

APPOINTMENT

Old Mutual appoints
Natasha as MD of Old
Mutual Namibia Finance
p. 06



EMPOWERING

Empowering
Namibia's
future
p. 08



BRAND

The effective
personal
brand
p. 13



THE

BRIEF

News Worth Knowing

MINISTRY OF FINANCE FISCUS BUILDING

Govt lifts moratorium on purchasing vehicles, recruitment

THURSDAY 01 AUGUST 2024

18

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MAIN STORY

Govt lifts moratorium on purchasing vehicles, recruitment



Minister of Finance and Public Enterprises Shimi says the government has lifted a five-year moratorium on purchasing new vehicles for ministers and other government employees.

The prohibition was imposed by the late President Hage Geingob in 2020. Former Finance and Public Enterprises Minister Calle Schlettwein put a halt on purchasing government vehicles in 2015 as part of the government's austerity measures.

Shimi noted that the halt was imposed due to the decrease in commodity prices and the economic strain caused by Covid-19.

Crucial Dates

- Bank of Namibia Monetary Policy announcement date:
14 August 2024
23 October 2024
4 December 2024
- Mining Expo and Conference (07 - 08 August 2024)
- Namibia Oil and Gas Conference (20 - 22 August 2024)
- Namibia Oil & Gas Conference 2024
20-22 August 2024
Mercure Hotel , Windhoek
- Global African Hydrogen Summit (GAh2S)
Windhoek, Namibia from 03 - 05 September 2024

“One will have to understand the context that it was done, at a specific time the country was really in a deep crisis.

“One will have to understand the context that it was done, at a specific time the country was really in a deep crisis. First of all, when commodity prices started to fall and then Covid-19 came, we had to prioritise expenditure,” Shiimi noted.

He highlighted that the government had to impose a moratorium on the recruitment and purchasing of new government vehicles.

“So one of those things that we were looking at was how do we slow down on recruitment for instance and how do we slow down the purchasing of vehicles,” he said.

The removal of the moratorium on the recruitment of civil servants and purchasing of government vehicles was necessitated by the change in context and the need for civil servants in the government offices to

provide services.

“But now you cannot do that forever, because it means you will no longer be able to be effective. If you don’t have vehicles for instance, if a significant number of vacancies in government ministries and agencies are vacant, you can’t deliver services,” he said.

The halt was lifted because there has been an improvement in government revenue, as the country is not experiencing Covid-19 and the rise in commodity prices over the years.

This comes as the National Council Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure, and Housing suggested that the ban on purchasing new vehicles for Regional Councils, OMAs, and Government Garages should be lifted to improve service delivery.

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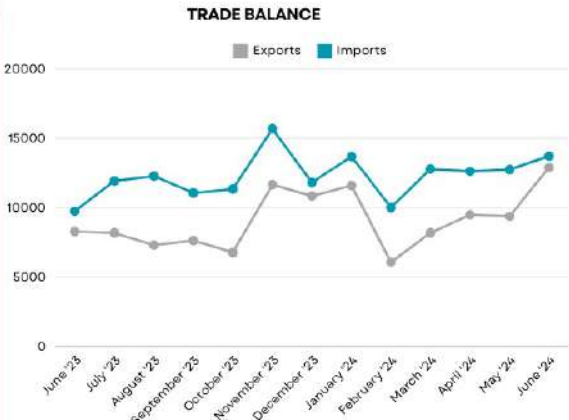




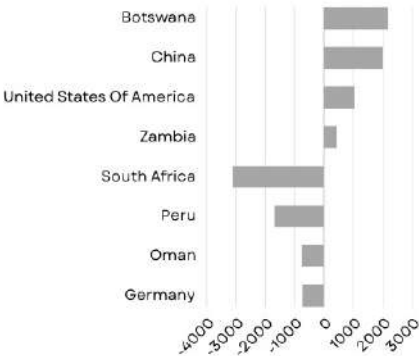
Namibia Trade Balance

and by partner June '24

The trade balance compares Namibia's export earnings and import expenditures with the rest of the world. During the month under review, Namibia recorded a trade deficit of N\$825 million, marking an improvement from the N\$3.4 billion deficit recorded in the previous month.



Trade Balance by Partner



Namibia recorded trade surpluses of N\$2.2 billion with Botswana, N\$2.0 billion with China, and N\$1.0 billion with the United States. However, the country experienced trade deficits of N\$3.1 billion with South Africa, N\$1.7 billion with Peru, and N\$774 million with Oman during the same period.

Namibia's trade deficit narrows to N\$825 million in June

Namibia's trade balance improved significantly in June 2024, with the deficit narrowing to N\$825 million from N\$3.4 billion in May 2024, latest data shows.

Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) Statistician General and CEO Alex Shimuafeni said the positive trend was driven by a 37.4% surge in exports to N\$57.6 billion, offsetting a 7.7% increase in imports to N\$13.7 billion.

“During the month of June 2024, the country’s trade balance stood at a deficit

of N\$825 million, a notable improvement when compared to N\$3.4 billion and N\$1.5 billion recorded in May 2024 and June 2023, respectively,” he said.

The NSA’s Trade Statistics Bulletin shows that petroleum oils were the primary contributor to the trade deficit, accounting for a shortfall of N\$1.7 billion.

Copper ores and concentrates followed, with a deficit of N\$1.6 billion, while rotating electric plants and parts thereof contributed a deficit of N\$426 million.

On the other hand, uranium dominated

exports, accounting for a surplus of N\$3.7 billion and 28.5% of the total, followed by precious stones with a surplus of N\$2.3 billion (diamonds) at 18.4% and fish at N\$1.1 billion, or 8.9%.

Moreover, China emerged as Namibia's top export market, accounting for 24.1%, or a trade surplus of N\$2.0 billion, and the United States at N\$1.0 billion, or 10.7% of total exports.

This was followed by Botswana with a surplus of N\$2.2 billion (17.3%).

Meanwhile, the country has a trade deficit of N\$3.1 billion with South Africa at 13.6% and Zambia at 7.7%.

South Africa remained Namibia's primary import source, contributing 35.6% to the import bill.

Peru (12.3%), China (8.1%), Germany (5.7%), and Oman (5.6%) were the other major suppliers.

Petroleum oils topped the import list at 15.4%, followed by copper ores and concentrates (12.3%) and nickel ores and concentrates (3.8%).

It is reported that the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) remained Namibia's largest export market, contributing 31.0% of total exports.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the BRICS nations followed with shares of 25.8% and 24.5%, respectively.

On the import side, SACU was the leading source, providing 36.3% of total imports, followed by the OECD (18.1%) and BRICS (13.1%).

Sea transportation was the dominant mode for both exports (52.8%) and imports, accounting for N\$6.7 billion (48.5%).

Air transport accounted for 26.7% of exports and 3.4% of imports, while road transport handled 20.5% of exports and 48.1% of imports.

Namibia imported a total of 362,993

tonnes of goods in June 2024.

Most goods (187,172 tonnes) arrived by road, with a slight increase month-over-month and a substantial increase year-over-year.

Sea transport accounted for 175,588 tonnes, showing a decrease from May 2024 but a significant increase compared to June 2023. Air transport was minimal at 183 tonnes.

Namibia exported N\$9 million worth of goods to Tanzania under the AfCFTA in June 2024, primarily alcoholic beverages.

Imports from Tanzania amounted to N\$1.9 million, with manufactured tobacco as the main product.

The report further says that Namibia was a net exporter of food items in June 2024, with a trade surplus of N\$202 million.

Fish and meat were the top export categories, while sugar and cereals led imports. The country was a net importer of beverages.

The country exported N\$24,599 worth of coffee and cocoa in June 2024 while importing N\$14.9 million, primarily from South Africa and Germany.



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FEE: N\$1000
CLARIFICATION SESSION: Yes, Via MS Teams
CLOSING DATE: Friday, 30 August 2024 at 12H00 PM

Namclear reserves the right to withdraw the expression of interest at any time without notifying any party and furthermore to negotiate with any of the prospective service provider and is bound to not accept the lowest or any other proposal.
NB: Envelopes should be clearly marked with the title of the Tender.

ENQUIRIES:
Mr Dunston Kawana
Manager: ICT Tel: (061) 375 277, Email: dkawana@namclear.com.na

Old Mutual appoints Natasha Winkler as Managing Director of Old Mutual Namibia Finance

Old Mutual Namibia has appointed Natasha Winkler as the new Managing Director of Old Mutual Namibia Finance (OMFIN) as of 1 August 2024.

Natasha brings with her a wealth of experience in the financial services industry, particularly within the Retail and Business segments.

“She is a resourceful and creative professional who is passionate about solving business needs and empowering them to achieve their objectives. Her extensive background in financial products, strategy, and transformation makes her exceptionally well-suited to lead OMFIN,” Old Mutual said.

Natasha holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration from Stellenbosch Business School and a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from UNISA.

She has completed five years of articles with PricewaterhouseCoopers and is a recipient of the Directors Award for Best Senior Management Development Programme (SMDP) Student in Namibia for 2018.

Her educational background is complemented by various courses in public relations, marketing, and executive training.

“We are thrilled to welcome Natasha as the new Managing Director of Old Mutual Namibia Finance. Her impressive track



record and diverse skill set make her the ideal leader to drive our finance division forward. We are confident that Natasha's leadership will bring innovative solutions and drive growth for OMFIN, further solidifying our commitment to excellence and customer satisfaction,” said Old Mutual Namibia Group CEO Tassius Chigairi.



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MOOKS & ADORA *In the Morning*





Standard Bank

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Dear future Champions,

As I sit down to write this, I am reminded of my journey from the small village of Oshali to the grand stages of the Olympic Games. My interest for sport started at Oshiya Combined School, where I began running barefoot and won my first school competition, enabling me to represent my region in Windhoek. I competed in four Olympic Games, three Commonwealth Games, and four World Championships.

My most notable accomplishments include a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games in 2018, a bronze medal at the World Championships in 2019, a gold medal at the World Military Championships in 2013, a bronze medal at the Commonwealth Games in 2022, a gold medal at the Dublin Marathon in 2016, a silver medal at the Sanlam Cape Town Marathon in 2017, and the Spar Women Challenge Series.

As much as I reigned victorious throughout my athletic era, it took a lot of time, dedication and practice for my victories to be achieved, many people associate my success to merely talent when it took more than that.

Being a champion is both exhilarating and demanding. It requires attributes such as discipline, focus, and a strong work ethic. It means waking up every day with a purpose and a plan, understanding that each step you take brings you closer to your goals. A champion is someone who stays humble in victory and gracious in defeat. Champions program themselves differently, that's their secret. For me, being a champion meant not just aiming for gold medals but striving to be the best version of myself in every aspect of life, especially my finances. Remaining a champion requires immense sacrifices. Long hours of training, enduring injuries and setbacks, pushing through pain and doubt. I know that the path to greatness is paved with perseverance.

Financial discipline is crucial for any champion. A champion understands the value of money and uses it to support their journey, invest in their future. I encourage you to embrace the journey, overcome the challenges, and strive to become a Standard Bank Champion. Remember, the true victory lies not in the destination but the journey itself.

Sincerely,
Helalia Johannes



Empowering Namibia's future: Local content in the oil & gas sector with a focus on youth

By Fanuel Shinedima

As Namibia's oil and gas sector continues to expand, the implementation of robust Local Content Policies (LCPs) becomes increasingly essential.

These policies are designed to ensure that the economic benefits of the sector are shared broadly, fostering growth, diversification, and social development. One key demographic that stands to gain significantly from these

policies is the youth of Namibia. This article delves into the intricacies of LCPs in Namibia's oil and gas sector, highlighting their importance, current state, challenges, and the critical role of young Namibians in this evolving landscape.

Understanding Local Content Policies

Local Content Policies (LCPs) are

frameworks established to maximize the benefits of resource extraction for local communities. These policies mandate that a certain percentage of goods, services, and labour used in oil and gas projects come from within the country.

They cover various aspects including procurement, employment, training, and technology transfer, ensuring that local businesses and labour force are integral to the sector's operations.

The Importance of LCPs in Namibia

For Namibia, LCPs are not just regulatory requirements but strategic tools for national development. They promote economic growth by ensuring that the wealth generated from natural resources benefits the local economy.

By mandating local employment and procurement, these policies create job opportunities, foster skill development, and encourage the growth of local businesses.

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Furthermore, they enhance social and community welfare through development projects funded by oil and gas revenues.

The Current State of Namibia's Oil & Gas Sector

Namibia's oil and gas sector is at a promising juncture, with several exploration and production activities underway.

The sector is poised for significant growth, with key players such as the National Petroleum Corporation of Namibia (NAMCOR), international oil companies, and local enterprises actively involved. This burgeoning industry presents numerous opportunities for integrating local content effectively.

Local Content Requirements and Framework in Namibia

Namibia is establishing a regulatory framework that mandates local content in oil and gas projects. This includes specific targets for local employment and procurement at various project phases.

Companies that meet these local content requirements are often incentivized through tax breaks and other benefits. This framework aims to ensure that the benefits of the sector are widely shared and that local businesses have ample opportunities to participate in the value chain.

Procurement and Value Chain Participation

Understanding the value chain in the oil and gas sector is crucial for maximizing local content.




The value chain encompasses exploration, extraction, processing, transportation, and distribution.

Each stage offers unique opportunities for local businesses to participate.

Transparent and accessible procurement processes are essential to enable these businesses to compete effectively and contribute to the sector.

Opportunities for Youth in the Oil & Gas Sector

One of the most significant aspects of LCPs is their potential to empower young Namibians, creating job opportunities, business opportunities, trainings and skills development, scholarships and community development initiatives.



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND LAND REFORM

Invitation for Bids [IFB]

Small Works

(One-Envelope Bidding Process)

IFB Number: Open Competitive Bidding (International) (OCBI)

Employer: Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLRF)

Project: Ilitapa-Okeeholongo Rural Water Supply Scheme

Contract title: Construction of Ilitapa-Okeeholongo Rural Water Supply Scheme – Phase 2A and Associated Infrastructure

Country: Namibia

Loan No. / Grant No.: 200200004682

Procurement Method: Open Competitive Bidding (International) (OCBI)

OCB/LCB No: W/OCBINWSSP/02-2023

Issued on: 01 August 2024

1. The Government of the Republic of Namibia has received financing from the African Development Bank hereinafter called the Bank toward the cost of **Ilitapa-Okeeholongo Rural Water Supply Scheme** and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for the **Construction of Ilitapa-Okeeholongo Rural Water Supply Scheme (Phase 2A) and Associated Works**. For this contract, the Borrower shall process the payments using the Direct Payment disbursement method, as defined in the Bank's Disbursement Guidelines and procedures for Investment Project Financing.

2. The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLRF) now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the **Construction of Ilitapa-Okeeholongo Rural Water Supply Scheme (Phase 2A) and Associated Works**.

3. Bidding will be conducted through the Open Competitive Bidding (International), OCBI procedures as specified in the Bank's Procurement Framework2 (dated 2015), and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Framework.

4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from the Directorate of Water Supply and Sanitation Coordination, slingervictor@gmail.com and mwanawinacindy@gmail.com, and inspect the Bidding document during office hours (08h00 to 17h00) at the address given below.

5. The bidding document in English may be purchased by interested eligible Bidders upon submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **NS 900.00**. Payment can be made in cash or via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). Upon request, banking details will be provided to Bidders. The document will be sent by Electronic Transfer or Hard Copies to be collected from the Directorate of Water Supply and Sanitation Coordination as per the Bidder's preference.

6. **Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 11h00AM Namibian time on 04 October 2024. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected.** Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidder's designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below at **11h30AM Namibian time on 04 October 2024**.

7. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of **NS 1.6 million** (One Million Six Hundred Namibian Dollars Only) in the form of an unconditional bank guarantee.

8. Attention is drawn to the Procurement Framework requiring the Borrower to disclose information on the successful bidder's beneficial ownership, as part of the Contract Award Notice, using the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form as included in the bidding document.

9. The address(es) referred to above is (are):

For enquiries and payment of the non-refundable fee:

Client: Directorate of Water Supply and Sanitation Coordination
Attention: Secretary to the Procurement Committee
Address: Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLRF), (Land Reform Building)
Zip Code: N/A Country: Namibia
Telephone: +264 (0) 61 208 7268
Email Address: slingervictor@gmail.com and mwanawinacindy@gmail.com

Kindly find our banking details:

Beneficiary name:	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform
Beneficiary address:	Private Bag 13184, Windhoek, Namibia
Bank Name:	Bank of Namibia
Bank Address:	Private Bag 2882, Windhoek, Namibia
Account Number:	165 003
Branch Code:	980 172
Swift Code:	CBKNNANXXXX

For submission of Bids:

Attention: Mr. Mwala Lutaka
55 Robert Mugabe Avenue, Land Reform Building, Ground Floor, Bid Box, Windhoek Private Bag 13184, Namibia

Community Involvement

Communities can significantly benefit from local content policies through direct employment and local business contracts. Additionally, oil and gas revenues can fund community development projects, and skills training initiatives can build local capacity. These efforts ensure that the broader community, not just the workforce, reaps the benefits of the sector's growth.

Industry Operators' Role in Strengthening Local Content

Industry operators play a pivotal role in the successful implementation of LCPs. They must develop comprehensive local content plans, engage in meaningful stakeholder consultations, and invest in local workforce development and training. By doing so, they can ensure that local businesses and labour are integral to their operations, thereby fostering sustainable development.

Challenges to Local Content Implementation

Implementing LCPs is not without challenges. Common barriers include insufficient local capacity and skills, regulatory and compliance issues, and the need for continuous monitoring and evaluation.

Addressing these challenges requires a concerted effort from all stakeholders involved.

Collaborative Approaches for Success

Collaboration between government, industry, and educational institutions is essential for the success of LCPs. Engaging communities in planning and decision-making processes ensures that their needs and aspirations are met.

Additionally, international cooperation and knowledge sharing can help Namibia adopt best practices and innovative solutions.

Action Plan for Namibia

To enhance the effectiveness of LCPs in Namibia, several steps can be taken:

- **Enhance the Regulatory Framework and Enforcement:** Strengthening the legal and regulatory framework ensures compliance and maximizes local content.
- **Develop Targeted Training and Education Programs:** These programs should be designed to meet the specific needs of the oil and gas sector.
- **Foster a Supportive Ecosystem for Local Businesses:** Providing support for local businesses through financing, mentorship, and market access can help them thrive.

Local Content Policies in Namibia's oil and gas sector present a significant opportunity for economic and social development. By focusing on youth and community involvement, these policies can ensure that the benefits of the sector are widely shared. The Namibia Youth Energy Forum is committed to empowering young Namibians and fostering a sustainable future for the country's energy sector. With concerted efforts from all stakeholders, Namibia can leverage its natural resources to create a prosperous and inclusive society.

****Fanuel Shinedima is the Founder & Executive Chairperson of the Namibia Youth Energy Forum, the biggest platform that represent and advocates for young people's involvement and opportunities in Namibia's energy sector covering Oil & Gas, Green Hydrogen and Renewable Energy. Fanuel is passionate about making an impact in society, advocating for strong local content in the sector and ensuring that young people are involved. For more information call: +264814382493 or email: info.nyef@gmail.com***



SRF assists 84 borrowers with 346Wp solar home systems

The Solar Revolving Fund (SRF) has enabled 84 borrowers to purchase and install solar appliances, averaging 346 watt peak (Wp) for Solar Home Systems (SHS).

This initiative aims to improve access to off-grid renewable energy for rural low-income populations.

According to the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH report, an additional 1,052Wp for PUE appliances, such as solar water pumps and refrigerators, have been installed, all equipped with batteries.

The report titled "Improving Access to Finance for Off-Grid Renewable Energy for the Rural Low-Income Population: Namibia's Solar Revolving Fund Case Study" highlights that 26 borrowers are productive users, while 58 are private users.

"Of the 28 respondents to a quantitative survey, all five productive users stated they use their solar appliances frequently, while 83% of private users reported the same," said GIZ.

The study reveals that for two of the five productive users surveyed, the solar systems

replaced previous electricity supply solutions, including one diesel generator and one old solar system.

"The remaining three productive users gained access to electricity for the first time.

PROCUREMENT
NOTICE



MTC hereby invites companies to participate in the following procurement opportunity:

EXTENSION

TENDER NO: MTC33-24-O

Request for Proposal for Anti-DDOS Protection Solution for Mobile Telecommunications Limited (MTC)

Briefing Meeting:
Recording Available on MTC's Website

Closing Date: 06 August 2024 @ 14H30



[mtc.com.na](https://www.mtc.com.na)

Terms of reference are available at:
<https://www.mtc.com.na/procurement/tenders>

Additionally, 22% of private users replaced previous electricity solutions with new solar-powered appliances, while 78% gained access to electricity for the first time," said GIZ.

Meanwhile, challenges identified in the project implementation include 14% of respondents citing high battery replacement costs and 11% stating they could not afford potential repairs and maintenance costs. Moreover, 7% mentioned that the electricity provided by their solar device was insufficient, though only 4% were dissatisfied with the quality of the solar-powered appliances. "Most users (57%) did not face any problems with their solar appliances," the report said.

Similarly, project implementation faced delays due to a limited

timeframe, insufficient human resources, and a lengthy application process, resulting in only one-third of the planned funds (€90,000) being disbursed.

"To address staff shortages, an intern was seconded to the project. Limited internet access in remote areas restricted the project's reach, leading to an awareness campaign financed by the Green People's Energy project, which included pamphlets in local languages," said GIZ.

The Green People's Energy project and MME introduced a new financing window for low-income groups to procure solar appliances for productive use.

"These loans are accessible to low-income borrowers, including a digital infrastructure for managing repayments. Low-income individuals pay no interest with a 5%-20% deposit, while farmers and small businesses pay 4% interest with a 10%-30% deposit," said the study.

GIZ provides funds and receives reports from MME, which handles project activities and loan repayments.



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For detailed information and to apply, visit our website at: www.nbs.edu.na

Application fee: N\$400.00
Normal application deadline: 30 September 2024
MAE extended deadline: 31 August 2024

Enquiries, contact:
Mr Alfonso Gobs | agobs@unam.na | 061 413 500/6



SCAN ME TO
APPLY



The effective personal brand

By **The Brand Guy**

I lost something like 30kg due to lifestyle changes over the last few years. As a result. I now struggle to dress well. I don't wear clothes.

They hang off me. In the aughties the whole personal brand hovered around a pleasing appearance and that has stuck, so I still get teased and chided because I don't present like a showroom dummy.

The question boils down to this: do you want to be a pleasing mannequin, or do you need something more effective of a

personal brand? If it's the former, stop reading this piece.

If you are still with me, here's a guide to an effective personal brand.

It's a subjective personal piece but it works for me, and a couple of clients, one of whom has been with me for decades.

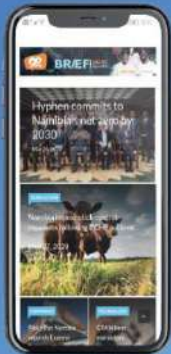
There are four points you need to remember: expertise, content, effective values and the ability to make a difference.

Expertise seems like a logical inclusion, but I have often come across people who rely more on the ability to be pleasing than to bring expertise to the table.

Yet, results are why people interact

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professionally. Judge your level of expertise and tailor your interaction to the results you can achieve. Don't overpromise and do state your limitations. If you follow this path, people will be able to deploy you sensibly. As you gain experience, you and your brand will grow.

Content is closely related to expertise. There is nothing that frustrates me more than to have to listen to a long spiel that takes ages to get to a trivial or ambiguous point or reach no conclusion at all. Participants in the process assign value to their own time. Reward them with useful content. This is not just people above you in the hierarchy, but also those below you. If you can't add succinctly to the content of the discussion and speak from your expertise, don't speak at all. The corollary to this is to develop listening skills.

Effective values are values that are experienced by the other party in the relationship. They are not abstracts such as integrity or accountability. These values will affect completion of the job, particularly responsiveness to requests. What is it that will speed up completion of the job, and what will make the job more accurate?

Finally, there is the ability to make a material difference. It's easy enough to jump in feet first and begin working, but if nothing changes is it worth getting mixed up in the first place? I have often come across claims on jobs that have no discernable impact or bearing on any situation. There's a simple way to counter this. Question the job at the outset if only to yourself. If it lacks purpose, it may be money in the bank, but can your effort be put to better use elsewhere?

Effectively, if the job is not much more than a showcase for wasted effort, you might want to subtly tailor it so that it produces some impact.

One helpful technique is to allow someone else to take the credit for your idea. It might not feed into your claim to the broader task, but it will strengthen the relationship with the person who can claim the idea as their own.

In a nutshell, a personal brand is about value creation. Don't be superficial about it. It's more than dress sense.

****Pierre Mare has contributed to development of several of Namibia's most successful brands. He believes that analytic management techniques beat unreasoned inspiration any day. He is a fearless adventurer who once made Christmas dinner for a Moslem, a Catholic and a Jew. Reach him at pierre.june21@gmail.com if you need help.***



Oil and gas sector information dissemination platform launched

Oxygen Communications has officially launched The Wells to Wheels Omni-channel initiative aimed at bridging the information dissemination gap between Namibia's oil and gas sector and the broader community.

The initiative launched on Thursday and spearheaded by Oxygens Managing Director Hilda Basson-Namundjebo will feature interactive sessions, a monthly podcast, and efforts to clarify complex industry concepts.

She said this is all designed to foster a deeper understanding of the sector and inspire future careers in oil and gas.

"The Omni-channel is designed to demystify the personalities who occupy positions of influence in the energy sector,

offering insights from exploration to production and serving as a platform for learning and exploring career opportunities within the industry," she said.

In addition, the channel will host a monthly podcast where they will interview key energy sector personalities and decode hydrocarbon terminologies to ensure increased understanding.

The launch featured interactive sessions with students from Concordia College, Ella du Plessis, and Jan Jonker Afrikaner schools, including a drama on "The Just Transition" by the College of the Arts.

Award-winning artist Big Ben performed the Wells to Wheels signature jingle, energising the audience and promoting interest in the sector.



Govt allocates N\$17.5m for earth dam excavation

The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform says it has allocated N\$17.5 million to Regional Councils for the excavation of earth dams nationwide during the 2023/2024 financial year.

The Ministry revealed this during

a meeting with the National Council Standing Committee on Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources on the oversight visit to the Hardap, Khomas, //Kharas, Oshana, Omusati, Ohangwena and Oshikoto regions.

According to the chairperson of the

standing committee, Melania Ndjago, the initiative aims to improve water harvesting and storage for agricultural purposes while also reducing the impact of floods.

The Ministry is not only excavating dams but also reshaping canals and water flow channels.

“The excavated dams are aimed to harvest and store rainwater, which will then be used for agricultural purposes. It will further reduce evaporation of the surface water and serve as a flood reduction mechanism. To harvest and restore rainwater, the Ministry has transferred a total of N\$17.5 million to Regional Councils for the excavation of earth dams in their respective regions,” she said.

She further said the Ministry had planned to excavate 129 earth dams nationwide during the 2023/2024 financial year, but procurement delays have pushed this target to the following financial year.

“Despite these challenges, four earth dams have been completed in Oshana, while three are under construction in Hardap, Oshikoto and Ohangwena. Additionally, five dams in Hardap, Kavango West, and //Kharas have been contracted out,” she said.

In addition to dam construction, the Ministry plans to excavate and reshape seven canals nationwide during the 2024/2025 financial year.

These include the Etaka, Oshigambo, Mpungu-Nzinze, Ndonga Linena-Ncaute, Bukalo, Driehoek, and Oshakati Inakulu Yomadhiya canals.

Ndjago explained that the Ministry had initiated a pilot project for drilling and installing boreholes for small-scale irrigation in six regions.

To date, 10 boreholes have been drilled in Ohangwena (2), Oshikoto (2), Kavango West (2), Kavango East (2), Zambezi (1), and Omusati (1).

“The initiative will provide some relief in addressing the shortage of food currently experienced in the country. It will also promote employment to the unemployed agricultural graduates, and upon realisation of its success, the Ministry will roll it out to all regions,” she said.

To expedite the process, Ndjago said the Ministry is currently negotiating a Memorandum of Agreement with the Road Contractor Company to handle dam excavation and rehabilitation in all regions.

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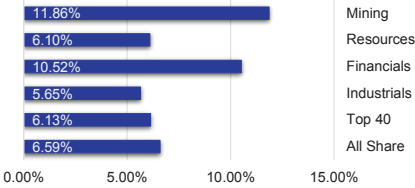
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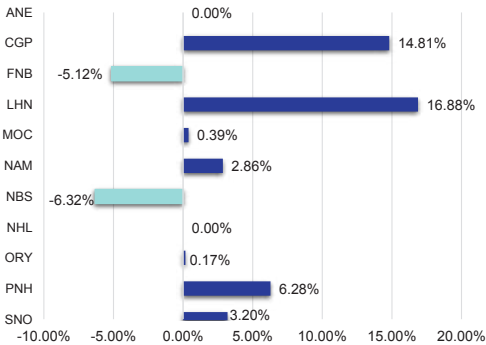
Commodities	
Spot Gold	2446.79
Platinum	967.48
Palladium	915.40
Silver	28.50
Uranium	82.00
Brent Crude	80.55
Iron Ore	93.82
Copper	9138.20
Natural Gas	2.10
Lithium	11.85

Currencies	
USD/ZAR	18.1537
EUR/ZAR	19.6001
GBP/ZAR	23.2437
USD/CNY	7.2428
EUR/USD	1.0796
GBP/USD	1.2802
USD/RUB	85.4500
CPI	4.60%
Repo Rate	7.75%
Prime Rate	11.50%

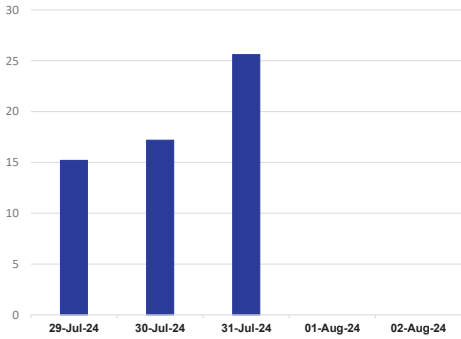
JSE Indices: Year to date movement %



NSX Local Stocks: Year to date price movement %



JSE ALL SHARE VALUE TRADED (ZAR BILLIONS)



Global Indices: Year to date movement %

