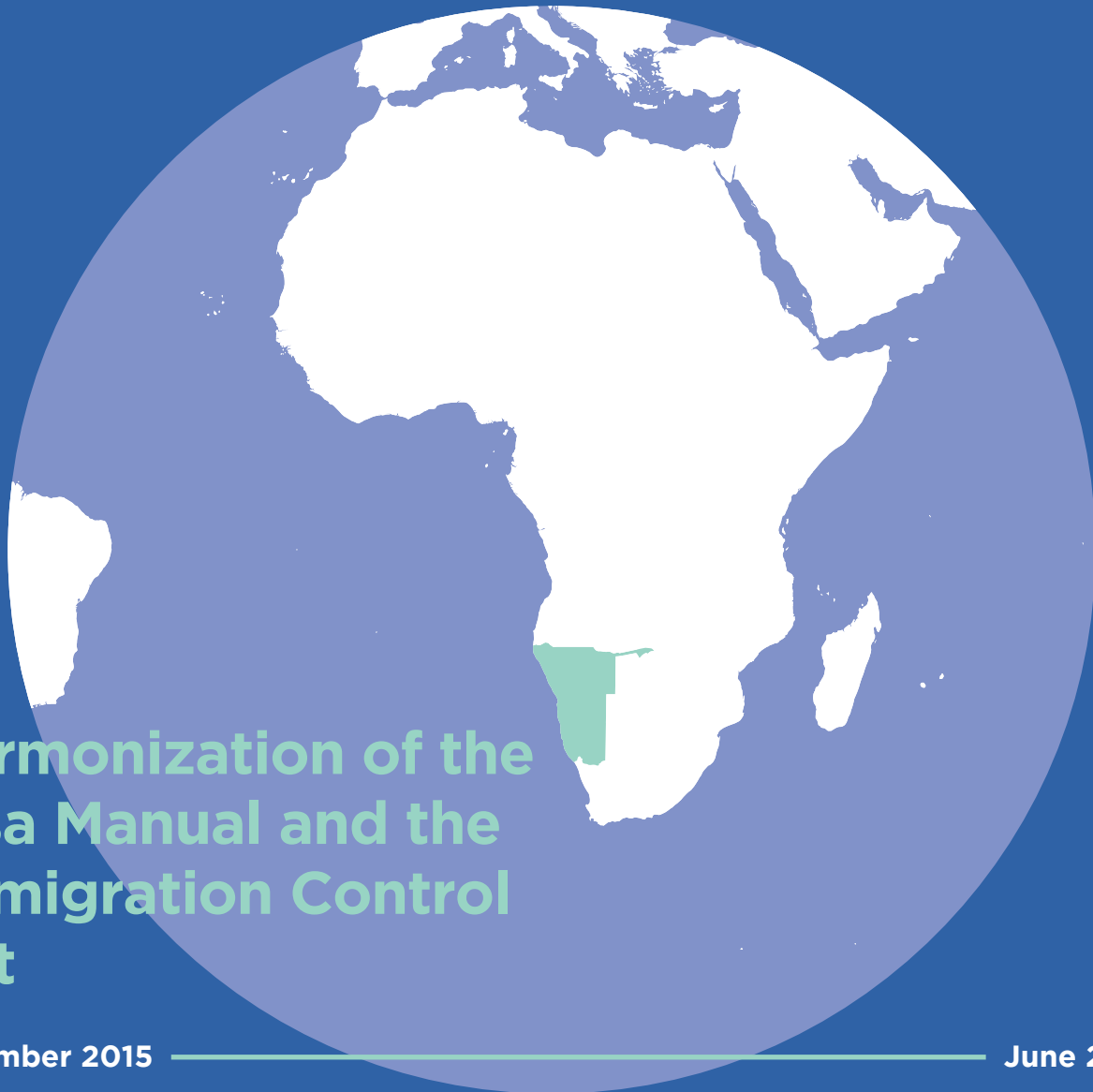


Overview of the Technical Assistance (TA) intervention
by the ACP-EU Migration Action



NAMIBIA

Southern Africa



Harmonization of the Visa Manual and the Immigration Control Act

November 2015

June 2016

Requesting entity

**Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration
(MHAI)**

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NAMIBIA | VISAS

Background

Namibia is a developing country with a large land area supporting a small population. Key immigration priorities relate to the challenges posed by long land borders and high volume border movements; improving the efficiency of border operations is also a priority, as tourist traffic grows. In the area of visa and permit decision

making, the key priority is to balance the economic development demands against the need to protect local interests. The Government had indicated that the Visa Manual of 1990 was not aligned with the current Immigration Control Act and, as a consequence, sought to develop a list of concrete recommendations on how

to harmonize the Visa Manual and the Immigration Control Act. The request also included a set of stream-lining measures for visa services.

Objective

The objective of the TA intervention was to develop a list of concrete recommendations on the harmonization of the Visa Manual and the Immigration Control Act.

Outcomes

» A detailed analysis of the **state of play** of the harmonization of the Immigration Control Act and the Visa Manual;



Analysis and **stakeholder consultations** revealed that the 1996 revision of the Visa Manual provides a firm basis for harmonization of both documents. The Technical Assistance request hence was re-framed towards providing **recommendations on the Visa process** as a whole.

» **12** Key recommendations on the Namibian visa process in different areas:

- Standard Operating Procedures / rationalization of the process / information management
- Staff organization and staff training needs
- Reliable processing system - ideally digital
- Broad-based policy and legislative review