

# THE BRIEF

News Worth Knowing



**Chinese companies awarded  
NamPower's N\$1.4bn Rosh  
Pinah 100MW PV contract**

MONDAY 09 SEPTEMBER 2024

## MAIN STORY



# Chinese companies awarded NamPower's N\$1.4bn Rosh Pinah 100MW PV contract

**T**he Namibia Power Corporation (NamPower) has awarded a N\$1.4 billion contract to a Chinese joint venture to build a 100-megawatt solar power plant in the country's southern region.

The engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contract for the Rosh Pinah photovoltaic project was signed with a joint venture between China Jiangxi International Economic and Technical Cooperation and CHINT New Energy Development (Zhejiang).

NamPower Managing Director Simson Haulofu said the project is expected to create hundreds of jobs during construction and contribute significantly to Namibia's

renewable energy goals.

As part of the agreement, the contractor is required to spend at least 25% of the construction cost on local content, injecting

### Crucial Dates

- Bank of Namibia Monetary Policy announcement date:  
23 October 2024  
4 December 2024
- Global African Hydrogen Summit (GAh2S)  
Windhoek, Namibia from 03 – 05 September 2024

over N\$350 million into the Namibian economy.

The total cost of the project stands at around N\$1.6 billion, with almost 80% funded through a concessional loan from KfW, and the remaining 20% covered by NamPower.

"The investment into the Rosh Pinah 100MW PV Project will contribute to managing and regulating future increases in electricity tariffs. This will not only benefit individual consumers by lowering increases to their electricity bills but also contribute to the overall economic growth and environmental sustainability," he said.

The construction of the plant will last approximately 18 months, with nearly 800 workers on-site at the peak of activity.

"The construction of the plant will create job opportunities for locals, as all semi-skilled and unskilled labour must be sourced locally in line with the conditions agreed in the EPC Contract. The plant's commercial operation date is anticipated for the second quarter of 2026," he added.

Haulofu noted that the investment into the Rosh Pinah 100MW PV Project will contribute to managing and regulating future increases in electricity tariffs.

"This will not only benefit individual consumers by lowering increases to their electricity bills but also contribute

to the overall economic growth and environmental sustainability," he said.

The MD expressed gratitude to both the National Planning Commission of Namibia and the German government who, as part of the inter-governmental negotiations and development cooperation between Namibia and Germany, supported and agreed to the implementation of the Rosh Pinah 100MW PV Project.

He said as the second largest the plant will help the government accomplish its goals of ensuring electricity supply security and self-sufficiency as outlined in the national planning policies such as the fifth National Development Plan (NDP5) and the National Integrated Resource Plan (NIRP).

Meanwhile, the representative of the joint venture, Yan Deng, said China Jiangxi International has successfully delivered over 600 international engineering projects across more than 50 countries with these projects ranging from high-rise buildings, roads, bridges, and water conservancy to airports, and stadiums.

"For 20 years now, we've been listed among the top 250 international contractors worldwide. Here in Namibia, China Jiangxi International has been active for 20 years, and we've completed 61 projects across the country," he added.

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## Majority Namibians struggle to access medical care

Nearly 70% of Namibians have gone without medical care at least once in the past year, highlighting a significant challenge in the country's healthcare system, a recent Afrobarometer survey found.

The alarming Afrobarometer statistic includes 20% of respondents who say they lacked medical attention "many times" or "always".

The survey, conducted in March 2024, highlights widespread dissatisfaction with the state of public healthcare services.

Among the 60% of respondents who had contact with a public clinic or hospital in the

last 12 months, the majority reported facing numerous issues.

"Among respondents who had contact with a public health care facility, majorities say they encountered long waiting times (91%), a lack of medicines or supplies (84%)," said the survey.

Further, it was reported that 50% noted that cost was also a significant barrier, with half of the respondents stating that high expenses prevented them from receiving the care they needed.

Furthermore, 80% of those surveyed participants experienced an absence of medical personnel, and 79% described the

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facilities as poor.

These findings reflect growing concerns over access to affordable healthcare, as 59% of Namibians rated the government’s performance on improving basic health services as “fairly badly” or “very badly”.

Despite these challenges, the Ministry of Health and Social Services maintains a relatively strong level of trust among the public.

Two-thirds (66%) of Namibians said they trust the ministry "somewhat" or "a lot."

Afrobarometer is a pan-African, non-partisan survey research network that provides reliable data on African experiences and evaluations of democracy, governance, and quality of life.

The Afrobarometer team in Namibia, led by Survey Warehouse, interviewed a nationally representative sample of 1,200 adult Namibians in March 2024.

A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-3 percentage points at a 95% confidence level.

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- An average of 60% in final year will be an added advantage.
- Students with leadership experience at school and/or university will be prioritised.
- Applicants must preferably be available to commit to the 2 year training programme.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. The NIPDB reserves the right to use additional/relevant information as criteria for shortlisting. Applicants who do not receive any response within three weeks after the closing date should accept that their applications were not considered favourable. Applicants must be Namibian citizens. The NIPDB regrets it cannot return documents.



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**ABOUT NIPDB**

The Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB) is mandated to promote and facilitate investment by foreign and Namibian investors, and coordinate MSME activities across all levers of the economy, with the aim of contributing to economic development and job creation.

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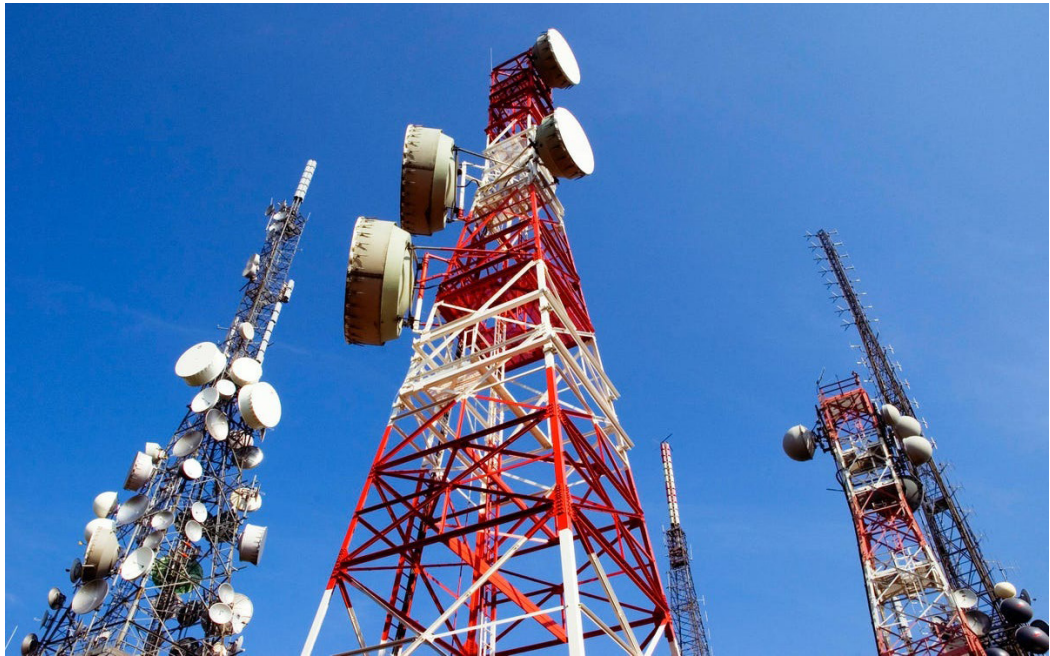
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## Namibia's telecom sector invests N\$243m in infrastructure in Q2

The Namibian telecommunications sector saw an investment of N\$243 million towards upgrading infrastructure in the second quarter of 2024, recent data by the Communications Regulatory Authority (CRAN) shows.

The capital expenditure focused on upgrading both physical infrastructure and software capabilities, aimed at enhancing the overall service quality and expanding network coverage.

"In the second quarter of 2024, capital expenditure in the telecommunications sector totalled around N\$243 million. This investment focused on upgrading both physical infrastructure and software capabilities," the report said.

The report added that the telecommunications sector maintained

stability in data services, with revenue remaining at N\$592 million.

Voice revenue saw a rise to N\$170 million, while SMS revenue dipped to N\$31 million during the quarter under review.

"In the second quarter of 2024, data revenue exhibited stability, maintaining its previous level. In contrast, SMS and voice revenues continued to demonstrate their seasonal patterns, with voice revenue experiencing an upward trajectory while SMS revenue declined," the report read.

Moreover, on the broadcasting front, the sector faced a 26% decline in investment, totalling N\$1.44 million.

The sharpest drop was in property and plant infrastructure, which fell by 45%. However, terrestrial transmission infrastructure saw a 1,142% surge, suggesting renewed interest in

Fixed-line services continued to decline, with outgoing minutes dropping 8%, and mobile-to-fixed-line calls plunging by 29%. Fixed-line usage is being

Mobile broadband usage via mobile phones dropped by 11%, while dongles and routers saw a 17% increase, indicating a growing preference for alternative internet access solutions.

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# Andrada, SQM in N\$710m Namibia lithium project partnership

Andrada Mining Limited (Andrada) has entered into a three-stage earn-in agreement with SQM, a leading global producer of lithium chemicals, for an investment of N\$710.8 million (US\$40

million) to fund exploration activities and conduct a definitive feasibility study (DFS). As part of the agreement, SQM will initially pay Andrada a participation fee of N\$35.54 million in two tranches – N\$8.89 million upon signing and an additional N\$26.66 million once conditions are met, including approval from the Namibian Competition Commission. SQM’s investment will be distributed over three stages, with US\$7 million (N\$124.39 million) for initial exploration and N\$231.01 million (US\$13 million) for further development, culminating in the DFS.

"We are incredibly

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pleased to announce our partnership with SQM, a global leader in the lithium industry and to be part of the first African partnership that SQM has entered,” said Andrada CEO, Anthony Viljoen.

“This partnership solidifies our belief in the Lithium Ridge asset as a potential world-class resource and further establishes Andrada as a multi-asset, polymetallic explorer and miner. Furthermore, partnering with SQM provides the ideal partner to unlock the full potential of Lithium Ridge, while allowing continuation of the development of Uis through our existing financing relationships.”

Andrada will manage the Lithium Ridge project, which is rich in lithium, tin, and tantalum. The partnership is set to enhance Andrada’s asset portfolio and boost Namibia’s position in the global lithium industry. The companies will form a joint development committee to oversee the project’s progress. If successful, the project will significantly benefit both shareholders and Namibia’s mining sector.

“We are excited to announce the completion of this agreement, which confirms our commitment on finding the best lithium assets in the world that efficiently diversify our portfolio. Namibia is among the top mining jurisdictions in the region, and we are pleased to begin exploration with a proven partner like Andrada Mining,” said SQM International lithium division CEO Mark Fones. SQM is a global company that is listed on the New York Stock Exchange and the Santiago Stock Exchange.

The company develops and produces diverse products for several industries essential for human progress, such as health,

nutrition, renewable energy and technology through innovation and technological development. SQM aims to maintain its leading world position in the lithium, potassium nitrate, iodine and thermo-solar salts markets. On the other hand, Andrada is listed on the London Stock Exchange (AIM) with mining assets in Namibia, a top-tier investment jurisdiction in Africa.

Andrada strives to produce critical raw materials from a large resource portfolio, to contribute to a more sustainable future thereby improving lives and the upliftment of communities adjacent to its operations.

Leveraging its strong foundation in Namibia, a top-tier African jurisdiction, Andrada is on a strategic path to becoming a producer of critical metals including lithium, tin and tantalum.

These metals are important enablers of the green energy transition, being essential for components of electric vehicles, solar panels and wind turbines.

*-[miningandenergy.com.na](http://miningandenergy.com.na)*



The poster for the WIMAN 2024 Summit features a white background with a blue and yellow geometric design. At the top, the logo reads "WIMAN THE WOMEN IN MINING SUMMIT 2024". Below this, a large yellow banner with a blue border contains the word "REGISTRATION" in white. Underneath the banner, the "Ticket Information" is listed with bullet points: "Conference Only: N\$ 2500", "Gala Dinner Only: N\$ 1000", "Conference & Gala Dinner: N\$ 3200", "Exhibitors: N\$ 1500 (includes access to the summit)", and "Early Bird Special:". A bold line of text states "Register before 15 September 2024 for a combined ticket at N\$ 3000". A QR code is positioned below the text, with the instruction "SCAN ME TO REGISTER" underneath. At the bottom left, the hashtag "#WIMAN2024" and "#WIMANSUMMIT" are listed, along with the "NEOBANK" logo. The bottom center mentions "IN PARTNERSHIP WITH" followed by the "IMPACT DESK" logo. The bottom right lists "MEDIA PARTNERS" with logos for "FM" and "BR/EF".

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## Government finalising tech legislations

**M**inister of Information and Communication Technology Emma Theofelus says the government is nearing completion of the Data Protection and Cybercrime Bills and revising the Communications Act to address rapid technological advancements.

Speaking at the 8th National ICT Summit,

the Minister said the upcoming legislation aims to safeguard personal information, online presence and digital infrastructure.

The Data Protection and Cybercrime Bills will address crucial aspects of digital security, while updates to the Communications Act will incorporate modern technological advancements.



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“Furthermore, the government is in the final stage of enacting the Data Protection and Cybercrime Bills while proceeding with efforts to amend or repeal and replace the current Communications Act to encompass the advancements of the technological space,” she said.

Theofelus further highlighted Namibia's progress in digital readiness, noting the country's recent ranking by the International Monetary Fund as ninth out of 54 African nations in AI adoption preparedness.

This achievement reflects the nation's commitment to integrating AI responsibly and ethically, ensuring transparency and alignment with national values.

“However, integrating AI into our systems and processes presents challenges,

including ethical considerations, data protection and the need for regulatory frameworks. As we embrace AI, we must ensure that its deployment is transparent, ethical and aligned with our national values and priorities,” she said.

The Minister also said the National Digital Strategy, developed with local and international partners, will focus on narrowing the digital divide, enhancing digital literacy, and creating economic opportunities for all Namibians.

“Digital technologies are also transforming the way we deliver public services and engage with citizens. From e-governance to digital health and education, these technologies offer new ways to improve service delivery and enhance the quality of life for our people. We must leverage these technologies to make government services more accessible, efficient and responsive to the needs of our citizens,” she said.

Theofelus called for prioritising education and training in digital skills and STEM subjects. She stressed the need for innovation and collaboration between government, industry, and academia to drive research and technology adoption.

“Innovation drives digital transformation and creating an ecosystem that nurtures this from startups to established enterprises, is vital. Collaboration between government, industry and academia is necessary to drive research, development and the adoption of new technologies, fostering a culture of continuous improvement,” she said.

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## Zhero unveils 500,000 tonnes green ammonia project near Walvis Bay

**Z**hero has announced the launch of a green ammonia project in Namibia, aiming to produce 500,000 tonnes annually from 2029.

The project, located 70 kilometres from Walvis Bay, marks a significant step in

Namibia's efforts to become a global leader in green energy.

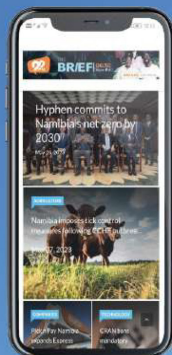
Zhero Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder, Alessandra Pasini, said the final investment decision is expected by 2026, calling the timeline a "very fast-track"

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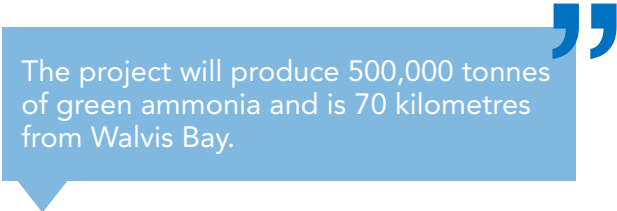
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The project will produce 500,000 tonnes of green ammonia and is 70 kilometres from Walvis Bay.

process.

In addition to securing private farmland, Zhero has signed lease agreements for an industrial park and storage facilities near Namport.

"The project will produce 500,000 tonnes of green ammonia and is 70 kilometres from Walvis Bay. We have secured private farmland and have signed lease agreements for two additional parcels of land—one for an industrial park and another near Namport for storage. We are targeting a final investment decision by 2026, which is a very fast-track timeline," Pasini said.

She highlighted Zhero's commitment to developing the project in collaboration with the Namibian government, local stakeholders, and the people of Namibia, citing the country's vision, leadership, and natural resources as key reasons for their choice. "We are committed to developing this project in close partnership with the Namibian government, local stakeholders, and the people of Namibia. We chose Namibia because of its vision, leadership, and abundant natural resources, and we're proud to be here today, making real progress," said Pasini during a recent Green Hydrogen Summit in Windhoek.

Pasini emphasised that the project aligns with Zhero's broader mission to produce green molecules, noting that the company's founders bring deep experience in renewable

infrastructure projects.

"Our ambition is to bring the second gigascale green hydrogen project online, following the NEOM project, with which we are closely familiar due to the founders' involvement," she said.

Zhero, a global developer of large-scale clean energy projects, has partnered with Envision Energy to accelerate the project.

"We have worked hard to find the right local partner and advance the development of this project. Today, I'm excited to announce our partnership with Envision. This partnership will enable us to accelerate project development while ensuring we remain competitive," said Pasini.

Frank Yu, Vice President of Envision Energy, confirmed the company's role, stating, "We are honoured to join Zhero as co-developers of the gigawatt-scale Zero Molecular Walvis Bay Project."

He highlighted local involvement and noted that Envision Energy is committed to localising their advanced green hydrogen technologies in Namibia and training local talent to operate this project safely and efficiently.

"We are currently building the world's largest green ammonia and green hydrogen project in Inner Mongolia. Now, we will collaborate with Zhero to replicate this large-scale project here in Namibia," Yu added.

***-[miningandenergy.com.na](https://www.miningandenergy.com.na)***



## BoN calls on Namibia to fast-track incentives regime

**T**he Bank of Namibia (BoN) has called on the government to expedite the development of a comprehensive incentives regime aimed at attracting investment into the country.

The Central Bank Governor Johannes !Gawaxab emphasised the importance of providing a conducive environment for investors to fully capitalise on emerging opportunities in key sectors, particularly green hydrogen.

"As a nation, we must ensure that our incentives regime reaches a point where investors are encouraged to take full advantage of these opportunities,"

!Gawaxab said.

He highlighted that Namibia is in competition with other nations for investment in green hydrogen and related sectors, underscoring the need for prompt action to remain competitive. "Therefore, I urge our country to accelerate the development of this regime, as we compete with many other nations," !Gawaxab added.

The governor also pointed to the potential benefits of green hydrogen projects, noting their alignment with the government's economic diversification agenda.

He stressed the need to fast-track efforts to improve the business environment to

maximize these opportunities.

"We are keenly aware of the positive externalities that green hydrogen projects could generate for existing sectors of our economy and how they align with the government's diversification agenda. To fully capitalise on these emerging opportunities, it is imperative that we fast-track ongoing efforts to improve the business environment," !Gawaxab said.

Key areas of focus for improving the business environment, according to the BoN, include creating a predictable regulatory framework, easing constraints on hiring skilled foreign workers, and enhancing governance through improved accountability and transparency.

To support governance in managing prospective energy revenues, Namibia recently launched the Welwitschia Fund, the country's first sovereign wealth fund, which was established with seed capital of nearly N\$260 million.

This fund, !Gawaxab explained, "is crucial for safeguarding the interests of future generations and serving as a strategic investment vehicle for Namibia's long-term economic and environmental well-being."

The Welwitschia Fund aims to stabilise the economy, support fiscal health, and contribute to Namibia's foreign reserves.

"The Sovereign Wealth Fund Bill, currently being finalized by the Ministry of Finance and Public Enterprises in collaboration with the Bank of Namibia, will further define the fund's governance structures and investment guidelines," he said.

He said the Bill is set to be tabled in Parliament next year, with provisions to establish the Welwitschia Sovereign Wealth Fund as a legal entity with clearly defined management responsibilities, risk management principles, and operational rules.

Governor !Gawaxab reiterated that the fund will adhere to the Santiago Principles, ensuring transparency, accountability, and prudent investment practices.

This comes when the Welwitschia Sovereign Wealth Fund's assets under management have now grown to an amount of N\$440 million as of August 2024.

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# EU Commissioner receives first green iron at HyIron site

European Union Energy Commissioner Kadri Simson was presented with Namibia's first green iron during her recent site visit to the HyIron project in the Erongo Region.

The green iron, produced through the Direct Reduced Iron (DRI) process using green hydrogen, is a key innovation aimed at decarbonising the steel industry—one of the world's largest carbon emitters, responsible for almost 9% of global emissions.

"Namibia has vast wind and solar resources, the right policies, and visionary leaders. The EU is committed to fostering Namibia's leadership in the global green hydrogen economy," said Simson.

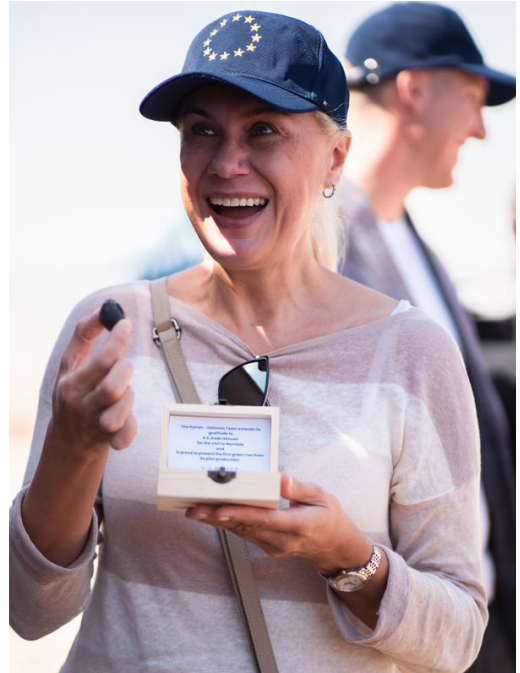
The HyIron project aims to leverage Namibia's abundant wind and solar resources to generate the hydrogen necessary for the DRI process.

The project includes a 25-hectare, 25-megawatt solar plant and plans for 13 megawatts of electrolyzers, which will play a critical role in producing carbon-free steel.

The visit to HyIron was part of a broader tour of pivotal green hydrogen project sites in the Erongo Region, led by Namibia's Green Hydrogen Commissioner James Mnyupe and Commissioner Simson.

The tour included stops at Cleanergy Solutions Namibia, which is developing a hydrogen production hub, and HDF Energy Namibia's N\$4.5 billion Renewable Swakopmund project, which integrates hydrogen production, storage, and distribution to generate clean energy for the country.

"Namibia is transforming its role as a logistics hub, adapting to meet the demands



of a decarbonised world and creating a green logistics hub for the future," said Mnyupe.

This site visit followed the Global African Hydrogen Summit, held in Windhoek, where four new Team Europe initiatives, valued at N\$730 million (€36.9 million), were announced to support Namibia's green hydrogen agenda.

The initiatives, including a N\$492 million (€25 million) grant, aimed to develop the entire hydrogen value chain, focusing on production, transport, local industries, job creation, and sustainability.

The visit concluded at Namport, where preparations for a new ammonia bulk terminal are set to begin construction in early 2025.





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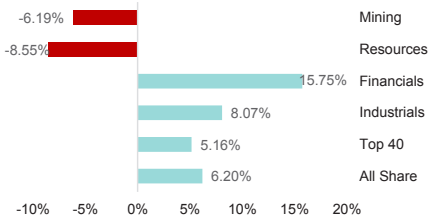
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Palladium	936.70
Silver	28.17
Uranium	79.50
Brent Crude	71.23
Iron Ore	86.35
Copper	8890.77
Natural Gas	2.17
Lithium	11.15

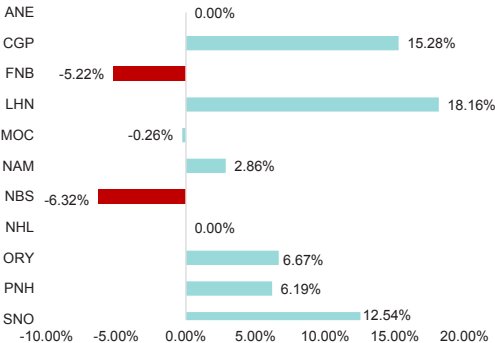
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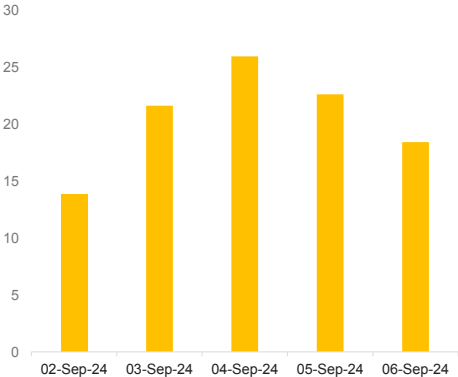
### JSE Sectors: Year to Date in %



### NSX Local Stocks: Year to Date in %



### JSE All Share Tarded Value (ZAR Billions)



### Global Indices: Year to Date in %

