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Badru Hagy	<a href="mailto:hagybadru@msn.com">hagybadru@msn.com</a>	Mozambique	Rovuma University / Oceanographic Institute of Mozambique
Dr Principal Mdolo	<a href="mailto:pmdolo@luanar.ac.mw">pmdolo@luanar.ac.mw</a>	Malawi	LUANAR
Thokozani Msaka	Unknown		<i>The information was not provided while online</i>