

COMMUNITY INSIGHTS OF THE NAMIBIAN DEFENCE FORCES: AN
INVESTIGATIVE STUDY OF THE KHOMAS REGION

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Abstract

This research was carried out to determine the community's insight of the Namibian Defence Force under the title "Community Insights of the Namibian Defence Force: An Investigative Study of the Khomas Region". The research carried out a theoretical study in the concerned area and the study used the qualitative research methodology and interview questions were used as a research instrument for collecting data and the responses collected were analysed qualitatively. The main result of this research was that the community does not fully understand the role of the Namibian Defence Force in times of peace. Most of the respondents saw the Namibian Defence Force as a squander of state funds and they felt that they had nothing to benefit from the existence of the Defence force. Some participants did not understand the activities and the importance of the Defence Force. The recommendations of the study were that the Namibian Defence Force needs to educate the community on its role both in war and peace times to stimulate the understanding of its activities by the general populace and to develop community relations education among the Defence force members. The study also found out the need for the improvement of regulations within the force to develop the community's image of the soldiers, hence, develop insights and aims to advance the ways of life of the soldiers in the country.

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List of Abbreviations

AHQs – Army Headquarters

ARV- Anti-RetroViral

AU- African Union

BDF – Botswana Defence Force

BSC- the Balanced Scorecard

CLM- Caprivi Liberation Movement

CMR- Civil-Military Relations

DDRM - The Directorate Disaster Risk Management

DHQs – Defence Headquarters

DHS- Defence Health Services

DOD - Department of Defence

DRC - Democratic Republic of Congo

GIPF- Government Institution Pension Fund

HDN- Hurriyet Daily News

HIV/AIDS - Human Immunodeficiency

Virus/ Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

HQ - Headquarters

KDF - Kenya Defence Force

MOD - Ministry of Defence

MPs - Members of Parliament

MS- Military School

MTEF- Medium-Term Expenditure Framework

NAMPA- Namibian Press Agency

NAMPOL - Namibian Police Force

NDF - Namibian Defence Force

NDP3- National Development Plan

NCIS- Namibia Central Intelligence Services

NCT- the National Council Training

NCSC-Namibia Command and Staff College

NGOs- Non-Governmental Organizations

NYS- National Youth Service

Para Para- Previous Border Control Police

PhD- Doctor of Philosophy

PLAN - Peoples Liberation Army of Namibia

OMAs- Offices Ministries Agencies

OPM - Office of the Prime Minister

TNI- Indonesian National Army

UBM – the Ultimate Building Machine

UFO - Unidentified Flying Object

UNAM-University of Namibia

UN - United Nation

UNPSO- United Nation Peace Support Operations

UNDPKO- UN Peacekeeping Operations

UNITA- The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola

SADC- Southern African Development Community

SANDF – South Africa National Defence Force

SAT-Com Pvt Ltd- Satcom Technologies Private Limited

SFF- Special Field Force

SPF- Strategic Planning Framework

SWAPO – South West Africa People’s Organization

SWATF- South West African Territorial Force

WDS - Water Drilling Squadron

ZDF- Zimbabwe Defence Force

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Dedication

This project is dedicated to the Namibian Defence Force of the Republic of Namibia for its efforts to protect the country and its national development.

Declarations

I, Alfeus Mapowe do hereby declare that I am the sole author of this project, which is entirely my own initiation and has not been submitted anywhere for the purpose of obtaining a qualification. No part of this thesis may be reproduced, stored in any retrieval system, or transmitted in any form, or by means without the prior permission of the author, or the University of Namibia on that behalf.

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Student signature

Date

Chapter 1: Introduction and Background

1. Introduction

This chapter gives a background of the study and presents the statement of the problem, objective of the study, limitations and delimitation of study as well as the significance of the study. As civilization, democracy and human rights emerged, there also emerged the need for order and efficiency in the society, leading to a paradigm shift on the issues to be tackled by the army in order to assist in nation building besides the national security. This study was concerned with establishing the perception of the civil-community on the roles of the Namibian Defence forces. It cannot be overwritten though, that in some countries in the world like Democratic Republic of Congo and Nigeria, in the likes of Banyamulenge and Boko Haram respectively have caused harm to civilians (Antoney, 2009). It is therefore, questionable how ordinary people would perceive the defence forces for positive attributes and as an organization for promoting peace and public trust. There is need to ascertain a perceptions in the Namibian context. The military has multiple roles in the society, the main ones being the need to focus on the internal and external security of its country. The military is, by necessity, among the least democratic institutions in human experience; martial customs and procedures in some cases clash by nature with individual freedom and civil liberty, the highest values in democratic societies. Successful institutionalization of civil control of the military is a necessary condition for the consolidation of democracy. The study intended to investigate if the NDF was operating within this dictate of upholding democracy and defending the

internal and external mandates in Namibia as well as to determine the perceptions Namibians have with regards to this mandate.

1.1 Background of the study

Namibia is, according to its Constitution, a sovereign, secular, democratic and unitary state founded upon the principles of democracy, the rule of law and justice for all. Namibia's President is an Executive President and is elected by the voters of the country. Legislative authority is vested in the National Assembly, a body comprising of 72 elected members and up to 6 appointed representatives. The National Council, made up of 2 representatives of each of Namibia's 14 regional councils and acts as an advisory body.

Prior to independence Namibia was subjected to successive waves of foreign intervention, including Oorlam (3) (from the late 1700s), German (from the late 1800s) and South Africa (from 1915 up until the late 1980s). There was an ad hoc resistance to foreign rule and domination, as well as some collaborations by the indigenous population, but it was only by the mid-1900s that organised resistance against colonial occupation emerged. At the forefront of the resistance movement was the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO), which waged a political, diplomatic and military struggle against the South African regime for almost three decades from 1904 to 1989. In 1988, as part of the Angolan peace settlement, South Africa agreed to withdraw from Namibia, which then led to Namibia's independence in March 1990.

Since independence, Namibia's fragile democratic dispensation has matured into a stable representative system of government. Despite some amendments, Namibia's liberal Constitution still stands unviolated as the supreme law of the land. However, in recent

years, there have been a number of severe criticisms levelled at the SWAPO-led government. It was accused of failing to deliver the much needed socio-economic reforms and of tolerating an arrogation of power by the newly emergent political elite (Africa Confidential, 4/8/95). Tapscott (1997:3) says, certain critics have even made claims that Namibia is "increasingly displaying patterns that have characterized autocratic, neo-colonial states elsewhere on the continent" and in the face of a weak political opposition was drifting towards a "de facto one party state".

Namibia like any other state has an obligation to build a strong NDF on which safety and security rests. The Namibia Defence Force (NDF) was established by the Government of the Republic of Namibia in terms of Article 118(1) of the Namibian Constitution (1990). The NDF has powers, duties and procedures with the mandate of defending the territory and the interest of the Namibian people. The President of the Republic of Namibia is the Commander-in-Chief of the NDF (Office of the Prime Minister, 1990).

Soon after gaining independence from South Africa in 1990, Namibia created the Namibian Defence Force (NDF) in accordance with the constitution of Namibia. The vision of the NDF is to be a strong, professional, well trained, well equipped and ready for deployment (Defence Amendment Act (No. 114 of 1990) to meet the security threats and challenges Namibia may face. NDF is supposed to be well disciplined and accountable to the government and the entire populace of the Republic of Namibia and should be a professional force, well trained with self-respect, consciously adhering to the moral code, be loyal, honest and patriotic. It is supposed to be small, easy to maintain, highly mobile on the ground, air, and sea.

Kohn (1997:141) asserts that, “Civil supremacy of the armed forces in a democractic state embraces the idea that the will of the people is paramount. The military is subordinate and accountable to civilian officials who are elected by the people.” It is argued further that this ensures that the state in question is in a position to base its values, institutions, and practices on the popular will rather than on the choices of military leaders, whose outlook by definition focuses on the need for internal order and external security. In a democratic state, military leaders obey the government as they accept the basic national and political goals of democracy because it is their duty and profession to fight.

However two of the most effective ways of ensuring civil supremacy under democracy is through legislation, namely the Constitution and/or the Defence Act (4) and the budget. In typical democracy, the authority to declare war is vested with the legislature. The legislature also possesses oversight and investigative powers, which includes the enactment of legislation to prevent excessive secrecy (Stepan, 1988). With respect to the budget, the legislature determines the military's budget allocation and procurement expenditure. In addition, a civilian dominated ministry or department of defence exists. This is an entity instilled with civilian expertise in defence matters and exercises political authority over the armed forces (Nathan, 1994). This provision assists the minister of defence to prepare the defence budget and acts as a formulator and interpreter of defence policy for the armed forces. In Namibia, the National Assembly has the power to approve budgets. Cabinet ministers are accountable to both the President and parliament (Republic of Namibia, 1989, Articles 63 (Sub-Article 2A), 41). The National Council, composes of representatives from regional councils throughout

the country, and has the power to review bills passed by the National Assembly and has certain investigative powers;(Republic of Namibia, 1989, Article 59 (Sub-Article 3).

However, in Namibia, there is a critical deviation from the typical democratic model. Section 29 of the Defence Amendment Act (No. 114 of 1990) stipulates the circumstances in which members of the NDF can be deployed on foreign soil, but the Constitution is silent as to who has the authority to make such a decision. In reality this means that the President has the discretion to declare war and send soldiers to another country without consulting the legislature prior to the decision. From a democratic perspective this is a cause for concern as foreign war results in military expansion, growth in the power and influence of government and increased intrusions into the lives of citizens - including more taxes and limits on individual freedom (Kohn, 1997). As a consequence of this Constitutional provision, former President Nujoma circumvented the National Assembly when he made the decision to deploy troops in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) (Namibian, 27/08/98). In response to protests from the media, opposition MPs and members of the public highlighted that his decision was unconstitutional, President Nujoma argued that it was in accordance with the spirit of the Constitution's clauses on protecting the Republic, ensuring the safety of Namibian citizens and defending the country's borders.

The Ministry of Defence, headed by a civilian member of Cabinet, consists of four directorates: Operations, Finance, Personnel and Logistics. Each directorate consists of a number of divisions. The Minister of Defence is supported by a Deputy Minister, a Permanent Secretary and a Deputy Permanent Secretary. Due to financial considerations, the MoD fulfils the dual role of Department of Defence (DoD) and the Headquarters of the Defence Force, co-locating the Chief of the Defence Force with the

seat of civil supremacy, namely the Minister of Defence in the same complex. According to the Statement of Defence Policy (1993), the principal advantage of this design is that it facilitates clear political control of higher direction and management of defence. However, in reality this arrangement may hinder civil supremacy as it can lead to excessive military influence in the affairs of the civilian-oriented Department of Defence.

The greater the sphere of responsibilities that are apportioned to the armed forces, the greater the possibility of active military involvement in politics. Conversely, the more limited their responsibilities, the greater the potential for their subordination to civilian control (Welch, 1976:32). Therefore, a clear distinction should exist between the duties of the armed forces and civilian government. "Professionalising" the military, has the effect, according to Huntington (1957:84), of improving civilian control as such a process renders the armed forces "politically sterile and neutral". This is a process whereby the professional characteristics of the armed forces are encouraged through enhancing the military's specialization and expertise in the management of violence, increasing the educational opportunities available to the officer corps, and boosting the corporate nature of the military.

The Namibian Defence Force (NDF) was established by the Defence Amendment Act (Act 20 of 1990) which was in amendment to the South African Defence Act (Act 44 of 1957). The Act is complemented by a Military Discipline Code, which provides the practical framework for the administration of the armed forces. According to the Statement on Defence Policy (1993), the NDF's role is as follows: to ensure the maintenance of sovereignty and territorial integrity; to provide assistance to the civil authorities and to the civil community when required; to undertake ceremonial functions

and to assist the process of reconciliation. Heiberg (2010) holds that military personnel must be subject to the same rule of law as the rest of the population. They have the same constitutional rights as non-military citizens, and cannot be granted special privilege.

1.1.1 The roles of Namibian Defence Force in the community

Namibia Defence Force Journal (2016) specifies that close to three hundred (300) soldiers from the Engineering Regiment joined H.E. Dr. Sam Nujoma the Founding President to render assistance to clear the Ondangwa-Oshikango railway line project. One of the objectives in all areas of national interests is social responsibility. In addition, more than six hundred (600) recruits at Oluno Military base joined the community of Ondangwa Township in the cleaning campaign of the town. The campaign was organised by the Ondangwa town council with the purpose of cleaning and keeping the town clean. The recruits led by their instructors and military police strolled through Uupopo and Omakulukuma locations down to the tar road to clean the area on 24 October 2014. It is enshrined in the Namibia constitution, chapter 15 Article 118 that the role of the Namibian Defence Force is to assist the local authorities in domestic support operations when required which includes such campaigns. Namibia Defence Force Journal (2016) stipulates that it is important that the NDF participates in the maintenance of the wellbeing of the communities. The Namibian Defence Force has a role to assist local authorities in domestic support operations when required.

The NDF as the national defender, with other health concerned stakeholders have to contribute and keep the environment clean to prevent diseases of any kind. Being part and parcel of the community, soldiers have to give and help back the public in the form of social corporate responsibilities. The Namibian Defence Force has a major role to play during peace times, it gives support to civil authority in several occasions which

includes, fighting bush fires, locust or pests outbreaks, floods and providing assistance in emergency relief supply of food, medicines, clothes, tents and evacuation of victims. In support of this fact. Shaw (1979: 42) says, “Military forces world-wide have often been used to deal with crisis situations such as floods and hurricanes which affect sections of the civilian population”. They are suited to such operations because they can provide manned transport and communications equipment at short notice, because their training has equipped them to deal with similar situations in the military context. The question that often arises however is, which areas of social welfare the military can make a contribution on longer-term basis.

1.1.1.1 NDFs’ response to the needs and risks in the community

The Directorate Disaster Risk Management (DDRM) – Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), revealed in November 2011, that when floods took place in the Northern parts of the country in (year) most areas were not accessible by road, and hence could only be accessible by means of NDF helicopters or boats. The inaccessibility by roads to affected areas by the floods had a very negative impact on the flood operations. Most school children were evacuated and accommodated in relocation centres while others were camped at their respective schools.

Since many of the remote areas could not be reached by road, health officials (nurses and doctors) were transported by NDF helicopters or boats to offer services in the affected areas. It was a challenge to visit all affected areas, however there were no major health related problems encountered during the operations. The logistics department during the flood disaster experienced a variety of problems. During the emergency operations, logistics department in DDRM was overwhelmed in dealing with several partners. The Namibia Defence Forces was instrumental in the transportation of

emergency supplies from national level to the affected regions and in accessing the inaccessible areas, and without NDF support many victims of this natural disaster could have lost their lives. NDF provided helicopters and trucks that assisted in evacuating people, delivery of relief items and health services to people cut off by the floods. The demand for helicopters was however overwhelming. All regional councils in affected areas also assisted with transport to reach areas that were accessible by road (Office of the Prime Minister, 2011). The NDF trucks and DDRM trucks were used to transport donated items and logistical supplies to the Regional Centres. Some local transporters also helped in transporting some of the goods to the needy people. Natural disasters of this nature are prone to repeating themselves and thus the Namibian Defence Force is not limited to the previous disasters and the civilians should look forward to receiving more professional assistance in cases of the same or related phenomena occurring.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The creation of the Namibian Defence Force was welcomed by the public for their own security with the view to ensure the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country. This was meant to guard against external aggression, both conventional and unconventional, preventing violation of Namibia's territorial integrity, and providing assistance to civil authorities in guarding and protecting the government buildings and key installations as provided in the Defence Act (Ministry of Defence, 2009). The Namibian citizens, however, are assumed to have never been tested for insights concerning the NDF. The researcher assessed the perceptions of the public with regard to the role of NDF in society and suggested to NDF more societal roles that it can play on behalf of members of the general public.

It has been however noticed by the researcher that members of the public perceive that the military is only meant for war operations and harassing as they do not frequently see them carrying out other roles in the community to improve the well being of the public. Since there is no war in Namibia currently or any potential threat, NDF has been seen to be a useless organ that is unnecessarily increasing the government's expenditure hence straining tax payers, because from the view of the society it is not playing any role in society and if its having any roles the roles are limited and are not of benefit to members of the public.

Platforms to innovate and be creative need to be engraved for them to be of great help and bring great change to the society. It is imperative to note that Namibia is a sovereign and peaceful state, besides it having a big army which generally can be redundant to this effect, it was thus imperative to identify how they can use their capabilities to improve ways of life in the country and also community needs. In other words, the failure for the civilian society to understand that the military has always been used for civil socio-economic well being as well were a weakness in the civil-military relations. This perspective of the civil-military relations is an aspect of national security policy, it addresses the concern of who controls the military and for which purpose it was established. A closer look at the civil-military relations from the national security policy perspective is meant to enhance the safety of the nation's social, economic, and political institutions against threats arising from other independent states. The NDF is very essential in maintaining peace in Namibia and Africa at large and is also important in fostering development, with the assistance of the military development in Namibia will

become a reality. It is however against this background that the researcher wants to find out programmes that the military can engage into to improve the well being of the community as well as to improve civil- military relations, this will also result in an improvement in development.

Research Question of the Study

To what extent is the Namibian community aware of the roles of the Namibian Defence Force?

1.3 Objectives of the study

In order to achieve the aims of determining the insights of the community of Khomas region towards NDF, the following objectives were identified:

- To determine the perceptions of the civilians in Khomas Region regarding the NDF.
- To recommend measures needed to enable the NDF earn civilian trust and build a positive image.
- To pave way for military based projects in the country.
- To build skills in the defence force aimed at advancing the society's way of life among the Namibian population.

1.4 Significance of the study

The significance of this study in the context of peace in Namibia is to sensitize the Namibian population on the role of the military in peace times because people only

perceive the military to be of great use during war times. This study is the first one in Namibia according to the researcher's knowledge and hence it contributes significantly to the body of knowledge in the area studied.

The results obtained will help the military to have an out reach program to let other regions with military bases engage with the military on its roles for the benefit of the society in general. The research will help to change the community's perception that soldiers are not a waste of the country's resources in peace times, but have other obligations that benefit the community and society in general. The study will also provide a wealth of literature to other researchers who wish to pursue studies in related fields.

The findings of this study will go a long way in assisting policymakers in the Ministry of Defence when identifying the need for revision of the existing policies and programs regarding civil military relations as well as community outreach programs. The study will offer recommendations and alternative solutions that will help to improve the perception members of the public have towards NDF.

1.5 Limitations

The study was conducted by a trained soldier and this was a challenge as there was need to look at situations as an untrained personnel in order to understand the relationship between the NDF personnel and the public. This study could have been conducted to cover all regions in Namibia, but the sample is compiled in a way that promotes representation of the Namibian population the findings are confined to the selected sample and perhaps the Khomas at most.

The difficulties in accessing useful information from various stakeholders was a limitation since key informants were reluctant to participate and provide useful information in this study. Personal attitudes and reactions from respondents was also another possible limitation particularly during the data collection process.

Some respondents were not objective in their responses as they tried to please the researcher due to fear, they seemed to have a notion that if they gave negative responses they would be victimized.

1.6 Delimitations of the study

The research was carried out in Khomas Region in the capital city of the Republic of Namibia, where the Defence Force Headquarters is located. The reason to conduct the research in this region was to get the people's perception on the role of the military in general, and in peace times in particular since most people think that the military in peace times was a waste of resources and yet the military had other mandates in peace times. The study obtained perceptions from ten (10) constituencies of the Khomas Region and the representation of the ten (10) segments was on an equal quota basis.

Chapter 2: Theoretical Background and Literature Review

2.1 Introduction

The literature review looked at the works of C. Moskos and G.Caforio (2001), and hence advanced the following arguments that many military professionals are themselves critical on personnel policies and appreciate having confidence of the social science community, with whom they can express their private views. The researchers argued that in their experiences have found that military officers could deal more with social problems as armed officers more than civilian officials. They emphasized a professional military that has attention to issues of civil-military relations which is conceptualized in the Huntington tradition in terms of relations between the military and society.

Dowd (2001) highlighted the following in military relations; diversity issues, military families, changing missions, and post modern military. These issues have a direct bearing on military-societal relations. They are accommodative of the society, the military can't operate in harmony with society without the issues of diversity. The military can not operate in isolation, it needs support of the community for it to achieve its goals and objectives. In military missions, the military often comes into contact with people of many cultural backgrounds, and hence professionalism plays an important aspect in their conduct. The military must keep abreast in changing times to earn the confidence of the society and communities at large where they operate.

2.2 Conceptual Frame Work

This research was based on the following conceptual frame work which assisted in the achievement of the set objectives of the study as stated below:

- The Perception of Civilians on the role of Military
- Measures needed to enable the NDF earn civilian trust and build a positive image.
- The military based projects in Namibia
- Skills needed by the NDF to advance the living conditions of the Namibian population.

2.2.1 The Perception of Civilians on the role of Military

Basnet (2005) argues that society views the military's role as that of maintaining its military based need to protect the nation and its people from both internal and external threats. Whilst the army has this mandate of safeguarding and protecting a nation's democracy from possible intervention by the army itself. In terms of democracy, people are considered as the centre power, and they have the right to make decisions on all affairs, including matters of defence (Kathmandu, 2009). In the past years the Namibian military has been embarking upon a deliberate programmes of improving interaction with civil society.

It has been noticed that many members of the general public view the military as an organization that waste both financial and human resources during times of peace as they see no role that they play during these times. The community asserts that the military only matters when there potential threats to democracy either inside or outside

threats, however during peace times it seems like they do not have a place in society, therefore the Army is perceived as an organisation that is responsible for plundering the government's resources hence call by other civilians to reduce the size of the Army, Mibenge (1960). The military is often viewed by many as being heartless and indifferent to civil society, and this seems to be Namibians' view of the Namibian Defence Forces. However a few individuals view the Defence Forces as friendly organizations that improve the well being of the community through their outreach programmes, but however it seems to the researcher that they are not doing enough to improve civil-military relations.

2.2.2 Measures needed to enable the NDF earn civilian trust and build a positive image

The Strategic Defence and Security Review Document (2015) is of the view that the armed forces are dependent on the societies of which they are part of. In democratic state, the military derives its purpose from acting in Society's name, whether to protect the nation from threat or to advance its interests, this is the same scenario in Namibia although military-society relations tend to become complex and changing with time.

In order to build trust and a positive image, the military should be visible in all areas of the community where they will be performing outreach programs that benefit the society. In some communities the armed forces are rarely seen as they will be confined to their military bases, which may tarnish their image in the community, therefore in order to foster a positive image they should move around in communities mixing with civilians. Soldiers should also desist from moving around in communities with guns or

fire arms because moving with firearms will result in communities associating them with war, which result in members of the public being afraid of them and not appreciating their efforts. This meant a soldier was not only associated with war or with films. NDF staff should be engaged in the construction, manufacturing and even agricultural production, which will go a long way in alleviating poverty.

NDF besides safe guarding our land, sea and air it's also important to give a hand through giving assistance in various programs like education, health and other humanitarian services, amongst others.

2.2.3 Military projects in other countries

In the United States of America, the military carries out humanitarian projects in conjunction with civil society and this is regarded as the civil-military cooperation (Caforio, 2003). The army secures funding for the projects and implement them as well. The army also secures contractors for these projects and evaluate the impact of these projects to the communities. The following examples attempt to put a face to the civil-military cooperation and civil- affairs operations that have contended with contemporary contexts in society.

2.2.3.1 Outreach programs by defence forces in other nations.

Crawley (2011) affirmed that Botswana's military (BDF), numbering approximately 12,000 personnel and focused on preventing wildlife and livestock poaching, has been very responsive in raising awareness and providing treatment for HIV and that the Botswana Defence Force, recently launched a campaign for medical male circumcision, which, according to studies by the U.S was successful. Centers for Disease Control, reduced the risk of HIV infection by 50 to 75 percent among heterosexual males.

Circumcision was once common in Botswana as part of the Bogwera ceremony in which young males reaching puberty underwent a series of initiation rites. However, colonial rulers stopped the practice in the early 20th century. Botswana today is trying to resurrect the procedure on health and medical grounds through BDF.

As part of its annual HIV/AIDS awareness campaign, the Botswana Defence Forces soccer football team in September launched an awareness campaign called "SEKWATA" that includes education and an emphasis on voluntary circumcision for soldiers of which the military welcomed the move and underwent circumcision at a clinic in Glen Valley, approximately 10 miles north of the capital, Gaborone, where doctors worked behind privacy screens. More than 200 soldiers have received the voluntary procedure in the month since the program launched. It was a service to the military and all young men and women seeking to join the BDF are screened for HIV as part of the requirements (U.S. AFRICOM Public Affairs, 2011).

The Kenyan Defence Forces like wise also engaged in circumcision programs in communities but through leading by example as most soldiers underwent circumcison, where they managed to performe more than 250,000 procedures in the year 2014. KDF has been involved in nation building activities such as; construction of public utility infrastructure, relief supplies services, rescue, restoration of water supply system and sinking of boreholes for community use (Kibicho, 2005).

The Namibian Defence Forces has also carried out a lot of projects for the benefit of the communities such as building schools, clinics, bridges and refurbishment of infrastructure destroyed by floods and violent storms especially in the Northern and

North Eastern parts of the country. NDF has made awareness campaigns in different communities with landmines and where war battles occurred before independence so as to educate people how to handle some weapons like grenades that might have been left by settlers if they happen to be in contact with them. The military has also contributed financially to vulnerable communities by giving them donations to help such people to have a better living. They have also contributed to an improvement in literacy rate through giving scholarships to disadvantaged children. In other cases the military has funded surgery operations to people who faced financial problems (MoD, 2010).

2.2.4 Programs done by the NDF to improve living conditions of the Namibian population.

It has been established by the researcher that NDF offers a limited number of programs to the community. The NDF in Namibia however empowers the civil society by giving them the following skills:

The NDF gives health education to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS in Namibian communities. The NDF also gives exhibitions at Trade Fairs to market its community outreach programs. The NDF also assists in voluntary circumcision and voluntary HIV testing in different communities. The military renders assistance to victims of Natural disasters like in the case of floods and drought. In the view of the researcher these programs seem to be very few to stimulate poor living conditions experienced by Namibian communities, therefore there is need for an overhaul of community programs to expand their scope.

2.3 Definition of key terms

- The Advanced Learner's Dictionary defines a **community** as the people living in one particular area or people who are considered as a unit because of their

common interests, social group or nationality. It was emphasised that the real sense of community includes caring and friendly feeling in their neighbourhood.

- On the other hand the same source defines **insight** as the ability to have a clear, deep and sometimes sudden understanding of a complicated problem or situation relating to human relationships
- **Khomas Region** is the political area that is one of the Namibia's fourteen Regions and it is found in the central part to the country, constitutionally the capital city (Windhoek).

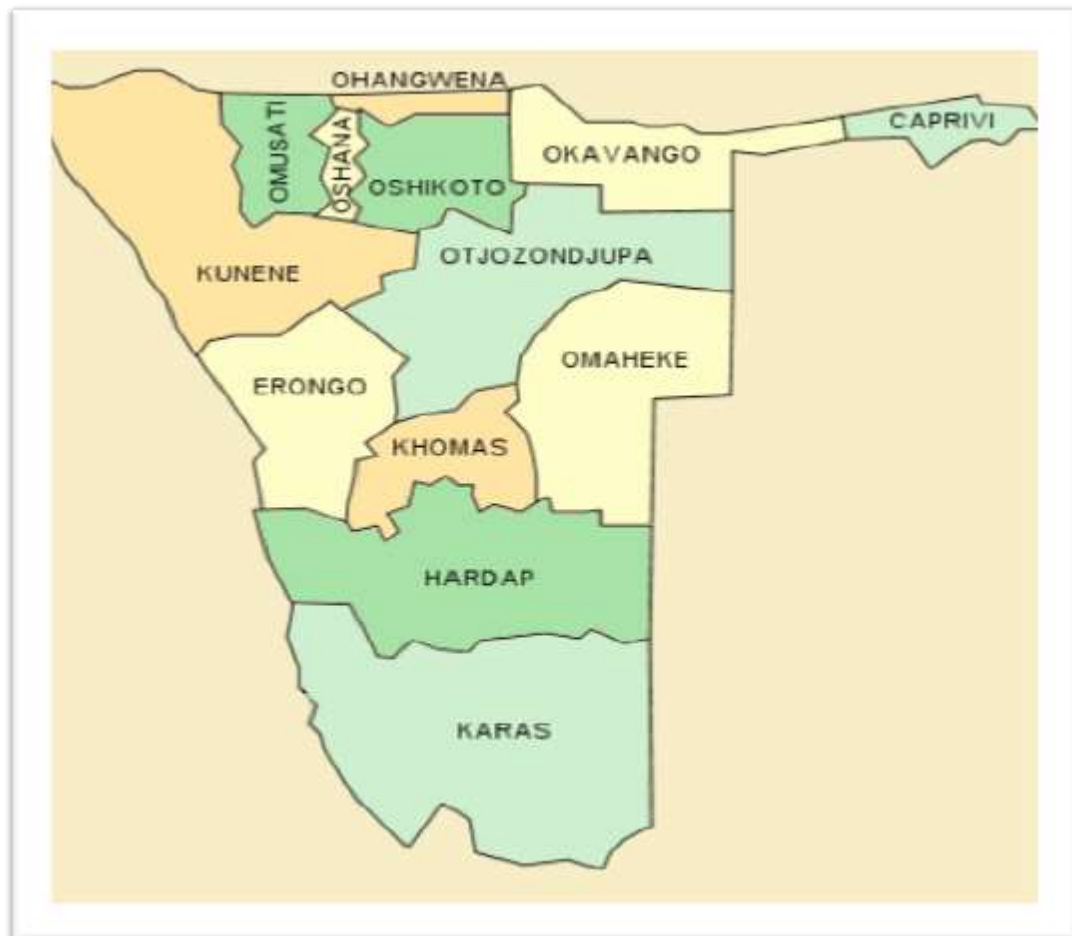


Figure 1. Map of Namibia indicating 14 regions.

(<http://namibiaconsulate.co.za/index.php/information/regional-map-a-dialing-codes>)

- **Civil Military Relations (CMR)** is dynamic, country specific and constantly evolving in response to political shifts, external imperative and technological innovation and is not a static equation (Kathmandu, 2009). Scholars such as Cottey, Edmunds and Forster suggest that the term ‘civil-military relations’ covers all characteristics of relations between armed forces and the society. Civil Military Relations also involves issues such as the broader attitude of the military towards civilian society; civilian society’s perceptions of and attitudes to the military; and the military’s ethos and understanding as to what its role should be (Cottey *et al.*, 1999).
- **Civil Supremacy** is based on a set of ideas, institutions and behaviours, which limit the potential for military intervention in political affairs and provide a system that endows civilian officials with the authority, and mechanisms to exercise supremacy in military affairs. Civil supremacy of the armed forces consists of three component parts: A clear separation between civilian and military powers and responsibilities. The accountability of the armed forces to civilian authority/government. The practice of transparency in the conduct of defence and security matters (Edmonds, 1988:70-92; Welch, 1987:9-14; Danopoulos, 1992:3).
- **Namibia Defence Force**

The Defence Act 2002 (Act 1 of 2002), under Section 2, makes provision for the composition and organization of the NDF into three Arms of Service namely, the Army, Air Force and Navy. In 2011 the Ministry of Defence (MoD) approved and published a Defence Policy as one of the constituent with National Security Policy, March 2004

White Paper on Namibia's Foreign Policy and Diplomacy Management and more recently, in 2012, the Prevention and Combating of Terrorist Act (act No. 12 of 2012). The 2011 Defence Policy was the product of extensive inter-agency consultations within the rubric of the security system, passed scrutiny by the Cabinet Committee on Security, Defence and International Relations and the Parliamentary standing committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security and was ratified by Parliament.

The Defence Policy has been designed with the aim of protecting and ensuring the 'survival and national interests of the state. Moreover, it represents policy guidelines for further development of the NDF and articulates its principal roles and outlines its principal development programmes. Anchored upon some principles of democratic civil military relations, the Policy embodies a statement of principles and orientation (based on Article 96 of the Constitution – the same principles that undergird foreign policy). It proceeds to define both national values and national interests, the latter, national interests are disaggregated into 'vital' and 'peripheral' interests, paints the strategic environment and concludes by outlining the strategic response of the three Service Arms: the Army, Air Force and Navy. The President serves as the Commander in Chief of the Namibia Defence Force.

This study was therefore staged to ascertain the insight of people in Khomas region towards the Namibian Defence Force and its value to the community and their relations including cooperation towards the fulfillment of the national aspirations. The core values and the benchmarks will be determined by the review of literature on the related findings which will give direction to this study and the realisation of the research objective.

Refer to the examples, in Afghanistan and Iraq in particular, to a certain extent so as in the cases of countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sierra Leone or Sudan, we can observe the ways in which different notions of security can be combined in justifying the application of military force in the name of democracy building and human development.

Cawthra, G. (2009) insists that institutions should be established to reduce uncertainty by providing a stable, but not necessarily efficient, framework for human interaction. Technically inefficient institutions persist because they contribute to stability and harmony in interaction and because they are deeply embedded in culture and tradition. It is the tenacity of informal constraints that produces institutional stability. While formal rules (constitutions, contracts, standing orders) can be redrawn overnight, informal rules change slowly, 'old' conventions often persist in the face of, and at odds with, new formal codes. With this in mind it is an obvious case that whether a soldier or civilian, both entities share the same code; the Namibian identity, hence the two parties co-exist in the same paradigms, thus there is need for solidarity for nation building so as working hand in hand to mitigate the challenges the Namibian nation face.

Chakrapani (2015) stresses that the more you sweat in peace, the less you bleed in war which means that when you are not in a war, it is the time to work hard and get more engaged in anti-insurgency by being present at borders to stop militants and other anti-national elements from sneaking into the country and doing community service, this helps to improve the image of the force since it reinforces in peace. The same author identifies other essential services as participation in peace-keeping operations of the United Nations (UN) which results in members of the public trusting the military and

associating it with peace and harmony, this also instills legitimacy in the army. The other roles of the army include disaster management and relief work which result in communities viewing the force as an organization which is there for people in times of hardships hence improving civil-military relations. They also engage in doing research and development, infrastructure development which in turn improves civil military cooperation and causes soldiers to be acceptable by the community and also cause the community to support their programs and projects as they can not operate in isolation.

Chakrapani (2015) confirms further that the foot over bridge which collapsed days before the Commonwealth Games was rebuilt by the army in India, thereby promoting infrastructural development. Namibia and Zimbabwe engaged in an military intervention when democratic Republic of Congo was under the threat of rebels in the late 1990s, thereby promoting peace and stability in the region.

Kenosi (2009) further explained that in a democratic state, it is the responsibility of the armed forces to gain public confidence, because a military that is not trusted by the population lacks legitimacy and will have difficulties justifying its expenses and even its existence. The concept of public education is also supported by Mwangi (2006), who stated that there is need to educate the civil society on the role of the defence force to improve the relationship between civilians and the military. Public confidence can also be gained through a shift from combatant-orientated army to people-centred army inclined to non-combatant socio-economic development activities that significantly contribute to socio-economic development. This narrows the gap between the public and

the defence forces thereby increasing confidence and trust from the public (Montalvo, 2009).

In some countries there are some army teams for soccer competing in top league. In cases of serious health problems the army may embark on health-expo and assist the needy and it is in fact that the army has many health professionals and experts who can offer services free to the public, for the relations to be consolidated. This brief insight therefore, lays the basis of this study which in this case was limited to Khomas Region in order to gain the insights of the Namibia inhabitants on the NDF.

2.4 Theoretical background

2.4.1 The Constitution and the Defence Act

Chapter 15 of the Namibian Constitution, particularly Article 118, provides for the establishment of the Namibia Defence Force and its composition, powers, duties and procedures to defend the territory and national interest of Namibia. Article 119 empowers the President, as Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Force, to appoint the Chief of the Defence Force, and through Article 32(4) (c) (aa) obligates the CDF to provide, inter alia, for the balanced structuring of the defence force.

The National Defence policy is derived from the Namibian Constitution, especially Article 32 (3)(i)(bb), whose functionality is developed from the Defence Act, 2002, especially Articles 5 (11)(1)(2); 5(12)(1)(2)(3); 5(14)(2)(a-f) and Section 3.5(xi). Among other things, the Defence Act, 2002, makes provision for the Minister to:

- Acquire, hire, construct and maintain defence works, ranges, buildings, training and land required for defence purposes.

- Establish, maintain and operate factories for the manufacture and repair of arms, ammunition, vehicles, aircrafts, vessels, military clothing and other stores and equipment.
- Subject to laws relating to seashore, aviation and harbours, the Minister may acquire, construct, maintain manage, and control harbour docks, quays, jetties, aerodrome and any facility necessary for the defence of national defence.
- Acquire arms, ammunition, vehicles, aircrafts, vessels, clothing, animals, stores and other equipment required for defence purposes.
- In consultation with relevant OMA's, sells, let or otherwise dispose of any land building, or animals.

Any government must involve the civil society and other key stakeholders to develop a comprehensive and sustainable frame work of legal, political and institutional reforms that would drive socio-economic development in the country while ensuring separation of powers among the executive, legislature and the judiciary. This practical separation of powers will allow for checks and balances, with regard to abuse of power by the executive like prosecution of political opponents and electoral manipulation that results in civil unrests leading to coups (Ngwawi, 2014).

2.4.2 The Namibian Defence Force Enterprise

The Namibian Defence Force Enterprise have the following benefits for the country, it contributes to the Namibian economy in the following ways:

The August 26 Holdings has under its dealings many other enterprise such as The Windhoek Maschinen Frabric which is one of the Namibia Defence Force business

that does vehicle fitting and repairs for the NDF and general public. Other services provided by the company are trailers tractors, tankers and fencing. The Sat- Com Pvt Ltd is a company that is considerably the major player in the Namibian and regional telecommunication system and this division installs repairs and manufacturing the electronic and telecommunication equipments as well as carrying out researches and developmental activities in the telecommunication industry on behalf of the Namibian Defence Force.

The Shoe Factory manufactures footwear requirements for the Namibian Defence Force and other uniformed services as well as boots for industrial use. The Textile and Garment Factory manufactures the uniforms of the uniformed forces of Namibia. The Ultimate Building Machine (UBM) Construction is another wing of the August 26 Holdings which produces nonconventional building materials and methods. The defence industries was established in accordance with the Section 14(2) (b) of the Defence Act (Act No 1 of 2000). The act stipulates that the Minister of Defence may establish, maintain and operate factories for the manufacture and repair of arms, ammunition, vehicles, aircrafts, vessels, military clothing and other stores and equipment in accordance to the Government of Namibia (Namibia Defence Force Journal, 2016).

The society benefits in buying goods at cheap prices and people are employed in these enterprises which in turn improves the image of NDF. The government gets dividends and royalties from these companies there by contributing to the fiscus which is later used to finance developmental projects in communities. These Organisations established by NDF sell goods and services at affordable pricers hence improving the welfare of the society and have also helped in stabilising prices thereby reducing inflation.

2.4.3 Military involvement in nation building

Molomo (2009: 36) poses a comprehensive argument that, “although Africa is well endowed with natural and human resources, it suffers from extreme poverty and deprivation. The scourge of Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and other chronic diseases compounds this situation. African countries aspire to build strong states that have significant social depth and are anchored on the virtues of just and equitable societies. However, the painful reality is that most of these African leadership are elitist and divorced from the people and are often characterised by repression and lack of accountability and political legitimacy.” He argues further that Africa is also the home of endemic state collapse and societal fragmentation resulting in violent armed conflicts, which leads to loss of life and destruction of property and social bonds. The gloomy picture that emerges from the continent exacerbates a sense of hopelessness and despair. This situation has a direct bearing on sustainable economic development and security. However, Botswana presents a more optimistic picture, which nevertheless needs to be qualified. In this regard, this public inquest seeks to interrogate the link between security and sustainable economic development in Botswana. Sustainable economic development and security are historically and socially constructed entities and are mediated through socio-economic factors in the society. There is a constant struggle to deepen and strengthen their institutional relevance. The trajectories that define these concepts, some of which are hidden, throw up possibilities for sustainable economic development and more secure forms of human existence, thus when armed forces and the civilians can have converged efforts, and we may realise the improved way of life if not a sound nation building.

Shaw (1979: 38) says, "... it has been pointed out by those who support military participation in development work that there is considerable justification for their views on economic grounds". In developing countries, which are particularly short of funds, have scarce resources such as trained manpower must be utilised as fully as possible. In such a situation it is not thought to be sufficient merely to employ military personnel and resources in a standby role ready to defend the country should it become necessary: when the country is not involved in military hostilities, they should also be used as fully as possible for other purposes as well. The same author goes on to say a further argument for military involvement on economic grounds is that projects which would otherwise be too costly become possible if carried out by members of armed forces. This is so because certain expenses, such as pay and outlays on accommodation, are already being met anyway if members of military forces are used for this work.

Shaw (1979) stipulates that during the 1960's, the Iranian military was a major force in the implementation of extensive development schemes in their country. The Philippines in the 1950s, after the contest between Huk guerilla insurgents and the Philippines government moved dramatically in favour of the government, an enlightened Secretary of Defence put a halt to the army terrorising the local population in their attempt to stamp out the guerillas. He then initiated wide-scale military involvement in development schemes in the educational and agricultural spheres. This change in policy, along with certain reforms demanded by the population, was enough to render the Huk insurgents ineffective. On the other hand, in other countries such as Pakistan, road construction by the military has been planned more consciously as part of an overall development programme of the army and it has worked. To lessen the risks of tensions

in Israel, as well as for other reasons, the Israeli Defence Force had an intensive programme in operation for the last fifteen years to provide educational courses for servicemen with low educational qualifications. Naturally this programme benefits not only the defence force, but also Israeli society, since it means that young Israelis entering the labour market are better qualified educationally, and the potential for tension between Oriental and Western Jews is considerably reduced. Thus, it has also been argued that when the soldiers are released from the army after their period of national service, not only have they had their general educational level raised, many of them have also become qualified to perform skilled or semi-skilled civilian jobs such as those of mechanics or clerks (Shaw, 1979).

Shaw (1979: 42) confirms that, “the military can also participate in the educational field by providing assistance in the construction of school buildings. An unusual scheme along these lines known as the 'Mitrapab Education Foundation' has been established in Thailand as a result of co-operation between the Thai Army and interested US officials. This body provides aid in the raising of funds for building classrooms, supplies specialised labour and tools, and materials that are not readily available.” It is added that the local population is expected to provide the site for the buildings and the rest of the materials and labour. Ministry of Defence- Kenya launched Environmental Soldier Programme which in 2012 alone planted over 1.5 million trees and awarded Total Eco-Challenge Gold Awards for the care they take for the environment. This is one other initiative Namibia may need to adopt since in its northern central region, there is scarcity of vegetation, especially in the Oshikoto, Oshana and Omusati regions, these places would be a better place if the vegetation would be restored and the vegetation awareness

be instilled to local inhabitants who would need to plant even more trees and take care of them.

In conjunction with the civil population, KDF has started a tree planting project, the sole purpose of Environmental Soldier Programme. Since the programme was started, KDF has planted over five million trees in the arid and semi-arid areas of Lodwar, Lokichogio, Turkana, Pokot and North Eastern Province. The Corps of Engineers' Water Drilling Squadron (WDS) drills water in the area which is used by the trees and ultimately used by the locals. In peace times locations, KDF has responded promptly to fires that attack Lake Nakuru national park annually, Mau Forest and other forests. Albeit military operations being hazardous to the environment, and obviously will not stop, the soldiers have taken it as duty and responsibility to care and preserve the environment.

This brief insight lays the basis of this study which in this case was limited to Windhoek to gain the insight of the Namibia inhabitants to the Namibian Defence Force. It can emerge that the civilians may have vast negative or positive insight which can be used for the success of this study. The next chapter will look into the research methods that was used to collect the intended data, the data presentation and the data analysis.

Chapter 3: Research Methods

3.1 Introduction

This chapter describes the research design, population of the study, samples, and sampling techniques, research instruments and data collection procedures that will be used in the process of collecting and analyzing data. It includes a brief discussion of the ethical considerations that were taken into account when conducting this investigation.

3.2 Research design

For the purposes of this research a descriptive qualitative research approach was adopted. Collis and Hussey (2003) defined research design as a science or art of planning procedures for conducting studies so as to get the most valid findings. In this study the researcher was used qualitative research design in order to gather data meant to establish the public perception in the Khomas Region, Republic of Namibia. The descriptive approach was used for this study, since it was found to be the most appropriate as it aims at describing the qualitative relationship between public confidence and trust in the Namibian Defence Force. Qualitative research has been chosen due to flexibility, which allows research methods to be devised as the research progresses, (Cooper & Schindler 2006).

3.3 Population

Welman and Kruger (2005) and Akpo (2006) also defined population as the entire group of persons or set of objects and events of interests to the researcher. The population comprised of adults above school-going age in the Khomas Region which

had an estimated population of 340 900 people as evidenced by the Namibia 2016 Population and Housing Census Preliminary Results who come from 10 different constituencies of Khomas region.

3.4 Sample

Sampling is the process of selecting a fractional part of the whole relevant group or population. The basic idea is that by selecting some of the elements in a group and focusing research on this finite group, the researcher may apply the findings of the study to the whole company.

The random sampling method was used to target a sample of 50 respondents from the residents of Khomas Region for in-depth interviews. Random sampling was used in the study. The actual participants who took part in the interviews process consist of 50 respondents from Ten (10) constituencies. Respondents interviewed were between the ages of 40 to 50. The number of respondents interviewed were 50 out of 340,900 civilian population. The sample size was influenced by the size of Khomas region because in the view of the researcher the region is big, therefore in order to obtain appropriate conclusions a sample of 50 respondents was chosen and was also influenced due to the fact that the researcher is using a qualitative approach.

3.5 Pilot testing

It is a small scale preliminary study conducted in advance of a planned project specifically to test aspects of the research design, questionnaire, and to allow necessary adjustments before final commitment to the design. The study used qualitative study; therefore 40 respondents from Khomas region were targeted. The pilot study used 40

civilians from all the 10 constituencies. The pilot study used selected 4 civilians from each constituency. The 40 respondents used were between the age of 40-50. The pilot test involved distributing copies of the survey questionnaires to respondents in Khomas Region.

3.6 Research instruments

Research instruments refers to how data will be collected. Research instruments are the finding strategies in the study. For the purposes of this study only primary data was collected via interviews. The interview questionnaires comprised of both open ended and structured questions which were having possible answers. Interviews were chosen as they allow personal experiences to be highlighted by the respondents and can help reveal more information. The interview questionnaire comprised of 52 open and closed ended questions.

3.6.1 Interview questions construction

The following was considered in constructing interview questions.

- The questions were linked to the research objectives, the essence for this was to have these objectives achieved by the information solicited from the study.
- The questions were clearly stated and in simple English that enabled the respondents to comprehend them easily as the research asked.
- Simple questions were asked at the beginning with high order questions following so as to motivate the respondents.

The data was collected from the Regional Governor, councillors, educational director, inspectors and other participants using interview questions, which were self-

administered in order to ensure a high response rate and allow room for explanations. According to Creswell (2013), contrary to the view of Watling and James (2012), believes that the process of qualitative data analysis and interpretation can best be represented by a spiral image-a data analysis spiral, in which the researcher moves in analytic circles rather than using a fixed linear approach.

3.7 Procedures

The interview questions was utilised to collect the data for the study. However, the interview was conducted in English and provision was made if the respondents could not speak English, an interview was conducted based on the interview questions and the audio recording of the interviewees. The interview were conducted by the researcher who is good in English and Oshiwambo languages. The researcher went a head with the help of fellow students who spoke Afrikaans, Damara>Nama, Rukangali, Hereros and the Caprivian languages. These were the languages which were necessary to complete the study. The interviews was designed in such a way that the respondents provided answers to the research questions and the objectives.

The pilot study was carried out to identify areas that could require revision and correction, to refine the interview questions in data analysis procedure through pilot study. Before producing interview questions in bulk, sample questions were subjected to pilot test where five respondents were requested to make contributions towards the improvement of the questions. The questions were analysed if they could generate information required by the study. However, data collection exercise was done with 50 randomly selected residents from 10 constituencies of Khomas Region, the questions

were crafted and tested for corrections before they were used on the final sample for the intended data.

3.8 Data analysis

As already mentioned elsewhere in this paper elements of qualitative research were used, that is interviews. Data was analysed with regard to the posed research questions. The support theories proposed by distinguished educational technologists and pedagogues were also sought in analyzing data. Data was analysed using pie charts, bar graphs and tables as well as explanations interpreting the data.

3.9 Research ethics

The research is scientifically sound and valid in such a way that it will help to improve civil-military relations. A broader discussion on the issue of ethics of practice in research have been widely debated. (Gordon 2007) and (Jaris 2006) argue for the universal good of respecting persons as an overriding moral principle that should guide all educational practice including research. In this research the researcher took into consideration the respondents right to anonymity in the process of collecting data. The researcher ensured that informed consent was gained from respondents (Olivier 2008).

After gaining to the territory of the research the purpose of the study was explained to the participants, interviews were conducted. Respondents were assured of confidentiality since no information that led to the identification of respondents will be divulged. Questions were clearly outlined and read to respondents before interviews were conducted.

The research observed certain aspects of ethics during the study. After the approval of the research proposal by Postgraduate Studies Committee (PGSC) and endorsed by the senate of the University of Namibia (UNAM) the fieldwork commenced. After this approval, the researcher has also approached the office of the Governor, Khomas Region, Khomas Regional Council headquarters and Chairperson of the regional councils, requesting their permission to conduct research in Khomas Region and its Ten (10) constituencies. The study was based on the principle of voluntary participation. Informed consent was gained from participants prior to their participation. Therefore in this study the research ethics were adhered to, the respondents' written consent was sort for before the research was undertaken from the respondents.

For the application of ethical principles, researcher informed my informants about their rights. It is imperative for the researcher to put ethical issues into consideration during his/her research. The researcher has to be conscious of ethical issues throughout his/ her research design and while in the field. Since it is ethically unacceptable to deceive respondents through covert observation, my respondents were not interviewed without their consent. The participants' privacy was respected and were guaranteed ultimate confidentiality and anonymity. In order to meet these, an authorization letter from University of Namibia was obtained through of the departmental supervisor. Researcher also sought permission from Regional Governor of that region which permitted me to go to selected constituency.

Before going in the constituencies, researcher got permission from the councillors of the constituency to talk to those communities. Before the interviews and observations began,

researcher explained my intentions to the respondents. The aim for my research was explained as well as asking permission from them. The respect and dignity of all the stakeholders who participated in this research was highly sustained and exercised. Researcher tried to exercise high level of professionalism and good conduct with my respondents.

3.10 Reliability and Validity

To ensure the accuracy of the data collection instruments, a pilot study was conducted at 10 constituencies. In a bid to ensure validity and reliability, respondents were presented with same questionnaires from the pilot study containing same questions so as to maintain consistency and eliminate bias. In interviews the interviewer explained the questions to respondents so that respondents interpret questions correctly and give appropriate responses. Validity and reliability was maintained because a larger sample was chosen which led to greater precision statistical power. According to Robinson (2008), it is important to conduct a pilot study before the actual research is carried out. This is to establish whether there are any ambiguities in the research and to confirm the reliability of the instruments of data collection. Results of the pilot test assisted in the revision of the research questionnaire and also to assess the reliability of the instruments.

Chapter 4: Data analysis, Interpretation and Discussions of findings

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the findings of the study from primary research. The chapter represents the analysed primary data obtained through the research instrument. The data is presented in bar and pie charts for easy interpretation of responses. The results of each question item of the research instrument were tabulated before being presented graphically. Below each graphical presentation of results and a brief description was given and linked to literature where applicable. An analysis of the outcome was also given for each graph. However, data is presented in various formats that include tables, graphs and descriptive narrations. Mainly, the results reveal the general characteristics of NDF in the Khomas region, and perceptions of community and their views about NDF.

4.2 Presentation of Results

4.2.1 Gender demography

Figure 4.1 below indicates that fifty-nine per cent (59%) of the gender engaged in the study were female respondents. The remaining 41 per cent were male respondents. The research first established the gender of the respondents, as this was assumed to have an impact on the way one perceives the NDF. To balance the views of both sexes, a gender balance that represents the actual distribution of the population was chosen. The results showed that respondents were 41% males and 59% females.

4.1: Gender of respondents

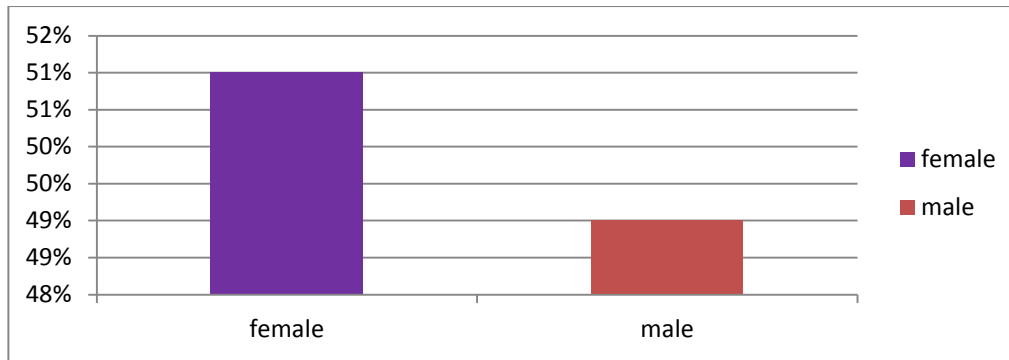


Figure 1: Responses according to gender

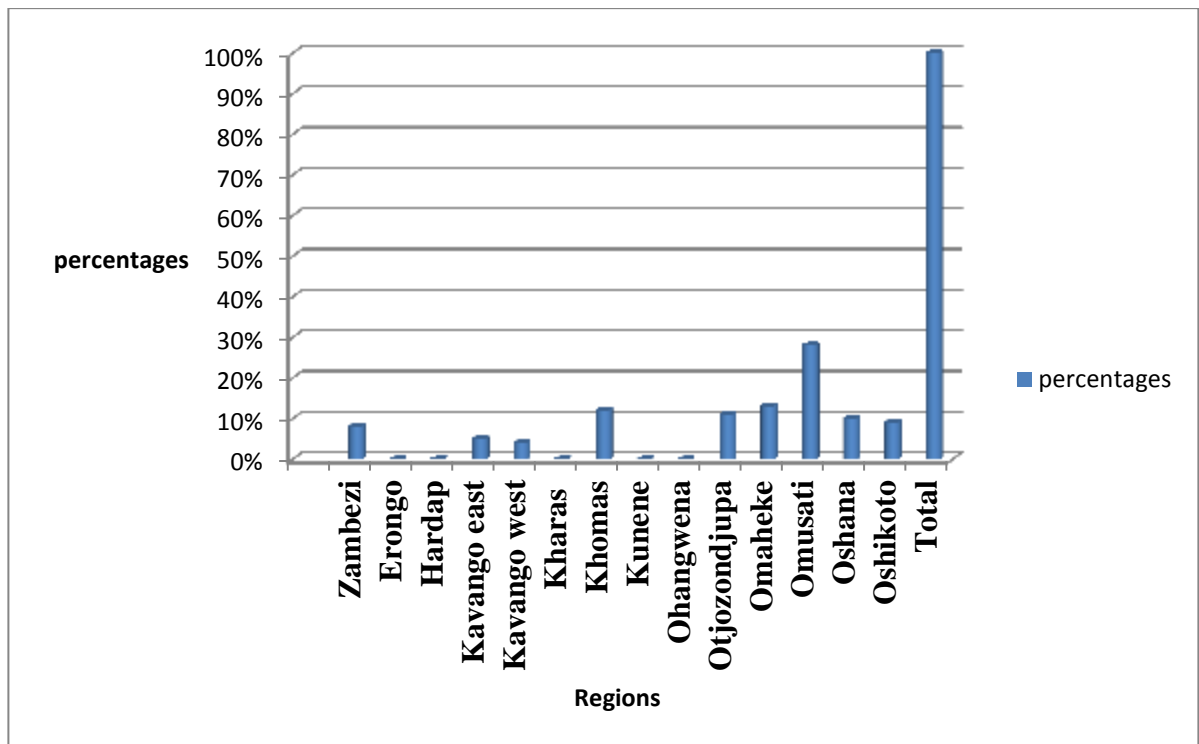
The respondents were balanced as both male and females were equally represented on the respondents's population sample. There was a slight difference on the number of females to males, the females were 51% and males 49%, there was gender balance in the research respondents. This showed that the distribution of residents in the Khomas Region and that most of the residents were females and is assumed to be a true representation of the population distribution of the region at Namibia at large and, hence, the sample was considered to be a perfect sample.

4.2.2 Respondents' Place of Origin

Classification of residents according to region of origin indicated that the respondents were from varied Namibian Regions such as Zambezi, Kavango East, Kavango West, Khomas, Otjozondjupa, Omaheke, Omusati, Oshana and Oshikoto. The respondents were asked about their origin, that is, their home region and this was meant to assess the distribution of the respondents, as their places of origin were expected to have an impact on their insights, interests and attitudes towards NDF. The findings showed that the Erongo, Hardap, Karas, Ohangwena and Kunene regions were not represented and the highest number was from the Omusati region which had 28% and Okavango West with

4%. This was assumed not to have a bearing on the outcome because the other regions were fairly represented and their outcomes would, therefore, cover the regions not represented and this posed a notion that most if not all tribes of Namibia were represented in the sample of the Khomas Region, this is indicated by the graph below.

Figure 4.2: Classification of residents according to region of origin



NB: *KavangoRegion has been split into East and West and the Caprivi Region has since changed name to Zambezi Region in 2014*

4.2.3 Respondent’s Age demography

Figure 4.3 below clearly shows that most of the respondents involved in the study were between 49 and 51 years of age, whilst the least were in the age category younger than 49 years. Ages of the respondents were recorded to be between 49 and 51 years. The ages of the respondents were ascertained, as ages were expected to have an impact on

the outcome. The older generation was expected to have some experience with the defence forces during the liberation struggle and the younger generation was not be expected to have much interaction with the defence forces in that time. The target respondents, however, were those within the 40 to 50 age range. The highest age range was between 40 and 50 years (70 %), this shows that the research had mature people and hence contributions made were of great value.

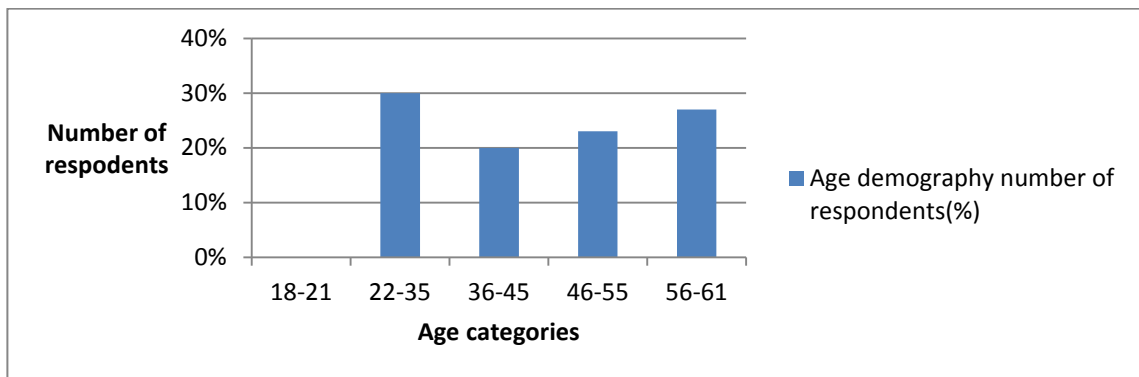


Figure 4.3: Age of respondents

4.2.4 Qualification

The highest education attained indicated the category of grade 7 to degrees. The respondents' highest level of education was ascertained, as this was expected to have an impact on their perceptions, attitudes and views. The assumption was that the higher the level of education, the more balanced and objective the reasoning was and the more informed one was about events. The respondents showed a very high level of education because most of them had Grade 12, (78%). Most of the respondents had grade 12 and hence this research had respondents who met the minimum qualification as per the Ministry of Education in Namibia's requirements. This was because the people who are illiterate usually did not want to participate in issues that require them to write, as they

would feel incapacitated with the demands of the interview questions and would not want to give their opinions, as they feel they are less informed enough to say anything academic.

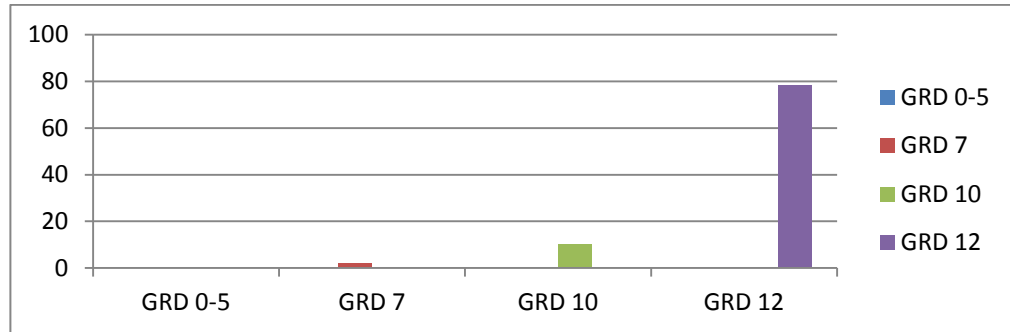


Figure 4.4: Highest academic (primary/secondary) level of education

4.2.5 Professional qualifications

The respondents were asked about their professional qualifications. Professional training was presumed to have an impact on the way one perceives situations as well as deductive and inductive reasoning. Most of the respondents had tertiary certificates, diplomas, first degrees, post graduate degrees, master degree and none had PhD. This showed the distribution of educational qualifications in the community and the society at large.

Table 4.5: Highest level of tertiary/Professional Qualifications

Category	Percentage
Tertiary certificates	39%
Diplomas	25%
First degrees	13%
Postgraduate degrees	12%
Master degrees	11
PhD	0
Total	100

4.2.6 Status of employment

The respondents were asked about their employment status and this was deemed to have an impact, as it was presumed that employed people had a say on what happens around them. The outcome showed that the majority of respondents were employed with a minimal population sample being self-employed and there was no respondent who was unemployed. This is an indication that the respondents were qualified to respond to the issues at hand.

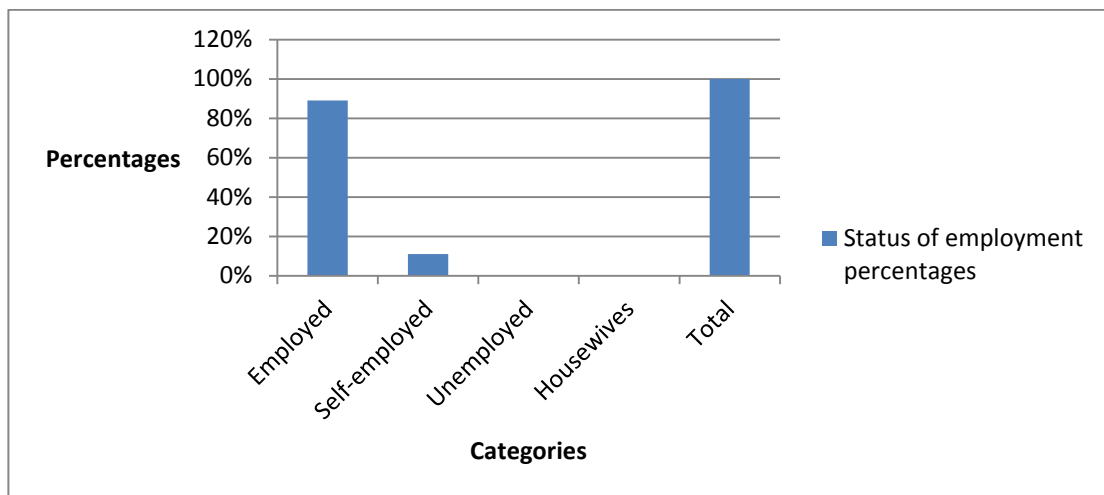


Figure 4.6: Status of employment

4.2.7 Profession/job title

The respondents were asked about their highest level of professional qualifications. Professional training was presumed to have an impact on the way someone perceives situations and their deductive and inductive reasoning. Most of the respondents had certificates, diplomas and degrees. This showed the distribution of educational qualifications in the community and the Namibian society at large.

Table 4.7: Profession/job title

Region	Percentage
Housewife	0%
Community activator	9%
Police officer	5%
Prison officer	10%
Inspector of education	10%
Directors	7%
Councillors	10%
Control officers	5%
Estate agent	7%
Teachers	24%
Technician	13%
Total	100%

Presentation and analysis of data

4.3 Respondents' perception on the NDF activities

4.3.1 NDF duties in Khomas Region

The residents revealed that the soldier's visibility was observed frequently and this is (100%) of the respondents. All the respondents had at one point or another seen a soldier. This showed that soldiers were visible in the community. The fact that they all had seen a soldier meant there was a heavy presence of soldiers in the community either as community members or as officers on duty. This meant a soldier was not only associated with war or with films. People who would have seen soldiers had something to say about them since they knew them. The respondents' views about the presence of soldiers can be illustrated by the graph below.

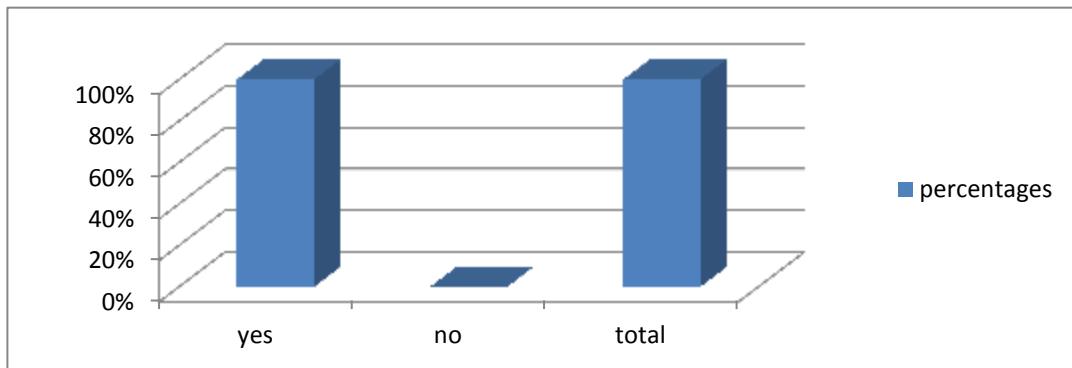


Figure 4.8: NDF visibility

4.3.2 What activities were Soldiers doing in the Community

In response to this question, the researcher wanted to find out about the activities the NDF was doing in the vicinity of Khomas community. Among many other duty lines, the Khomas residence acknowledged that, NDF officers were actively involved in the past in transporting drought relief (18%) , rescuing (11%), Hiv & Aids (39%), constructing bridges (17%), providing health education (15%). The respondents were asked what the soldiers were doing when they saw them. This was meant to assess the amount of interaction they had with the soldiers. The responses showed that most of the respondents had seen soldiers on duty, as most of them had seen them either transporting drought relief, on health education (HIV &AIDS campaign), rescuing and evacuating people under flooded water. This is shown by the graph below.

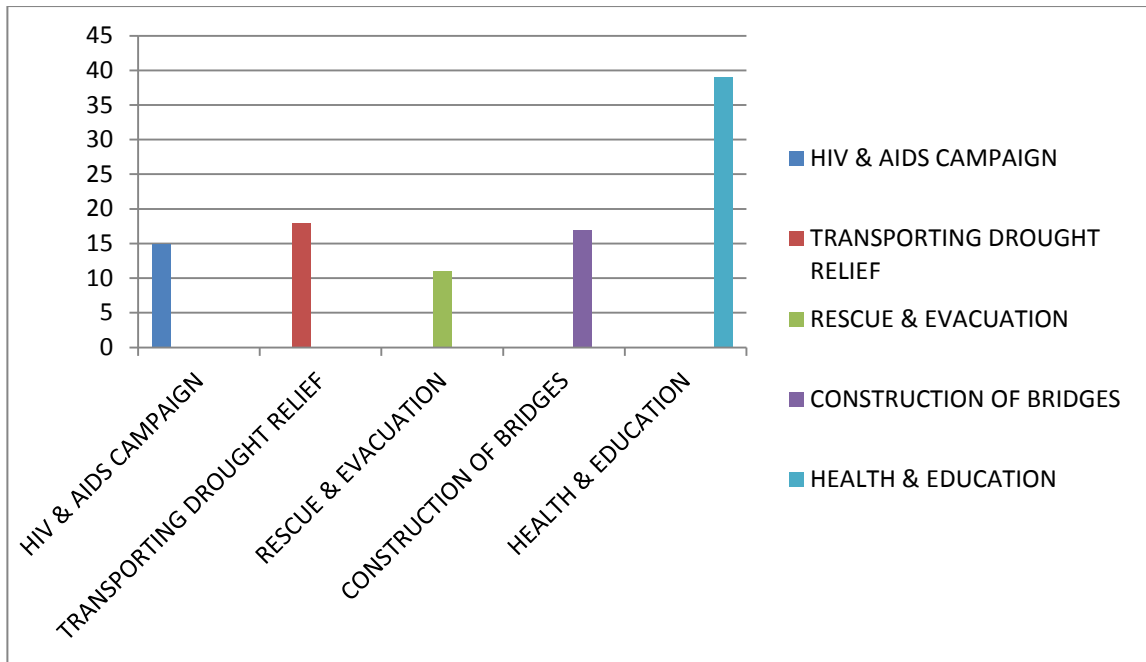


Figure 9: Activities of NDF officers

4.3.3 When did you see soldiers performing community activities

As shown in Figure 4.10, about 70 per cent of all the respondents indicated that they seen them doing that after independence in 2011. On the other hand, 10 per cent of the respondents indicated that they have seen them in 2015. All the respondents saw them participating in civil duties, some they were said in 2014 (10%), and 2017 (10%).The graph below illustrates the the time when NDF was seen doing various activities in the community.

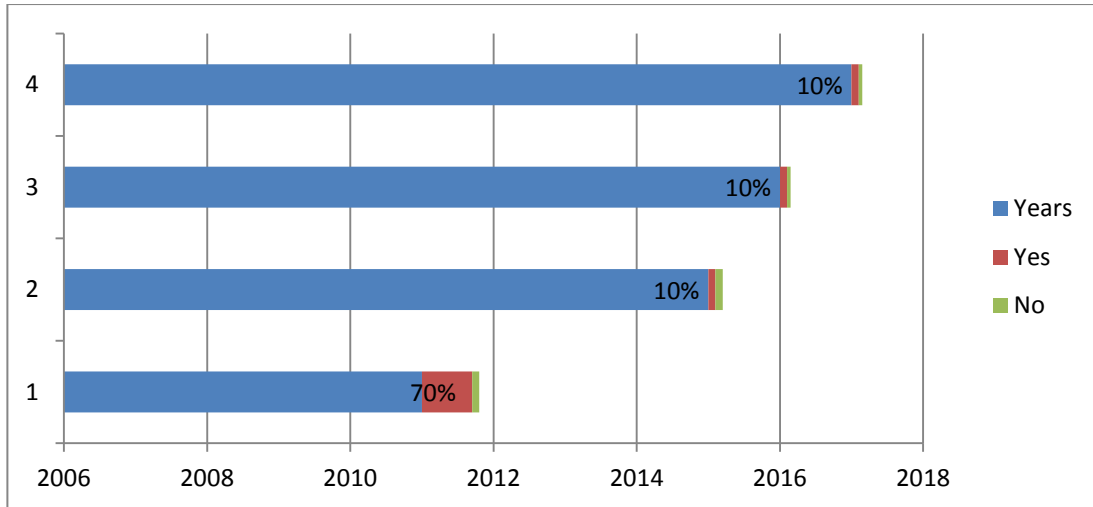
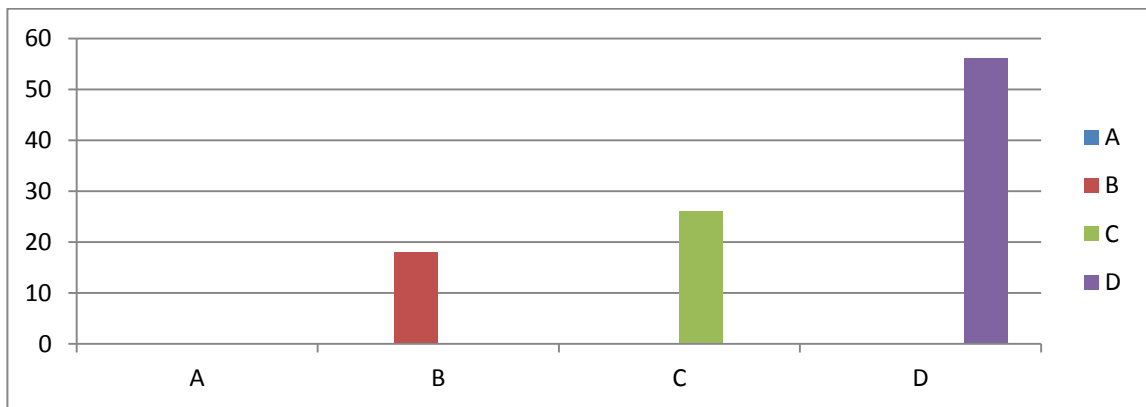


Figure 10: NDF seen doing activities

4.3.4 The residents' perceptions on the NDF's identity

The study shows that they are actually viewed them as members of the community. When respondents were asked if the soldiers were loathed, (18%) said they liked them, (56%) of the respondents showed appreciation of the NDF and (26%) were neutral.



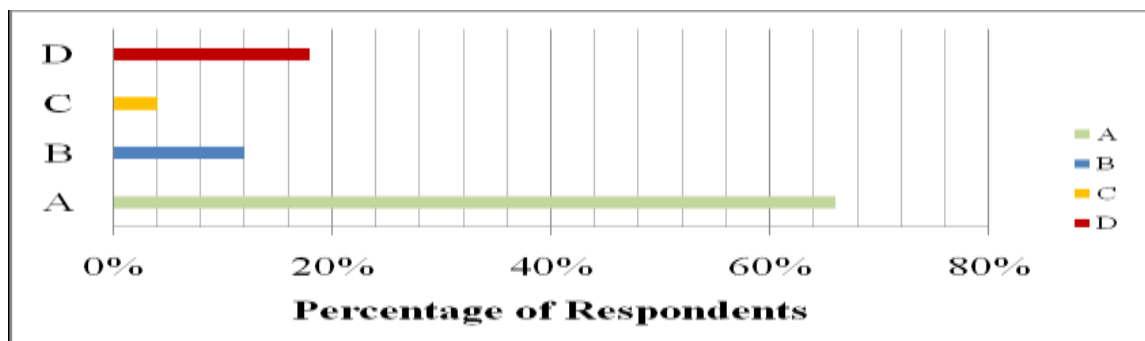
A = With fear (0%) B = Loathed (18%) C = Pride (56%) D = Neutral (26%)

Figure 4.11: Perceive of NDF

This meant that a few did not like the NDF, which indicated a high level of trust, as the NDF was meant to defend the territorial integrity of the country.

4.3.5 The Namibian Defence Force in community engagement

The study revealed that the majority of the respondents had seen a soldier in different ways for example as fat (4%), lazy (12%), unfit (18%) and active (66%) members. This showed how visible soldiers were in the community. The negative average responses suggested that soldiers needed to improve on their fitness while a few respondents cited the elements of laziness as officers on duty or even executing their national duties. However, average respondents showed that they were very active to do their assigned tasks.



A = Active (66%) B = Lazy (12%) C = Fat (4%) D = Unfit (18%)

Figure 4.12: The NDF in community engagement.

4.3.6 NDF in community development and its benefit to the society

In this question, the researcher wanted to find out about the benefits of NDF involvement in community development. On the benefits of NDF involvement in community development, the respondents were asked whether the involvement of the Namibian Defence Force in the community had benefits to the country or it was an

expense, the respondents thought that their involvement was beneficial (94%) and other respondents (6%) were of the belief that the NDF did not benefit the community at all. This showed that most people perceived the defence force as a worthwhile institution that was beneficial to the nation and not just to themselves.

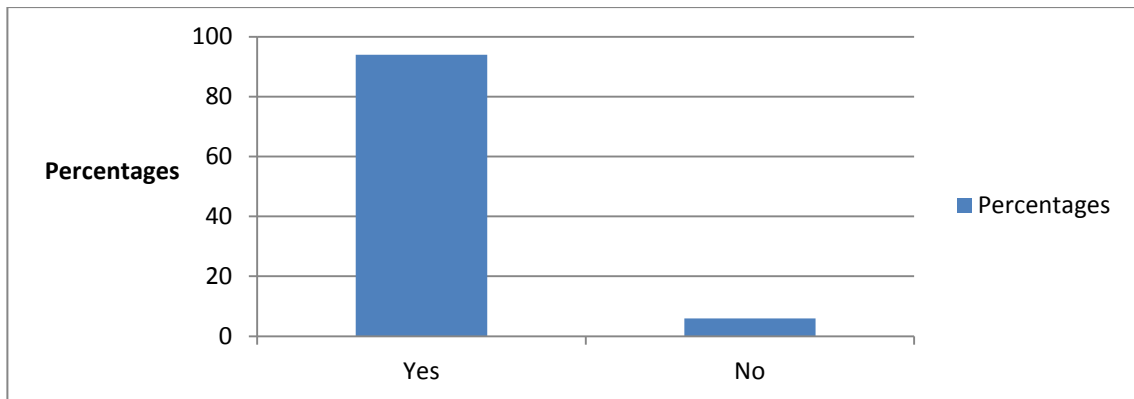


Figure 4.13: NDF in community development

4.3.7 Continuity of the NDF

The respondents were asked whether they were prepared to motivate their sons and daughters to join the NDF. The results showed that 76 per cent never had interest and trust on the NDF, as to defend the national security and its national interest. It follows that, the biggest motivation for sons and daughters to join the NDF is followed by pay and benefits, with job security, 24% said the pay was a motivational factor for siblings to join NDF.

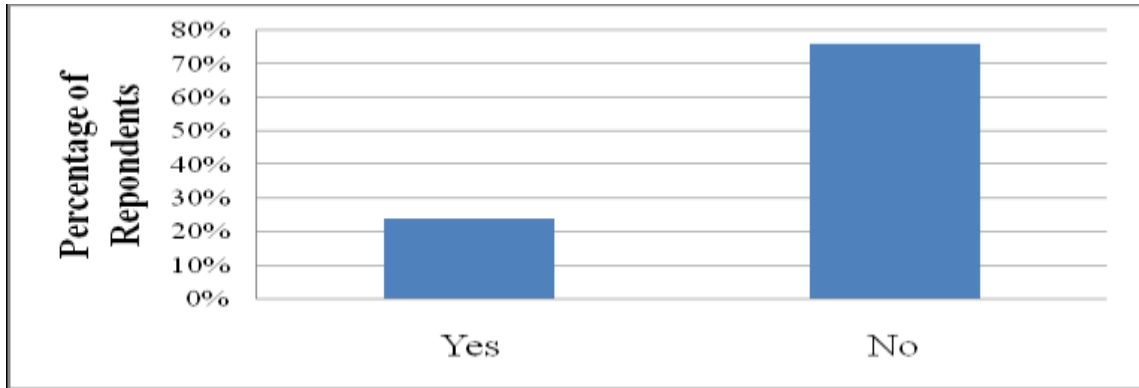


Figure 4.14: Motivation for sons and daughters

4.3.8 Community understanding on the roles of the NDF and their views

As can be seen in Figure 4.15 below, a total number of 35 participants, representing 70 per cent of the respondents, indicated that they never understand the roles of the NDF. However, the other 30 per cent showed that the NDF is not serving only the interest of the government, but also of the people.

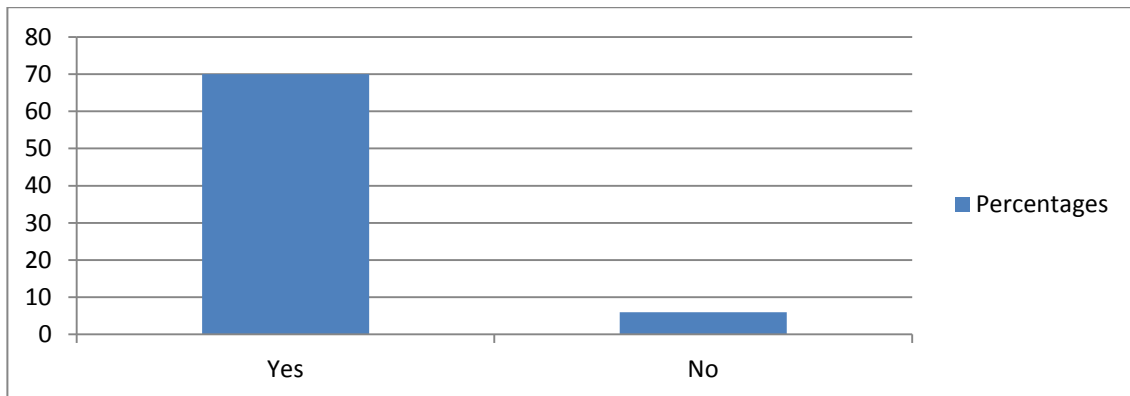


Figure 4.15: Community understanding

4.3.9 Namibian Defence Force and its military power

The researcher asked this question in order to determine if the respondents were aware of NDF and its military power available and how to access them. The results of the study

indicated that 80 per cent of the respondents knew of NDFs' power. Only 20 per cent of these were not aware of the NDFs' power to the nation. The respondents understood that the NDF is there to defend the territorial integrity of the country and safe guarding through protecting the state and nation. NDF provided security during elections and respondents were asked if they believed that the NDF provided security during elections. Most of the respondents thought that they did, but of the respondents thought that the force did not provide the required security.

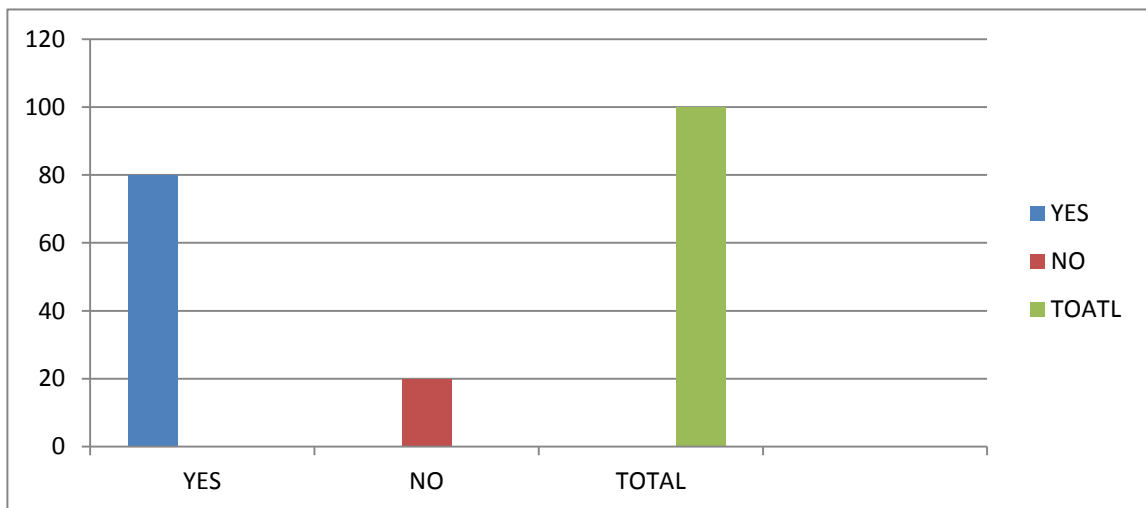


Figure 4.16: NDF and its power

4.3.10 NDF and national security

The study revealed that nearly all respondents (80%) in the Khomas region, believed that NDF has national security plans on how to protect the society. Nonetheless, about 20 per cent of the respondents indicated that they have no security plans in place. NDF and security was one other area where most of the respondents were in agreement that the Namibian Defence Force provides security to the nation and state. This was only

disputed by a minimal respondents. This showed the high level of trust the community has in the ability of the Namibian Defence Force.

Table 4.17: National security

Category	Percentage
Respondents said yes	80
Respondents said no	20
Total	100%

4.3.11 NDF’s humanitarian assistance to the civilians in times of disaster

The respondents were asked to give information on whether NDF had humanitarian assistance for their civil society or not. The study revealed that, the NDF provides humanitarian assistance and all the respondents thought that the force was very helpful and the civilians could rely on them (60%). This showed a great level of trust in the force and its ability to protect.

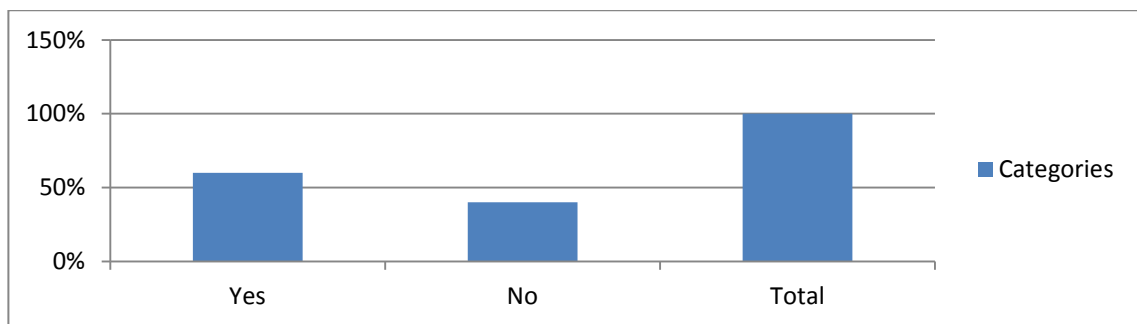


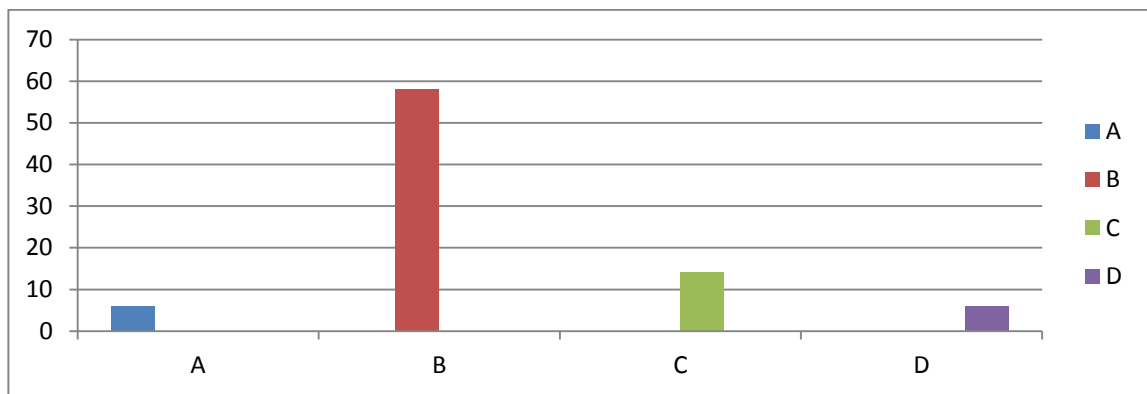
Figure 4.18: NDF’s humanitarian assistance

4.3.12 NDF and Police Forces’ roles in curbing of crimes

The respondents were asked if it is the responsibility of the NDF to combat crime in the country and work together with the police. To this fact the respondents thought that the responsibilities of the force and the police do not have anything in common. This

showed that most of the respondents are aware of the activities of the force and they have seen them in action (64%). Only 22 per cent of the respondents strongly disagree and 14% disagreed. Therefore, NDF may help bridge the gap of maintaining law and stability, by combining efforts with the police to prevent crime and all social ills like drug abuse, alcoholism by helping with shutting shebeen.

Respondents suggested that the force should work closely with security guard companies and police force by giving their skills to safe guarding and protection techniques to enhancing theirs.



A = (6% respondents strongly agree) **B** = (14% respondents disagree)

C = (22% respondents strongly disagree) **D** = (58% respondents agree)

Figure 4.19: NDF and Police

4.3.13 NDFs' role in the safety and security of the executive and Government officials

Most of the respondents were aware that it was one of the responsibilities of the force to provide security to the ministries and high-ranking government officials (86%). A few respondents (7%) did not believe it was the responsibility of the force to provide security to government officials. Only 7% of the respondents remained neutral. The fact that most of the respondents were aware meant that the public is informed on the work of the

Namibian Defence Force. This improves the trust of the people in the force and it encourages the people to perceive the force positively.

Table 4.20: Executive and Government officials

Category	Percentage
Most of the respondents were aware	86
A few respondents unaware	7
Remained neutral	7
Total	100

4.3.14 NDFs’ role in curbing poaching of Wild life

This was meant to test if the respondents are aware of NDFs’ role as part of the curbing poaching of Wild life. As results show, all of the respondents indicated that they do not see NDF doing so. They are not aware of it either. Most of the respondents (70%) disagreed that the NDF helps to protect natural resources such as wildlife. Only 20% of the respondents agreed with the statement and the remaining 10% were neutral. This showed that the respondents were not aware that the NDF has a duty not only to prepare for war, but also to protect the resources for the nation. NDF and natural resource protection were presented to respondents with most of the respondents disagreeing that the NDF helps to protect natural resources such as wild life. NDF is to patrol the border of the country and protect the natural resources of the country such as marine resources.

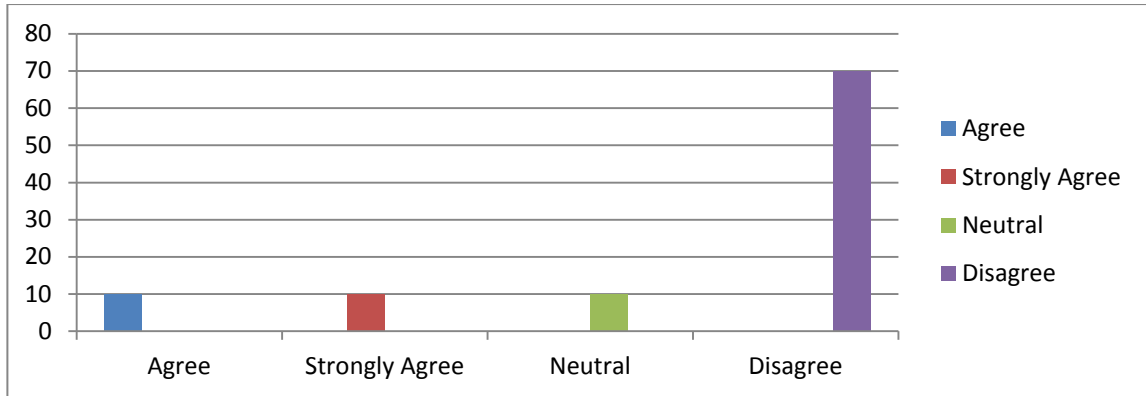


Figure 4.21: NDF and natural resource protection

4.3.15 NDF participation in civil matters

The majority of the respondents (70%) agreed with the statement that NDF’s participation in civil matters such as disasters improves civil-military relations. Only 10% disagreed and 20% remained neutral. This shows that the respondents thought that the Namibian Defence Force’s participation in civil matters such as floods improves civil-military relations. This is an indication that the public was aware of the activities of the force and how beneficial they are to the livelihood of the force. The trust is boosted with the element of belief.

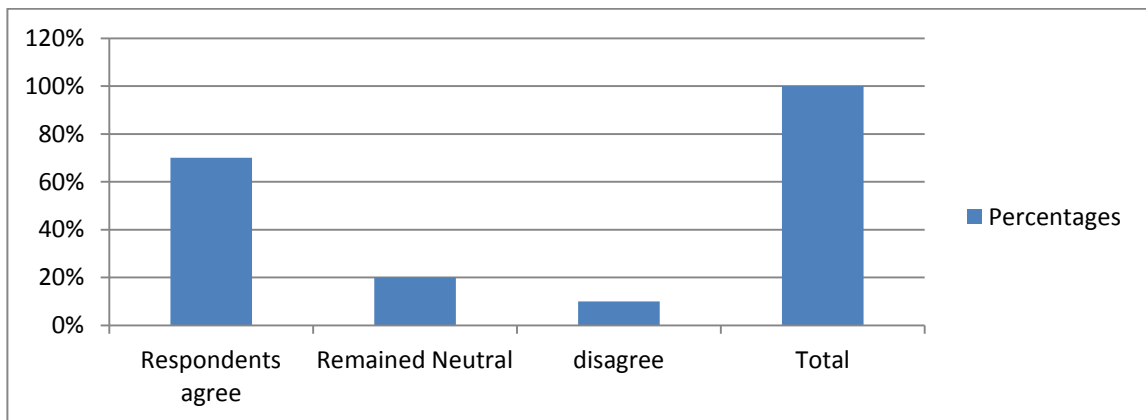


Figure 4.22: NDF participation in civil matters

4.3.16 NDF maintenance of political stability in the country

The idea here was to try and find the major challenges affecting respondents in the Khomas region. The results showed that the major challenge had to do with political stability to improve the civil society. Another problem is that of the Caprivi secession attempt (30% disagree), followed by that of poaching (10% remained neutral) and possible attacks from within and from outside the country (60% agree). The last one was that of civil-military relations and most respondents indicated that, since they are coming from the same community, they know how to deal with their problems, but nonetheless welcome any interventions that would sharpen and improve their well being of the society. NDF and political stability were indicated by the respondents that NDF has proved that it can maintain political stability in the country (60%) by their reaction and success in stopping the Caprivi secession attempt and UNITA bandits killing civilians.

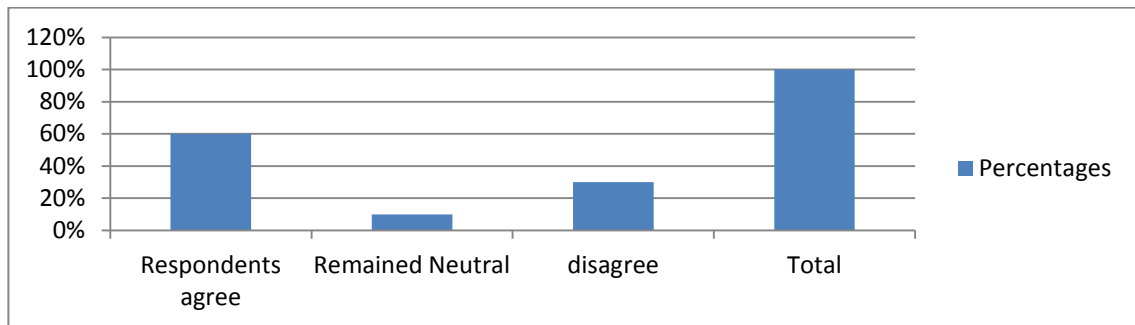
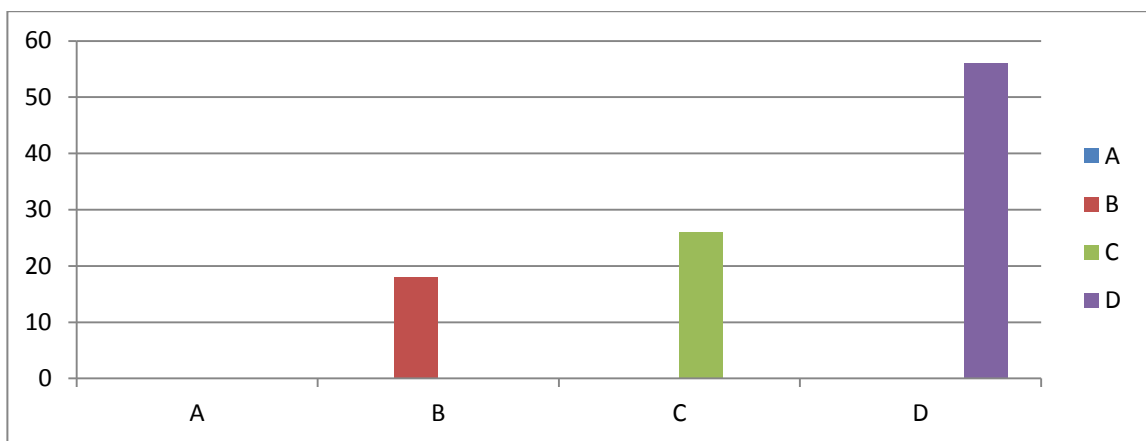


Figure 4.23: NDF and political stability

4.3.17 Communitys' trust of the Namibian Defence Force

The respondents were asked if they trusted the Namibian Defence Force. The researcher wanted to find out if respondents were aware of the mandates governing NDF activities and development. The study showed that 100 per cent of these respondents were not

aware of the defence Policy in Namibia. None of the respondents said that they were aware about the defence policy. With regards to the question submitted to the respondents, they indicated that (18%) had no idea and 26 per cent needed to know a lot on the Policy exists that defined and regulated the activities of NDF. The responses showed that they trusted the NDF to a certain extent (56%), and none of the respondents indicated that they did not trust the NDF at all.



**A = Not at all (0%) B = No idea (18%) C = To a certain extent (56%)
D = A lot (26%)**

Figure 4.24: Trust in NDF

4.3.18 Civilians' perception on NDF's involvement in UNPSO

The study shows that respondents are satisfied with the level of assistance NDF rendered to the international community. 100 per cent of the participants indicated that the current level of confidence was good enough. However, respondents said they were happy by what the NDF has so far done in favour of civil society, either internal or at international level. The Khomas Regional Council said that they were happy with the assistance programme offered by NDF to society. The respondents showed confidence in the force because if the members can participate in the United Nations missions, it means they are

of international standard in terms of their training and service delivery. This showed that the Namibian Defence Force did not exist in a vacuum and that it is part of the global village. This boosts community trust in the force. This also meant that, should Namibia need help, other countries would be forthcoming.

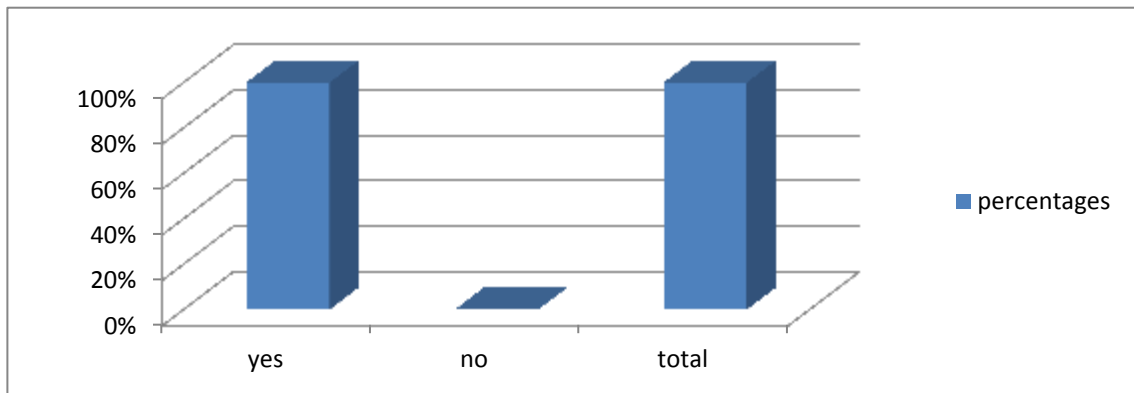


Figure 4.25: NDF and UN Peace Support Operations

4.3.19 The status of confidence of the NDF by the community

As shown in Figure 4.26 below, all the respondents indicated that the NDF is always responding to the natural disasters. All the respondents thought that it is very important for the community to trust the force, as they work together. If the community does not trust the defence force, then it is likely that there will be political instability and this could lead to an unsafe environment of the whole community. The respondents were aware of the importance of trust (100%). NDF is always responding to the natural disasters, especially evacuation and fire fighting when it occurred in the nation. This, it is through joint venture with other government institutions.

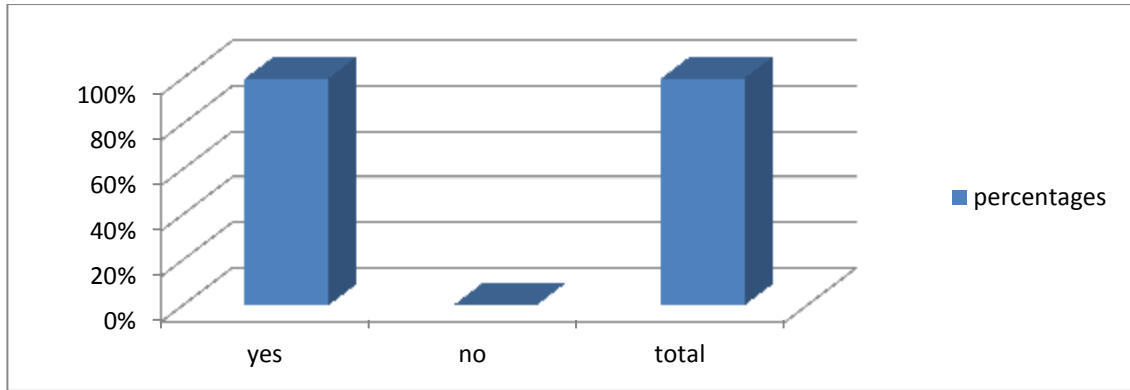


Figure 4.26: Status of confidence of the NDF

4.3.20 The perceptions of civilians on pre and post Defence Force

It is clearly evident that almost all the respondents were happy with the services provided by the NDF to them. 56 per cent of them said that they were satisfied by the NDF's assistance then before independence. Only 44 per cent indicated that they were friendly to the community.

Comparison of NDF activities before and after independence were presented between the age group of 40 to 50 years old and the responses were as follows, respondents felt that the NDF soldiers were different from the defence force before independence and they are friendlier than the forces before independence (100%). This also indicated a positive view of the NDF by the community, which in turn promotes trust of the NDF by the community.

Table 4. 27: Comparison of NDF activities

Category (Age group as from 40-50 years old)	Percentage
Different from the army before independence	56
The same as the army before independence	0

Friendlier then the army before independence	44
Soldiers just as the army before independence	0
Total	100

4.3.21 The significance of the NDF members to the Namibian nation

There are some major areas where respondents have emphasised that they needed help from the NDF. First in line is the area of helping people during flood with a score of 21 per cent. Thereafter, it is followed by the need for aggressive promotion (6%) of issues pertinent to them as society, on humanitarian assistance. Next 30 per cent felt that there was a need to create a conducive environment through security in times of conflict and 9 per cent on the issues regarding stopping an uprising. 17 per cent required youth development and 17 per cent participating in national events.

The NDF activities according to the opinions of the respondents were positive, as they could identify a number of good things done by the NDF. This also indicated the positive view of the NDF held by the community, which in turn promoted community trust, this can be highlighted by the graph below.

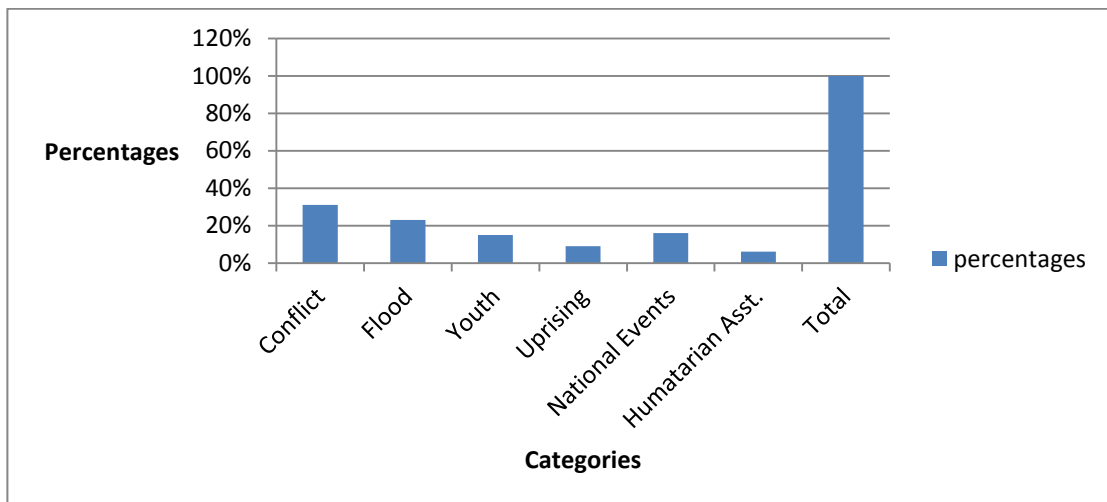


Figure 4. 28: Soldiers' activities

4.3.22 The Executive's control of the NDF

The study revealed that nearly all respondents (89%) in the Khomas region trusted in the NDF and its activities, the majority of respondents confirmed that the civilian control of the NDF by the Executive made the civilians trust the NDF and its activities. Only a few respondents responded negatively (11%). The responses also indicated a positive view of the NDF by the community, which in turn promoted community trust in the NDF in this case. The table below shows the views of respondents with regard to executive control.

Table 4.29: Trust in NDF and its activities

Category	Yes	No	Percentage
Responses	89	11	100%

4.3.23 Community's opinion and insight on the attitude and personality of the NDF

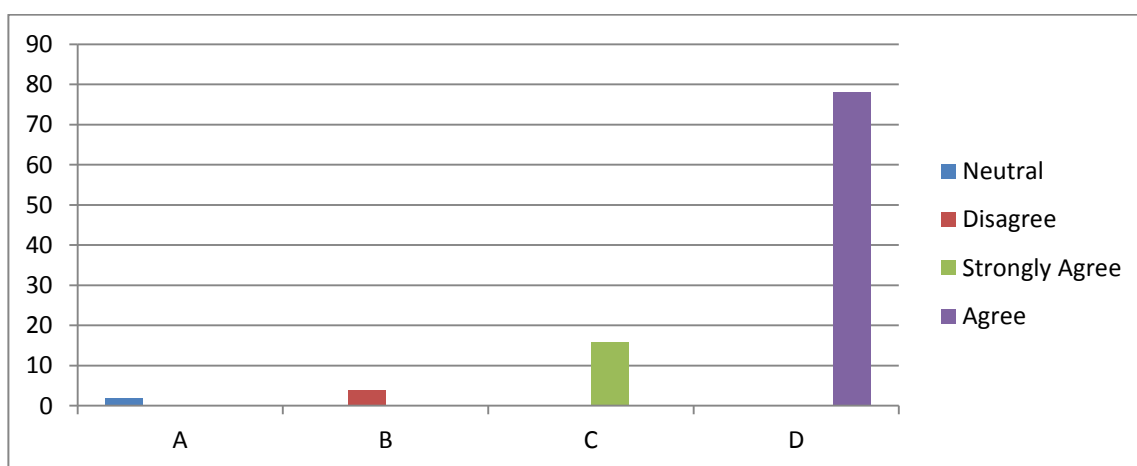
When Respondents were asked to indicate their insights. NDF-civilian relationship were perceived to be positive. This indicated that the NDF is not brutal to the civilians and this gave a positive view of the NDF by the community, which promotes trust of the NDF by the community. The results showed that the majority of respondents (81%) disagreed with the statement that the NDF is cruel to ordinary people (civilians), only 9% agreed with the statement and 7% remained neutral. This indicated that the NDF is not cruel to the civilians and it gives a positive impression of the NDF by the community, which promotes the community's trust in the NDF.

Table 4.30: NDF-civilian relationship

Category	Percentage
Respondents agree	7
Remained neutral	10
Disagreed	46
Strongly disagree	35
Strongly agree	2
Total	100

4.3.24 NDF's societal norms and values in a democracy

The researcher asked this question in order to determine NDF's societal norms and values in Khomas Region. The majority of the respondents agreed with the statement that the NDF promotes democracy (78%), neutral (2%), strongly agree (16%) and disagree (4%). This showed that most of the respondents thought that the organization promotes democracy and hence it is trustworthy, because of that, the government can allocate more resources to NDF so that the NDF can embark on projects, this is shown by the graph below.

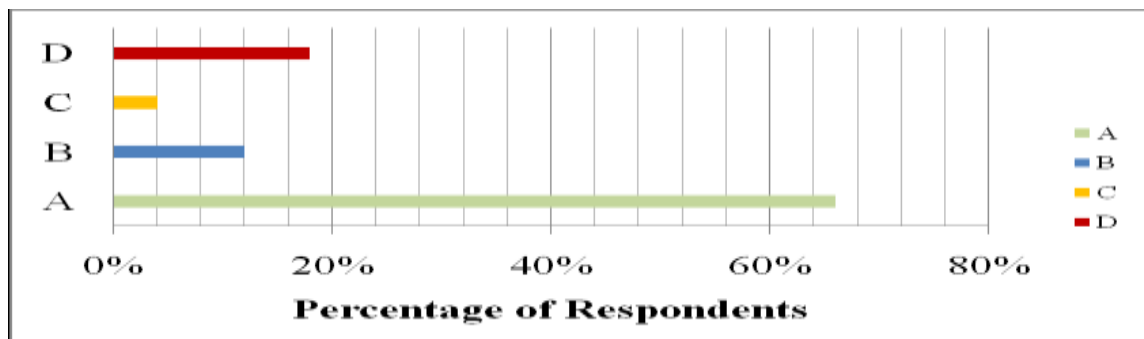


A = Neutral (2%) B = disagree (4%) C = Strongly agree (16%) D = Agree (78%)

Figure 4.31: NDF in democracy

4.3.25 NDF's transparent activities to the cilivians

The results from the study show that respondents agreed with the statement that the NDF is transparent in its activities (66%). Only 4 per cent disagreed and 12 per cent of the respondents said they remained neutral and 18 per cent said they were satisfied with the services provided to them by NDF. This showed that the respondents thought that the NDF was funded by community funds and should always be transparent with its expenditures. This was a good sign that the organization is transparent in its dealings. Transparency in finance leads to transparency in all other activities and this leads to a trustworthy organization, and transparency and accountability are viewed as pillars of trust. The responses of respondents are graphically shown below.



A = Agree (66%) **B** = neutral (12%) **C** = Strongly disagree (4%) **D** = Strongly agree (18%)

Figure 4.32: NDF and transparency

4.3.26 NDF and citizens' rights

Respondents were asked to indicate that the status of the human rights in Namibian society. The majority of the respondents disagreed with the statement that the NDF intimidates people (60%), neutral 10%, strongly disagree (20%) and agree (10%). This

showed that most respondents thought that the NDF does not threaten people. This improves the people’s insight of the organization in terms of trust and civil military relations.

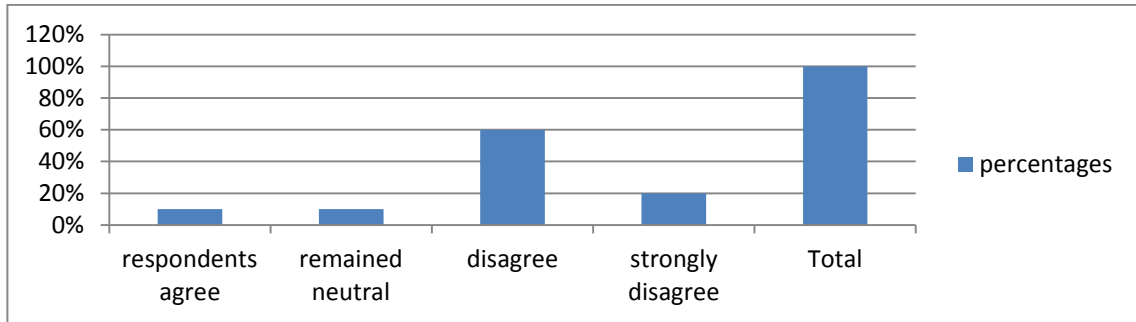


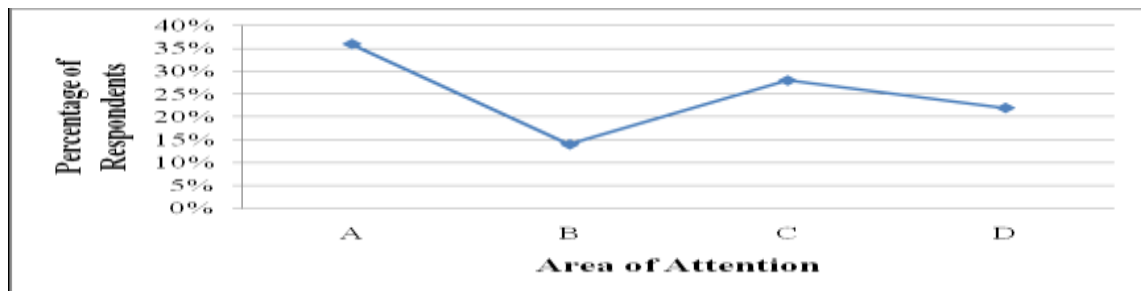
Figure 4.33: NDF and citizens’ rights

4.3.27 The importance of NDF in a democratic and peaceful country

In this question, the researcher wanted to find out about the importance of NDF in a democratic and peaceful country. The respondents indicated that flood seasons are the most critical issue (36%) among other things. Again, respondents said they would like to see NDF give society easy food provision (28%). Another 22 per cent indicated that NDF should give enough protection to the society and 14 per cent said that they would prefer flexibility from their military establishments. Society on the other hand would prefer NDF to provide protection in the form of a peace keeper and serve in international peace keeping.

On this question, all the respondents thought that the Namibian Defence Force was important in the well-being of the country. This makes the people view it as a necessary organization and NDF is not as a squander of state funds. All respondents thought that

the Namibian Defence Force was helpful to the community. This builds a positive image and community trust in the force.



A = Flood seasons (36%) **B** = International peace keeping(14%)
C = Food provision (28%) **D** = Security (22%)

Figure 4.34: NDF in democratic civil society

4.4.1 Respondents' perception on the NDF activities

4.4.1.1 NDF duties in Khomas Region

The respondents however stated that, NDF staff should be engaged in the construction, manufacturing and even agricultural production. Respondents further stated that while the work of the August 26 Company is appreciated, more similar projects and ventures need to be explored in Khomas Region. The manufacturing of machinery and other commodities was applauded. Respondents is noted that more ventures needed to be explored.

4.4.2 Activities NDF is undertaking

The respondents had some limited social contact with soldiers, as they had seen them on health education (HIV and AIDS campaign) which is not carried out often. This showed that the soldiers are known for being of influence in the community, thus the duties of a soldier are not strange to local community members, as they engaged in everyday activities that the people saw. This is a fact that promoted trust and improved the

public's perception of the soldiers. This meant average community members were aware of the soldiers' responsibilities and expectations in the community. This was a good sign for soldiers in times of peace. NDF participated whenever there were emergencies, droughts, and fire outbreaks as well as threats. NDF besides safe guarding our land, sea and air it's also important for their helping hand through various programs be it education, health and other humanitarian services, amongst many other factors.

4.4.3 When did you see them doing community activities

All the respondents saw them participating in civil duties. As shown in Figure 4.10, about 70 per cent of all the respondents indicated that they seen them doing that after independence in 2011. The development from the modern era and then went straight into the postmodern era (Cilliers & Heinecken, 2000). The respondents indicated that the members of the defence force can play an influential role in civic life for instance in Otjiwarongo and members of the police and defence force to de-bush areas suspected to harbor criminals (Namibian Press Agency, 2016)

4.4.4 The residents' perceptions on the NDF's identity

The respondents stated that, there is room for improvement in appearance of uniforms and when normally appearing in community with official vehicles, specifically for staff who are in the uniformed ranks. They need to improve their status, to stop abusing alcohol, respect national uniform, and respect themselves amongst the society and country at large. They revealed that it is important NDF to show their presence by marching or demonstrating their drills in the community, also they should train their members on how to behave in public. All the respondents liked the uniform and the presence of the soldiers, indicating the pride the people had in their NDF. When people do not like their defence forces they tend not to see anything good in them. In this case,

ranks identification to the general community and engagement of print media to profile uniforms and ranks can be launched and implemented.

4.4.5 NDF in community development and its benefit to the society

The respondents said that, the NDF has successfully participated in local, regional and national activities such as the clean-up (cleaning) campaigns for towns, settlements, debushing campaign and field fire activities in the region, also the NDF has assisted in the distribution of drought relief food and in preventing wild or field fire break out. They helped with operations such as to clean the environment and to eliminate criminals, the good example is the Omake operations (Namibia Press Agency, 2016).

In addition, NDF was involved in water saving campaigns and recycling campaigns. The respondents indicated that, the defence forces are well-equipped to contribute in the sphere of infrastructure development, as certain of their personnel are trained for military purposes in the fields of engineering and communications. The respondents stated that, when one moving on to study the types of economic activity to which the NDF has contributed, agriculture seemed to be the field where defence force has never been most active. In that, they must be allowed to participate or accommodated in various educational institutions to gain skills.

The respondents thought that the real benefits of engaging in community development was just done so that one day, if NDF needs the support in return, it will get it. This meant that if one day Namibia's peace is disturbed there is already a trust on the NDF, when the community needed help. The other respondents, however, thought that it is only for government to benefit when NDF would be seen working together with the community and get a good trust. This also implied that the people do not think there were other benefits to the civilians themselves, but it is just a service by the NDF to buy

favours. These two sentiments formed opinions of the majority of the respondents and showed that the majority of the respondents were not sure of other national benefits or that of the community on the developmental programs by the NDF.

Only a handful of the respondents thought that the community benefited from the defence force in the form of perfecting their skills by participating in the community development programs. Through exposure though, the civilians who have been on programs gained a better understanding of real benefits for their community in development and were more likely to perform better than those who had never been in community projects.

Of course, the NDF members engaged in self-development and capacity building to enhance self-sustainability either by venturing in the developmental programs of the country and penetrate in the country's rich economic sectors such as fishing and mining, including food production project, and solar energy production.

4.4.6 Continuity of the NDF

Overall, the respondents were most likely to say pay was the biggest pulling factor for attraction. The other respondents said the main attraction to join the army was job security. Though they greatly respected and often admired NDF personnel, there was a widespread view among the community that many had joined the Forces because they had no other choices. Indeed, the community believed that the NDF had also represented a route out of poverty. There was a clear view that joining the NDF offered the chance of a better way of life than they would otherwise expect. The opportunity to go to college/University for free was also a major attraction. Government medical cover was another major benefit. Even though, the ministry provides scholarship to the members to advance their careers both in the force and other sectors of the economy. The

respondents said that during their time in the force, they had to gain at least one recognised civilian qualification which would help them find a job when they happened to retire from the NDF.

Only a limited number of respondents said that Namibia was a nation at peace and there was no need for the NDF when some said the work of the NDF was not clear. They argued that the money being spent building the NDF could be better spent on providing education and housing to the poor. This indicated that the community was some how not totally convinced with the work of the NDF. For some it seemed the NDF was a way of providing employment, but not an essential service. Some respondents said that, this could be achieved by providing social education and information sharing on better available opportunities. In addition, they saluted the NDF for a job well done in maintaining security of our country and that of the other countries. Our country should continue to participate in UN peace support operations (UNPSO). We need also to consider improving their wellbeing as country for men and women (The Strategic Defence and Security Review Document, 2015).

4.4.7 Community understanding on the roles of the NDF and their views

The respondents did not think that the NDF served the interests of the government more than the people. On the other hand, minimal respondents were not sure or in support of the opinion (Defence Policy, 2012).

4.4.8 Namibian Defence Force and its power

This question showed that there are members of the community who are not satisfied with the work of the defence force, it also important to note that the defence force had to serve loyally the legitimate government of the day the government of Namibia has never

changed since gaining independence in 1990, so gauging their stance has no reference (Kathmandu, 2009).

Responding to natural disasters such as flood, fire break out and other specific tasks like evacuation and rescuing the community, a constitutional obligation in order to defend the territory and its national interests. Also, NDF is a national force created by the act of parliament to defend our country and integrity and its people, in cases of conflicts. During national days when the soldiers parade at the events, some respondents said it makes people proud. On the other factor is when there are national disasters, the soldiers are asked to help out. Therefore, disaster management is a mechanism used to counter human security threats as follows; fires, drought. NDF provided security during election mobilisation campaign, escorting community, national leaders and commemorations of national events, in cases of conflicts.

The issue of providing peace was confirmed by respondents with most of them agreeing that the Namibian Defence Force provides peace in the country. However, some of the respondents did not believe that the Namibian Defence Force provides security in the country. The respondents of the opinion that if the forces unveil their artisan such as builder to help with housing constructions and land serving, this will ease the pressure on government with lack of housing and served land needed by our people. Thus, NDF was having a lot of equipment needed in this regards. We have been peaceful for 27 years now. If we motivated our force members and joined hands with relevant entities such as municipality and property developers in the name of Harambee would be possible, achievable and attainable. Of course, projects can be gardening projects; they have more than enough manpower to establish some gardens, which can help the whole nation and minimise the dependency of buying food from outside. NDF needed to

improve on national awareness campaign on the services that they rendered to the nation. This can be achieved by the use of technology. We have radio stations to inform and educate the nation. The projects can be the debushing and involvement in big capital projects such as roads, schools, hospital and railways.

The respondents emphasized on the agricultural farms with livestock, cultivating maize, and breeding of chickens, breeding of pigs and aqua culture. It is important to create more training centres at military bases which are well equipped to train and produce able and qualified technician in many fields. NDF besides maintain the peace of the country, they have been instrumental in rescue and evacuation, especially during the time of disasters. Of course, guarding of state properties, state does not need to double pay the NDF since they are already on a salary payroll.

4.4.9 NDF and national security

NDF and security was one other area where most of the respondents were in agreement that the Namibia Defence Forces provides security to the nation and state. This was only disputed by a minimum of 10 respondents. Therefore NDF was established to protect the country from its prospective and emerging enemies from external or within the country (Moskos & Caforio, 2001). It is there to defend, protect and enforce maintain law and security of the country. It also responsible to provide assistance required in term of any threat to the country like flood, earth quake, hurricane and other related world phenomenon. Also, Provide assistance to civil authorities in safe guarding and protecting government buildings and key installation as it is stated in the defence act (Sjamssoeddin, 2009).

It is important NDF-led pushing fitness, physical and intellectual training among soldiers in Namibia. Avail funds for technical equipment, construct infrastructure for

mobile patrol, budget extensively for human resource development and wellbeing. The defence force could help the society stop and avoid crimes in locations, especially in the city whereby we have a lot of thief grapping people's property every day.

The ability of the Namibian Defence Force to defend the nation against external aggression was brought into the spotlight by respondents thinking that the force was able to protect the country. This showed high levels of trust in the force. This also showed that the people have a good insight of the force and no one was certain that the force was not able to protect the nation. This showed that community insight of the force was very good and the level of trust is very high.

As a result, NDF is to defend the Namibian from other countries, national security and to stop organised crime in the country. Then, NDF is the force which mostly focuses on the protection of the country, in case the country gets into a war. It is important as it aims to protect and serve the nation, ensure the safety and security of all Namibian citizens. NDF is important to protect the country from enemies within and outside of our border. Therefore, NDF will be remained in charge of any needs of the nation and state.

4.4.10 NDF's humanitarian assistance to the civilians in times of disaster

The respondents showed their concern about the projects extensions to provide food to the needy community and assistant by the United Nation organisations. The respondents were noted that, NDF managed to evacuate and rescue the nation from national disasters such flood, drought, calamity or any armed robbery in the community, which in turn reduced loss of life in the community. The respondents stated that, NDF provided assistance to the society through providing food, tent, and blanket during the national disasters. The respondents expressed that, NDF have participated to the Peace keeping missions such as in Sudan, Liberia and DRC with highest of note.

4.4.11 NDF and Police Forces' roles in curbing of crimes

The respondents stated that, it is important soldiers to marry up police to enforce law and order, just like Botswana Defence Forces (BDF) in their country. However, NDF also joins with police on the roadblocks and every main road connecting towns. Thus, there are too many crimes happening in remote areas and on the street. NDF needs to curb those criminal activities by taking part in controlling and patrol those areas to keep the community safe. Some members of the force down are seen in residential locations and work with police force to tackle the criminal activities that are happening there. Under these NDF patrols in streets during night in order to save the lives of the civilians and reduce crime. On the other hand, NDF has been deployed in wild life park to protect animals against from poaching gangsters. Respondents though agreed that sometimes NDF act as a backup of police and patrols in the streets of the capital city.

4.4.12 NDFs' role in curbing poaching of Wild life

The NDF is to patrol the border of the country and protect the natural resources of the country such as marine resources and strengthening the international relations (Dowd, 2001). Likewise, NDF in general safety and preventing crime in the country playing a role in emergencies and enforce keeping of law and order. Thus, the NDF can build strong relations with other ministries either through joint operations in order to eliminate the poaching and illegal hunting in our national park and conservancies. Also, the members of the force to be involved in community services during peace time (Crawley, 2011).

4.4.13 NDFs' maintains of political stability in the country

The respondents indicated that NDF has proved that it can maintain political stability in the country (60%) by their reaction and success in stopping the Caprivi secession attempt and UNITA bandits killing civilians. It is envisaged that coups d'état would become a thing of the past in all countries due to the acceptance of global and regional normative frame works of democracy and good governance (Ouedraogo, 2014; Ngwawi, 2014).

4.4.14 Communitys' trust on the Namibian Defence Force

Although trust takes time to build, it only takes a few seconds to break. The force needed to assess why some members of the community trust them to a certain extent and not wholly. This meant that they should work to restore community trust. Trust often came with a good insight, hence, mistrust led to a bad insight. The fact that trust in the NDF had strong support showed that the community perceived the NDF positively.

Therefore, NDF is that arm of Government which was charged with the task of defending the territorial integrity of the Republic of Namibia as provided for by the Constitution. Equally it is there to provide offices, ministries and agencies with emergency services in times of demand and in emergencies.

It follows that, NDF is to consider job creation, crime prevention, and awareness on corruption practice should be eliminated within the force and entire society. The respondents indicated that, NDF to give them health education to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and NDF Members should be deployed at school just to watch the bad gangster's behavior. Only, this can be achieved through leading by example, especially the senior officials. With that in mind none, of the respondents indicated that they did not trust the NDF at all; hence, this was a sign that most people trusted the force and perceived it positively.

4.4.15 Community's opinion and insight on the attitude and personality of the NDF

The majority of the respondents (40) agreed with the statement that the community trusts the NDF as an organisation that promotes the interests of the people. Almost all of the respondents were of the idea that the Namibian Defence Force is an organization that promotes the interests of the people. Only a few (10) did not think so. This showed the high level of trust the people have in the organization (Caforio, 2001).

Some respondents said NDFs' mandate is not on demand always but in exceptional cases, indeed, NDF can take part on the own capacity building, especially swimming basic skill. But this can be done, only if NDF members are actively in the force and beyond of their retirement needs to participate in the nation building. NDF can help to bridge a gap through teaching, nursing and construction and can protect the nation and its assets. Therefore NDF can protect all whose lives in the waters and the sky of the boundaries of the country.

To contribute, the NDF can help secure the national interests and its people. The NDF can develop nationhood and patriotism programs in schools and higher institutions for the interest of people. This can be done through capacity building and training, where the NDF can benefit themselves and the society, at large. This can be done through community projects that can benefit the peoples' interest (Moskos, 2001).

4.4.16 NDF's societal norms and values in a democracy

However, military profession can be done through implementing the economic projects and programs. The NDF is an organ of state and its importance is to protect the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the Republic of Namibia (Stensones, 2012).

Indeed, the NDF can market themselves through exhibition and avail more publication to the community to develop their library.

The NDF and national development was presented to respondents, 30% of the respondents agreed with the statement that the NDF helped to develop the country and none disagreed with this assertion and however, those who remained neutral were a 70%, suggesting that a large proportion of the community doubted whether the NDF helped to develop the country or not. However, the majority were of the view that the NDF didn't help to develop the country. This was a sign that the organization was perceived positively.

The NDF helped the nation by doing some voluntary services which included teaching, nursing and cleaning of public spaces. Thus the NDF members could volunteer part of their time to help at hospitals and schools in light of the shortage of qualified personnel. The NDF can also volunteer to work on government agricultural fields as well as conducting basic skills training to our youth. Thus, the force could help a lot in improving the livelihoods of the people of this country by providing critical lifesaving help during times of natural disasters.

The above argument suggests that, the force has to change to a thinking based institution. While enhancing their capacity and profession, the NDF can innovatively advance in areas of food production, agriculture, and industrial areas such as computer or computerization. The defence force can be proactive and assist gifted learners like the one who constructed an aeroplane and cell phone etc, the NDF can be actively involved in the livelihoods of its citizens in animal husbandry, job creation through building affordable houses of its citizens. Indeed, the force can develop a pre-vocational section

which will assist communities to erect houses, businesses for a minimal fee while they are gaining skills (Kenosi, 2009).

Therefore, the NDF may help in enhancing the development of Namibia by various training to the society and the force needs to volunteer to bridge a gap in education either by teaching in the absent of the teachers. Lastly, the force can also assist in health care by performing first aid or emergency at Katutura hospital, especially at the end of the month, at casualties wards. The NDFs' involvement in manufacturing sectors in the absence of any threats like war situation can boost the manufacturing projects the NDF can come up with.

4.4.17 NDF's transparent activities to the cilivians

This showed that the respondents knew that the NDF was funded by public funds and should always be transparent with its expenditures. This was a good sign that the organization is transparent in its dealings. Transparency in finance leads to transparency in all other activities and this leads to a trustworthy organization, that transparency is also viewed as a pillar of trust .

4.4.18 The importance of NDF in a democratic and peaceful country

Suggested roles, NDF during flood seasons, participate in food provision to the nation and, also NDF participated in international peace keeping. NDF can enforce patrol through town, cities and also in community settlement for security and to stop crimes as well as to educate school students (Molomo, 2009). It can either prevent them from criminal activities and protect them from robbery and unwanted practices in the community. NDF enforce patrol on the public roads to prevent the accident especially between Okahandja and Otjiwarongo. NDF can clean up clinics and hospitals or assist the farmers on the debushing. The fire fights or floods rescuers, they need something

like ambulances which are faster than those trucks and buses. The government also needs to allocate better budget to the Ministry of Defence to be able to buy those transports and even to have enough aeroplanes.

The members can be deployed from time to time to assist communities. For example, during disasters such as floods, wild fires, but also in the areas of food production, health campaigns, education, volunteerism, youth training and empowerment etc. The NDF can also assist in the enforcement of law and order as well as crime prevention and control and this practice will build a positive image and community trust in the force, then before (Sjamssoeddin, 2009).

4.5 Conclusion

The bulk of the respondents confirmed that the NDF serves the interests of both the government and the community. The results also show that the majority of the respondents have trust in the Namibian Defence Force. However, the NDF needs to work at improving community insights and earn total trust. The defence force also needs to make its presence more visible and raise community awareness on its activities.

Chapter 5: Findings, Conclusions and Recommendations

5.1 Introduction

This chapter deals with the findings, conclusions and the recommendations of the study.

5.2 The research findings are as follows; answering the objectives of the study:

- The Namibian people are aware of the roles of the military as indicated by the responses given.
- Whilst the NDF activities are known by the Namibian civil –society, there is need for the NDF to intensify its outreach programs.
- The military while carrying out activities in the community, there is need for the army to be resourced in order to carry out meaningful activities in the community.
- The NDF is not fully skilled to empower the Namibian community hence there is need to train the military in various civil-skills so as the military to help meaningfully in the civil-society.

The study found that the Namibian Defence Force is really working to win the favour of the community. The force is not totally dependent on community funds, as it has established its own institutions to generate funds. The organization still takes up the responsibility in the community of providing security for government officials, monitoring elections and helping in times of natural disasters. The interaction between the members of the force and the community has been so good that the people are not intimidated by them and the people look up to the members of the force for the country's security. The force is seen to be world class because it relates well with other forces around the world, as time and again the United Nations call the NDF officers to help

maintain peace in troubled parts of the world. When they go on such missions they benefit from exposure to real war zones where they exercise and improve their skills.

5.3 Conclusions

The findings reveal that the community is aware of the need for the NDF in times of peace. The people love the force and perceive them as a symbol of peace in the country. The community's trust in the force is still high, though there are some members of the community who are beginning to see the force as unstable. There are changes that the force needs to make so as to remain respectable. The military is an integral part of the community as portrayed.

5.4 Recommendations

The recommendations for the study are:

- The military needs to be professional, to have an outreach program in the community to work with community leaders such as councilors, traditional leaders in the community in order to to sell its mandate.
- Improve skills and training and development in the NDF that may allow them to render their service to communities in remote areas and in the delivery of civic development.
- Improve relations with the community by giving all necessary assistance to the people who might need such necessities as water and medication, so if the defence forces is involved in service delivery it will help it to earn a good reputation.

- Improve information sharing between the NDF and the community so that they can trust each other.
- Improve conditions in the NDF so that the officers are psychologically prepared for their duties and make the community respect them.
- The defence should recruit people with good qualifications so that they can qualify for specialist courses in the civilian sector such as medicine, pharmacy, engineering and technicians.
- Training and development should be strengthened in order to equip the soldiers with skills they will use even in time after their retirement.
- All military activities in civil society must be done in conjunction with community leaders for acceptance and embracing.
- The military must market itself through the department of public relations and chaplain department to be known of its social obligation,

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<http://www.africom.mil/media-room/article/8688/botswana-defence-force-combats-hiv>

Appendix I: Approval letter



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR - KHOMAS REGION

Tel No: +264 61 430 4000

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Frans Indongo Gardens

Enquiries: Mr Platini Katjucha

P.O.Box 986

Windhoek

Frans Indongo Street

Date:
3rd June 2017

**To: Mr Alfeus Mapowe
The Research Student**

Dear Research Student

Re: Request for Permission and approval for research

Your request for permission and approval to carry out research in Khomas Region receives our attention and consideration.

However, I now direct you to the Khomas Regional Chairperson Honourable Rachel Jacob for further consultation and identification of the constituencies for the research.

I wish you all the best in your endeavour.

**HON. LAURA MCLEOD KATJIRUA
REGIONAL GOVERNOR**



Appendix II: Interview Questions

The following interview questions were administered on the respondents and were tape recorded to verify responses with the ones the researcher was taking note of.

Section A: Demographic and general social information

1. Gender? **Female/Male**

2. Respondents' Place of Origin?

3. Age group?

15-20 years old; 20-30 years old; 31-40 years old; 41-50 years old; 51-60 years old and 61 years and above

4. Highest academic (primary/secondary) level of education?

Never attended school; Primary up to Grade 5; Primary up to Grade 7; Secondary up to Grade 10 and Secondary up to Grade 12

5. Highest tertiary /professional qualification?

Tertiary Certificate; Diploma; First Degree; Post Graduate Degree; Master's Degree and PhD

6. Status of employment?

Old people; Employed; Self-Employed; Unemployed and Housewives

Other not mentioned in table above?

7. Profession/job title?

Section B: Understanding of the activities of the Namibian Defence Force (NDF)

8. Have you ever seen the NDF executing any kind of civil duties in Khomas Region?

9. If your answer in question 8 is "Positive", what activities were they busy doing then?

Transporting drought relief, Rescue and evacuate people under flooded water, Guarding at school, Providing health education or HIV & AIDS campaign and Constructing a bridge.

10. How often have you seen them carrying out those activities?

11. How do you perceive a member of the NDF in uniform?

With fear?, Loathing?, Pride? and Neutral?

12. How do you view their uniform and their presence?

13. If your answer in question 12 is “Negative”, why you did not like their presence?

14. Do you perceive the members of the NDF as disciplined force?

15. In short comment any good things you know of that the NDF members had done for the Namibian Nation or state?

16. Are the members of the NDF in your opinion fit?

Fat; Lazy and active

17. Does the involvement of NDF in community development benefit Namibian society?

18. If your answer to question 17 is ‘Positive’, why you think community development benefit the Namibian society?

19. Would you motivate your son/ daughter to join the NDF?

20. Namibian Defence Force defended the Caprivi secessionist ‘attack in 1999 and cleared UNITA bandits activities along northern border of Namibia, successful ended on 2002. Does this make you trust the NDF and their activities?

21. Does the participation of NDF in United Nations peace support operations (UNPSO) benefit Namibian citizens and make you trust them?

Section C: Community understanding and views on the roles of the Namibian

Defence Force.

22. Does the NDF work for the interest of the Government and not the ordinary people?
23. Does the NDF provide peace and community development in the country?
24. What about security?
25. Doesn't it defend the nation/state against external aggression?
26. Doesn't it provide humanitarian assistance to the civilians in times of disasters such as floods, fire break out, drought, wild fire?
27. Doesn't it help the police to fight crime and community development in the country?
28. Does the NDF provides safety and security to Ministers and high Government officials?
29. Does protect natural resources such as Wild life.
30. Does the NDF provides safety to the people (food security and agricultural projects)?
31. Does the NDF maintain political stability in the country?

Section D: Community trust on the Namibian Defence Force.

32. To what extent do you trust the Namibian Defence Force?

Not at all; To a certain extend; A lot and No Idea

33. If your answer in question 32 is "Not at all", why you did not trust NDF?
34. At present, the NDF is involved in United Nations peace support operations (UNPSO) in other countries such as Liberia, Sudan, DRC, etc. Does this make you trust the NDF and their activities?
35. Can you give motives for your answer in question 32?
36. Do you think that trust or confidence in the NDF is important in the community, and country at large?

37. If your answer to question 37 is “Positive”, why you think trust of the NDF by the community is important in the country?

38. If your answer to question 37 is “Negative”, why you think trust of the NDF by the community is **not** important in the country?

39. How do you **relate or compare** the activities of the NDF members with the army before independence in Namibia?

NDF are:

The same as the army before independence; Different from the army before independence; Soldiers just the same as the army before independence and Friendlier than the army before independence.

40. In short comment any good things that the NDF members are doing to the Namibian Nation and state?

41. The NDF is under Executive’s control and the Minister of Defence. Does this make you to trust the NDF and its activities?

Section E: Community opinions and insights on the Namibian defence Force.

42. Is the NDF very harsh to ordinary people (civilians)?

43. NDF like other military institutions in the rest of Africa, harass ordinary people (civilians). Do you agree?

44. The community trust the NDF as an institute that supports the interest of the people. Do you agree this?

45. NDF promotes democracy in a society. What do you say?

46. NDF helps to develop the country (through various national projects). **Is it happening?**

47. NDF participation in civil matters such as floods, food production, and manufacturing of goods improves civil-military relations. **Have you experienced it?**
48. NDF is transparent in its activities. **What do you say?**
49. NDF intimidates people. **Have you experienced it?**
50. NDF educates the community about its activities (through their voluntarily training).
Has it been done in your community?
51. It is not necessary to have the NDF since Namibia is independent. **What is your view?**
52. NDF is friendly and helpful to the community. **How do you feel about this?**