



Charcoal Association of Namibia (CAoN) – Company Profile

Your strategic business partner for the Charcoal Industry in Namibia

Our Vision

“To promote charcoal products which adhere to internationally acceptable standards, processes and production procedures and uplifting the industry by providing training and technology development.”

Our Mission Statement

“Negotiation, regulation and good communication to achieve CAoN’s objectives.”

About Us

Formerly known as the Namibia Charcoal Producers Association (NCPA), the Namibia Charcoal Association (NCA) and now the Charcoal Association of Namibia (CAoN), CAoN is a non-profit voluntary membership Association for the Namibian charcoal industry from producers and processors to suppliers and all other stakeholders. CAoN was founded in 2016 by a group of like-minded individuals within the Namibian charcoal industry with the aim of forming a united front for the industry regarding rules, regulations and guidelines.

Charcoal production is an important activity for managing bush encroachment in Namibia. Thus, the purpose of CAoN is to strengthen the charcoal industry in a sustainable manner in an effort to grow the sector.

The aims/objectives of CAoN are to:

- Act as a mouthpiece and protect and promote the interests of the producers.
- Promote co-operation amongst producers.
- Exercise efficient production and orderly marketing of relevant products and negotiate benefits for the producers. Marketing is included on all social media platforms, window advertising, marketing tables within the CAoN offices, e-mails and inclusion at all promotion and exhibition events.
- Be a friendly, professional, and efficient service provider to the industry.
- To support the initiatives of producers, labourers, processors, and all other stakeholders.
- Create an environment conducive to good relationships amongst all stakeholders.
- Strive to accomplish the best possible connection between the producers, processors, and promoters of processed products.
- To convey the coordinated views of the industry to the authorities and to co-operate with the authorities to negotiate solutions to problems and to advocate for the necessary legislation that would benefit the industry.
- To interact with all national and international stakeholders to the benefit of the industry.
- Creating an atmosphere of discipline to the industry regarding sustainable and responsible production activities, environmental and fair labour practices.
- To stand as voice of reason in the industry against fraudulent activities, i.e., illegal harvesting, irregular shipping activities, late/non-payment, theft, etc.
- Provide training, information, guidance, and assistance by trained and experienced personnel within CAoN to all interested parties to the betterment and improvement of the sector.

Our Team

Our current Board of Directors (as elected by our members on our annual AGM held on 07 September 2023):

Mr Koos Briedenhann	- Chairman
Mr Frank Detering	- Representative – Processors
Mr De Wet Mouton	- Representative – Otjiwarongo District
Mr Kai-Dieter Rumpf	- Representative – Processors / Producers
Mrs Reinhild Schwalm	- Representative – Otavi District
Mr Stephan Bezuidenhout	- Representative – Okahandja District
Mr Danie Van Vuuren	- Representative – Namibian Agriculture Union (NAU)

Office Staff

Mr Michael Degé	- CAoN General Manager
Ms Tarina du Plessis	- Operations Officer
Ms Ahley Arbuckle	- Office Administrator

On-Farm Trainers

Mr Joshua Nghimwiiki
Mr Phillipus Matheus
Mr Kapirika Likoro

Our Associate Members

We currently have 14 active Associate Members.

Associate membership is defined as any organisation / individual / institution that wants to join forces with CAoN to create an environment conducive to a prosperous charcoal industry (including all charcoal-related products) in Namibia.

This membership excludes all industries / institutions / individuals that are directly involved in either producing or processing charcoal in Namibia or neighbouring countries.

The Associate Membership initiative was created to arrange a platform for value-added services for its members and CAoN will work closely with Associate Members to create benefits for the charcoal community. Associate Members will be able to advertise their services on CAoN's website and social media as per option chosen upon completion of Membership Application documents.

- African Packaging (PTY) Ltd
- Cymot
- Environmental Compliance Consultancy
- Flo-Scan Technologies
- Ombengu Energy
- Plastilon Packaging
- Proto Global Air & Ocean Freight
- CMO Namibia (PTY) Ltd
- Namibia Industrial Laboratory Services
- DHG International
- Fire & Flame Namibia

Directors: Koos Briedenhann (Chairman), Stephan Bezuidenhout, Frank Detering, De Wet Mouton, Kai-Dieter Rumpf, Reinhild Schwalm, Danie van Vuuren

- Giovany Louw Rations
- Perivoli Rangeland Institute
- Ecosun

Producers

We have 1 680 listed members.

CAoN is a producer-oriented organisation formulated to assist, guide and train the producers within the industry and provide them the necessary tools and information to produce top quality products, secure trustworthy and reliable markets, be compliant to all applicable rules and regulations under Namibian law, to succeed in their endeavours and to protect the environment for future utilisation.

Information on our members is kept secret and cannot be provided to third-party organisations. This is to honour contracts our members may have with processors and buyers.

Processors/Buyers (including Agents)

CAoN currently has 21 registered Processors in Namibia, 7 in South Africa and 2 abroad in Europe. These Processors are buyers with processing equipment and facilities that procure bulk products from Producers. The product is then screened, weathered for 3 weeks, and then packaged for shipment for the local and international markets.

Namibian Processors/Buyers

Alfacharcoal Namibia (PTY) Ltd
Carbo Charcoal Namibia
Corridor Logistics (PTY) Ltd
Etosha Charcoal Namibia (PTY) Ltd
Green Charcoal Namibia
Invader Bush Charcoal CC
JJ Lepen Processors
Jumbo Charcoal (PTY) Ltd
King Charcoal Namibia (PTY) Ltd
M. Du Plessis Trading
Makarra Bush Products CC
Namibian Retort Charcoal (PTY) Ltd
Nexus Charcoal (PTY) Ltd
Okarusewa Farming
Oryx Ranch CC
Roepersfontein Charcoal
Savannah Charcoal
Unoo Investments
Cheetah Charcoal
WJL Services & Trading
WM Trading Enterprises CC

South African Processors/Buyers

Best Braai
Ignite Products
Safari Braai Products
Savannah Charcoal
Umlilo Charcoal Products (PTY) Ltd

Directors: Koos Briedenhann (Chairman), Stephan Bezuidenhout, Frank Detering, De Wet Mouton, Kai-Dieter Rumpf, Reinhild Schwalm, Danie van Vuuren

International Processor/Buyer

DHG Vertriebs- & Consultingges. mbH (Germany)
Carbo Bois (Belgium)

Our Benefits

- CAoN is an instrument to negotiate with authorities on regulatory requirements.
- CAoN strives to create a network to efficiently deliver a one-stop service to its stakeholders and customers.
- Through uniform standards, better prices can be negotiated internationally.
- CAoN is involved in creating uniform standards for the benefit of all stakeholders and customers.
- CAoN offers free assistance with the application, renewal, enquiry, completion, and update of all permits issued by Ministry of Forestry in Otjiwarongo as part of the services rendered to our local processors and producers.
- CAoN offers an On-Farm Training Programme designed to assist its members to increase the quantity and quality of charcoal and improve labour relations within the industry and to ensure compliance to all production rules and regulations.
- CAoN also offers, participates, and facilitates seminars, workshops, research symposiums, training courses, technology/information days, exhibitions, and expos to improve the quality of Namibian charcoal and to bring the latest news, technology, and information to its members.
- Annual charcoal conference to stay abreast of the latest technology and industry trends.
- CAoN conducts frequent Research and Development on new production equipment and techniques to provide informed recommendations to our members.
- CAoN acts as local and international representative to promote the Namibian charcoal industry to the benefit of all our members.
- With the creation of an Operations department within CAoN, its members now have access to trained and qualified personnel to assist with training, advice, and information to improve the day-to-day running of charcoal production processes.
- CAoN offers a free reference check of new agents, buyers, processors and producers within the industry to ensure compliance to all industry-related rules, regulations and guidelines and to prevent fraudulent activities taking place within the industry. As part of this process, CAoN keeps an updated Incident Register to keep track of all incidents that take place and this register details our mitigation process as well as all relevant information pertaining to each event.

- 🔥 CAoN can also act as mitigator in disputes that erupt amongst shareholders within the industry, given that all necessary precautions were followed to prevent such incidents from taking place.
- 🔥 CAoN is currently developing a Membership portal, called the Charcoal App, that will allow our Members to create an account for their operation and have access to all available employees, report any labour matters, keep record of their transactions, pay their levies, request permits, provide feedback, and monitor the app for any industry-related news and developments.

Unique Feature

CAoN is also the founder/creator of the first and only Charcoal Village – a research and development centre located just outside Otjiwarongo.

The Charcoal Village was established in 2019 to keep all the CAoN training equipment in a safe place and acts as venue for live demonstrations of new technology, information days, etc. The Charcoal Village also supplies safe and secure housing for our trainers.

As a Section 21 Non-Profit organisation within Namibia, CAoN utilises its funding to do research and development into several areas, including but not limited to:

- 🔥 mechanisation of the industry (bush rollers and chain saws) and their practical implications
- 🔥 BioChar development (equipment and production process and uses in animal feeds and fertilisers)
- 🔥 smoke condenser (design, modification and collection of by-products)
- 🔥 retort kilns (discontinued models)
- 🔥 small scale briquette production for rural communities
- 🔥 Different kiln designs (short + round or tall round or short and square, etc.).

In Conclusion

The Charcoal Association of Namibia is a friend to all stakeholders within the industry to the benefit of the whole industry, regardless of your membership status.

Our open-door policy and non-discriminatory approach allow us to remain a key role player and our contribution and presence within the industry continues to grow.