

HONORED
Sam Shivute
honored at African
Achievers Awards
p. 14



CERTIFICATION
International certification
to boost local produce
market access
p. 15



DIGITAL
Embracing
the digital
future
p. 17



THE BRIEF

News Worth Knowing



Namibia records over 863,000 tourist arrivals in 2023

MONDAY 15 JULY 2024

18

FNB Whisky Festival 2024

Saturday, 27 July – Mercure Hotel, Windhoek
18:00 to 22:00

The world's best whisky awaits. Come and raise a glass with us.
PLUS enjoy tastings hosted by Lourensford.

Ticket prices:
N\$375 from Webtickets or N\$400 at the door
and include 20 tasting tokens and a snack voucher.

Please drink responsibly and don't drive.

First National Bank of Namibia Limited. Reg. No. 2002/0180. A subsidiary of FirstRand Namibia Limited



MAIN STORY

Namibia records over 863,000 tourist arrivals in 2023



The Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism says Namibia's tourism industry recorded 863,872 international visitor arrivals in 2023, an 87.4% increase.

According to the Annual Tourist Statistical Report for 2023, released Monday by Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism Pohamba Shifeta, this represents a significant growth from the 461,027 arrivals recorded in 2022.

While the figures are still 46% below

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)
- Global African Hydrogen Summit (GAh2S)
Windhoek, Namibia from 03 - 05 September 2024

pre-pandemic levels of 2019, the recovery trajectory is promising.

“The year 2023 proved to be a good year with regard to the tourist arrivals. It has been a significant recovery after the negative effect of Covid-19 on international tourist arrivals. I am delighted to report that Namibia received 863,872 international/inbound tourist arrivals in 2023. The growth from 2022 (461,027) to 2023 is at 87.4%,” he said.

He further explained that the upward trend for foreign arrivals continued in 2023, with a 95.4% increase in foreign arrivals compared to the previous year.

While tourists made up the majority of visitors at 81.9%, the country also welcomed excursionists, returning residents, and other visitors.

“Out of the total inbound international tourist arrival numbers, 84.1% came specifically for holidays, 9.4% for visiting friends/relatives, 4.2% for business travel and 2.3% were in transit to other destinations,” Shifeta said.

Overseas markets also contributed to this growth, with an 18.4% increase in arrivals compared to 2022.

While South Africa remains the top source market from Africa, Germany continues to lead the overseas market.

Angola, Zambia, Botswana and Zimbabwe are also key African markets, while the United States, United Kingdom, France and the Netherlands are prominent European

contributors.

Namibia is also witnessing increased interest from emerging markets like Canada and China.

“In summary, South Africa, Angola, Germany, Zambia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, United States, UK, France and Netherlands made up the top 10 overall tourist source markets for Namibia in 2023,” he said.

Shifeta also said Africa remains the primary driver of tourism, contributing 71.8% of total arrivals, with neighbouring SADC countries playing a crucial role.

Europe accounts for 21.5% of visitors, while the American market represents 4.0%.

“Tourists typically stay for an average of 14 nights, with a significant portion choosing stays between 4-7 nights or 8-14 nights,” he said.

Moreover, land borders remain the most popular entry point, with the Southern and North Eastern borders seeing the highest traffic.

Air travel accounts for 22.1% of arrivals, with Airlink being the leading airline. December, August and November are peak tourist months, while May, February and June are quieter periods.

“The majority of visitors, representing 36.8% of the total inbound tourists came to Namibia between September and December of 2023, 31.9% arrived between May to August and 31.4% between the months of January to April 2023,” Shifeta said.

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Provision of Insurance Brokerage for a period of **3 years**

Levy (Non-Refundable): **N\$ 300.00** (Cash only)

Collection of Bidding Document: **Procurement Management Unit Office**

Bid Submission Due Date: **31st July 2024 @11:00**

NWR
NAMIBIA WILDLIFE RESERVE

Issue Date: 8 July 2024



**NATIONAL
AGRONOMY &
HORTICULTURE
AWARDS
2024**



CALL FOR ENTRIES

The Namibian Agronomic Board (NAB) annually hosts the National Agronomy and Horticulture Awards (NAHA) ceremony aimed at recognizing and awarding the value chain actors (producers, processors, traders, service providers, and school gardens) that have contributed significantly to the development and growth of Namibia's crop industry.

The NAB is pleased to announce that the 2024 NAHA awards will be hosted in the North Central Production Zone, at Olushandja on the 19 September 2024.

ENTRY FORMS

The entry forms for the competition can be accessed from the links under each category. For more information kindly contact Ms. Victoria Petrus at Victoria.Petrus@nab.com.na or on 061379516.

DUE DATE: 25 JULY 2024

The NAB hereby, invites **all registered Crop Producers, Traders, Exporters and Service Providers of horticulture** in all production zones to compete in the following categories;

Horticulture Producers Awards:

<https://forms.office.com/r/RPkrP4krt5>

- Outstanding Horticulture Producer of the Year
- Emerging horticulture producer of the year
- Outstanding Horticulture Innovator of the Year
- Horticulture youth producer

Horticulture traders awards:

<https://forms.office.com/r/sqj9Mk3Gdd>

- Outstanding Horticulture trader of the Year
- Emerging Horticulture trader of the year

Horticulture Exporters Awards:

<https://forms.office.com/r/WYVmMVdHwk3>

- Outstanding Horticulture Exporter of the year
- Emerging Exporter of the year

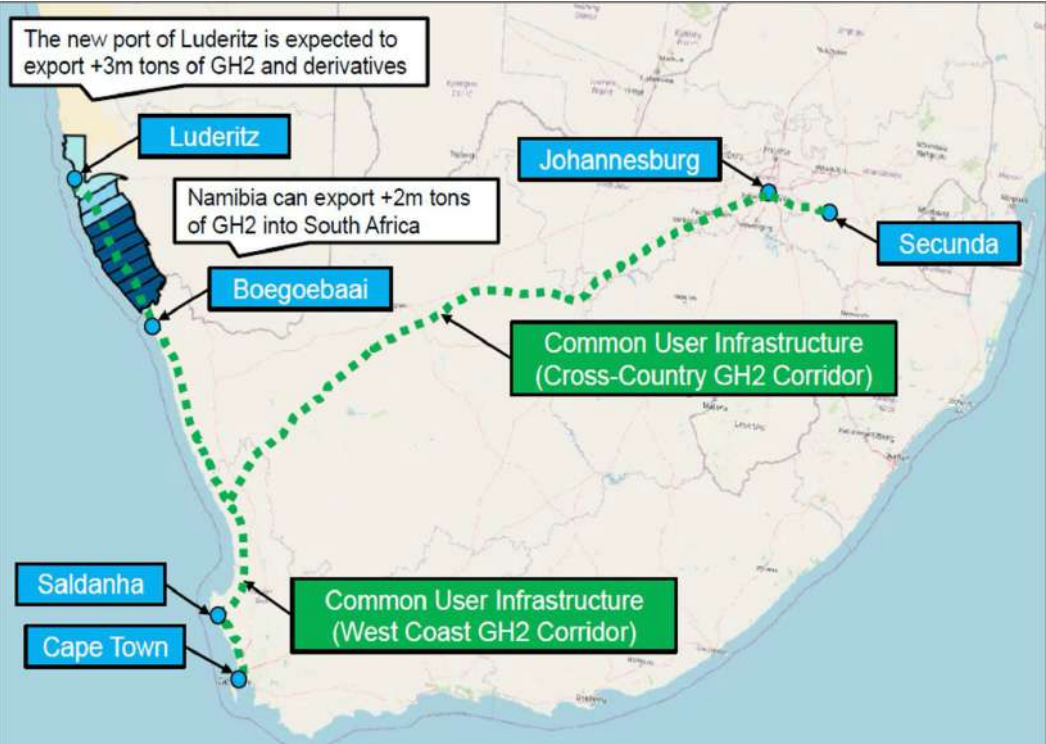
Horticultural Service Provider Award

<https://forms.office.com/r/UjqVpNCyhz>

- Outstanding Horticulture Service Provider of the Year

MINIMUM SELECTION CRITERIA

- Must be registered with the NAB as a producer, trader, or exporter of horticultural products.
- Traders must comply with the minimum 47% MSP requirement
- Service Provider must be a Namibian registered company.
- Horticulture youth producers should not be older than 35 years.



Namibia to conduct N\$5m Namibia-South Africa green hydrogen pipeline feasibility study

Namibia’s Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) has announced it will conduct a N\$5 million (€250,000) study on the feasibility of a cross-border green hydrogen pipeline between Namibia and South Africa.

The study will be undertaken by the Green Hydrogen Programme of Namibia and follows the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the

two countries in May 2024 at the World Hydrogen Summit.

The envisioned pipeline would connect Lüderitz in Namibia to South Africa’s Northern Cape, with the potential for future extensions.

Minister of Mines and Energy, Tom Alweendo, stated that the study will assess the technical, commercial, environmental, and social feasibility of the project, with a focus



THE
BR/EF | **06:40**
Mon-Fri

MOOKS & ADORA In the Morning




on environmental, social, and governance (ESG) best practices. The study also aims to establish a sustainable and interconnected energy corridor in Southern Africa. "If successful, this pipeline could be the first intra-country hydrogen backbone in Africa, paving the way for the trade of more complex products in Southern Africa. This is a key step we are taking as we look to unleash the full potential of the African Continental Free Trade Area and realize the ideals of Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want," he said. The project brings together key players such as the Western Cape Tourism, Investment and Trade Agency (Wesgro), the Northern Cape Economic Development, Trade and Investment Promotion Agency (NCEDA), the Namibia Green Hydrogen Programme (NGH2P), Gasunie Waterstof Holding

B.V., and Climate Fund Managers (CFM) NL B.V. South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa proposed a possible hydrogen partnership with Namibia in October 2020, as the neighboring country planned to become a major exporter of green hydrogen through the implementation of the Boegoebaai hydrogen power project.

South Africa has unveiled a N\$300-billion (US\$20 billion) investment pipeline under a Green Hydrogen National Programme, which has been designated as a Strategic Integrated Project (SIP) for accelerated development under the country's Infrastructure Development Act.

The country reportedly has the potential to produce up to 13 million tonnes of green hydrogen and derivatives a year by 2050. However, achieving this would require between 140GW and 300GW of renewable energy, representing a massive scale-up in a context where South Africa has procured only about 7GW of wind and solar since 2011. - **miningandenergy.com.na**



Building Today, a better Africa tomorrow. Republic of Namibia NAMWATER
Namibia Water Corporation Ltd

**Invitation for Bids [IFB]
Works
(Without Prequalification)**

IFB Number: W/OIB/NW-001/2025
Employer: Namibia Water Corporation Limited (NamWater Ltd)
Project: Oshakati Water Purification Plant Extension (C-NOSH16)
Contract title: Construction Contract for the Oshakati Purification Plant Extension
Country: Namibia
Loan No. / Grant No.: 2000200004682
Procurement Method: Open Competitive Bidding (International) (OCBI)
OCBI No: W/OIB/NW-001/2025
Issued on: 12 July 2024

- The Government of the Republic of Namibia has received financing from the African Development Bank hereinafter called the Bank toward the cost of the Oshakati Purification Plant Extension and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for the Construction Contract for the Oshakati Purification Plant 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.
- The Namibia Water Corporation Limited now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the Construction of the Oshakati Water Purification Plant Extension and Associated Works.
- Bidding will be conducted through the Open Competitive Bidding (International), OCBI procedures as specified in the Bank's [Procurement Framework](#) dated 2015) and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Framework.
- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from Namibia Water Corporation, BidsAfd@namwater.com.na and inspect the Bidding document during office hours (08h00 to 17h00) at the address given below.
- The Bidding document in English may be purchased by interested eligible Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **NAD3,000**. The method of payment will be cash/EFT. The document will be sent by Electronic transfer or Hard Copies to be collected from NamWater as per the Bidder's preference.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 11h00AM on 28 August 2024. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected.** Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below on **11h15 on 28 August 2024**.
- All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of **NAD19 million** (Namibian Dollars Nineteen Million Only) in the form of an unconditional bank guarantee.
- 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.
- The address (es) referred to above is (are):

Client: Namibia Water Corporation Ltd
Attention: Namibia Water Corporation Ltd
Address: 176 Iscor Street, Aigams Building
Floor/Room number: Ground Floor, Cash Office-Bid Box, Aigams Building
City: Windhoek
ZIP Code: N/A
Country: Namibia
Telephone: +264 (61) 712270
Electronic mail address: BidsAfd@namwater.com.na



BIPA temporarily suspends beneficial ownership compliance penalties

The Business and Intellectual Property Authority (BIPA) says it is temporarily waiving penalties and sanctions for businesses not yet compliant with its Beneficial Ownership regulations.

According to BIPA, businesses that have not met the Beneficial Ownership requirements will not incur further penalties until 31 August. During this period, BIPA will review its sanctions and penalty enforcement mechanisms.

“This interim pause will allow BIPA to revisit the modalities of its sanctions and penalty enforcement mechanisms relevant to such non-compliant business entities. BIPA

will make an announcement on the way forward by 31 August,” BIPA said.

The authority said businesses with existing penalty payment plans should stop making payments until it provides further instructions.

“Business entities that have not complied with the BO requirements yet should, without delay, ensure that they complete the BO declaration and submit it to BIPA for processing.”

This comes as BIPA last month announced that more than 165,000 Namibian companies could lose their registration due to non-compliance with new ownership disclosure

DATE & VENUE CHANGE ALERT!

Hummingbird Investments in collaboration with Orange Cyberdefense
PRESENTS

NAMIBIA CYBER WEEK

WINDHOEK CYBER SYMPOSIUM 2024

28 AUGUST // 08h30 - 16h00 // Hilton Hotel Windhoek

HUMMINGBIRD INVESTMENTS

Cyberdefense

Contact Us - Email: info@hummingbirdnam.com // Call: +264812041327 // www.hummingbirdnam.com

Prof. Constanze Bismarck
Professor of Law
Cyber Law Institute
Windhoek

Dr. Melissa Sassi
Executive Director
Namibia
Windhoek

Benjamin An
Assistant Director
IT
Windhoek

Non-Emma Theofelus
Manager of Information
Security
Windhoek

Sonia Cordero
Manager of Security
Windhoek

Marlene Bates
Manager of Security
Windhoek

Teresa Lopez
Executive Director
Namibia
Windhoek

REGISTER NOW

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER TODAY.

rules and that businesses that miss the deadline for submitting beneficial ownership declarations will face serious consequences. The businesses faced suspension, a N\$3,750 fine, and a daily penalty of N\$75. If they did not correct the issue within seven days, BIPA would take further action. After

six months of non-compliance, the business will be deregistered, effectively closing it down. BIPA introduced regulations in 2023 requiring businesses to identify their true owners, information which it said is essential for preventing financial crimes and ensuring transparency.



We are a leading agricultural organization dedicated to advancing the sector through innovative practices and cutting-edge technology. We are currently seeking qualified and motivated individuals to join our team in the following position:

1. MECHANIZATION EXPERT

Key Responsibilities:

- Develop and implement mechanization strategies to enhance agricultural productivity.
- Assess and recommend appropriate machinery and equipment for various agricultural activities.
- Train farmers and staff on the operation and maintenance of agricultural machinery.
- Collaborate with stakeholders to promote mechanization initiatives.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree OR Masters in Agricultural Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, or related field.
- Minimum of 5 years of experience in agricultural mechanization.
- Knowledge of modern agricultural machinery and technology.
- Excellent communication and training skills.

2. AGRICULTURAL PROJECT MANAGER

Key Responsibilities:

- Plan, execute, and manage agricultural projects from inception to completion.
- Coordinate with stakeholders to ensure project objectives are met.
- Monitor project progress, prepare reports, and manage budgets.
- Identify and mitigate project risks.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree OR Masters in Agriculture, Project Management, or a related field.
- Minimum of 5 years of experience in managing agricultural projects.
- Strong leadership, organizational, and communication skills.
- Project Management Professional (PMP) certification is an advantage.

3. IRRIGATION EXPERT

Key Responsibilities:

- Design and implement efficient irrigation systems for diverse agricultural projects.
- Conduct water resource assessments and develop sustainable water management strategies.
- Monitor and evaluate the performance of irrigation systems to ensure optimal functionality.
- Provide technical support and training to staff and farmers on best irrigation practices.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree OR Masters in Agricultural Engineering, Water Resources Management, or a related field.
- Minimum of 5 years of experience in irrigation system design and management.
- Proficiency in using irrigation software and tools.
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills.

4. RICE BREEDER

Key Responsibilities:

- Develop new rice varieties with improved yield, quality, and resistance to pests and diseases.
- Conduct field trials and research to evaluate the performance of new rice varieties.
- Collaborate with other researchers and institutions to advance rice breeding programs.
- Provide technical guidance to farmers on rice cultivation practices.

Qualifications:

- PhD or Master's in Plant Breeding, Agronomy, or related field.
- Minimum of 3 years of experience in rice breeding.
- Strong background in genetics, plant pathology, and biostatistics.
- Excellent research and data analysis skills.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

5. AGRICULTURAL MECHANIZATION ENGINEER

Key Responsibilities:

- Design, develop, and improve agricultural machinery and equipment.
- Oversee the installation, testing, and maintenance of machinery.
- Ensure compliance with safety standards and regulations.
- Provide technical support and training to machine operators and technicians.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree OR Masters in Agricultural Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, or related field.
- Minimum of 5 years of experience in agricultural machinery design and maintenance.
- Strong technical and mechanical aptitude.
- Proficiency in CAD software and other engineering tools.

JOB VACANCY FOR CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER (CFO)

A Reputable Agro Group of entities is seeking to recruit a dynamic, result-oriented, passionate with ethical values for the position of **CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER** for the overall responsibility of strategic planning, implementation, managing and running of all the finance activities of the company, including business planning, budgeting, forecasting, risk and governance as well as negotiations and obtaining and maintaining investor relations and partnership compliance.

The CFO will interact with senior stakeholders and other company members as the key executive management team member. The CFO job description includes:

Responsibilities

- Aligning financial planning and strategy with business planning and the Group's strategy, including multi-year budgets, trend analysis and scenario modelling
- Providing leadership, direction and management of the finance and accounting team
- Providing strategic recommendations to the Group CEO and executive management team.
- Managing the processes for financial forecasting and budgets, and overseeing the preparation of all financial reporting
- Advising on long-term business and financial planning
- Provide commercial insight and leadership across the business to exceed business plan targets.
- Responsible for ensuring the risk and compliance management framework is embedded and operational for the Group
- Establishing and developing relations with senior management and external partners and stakeholders • Reviewing all formal finance, HR and IT-related procedures

Qualifications:

The role of CFO is very senior; hence a high level of experience is expected for anyone applying for this role. Professional certification (CPA / ACCA / CIMA) or equivalent A bachelor's degree in the following will be expected for this role: Accounting, Finance or Economics.

An MBA is also highly desirable. At least 10 years of experience in the finance industry and proven leadership and management experience are essential –examples of when they have demonstrated excellence in the workplace.

Candidate must possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills with the executive presence to work with senior management, investors, and external stakeholders. They must be able to engage with staff at all levels of the organisation and exercise sound judgement.

NB: Gender Equality, Women are encouraged to apply. Applicants should be willing to travel outside Namibia.

How to Apply: Interested candidates should send their CV & Cover Letter to HR@abanga-group.com. The deadline for submission of applications is 30th July,2024. Please specify the position you are applying for in the subject line of your email. Join us in transforming the agricultural landscape and positively impacting food security. We look forward to welcoming dynamic and passionate professionals to our team.



Namibia to prioritise renewables while keeping future nuclear options open

Namibia Power Corporation (NamPower) says it is committed to prioritising renewable energy sources and sustainable local generation projects, with nuclear power being considered as a potential long-term option.

NamPower’s Managing Director Simson Haulofu said the national power utility is closely monitoring global energy trends

and advancements in nuclear technology, maintaining the option for future consideration if it aligns with its strategic goals and the country’s National Energy Policy.

"Currently, NamPower is not actively pursuing nuclear power generation as a long-term solution. Our focus remains on expanding renewable energy sources



AGRIBANK
OF NAMIBIA
Your all Season Bank

VACANCIES

Interested candidates with relevant qualifications and experience are hereby invited to apply

Position: Branch Administrator
Department: Sales
Duty Station: Grootfontein
Contract: Permanent
Job Grade: C1

Position: Inspection Officer
Department: Sales
Duty Station: Otjiwarongo
Contract: Permanent
Job Grade: C3

Interested candidates can apply online by visiting
www.agribank.com.na/page/vacancies/
CLOSING DATE: 26 July 2024

www.agribank.com.na



Windhoek Head Office
Kaituma Mullis
061 207 411
info@agribank.com.na

Mariental
061 242 888
southern@agribank.com.na

Midland (Windhoek)
061 207 400
midland@agribank.com.na

Otjiwarongo
061 244 146
otjiwarongo@agribank.com.na

Oshanaati
061 221 338
oshanaati@agribank.com.na

Rundu
061 251 645
kavango@agribank.com.na

Swakopmund
061 277 8001
gobabis@agribank.com.na

Grootfontein
061 244 0450
grootfontein@agribank.com.na

Stay informed about Energy sector in Namibia

[Click here](#)

M&E
MINING & ENERGY

and enhancing local generation capacity through sustainable and cost-effective projects," he told M&E.

"We are attentive to global energy trends and nuclear technology advancements, considering it as a viable option in the future if it aligns with our strategic objectives and National Energy Policy."

This comes as nuclear energy has been touted as a viable solution to address Namibia's power deficit because of the country's vast uranium deposits.

Namibia's energy sector regulator, Electricity Control Board (ECB), says the country's current electricity demand at 750 megawatts, falls short of the 1,000 megawatts required for a viable nuclear plant.

ECB Executive for Technical Regulation, Petrus Johannes, said the possibility of establishing smaller 300-megawatt plants exists, but could lead to higher cost implications for consumers.

"Referring to the national Integrated Resource Plan, a tool assessing potential energy generation options, we prioritise cost-effective solutions tailored to our size. With our current demand at 750 megawatts, a nuclear plant requires at least one gigawatt to be feasible," he said.

He added that based on that planning tool, uranium was considered, but excluded due to cost implications that would ultimately affect consumers.

"There is potential for having three highly impactful nuclear plants. That's the challenge—it's not going to be straightforward. Consider the long timeframe. The smaller the scale, the higher the cost, which poses the primary challenge," he said.

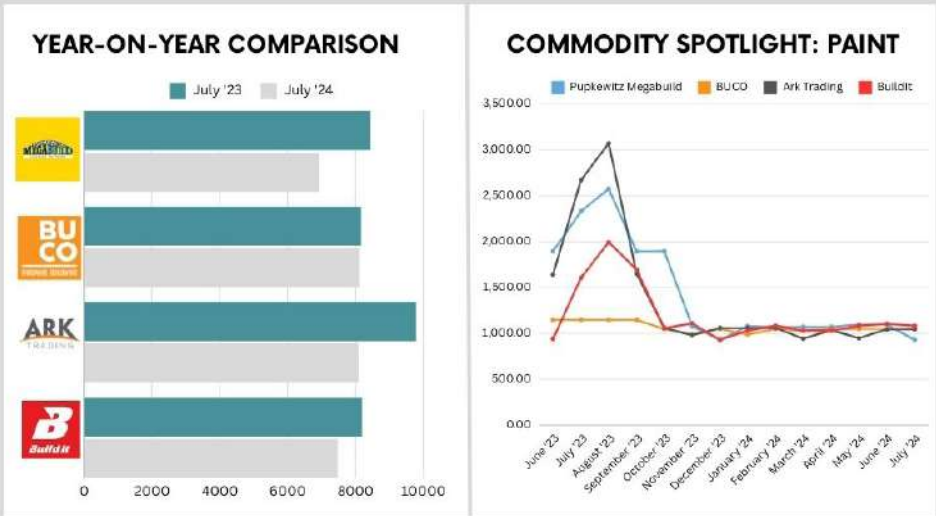
Headspring Investments, the Namibian arm of Russian nuclear giant Rosatom, is exploring the possibility of building Namibia's first nuclear power plant within the next six years.

Namibia, already the world's third-largest uranium producer, experiences a surge in uranium prices but imports most of its electricity from neighbouring countries, including South Africa and Zambia.

Namibia imports some 60% of its electricity needs from neighbouring countries and the energy ministry has set a target to reduce the import gap from the current 60% to only 20% by 2028.

- miningandenergy.com.na

HARDWARE COMPARISON JULY '24



Basket Composition: Roofing Galvanized IBR, Copper Tube 460 Class O, Aluminium Window (Bronze), Aluminium Sliding Door (Bronze), Brick 7 MPA, Brickforce 150 MM 15M ROLL, Brickforce 75MM 15M ROLL, Lintel concrete 1200X110X75MM, Lintel concrete 1800X110X75MM, Lintel concrete 900X110X75MM, Ceiling Board 1200X3000X6.4MM, Door Frame Steel 813X2032X115X1MM, Lockset 2 lever, Door Hardboard Interior 813 X 2032 MM, 32.5 Cement Ohorongo, 42.5 Cement Ohorongo, Paint 20 liters

Pupkewitz records biggest year-on-year price drop in hardware survey

Pupkewitz Megabuild has recorded the biggest year-on-year drop in prices according to our Hardware Stores Survey conducted on four hardware stores in Windhoek.

The Brief's survey, which is conducted every month, aims to assess a basket of similar hardware items that customers would

probably purchase in a month.

The survey is carried out across four hardware stores: Build It, BUCO, Pupkewitz Megabuild, and Ark Trading. The survey aims to guide shoppers on which hardware wholesaler offers the cheapest basket of building materials for that particular month.

THE BRIEF

News Worth Knowing

Are you looking to stay informed about the latest developments in the Namibian business, finance, and economic sectors?

Subscribe to The Brief today and gain access to exclusive content, expert analysis, and in-depth reporting on the issues that matter most to your business.

Scan to subscribe

YEAR IN REVIEW
2023-2024

YEAR IN REVIEW
2024-2025

Follow us on social media: @thebrieflive

www.thebrief.com.na

Moreover, an analysis of changes in the basket is carried out to provide overall basket and item variations month on month. The following items are in the basket:

- Roofing Galvanized IBR
 - Copper Tube 460 Class o
- Aluminium Window (Bronze)
- Aluminium Sliding Door (Bronze)
- Brick 7 MPA
- Brickforce 150 MM 15M ROLL
- Brickforce 75MM 15M ROLL
- Lintel concrete 1200X110X75MM
- Lintel concrete 1800X110X75MM
- Lintel concrete 900X110X75MM
- Ceiling Board 1200X3000X6.4MM
- Door Frame Steel 813X2032X115X1MM
- Lockset 2 lever
- Door Hardboard Interior 813 X 2032 MM
- 32.5 Cement Ohorongo
- 42.5 Cement Ohorongo
- Paint 20 liters

In July 2024, Pupkewitz emerged as the cheapest hardware store, moreover, recording the largest year-on-year decrease in its overall basket.

The basket cost at Pupkewitz dropped from N\$ 8440.55 in July 2023 to N\$ 6917.74 in July 2024, representing a decrease of 18.04%

Key items contributing to this decrease were Paint, which dropped from N\$ 2329.99 in July 2023 to N\$ 928.99 in July 2024, the Lockset 2 Lever, which fell from N\$ 284.99 to N\$ 79.95, and the Aluminium Sliding Door (Bronze), which decreased from N\$ 2454.10 in July 2023 to N\$ 2398.99 in July 2024.

The significant reduction in the prices of paint and lockset comparables played a major role in this decline.

Ark Trading ranked second with a year-on-year basket decrease of 17.38%. The basket cost at Ark Trading decreased from N\$ 9788.75 in July 2023 to N\$ 8087.03 in July 2024, a difference of N\$ 1707.72.

The main contributors to this reduction were Paint, which dropped from N\$ 2671.17 in July 2023 to N\$ 1046.40 in July 2024, and Roofing Galvanized IBR, which decreased from N\$ 698.90 in July 2023 to N\$ 671.24 in July 2024.

Build It saw an 8.78% year-on-year decrease in its overall basket, placing third. Notable reductions included Paint, which dropped from N\$ 1605.78 in July 2023 to N\$ 1083.88 in July 2024, the Aluminium Window (Bronze), which fell from N\$ 924.21 in July 2023 to N\$ 820.42 in July 2024, the Ceiling Board, which decreased from N\$ 258.90 to N\$ 203.54, and the Door Frame Steel, which declined from N\$ 588.27 in July 2023 to N\$ 570.57 in July 2024. BUCO recorded the smallest change, with a minimal year-on-year basket decrease of 0.63%.

The basket cost at BUCO dropped from N\$ 8167.14 in July 2023 to N\$ 8115.68 in July 2024, a difference of just N\$ 51.46. Contributing to this minor decrease were Paint, which fell from N\$ 1148.10 in July 2023 to N\$ 1049.00 in July 2024, and Roofing Galvanized IBR, which decreased from N\$ 799.43 in July 2023 to N\$ 697.34 in July 2024.

The analysis highlights that the major item contributing to the overall basket decrease across all stores was Paint. Additionally, the Aluminium Sliding Door (Bronze) significantly contributed to the basket decrease at both Ark Trading and Pupkewitz. For the "Commodity of the Month," which is 20 liters of Duram White paint, BUCO consistently offered the lowest average price among all stores, at N\$ 1067.56.

Build It followed with an average of N\$ 1198.73, Ark Trading came next with N\$ 1376.67, and Pupkewitz had the highest average price at N\$ 1429.70 over the 13-month survey period.



N\$25m Brandberg Desert Elephant Lodge planned for Kunene region

Ushivi Safaris CC plans to invest N\$25 million in the construction of Brandberg Desert Elephant Lodge, which is estimated to host over 40 guests, along Namibia's Ugab River in the Kunene Region.

The Brandberg Desert Elephant Lodge will provide 10 thatched roof rooms, 15 tented campsites, 15 regular campsites, a swimming pool, a lounge, and staff houses for efficient operations. According to documents seen by The Brief, the lodge's 10 rooms will feature thatched roofs and local rock or brick walls, powered by solar energy and equipped with water recycling systems.

A tented campsite with 10 units each including kitchens, showers, and water closets, will be shaded by trees with barbecue areas.

Plans include adding 15 more campsites, a swimming pool, a lounge, and staff housing.

The proposed campsites phase 2 will be 15 in total and will each consist of a small kitchen, shower, and water closet. Each campsite will be under the shade from the trees with a demarcated barbecue area.

Located near Brandberg Mountain,

the lodge occupies about 50 hectares, strategically placed between Sorris-Sorris Lodge and White Lady Lodge, benefiting from nearby amenities like the private airstrip at Brandberg White Lady Lodge.

The project anticipates creating 12 permanent jobs consisting of a campsite manager, an assistant manager, a receptionist, a bartender, two tour guides, and six labourers.

Additionally, temporary positions will be created for contractors, a residential engineer, a safety health and environment representative, and an environmental compliance coordinator.

With established lodges, roads, airstrips, and tourism activities nearby, the Brandberg Desert Elephant Lodge plans to integrate seamlessly with existing routes, boosting tourism and local economies alike.

Set strategically to link coastal tourism routes with attractions like Brandberg and Ombonde People's Landscape Areas and Etosha National Park, the Brandberg Desert Elephant Lodge aims to unify existing tourism assets in communal conservancies without competition.

Sam Shivute honored at African Achievers Awards

Namibia Revenue Agency (Namra) Commissioner Sam Shivute has been honored with an Excellence in Leadership Award at the recently held African Achievers Awards (AAA) hosted at the House of Parliament in the United Kingdom.

Founded in 2011, the awards are renowned for recognizing outstanding individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the development and progress of Africa.

The 2024 AAA edition aimed to highlight and celebrate the remarkable achievements of Africans who are driving positive change across various sectors, including business, politics, education, and social development.

Hosted by Baroness Verma, Member of the House of Lords, UK, this year's edition was held under the theme, "Empowering Africa: Honoring Excellence in Leadership and Innovation."

Other awardees included Vusi



Thembekwayo, founder/CEO of MyGrowth Fund venture partner South Africa, Caleb Muftwang, Governor of Plateau State, Moses Bliss, and Abena Opong-Asare.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

For Credible Economic
Data And Latest Namibian
Business and Finance News.

THE
BR/EF
News Worth Knowing

SCAN HERE
TO SUBSCRIBE



International certification to boost local produce market access

The country's produce farmers, certified by the Namibian Agronomic Board (NAB), have earned the local Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) certificate.

The certification assures quality throughout agricultural supply chains, boosting the credibility and market presence of local farmers' produce on both domestic and international markets.

"All the farmers that are going to be recognised have met 100% major compliance criteria and 95% minor compliance criteria on the Primary Farm Assurance (PFA) standard requirements for food safety and hygiene. It helps producers gain gradual recognition by providing an entry level to Global GAP Certification," Lorna Shikongo-Kuvare, the NAB's General Manager for Regulatory Services, said.

This comes after Global GAP introduced the Local GAP standard as a capacity building initiative aimed at assisting farmers who are unable to immediately comply with the Integrated Farm Assurance standard.

"The local gap standard was introduced by Global GAP as a capacity building initiative for farmers that are not able to go straight into your integrated farm assurance standards," Shikongo-Kuvare said.

The certification was granted to six small-scale and commercial farmers whose farms met



VACANCY

THE VACANCY BELOW IS NOW AVAILABLE AT DUNDEE PRECIOUS METALS TSUMEB:

>> SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FACILITATOR

CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY 26 JULY 2024, AT 16H00

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

Applicants who are not contacted within two weeks after the closing date, should consider their application unsuccessful. For detailed information and to apply, please visit: <https://dundeeprecious.com/careers/careers/>



Dundee Precious Metals Tsumeb is an Equal Opportunity Employer



Adventure, lifestyle, feel good stories and more.



Fly Namibia
our most recent edition!

> READ ONLINE

the compliance criteria for the local GAP standard of the PFA requirements. According to Shikongo-Kuvare, this certificate remains valid for a period of one year.

“Wusten Micro Farming, Metropolis Investments, Orange River Irrigation Projects, Oribi Asset No. 1, and Agricon Mushrooms have been awarded local GAP certification,” Shikongo-Kuvare said.

Furthermore, recipients of the certification highlighted their operations and capacity.

“Our farm is one of the full lettuce washing facilities, with a 5,000-tonne lettuce harvest per week. Prioritising sustainability through aquaponics, which uses 90% less water to produce lettuce,” a Farm Manager at Oribi Asset No. 1 said.

The Manager highlighted that their team comprises 14 permanent employees, exclusive of himself. They serve retail clients such as Spar under Freshmark, Checkers, Shoprite, and Food Lover’s Market.

“Metropolis Investments operates four greenhouses with a weekly harvest capacity of one thousand tonnes of tomatoes and cucumbers. They supply Maerua SuperSpar, Hochland Spar and a few smaller retailers,” an Administrator at Metropolis Investment noted.



Standard Bank

SAVE THE DATE



ANTI-FINANCIAL CRIME CONFERENCE

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
				3		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

MORE DETAILS COMING SOON.



Embracing the digital future: The crucial role of digital literacy in Namibia

By Hilya Mhani

In today's interconnected world, digital literacy is a fundamental skill required in all areas of life. As an Authority, we recognise the transformative power of digital literacy. It extends beyond basic technology use to include critical navigation, evaluation, and creation of information on digital platforms.

Digital literacy encompasses various competencies: using digital devices like computers, smartphones, and tablets; navigating the internet; utilising software applications; and engaging with social media platforms. It also involves critical thinking to assess online information, understand privacy and security concerns, and use digital tools ethically and responsibly.

Digital literacy empowers individuals by providing tools to access information, communicate effectively, and participate in the digital economy. In Namibia, enhancing digital literacy can bridge gaps in education, employment, and social inclusion. For students, it opens doors to educational resources and online learning. For job seekers, it means access to job portals, online applications, and remote work opportunities.

The global economy is increasingly digital, and Namibia must keep pace to remain competitive. Digital literacy is crucial for entrepreneurs and small business owners to market products online, manage e-commerce platforms, and leverage digital tools for growth. For the broader workforce, digital skills are now a prerequisite for many jobs, from basic computer literacy to advanced technical skills in fields like cybersecurity, data analysis, and digital marketing.

Digital literacy also plays a vital role in governance and civic participation. With the rise of e-government services, digitally literate citizens can access public services more efficiently, participate in online consultations, and engage with government initiatives. This improves transparency, accountability, and fosters a more inclusive and participatory democracy.

In healthcare, digital literacy can significantly enhance patient care and health outcomes. Telemedicine, electronic health records, and online health resources require both healthcare providers and patients to be digitally literate. During the COVID-19 pandemic, digital tools enabled remote consultations, online health monitoring, and the dissemination of crucial health information, underscoring

the need for digital literacy in managing public health crises.

Despite its importance, several challenges hinder the widespread adoption of digital literacy in Namibia:

Limited Access to Technology

Many Namibians, particularly in rural areas, lack access to digital devices and reliable internet connections. This digital divide exacerbates existing inequalities and limits opportunities for those without access to technology.

Lack of Training and Education

Many schools and communities lack the resources or qualified instructors to teach digital literacy effectively, leaving individuals without the skills needed to navigate the digital world.

Cultural and Language Barriers

Cultural and language differences can also pose barriers. Digital content is often available in dominant languages, excluding those who speak indigenous languages. Additionally, cultural attitudes towards technology can influence how individuals perceive and use digital tools.

To address these challenges and enhance digital literacy in Namibia, a multi-faceted approach is needed:

Infrastructure Development

Expanding digital infrastructure is fundamental. Efforts must be made to provide affordable and reliable internet access across the country, particularly in underserved rural areas. Public-private partnerships can play a significant role in this endeavour.

Education Integration

Integrating digital literacy into the national education curriculum from primary school through to higher education is crucial. Schools should be equipped with the necessary technology, and teachers should receive training to teach digital skills effectively. Community centres and

libraries can also serve as hubs for digital literacy training.

Support for Vulnerable Groups

Special attention should be given to vulnerable and marginalised groups to ensure inclusivity in digital literacy initiatives. This includes designing tailored programmes for older adults, providing assistive technologies and support for people with disabilities, and addressing gender disparities in digital access and literacy.

Collaboration with Stakeholders

Enhancing digital literacy requires collaboration between various stakeholders, including government, private sector, civil society, and international partners. By working together, these stakeholders can pool resources, share expertise, and develop comprehensive programmes that address various aspects of digital literacy.

Digital literacy is a cornerstone of modern society, and its importance cannot be overstated. For Namibia to thrive in the digital age, we must prioritise developing digital literacy skills across all sectors of society. By addressing the challenges and implementing strategic initiatives, we can empower our citizens, enhance economic opportunities, improve governance, and advance healthcare. As we move forward, let us commit to creating an inclusive digital future where every Namibian has the skills and knowledge to participate fully in the digital world.

As an Authority, we are dedicated to promoting digital literacy and bridging the digital divide. Together, we can embrace the digital future and ensure that every Namibian is equipped to navigate and thrive in the digital age.

****Hilya Mhani is Manager: Consumer Relations and Advocacy***



MVA Fund donates critical medical equipment to Windhoek Central Hospital

The Motor Vehicle Accident Fund (MVA Fund) has donated three critical pieces of medical equipment to Windhoek Central Hospital, valued at N\$1.1 million.

According to the MVA Fund, the machines are essential for providing quality care to patients, and they are confident that these will make a significant impact on the hospital's ability to deliver effective healthcare services.

"Comprehensive training on the maintenance and operation of these machines will be provided to the hospital staff, ensuring they are used optimally. The Fund is confident that these high-quality, durable machines will provide years of reliable service to the hospital's ongoing effort to enhance patient care and wellbeing," said MVA Fund CEO, Rosalia Martins-Hausiku.

"The MVA Fund remains committed to supporting the government's efforts to maintain the country's health facilities by pursuing the highest standards. As an institution that values life, the Fund is dedicated to supporting the healthcare sector and contributing to the well-being of our community and country."

She said the Fund's collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Social Services has yielded impactful results, evidenced by its investment over the years.

"This partnership, which started with the donation of equipment and the training of doctors, nurses, and ambulance drivers, has evolved into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU aims to assist the Ministry in improving public health facilities," Martins-Hausiku said.



Enriching
Generations

FINANCIAL MARKET MONITOR

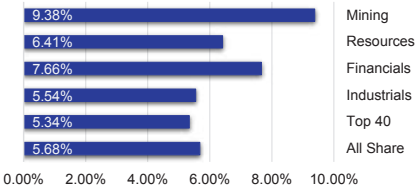
Commodities

Spot Gold	2433.67
Platinum	1011.10
Palladium	965.77
Silver	31.08
Uranium	85.50
Brent Crude	84.74
Iron Ore	102.80
Copper	9728.38
Natural Gas	2.24
Lithium	12.75

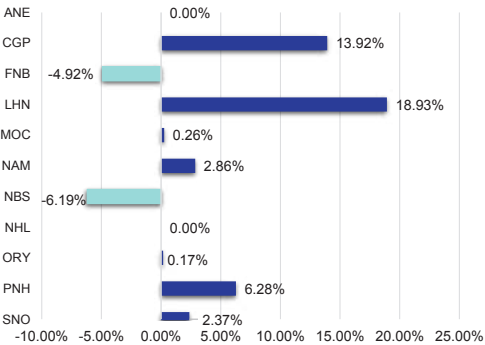
Currencies

USD/ZAR	18.2392
EUR/ZAR	19.9140
GBP/ZAR	23.6850
USD/CNY	7.2612
EUR/USD	1.0919
GBP/USD	1.2987
USD/RUB	88.6001
CPI	4.60%
Repo Rate	7.75%
Prime Rate	11.50%

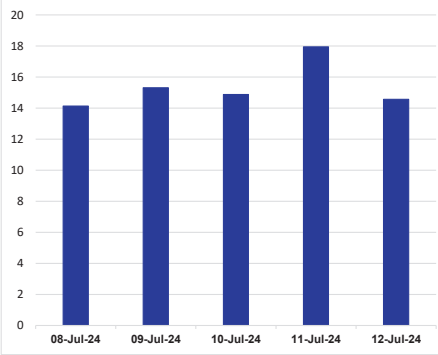
JSE Indices: Year to date movement %



NSX Local Stocks: Year to date price movement %



JSE ALL SHARE VALUE TRADED (ZAR BILLIONS)



Global Indices: Year to date movement %

