

## PENSION

Assessing the two-pot pension system for Namibia  
p. 09



## HEALTH

Building Namibia's digital health future  
p. 14



## DEVELOPMENT

Rural development programme creates 600 jobs  
p. 16



THE

# BRIEF

News Worth Knowing

## Namibia has N\$170 billion worth of investment projects in the pipeline



MONDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2024

MAIN STORY



# Namibia has N\$170 billion worth of investment projects in the pipeline

**T**he Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB) says the country is spearheading investment projects valued at over N\$170 billion.

NIPDB Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer Nangula Nelulu Uaandja highlighted the importance of efficient public sector processes and collaboration to accelerate the realisation of the investments and

## Crucial Dates

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

create jobs for Namibians.

“In total, the projects in our pipeline represent over N\$170 billion in potential investment. The sooner we work together as a country and streamline processes in the public sector, the quicker we can realise these projects and create jobs for Namibians. This investment is crucial for driving economic growth and improving the livelihoods of Namibians,” said Uaandja.

She pointed to a significant rise in foreign direct investment (FDI) under NIPDB’s leadership since its inception in 2021, despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2023 alone, she said Namibia attracted approximately N\$43 billion in FDI, with major contributions from the oil and gas sectors, along with Heineken’s acquisition of Namibia Breweries.

“In 2023, Namibia attracted roughly N\$43 billion in foreign direct investment, largely driven by sectors like oil and gas, as well as major transactions like Heineken’s acquisition of Namibia Breweries. This clearly demonstrates the positive shift we’ve seen in attracting investment into Namibia under the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board’s guidance,” Uaandja said.

Uaandja detailed the role NIPDB plays in facilitating and supporting investments, working closely with various government ministries to ensure centralised support for investors.

She emphasised that while the Board does not take direct credit for bringing companies such as Shell, Total Energies, or Osino Gold to Namibia, it has played a vital role in speeding up the processes for investment projects.

“NIPDB’s role is not to claim credit for bringing specific investors to Namibia but to facilitate and fast-track investment

processes. We collaborate closely with ministries such as agriculture, mines and energy, and trade to provide a centralised support system, allowing investors to focus on business growth rather than navigating complex government systems,” explained Uaandja.

This comes as between 2021 and 2023, Namibia saw an influx of around N\$73 billion in foreign investment, with N\$33 billion coming from the oil and gas sectors.

“In just three years, Namibia has attracted a total of approximately N\$73 billion in foreign direct investment, N\$33 billion of which came from the oil and gas industries. The remaining N\$40 billion stems from various sectors, including mining, agriculture, and industrialisation, reflecting the changes we are seeing in Namibia’s investment climate,” said Uaandja.

Uaandja highlighted the significant progress in improving service delivery for the private sector, which has helped attract these investments, though she acknowledged there is still room for improvement.

The collaboration between NIPDB, the government, and other stakeholders continues to send a positive message globally that Namibia is an attractive destination for investment, she said.

“We have made great strides in improving service delivery to the private sector, which has contributed to this influx of investment. Although we still have a long way to go, the message is clear: Namibia is a good place to do business, and this is being echoed not only by NIPDB but by the President and key government officials globally,” Uaandja added.

The CEO noted that several major projects in the pipeline, such as Osino Gold, are expected to bring in N\$4 billion in investment, with more to follow.

Projects like Namib Berries are already operational, employing over 300 Namibians, with further growth anticipated from other ventures, including Kelp Blue and HyIron.

“Meanwhile, ventures like Nami Berries

are already contributing, with over 300 Namibians employed. We’re seeing more projects come on stream, such as Kelp Blue and HyIron, which will continue to drive economic growth in the coming years,” she said.



25<sup>th</sup> | ANNUAL  
ANNIVERSARY | SYMPOSIUM

Global Value Chains for Inclusive Development:

How Can Namibia  
POSITION ITS AGRICULTURE SECTOR?

Date19 September 2024

Time07H30 for 08H00

 LIVE | Watch it Live on our Facebook Page <

Register to attend the event here:  
<https://www.bon.com.na/Annual-Symposium/Register-to-Attend.aspx>



Bank of Namibia



Photo: CreativeLab

# FirstRand Namibia profit after tax surges 9.1% to N\$1.7bn

**F**irstRand Namibia Limited (FNB) reported a 9.1% year-on-year (y/y) increase in profit after tax for the financial year ended 30 June 2024, reaching N\$1.7billion.

According to IJG Securities Research Analyst Zane Feris, the positive performance was primarily driven by growth in the group's balance sheet, improved net interest margins, and a rise in transaction volumes.

During the period, FNB's headline earnings per share rose by 10.1% to 641 cents per share, compared to 582 cents per share in the previous financial year.

"FNB declared a final dividend of 180.16 cents per share, bringing the total payout

ratio to 55.2%. The group's return on equity (ROE) also improved, reaching 27.9%, up from 25.5% in FY23," Feris said in the FirstRand Namibia Limited FY24 Initial Impression September 2024 report.

Net interest income increased by 14.3% y/y to N\$3.08 billion, benefiting from higher repo rates during the reporting period.

"This increase was primarily driven by growth in interest-earning assets and strategic pricing. However, interest expense rose sharply by 30.9% y/y to N\$2.97 billion, outpacing the 21.9% y/y increase in interest income," he said.

Despite this, FNB's net interest margin improved to 5.3%, compared to 5.0% in

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

**MOOKS & ADORA** In the Morning

FY23.

Total assets grew by 4.2% y/y to N\$60.79 billion, although there was a slight contraction of N\$38.2 million since the first half of FY24.

Gross advances showed robust growth, increasing by 7.2% y/y to N\$39.42 billion.

"This growth was largely attributed to a 20.6% y/y rise in term loans and an 18.2% y/y increase in instalment sales agreements. However, overdrafts and cash-managed accounts declined significantly by 22.1% y/y," he noted.

Furthermore, impairment charges surged by N\$212.0 million to N\$425.6 million in FY24, nearly doubling compared to the previous year.

"This rise in impairments was driven

by increased defaults, particularly in the commercial business banking and SME sectors. The group also saw higher defaults in personal and home loan products, leading to an increase in the credit loss ratio to 1.08%, compared to 0.58% in FY23," he noted.

FNB's non-performing loans (NPLs) reached N\$2.39 billion, translating to an NPL ratio of 6.1%, which is in line with the industry average.

Non-interest revenue (NIR) saw a solid increase of 10.6% y/y to N\$2.44 billion, supported by a 12.0% y/y rise in transaction volumes.

Bank charges, the largest contributor to NIR, grew by 7.2% y/y, while dividends received also saw a notable increase of N\$46.8 million during the year.

FNB's deposits increased by 4.5% y/y to N\$44.67 billion, although they contracted slightly since the first half of FY24.

"The growth in deposits was driven by a 17.9% y/y increase in current accounts, while fixed and noticed deposits declined by 11.9%. FNB maintained a strong capital adequacy ratio of 17.6%, reflecting its financial stability," said the report.

IJG noted that operating expenses grew by 11.1% y/y to N\$2.65 billion, outpacing inflationary pressures.

"This was mainly due to continued investment in technology and digital solutions, with IT expenses increasing by 17.9% y/y. Staff costs also rose by 10.4%, driven by an average salary increase of 6.2%," he noted.

## INVITATION TO BIDS



The Government Institutions Pension Fund (GIPF) was established to provide retirement benefits to employees in the services of the Namibian Government and other participating public institutions. The Fund's membership includes active members and a variety of annuitants. The Government Institutions Pension Fund's mission is to safeguard and grow the Fund for the benefit of its stakeholders and Namibia.

GIPF hereby invites qualified, competent, and registered companies to submit bids for the under-mentioned:

Bid Number	Bid Description	Non-refundable Document Fee	Enquiries	Closing Date
CS/EOI/GIPF-03/2024	Audit Assignment – Investment Management Process Review	Free	Elton Job E: ejob@gipf.com.na T: +264 61 205 1210	08 October 2024 at 12:00 p.m.
G/ONB/GIPF-03/2024	NetApp Malware Protection	N\$300	Julia Shipanga E: jshipanga@gipf.com.na T: +264 61 205 1745	09 October 2024 at 12:00 p.m.
G/ONB/GIPF-04/2024	Upgrading of Executive Boardroom Technology	N\$300	Julia Shipanga E: jshipanga@gipf.com.na T: +264 61 205 1745	10 October 2024 at 12:00 p.m.
G/ONB/GIPF-05/2024	Re-advertisement: Artificial Intelligence Intrusion Detection and Prevention Software	N\$300	Gisela Naris E: gnaris@gipf.com.na T: +264 61 205 1746	11 October 2024 at 12:00 p.m.

**Details of Bid Submission:**  
Sealed bids citing the bid number and detailing the services to be rendered should be posted or hand delivered to:

The Chairperson: GIPF Procurement Committee  
GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS PENSION FUND  
**GIPF House, Ground Floor, Reception**  
Corner of Dr Kenneth David Kaunda and Goethe Street  
P.O. Box 23500  
Windhoek, Namibia

Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.

Visit: [www.gipf.com.na](http://www.gipf.com.na) Email: [info@gipf.com.na](mailto:info@gipf.com.na)



# Capricorn Group eyes opportunities in Namibia's oil and gas sector



**C**apricorn Group Limited Chief Executive Officer David Nuyoma says the company is keenly exploring opportunities in Namibia's emerging oil and gas industry.

He said while the sector is still developing and no commercial discoveries have been made to date, Capricorn Group is actively engaged in discussions and strategic planning to facilitate financing across the entire value chain.

Nuyoma explained that the company's efforts include direct engagement with key stakeholders.

"We have been actively engaging with the sector, including a recent visit to the Minister of Mines and Energy. We are particularly interested in the localisation aspect, which involves increasing Namibian participation in the industry. Our goal is to support financing throughout the entire value chain and ensure

that local entities are well-represented and involved," he said.

Nuyoma mentioned promising growth signs, particularly in Namibia, with significant oil discoveries and in the renewable energy sector, especially regarding green hydrogen.

He noted that Capricorn Group is honoured to participate in conversations about Namibia's energy future and to back efforts promoting sustainable growth and development.

Nuyoma said that as the sector is still in its formative stages, major international oil companies currently lead the field and benefit from established histories and robust banking relationships. Despite this, Capricorn Group aims to make a significant impact as a local player.

"While we recognise that major international oil companies have established histories and banking relationships, we are

committed to serving as a local anchor. Our primary focus is on facilitating Namibian involvement across the value chain, which we believe is crucial for the sector's development," Nuyoma emphasised.

Regarding potential investments in start-ups within the sector, Nuyoma indicated a cautious approach.

"We approach speculation with caution, assessing the probability of success realistically. We will address potential ownership in start-ups once we have clearer facts and a more informed understanding of the opportunities," he noted.

The CEO said Capricorn Group has initiated engagement with various stakeholders,

including the Ministry of Mines and Energy, the private sector, and NAMCOR.

"We have already engaged with the Ministry, the private sector, and NAMCOR, with whom we have established good banking relations. We remain open and attentive to opportunities and are dedicated to building strong connections within the industry," he said.

Capricorn Group, a Namibian-listed company, acts as an investment holding company and provides consulting and support services to other group companies.

Its primary investments consist of 100% shareholdings in Bank Windhoek Ltd, Namib Bou (Pty) Ltd, Capricorn Capital (Pty) Ltd, Capricorn Investment Group (Pty) Ltd, and Capricorn Hofmeyer Property (Pty) Ltd.

The company holds an 84.8% share in Capricorn Investment Holdings (Botswana) Ltd, which in turn holds 100% of the share capital in Bank Gaborone Ltd (BG) and Peo Finance (Pty) Ltd.

It also holds a 95.7% stake in Capricorn Asset Management (Pty) Ltd and Capricorn Unit Trust Management Company Ltd.

The company also holds a 55.5% share in Entrepo Holdings (Pty) Ltd (Entrepo), which owns 100% of Entrepo Life Ltd and Entrepo Finance (Pty) Ltd, a 29.5% stake in Sanlam Namibia Holdings (Pty) Ltd, a 28% stake in Santam Namibia Ltd, and an over 30% stake in Paratus Group Holdings Ltd.

- **miningandenergy.com.na**

**MTC SPECTRA Home**

## MTC Spectra Home Internet That Ticks All Your Boxes

**Fast** ✓  
**Reliable** ✓  
**Affordable** ✓

Get internet that understands your needs.  
Sign up and get connected before **22 October 2024**.

**From as little as N\$424**

- Free installation on all plans
- Speed Boost\* to 35 Mbps for 3 months
- Refer a friend and get 1-month payment holiday

The promotion applies to new Spectra Home subscribers. Available only in locations with MTC Spectra Home services. \*Speed boost only for 24 and 36 months contracts. Sign up at [www.mtc.com.na/spectra](http://www.mtc.com.na/spectra) or contact us on WhatsApp at +264 81 150 0100 for more info.

Tv & Cx apply  
f i o mtc.com.na

# Assessing the two-pot pension system for Namibia: A potential alternative to compulsory preservation

By Andreas Shaanika

1 September 2024 marked the start of the Two-Pot Retirement System in South Africa, which will divide members' benefits into two separate pots: a savings pot and a retirement pot.

The implementation of the two-pot pension system in South Africa will surely spark significant interest across the continent and our beautiful Land of the Brave is not excluded from this conversation. This innovative approach to retirement savings has garnered attention for its potential to enhance retirement outcomes and provide greater flexibility for individuals. As Namibia grapples with its own pension reform efforts, particularly the contentious issue of compulsory preservation, the two-pot system emerges as a compelling alternative that warrants careful consideration.

## Understanding the Two-Pot System

The Two-Pot system divides a pension fund member's savings into two distinct portions:

**1. Preserved Portion:** This portion is locked away until retirement or a specified event, such as a severe illness or disability. Two-thirds are reserved for retirement, ensuring financial security for members to sustain themselves during their retirement years.

**2. Accessible Portion:** One third of retirement funds are preserved in a savings component that can be accessed at any time, subject to certain conditions. It offers members greater flexibility to meet immediate financial needs or invest in other opportunities.

The two-pot System offers several



**The implementation of the two-pot pension system in South Africa will surely spark significant interest across the continent and our beautiful Land of the Brave is not excluded from this conversation.**

advantages, including enhanced flexibility, which gives members greater control over their retirement savings, allowing them to balance immediate needs with long-term retirement goals. It can also improve retirement outcomes by encouraging members to save for retirement while providing access to funds for specific needs, helping individuals achieve a more financially secure retirement. Additionally, the system may reduce reliance on social security by encouraging individuals to take responsibility for their own retirement savings.

However, while the two-pot system offers these benefits, it is not without challenges. One key consideration is the need for member education, as implementing the system requires educating members about the benefits and risks associated with each portion of their savings. There may also be

additional administrative costs for pension funds, which could impact member returns. Another challenge is the potential for misuse, where members might jeopardize their long-term retirement security by misusing the accessible portion of their savings. Lastly, a strong regulatory framework is essential to ensure the integrity and sustainability of the two-pot system.

The Namibian Context

In Namibia, the proposed compulsory preservation provisions under the Financial Institutions and Markets Act, No. 2 of 2021 (FIMA) have sparked significant debate. These provisions suggest that pensioners may be required to preserve up to 75% of their retirement fund, at least until early

retirement, although this remains a point of contention. Many argue that these provisions are overly restrictive and limit individuals' ability to access their retirement savings when they need it most and you know the situation with our beloved "black tax conundrum" and other economic situations we are faced with each day. The two-pot system could offer a viable alternative that addresses these concerns while still promoting retirement savings. The two-pot system could bring several potential benefits to Namibia. It may encourage Namibians to save more for retirement by providing a balance between flexibility and security, leading to increased retirement savings. Additionally, the system could help reduce reliance on the Namibian

social security system, thereby ensuring its long-term sustainability. Furthermore, by offering individuals greater financial flexibility, the two-pot system could stimulate economic growth through increased investment and consumption.

Namibia would need to develop a comprehensive regulatory framework to govern the two-pot system, ensuring its effectiveness and fairness. Additionally, implementing this system would involve additional administrative costs for pension funds. Educating Namibians about the benefits and risks associated with the two-pot system would also be crucial for its success.

The two-pot pension system offers a promising alternative to the current compulsory preservation

AUCTION



Public vehicles and loose items Disposal

As duly instructed by our client, Fix Eagle Investments Auctioneers will hold a public auction to sell the following redundant assets.

Gross Barmen Resort & Remote Locations

Redundant Assets featuring:

Loose items:

- Wooden items - Office cupboards, doors and all types of wooden
- Computer equipment and accessories
- Electric appliances
- Building material

Redundant Vehicles:

- List of Vehicles and location of sale to be shared
- Viewing and contact person.
- Viewing at own cost.

Viewing dates:

Starts 14TH to 20th September 2024

Registration details:

- Registration date: 16th to the 20th September 2024
- Registration fee: N\$2,000.00 (Refundable)
- Location of registration: NWR Head office

Auction date:

21st September 2024 @ 10:00am

Auction information:

For more information contact:  
Linda Katjaimo (+264 81 431 9959)  
Gregory Ukongo (+264 81 572 4593)  
or Auctioneer: Niklaas Kisilipile (+264 81 864 6808)

proposal in Namibia. By providing a balance between flexibility and security, the system could enhance retirement outcomes for Namibians, reduce reliance on social security, and stimulate economic growth. While there are challenges to be addressed, the potential

benefits of the two-pot system make it a worthy consideration for Namibia's pension reform efforts.

***\*Andreas Shaanika is Direct Clients Manager, Corporate Segment at Old Mutual Namibia***



Standard Bank  
Business & Commercial



WHAT IF MORE  
IS POSSIBLE?

What if we could partner with you to take your business to the next level? What if you could expand your fleet to deliver more goods and serve more clients? What if you could adapt and transition successfully to sustainable practices? What if you could secure financing to scale up and compete for larger projects?

**What if you always have solutions to fuel your business growth every step of the way?**

Let us give your business the certainty it needs to grow. As your dedicated partner, we turn your dreams and ambitions into reality, helping you reach the next level.

**Our vision is clear:** to be the financial partner that empowers you to grow and make a meaningful impact on our economy through:

**Commercial Property Finance:** Stimulate the local economy by supporting construction and development projects.

**Vehicle & Asset Financing:** Unlock opportunities through contract-based financing and operating lease models with financing options for vehicles and yellow metals.

**Trade Solutions:** Provide much-needed cash flow solutions for businesses through Purchase Order Financing, Contract

Financing, and Invoice Discounting to assist them with fulfilling verified purchase orders or contracts.

**Climate Smart:** Assist businesses with transitioning to sustainable practices through Climate Smart Financing.

**Economic Relief Scheme:** This scheme is designed to ensure businesses recover from economic challenges by providing financing to expand, acquire assets, and fulfil contracts.

**We see solutions everywhere, and so do our clients. We've done it before, and we can do it for you.**

**#YourPartnerInGrowth**

Let's talk about how far we can take your business.

 [businessbanking@standardbank.com.na](mailto:businessbanking@standardbank.com.na)

Ts & Cs apply.



Blue Fuel



Fleet Solver



Vehicle & Asset Financing



Operating Leases



Economic Relief Scheme



Commercial Property Financing



Commercial Insurance



Solar Financing



Cross Border Payments



Purchase Order Financing



Letters of Credit



Contract Financing



Invoice Discounting



Guarantees by Bank



Africa-Asia Trade Solutions



## Oryx Properties' portfolio value jumps by 35% to N\$4.2 billion

Oryx Properties Limited (Oryx) reported a 35% increase in its portfolio value, reaching N\$4.2 billion for the year ended 30 June 2024, up from N\$3.0 billion in 2023.

According to the audited financial statements for the period, the growth is attributed to the acquisition of Dunes Mall, efforts to reduce vacancies, and improved recovery ratios.

"Oryx's total portfolio value increased by 35% to N\$4.167 billion (2023: N\$3.095 billion). Key contributors to our success included the acquisition of Dunes Mall,

significant efforts to reduce vacancies across all segments, and a strong emphasis on enhancing recovery ratios as well as managing expenses," said the report.

The Dunes Mall acquisition was concluded on 1 August 2023, and the asset's financial performance has exceeded expectations.

"The asset achieved an income return of 9.54% for the year, and the total return for this investment for the period ended 30 June 2024 stands at 21.82%. The asset is situated at Walvis Bay in the Erongo Region of Namibia, an area which we believe is strategically positioned for significant growth

in the medium term," said Oryx.

This comes as the Group maintained positive momentum, achieving a 27% increase in rental operating income of N\$455 million during the period under review from N\$357 million in 2023.

Operational performance continued strengthening, driven by robust rental growth and effective cost management.

Meanwhile, commercial vacancies reduced to 4.2% (2023: 6.8%), and tenant collections averaged 99% (2023: 101%).

Despite challenges in consumer sentiment, prudent financial and cash flow management strategies continue to fortify the Group's position.

"Proactive stakeholder engagements have been vital in achieving these results. Tenant engagements allowed us to anticipate their needs to avoid sudden vacancies or large expenses and make swift and informed decisions," said the report.

Additionally, an extensive network and close relationships with other property sector role players in Namibia enabled the company to stay abreast of market developments, further facilitating effective risk management.

Meanwhile, capital expenditure (excluding the Dunes Mall acquisition) for the year increased to N\$138 million from N\$72 million in 2023.

"N\$43.1 million was incurred on the Goreangab land and development, N\$21.7 million on the Maerua development project, and N\$2.5 million on solar projects at seven of our industrial assets. Our strategy combines yield-enhancing opportunities with defensive spending requirements to sustain growth for unitholders," said Oryx.

The Board approved a total distribution of 51.50 cents per unit for both interim and year-end distributions, up from 54.25 and 51.00 cents per unit in 2023, respectively.

This brings the total distribution to N\$118 million, a 28% increase from last year's N\$92

million.

"However, the distribution per unit decreased due to delays in acquisitions. We are focused on long-term growth and enhancing shareholder value by improving distribution per unit and maintaining a sustainable payout ratio," said the company.

Despite anticipating short-term challenges in the operating environment, including national elections and global economic uncertainties, Oryx is optimistic regarding Namibia's and its growth prospects.

"Our strategy, designed to achieve a fund size of N\$4.5 billion and annual revenue of N\$450 million by 2025, underscores our commitment to long-term growth and stability. We are well on track to meet these goals, having already achieved a fund size of N\$4.167 billion and rental operating income of N\$455 million by 2024," said Oryx.



## VACANCIES

NAMCLEAR is the Namibian Automated Clearing House (ACH) and is a designated Financial Markets Infrastructure (FMI) for the Namibian payment industry.

As an equal opportunity employer, Namclear invites competent & suitably qualified candidates to apply for the following vacancies:

- Internal Auditor (D2)
- Database & Applications Administrator (C5)

Interested persons, please visit the following websites for more information

- <https://www.namclear.com.na/vacancies/>
- <https://nicis.namibiaatwork.gov.na>

Preference will be given to Namibian citizens and designated persons as prescribed by the Namibian Affirmative Action Act. Interested applicants complying with the requirements mentioned above must forward a detailed CV and motivational letter as one PDF document not bigger than 5MB to [hr@namclear.com.na](mailto:hr@namclear.com.na)

*Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.*

**CLOSING DATE: 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

# Building Namibia's digital health future: Reflections from the ICT Summit 2024

By Tuwilika Nafuka

The 2024 ICT Summit in Namibia showcased the transformative potential of technology across various sectors. However, the limited presence of Digital Health innovators and speakers highlighted an underexplored area ripe for development.



**The future of healthcare in Namibia is undoubtedly digital.**

Despite this, there is growing evidence that Namibia could benefit from a well-structured digital health ecosystem. Like many African nations, Namibia is embracing technological transformation, as exemplified by experts like National Commission on Research, Science and Technology in Namibia (NCRST) CEO Anicia Peters, Ministry of Information Communication and Technology, Chief Information Officer Asteria Nangula Ndjendja, and the Director of the Office of the Prime Minister Johan van Wyk. They discussed the country's digitalization journey, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and the enactment of Data Protection and Cybercrime Bills.

In September 2023, the Deputy Minister of ICT, Modestus Amutse, stressed the need for digital health passports. This call aligns with Dr. Laizah Mutasa's 2022 doctoral research on integrating eHealth with e-governance. Dr. NMutasa's work offers a solution for managing fragmented healthcare data and improving service delivery. However given the Ministry of Health and Social Services' ambitious Telehealth Strategy 2020-2025, has Namibia progressed in leveraging technology to improve healthcare access?

Have the necessary infrastructure, human resources, and regulatory frameworks been established to support Telehealth?

The engagement with the only two Digital Health innovators at the summit prompted reflections on Dr. Gloria Ejehiohen Iyawa's work, which underlines the importance of mobile health applications, Telemedicine, and Electronic Health Systems in enhancing patient care. Benjamin Akinmoyeje's application Persuasive mHealth, stemming from Research at the Department of Informatics at the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST), extends beyond basic chat and video consultations. The application's standout feature is its integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML), which can significantly improve diagnosis, and treatment, and contribute substantially to research. While still in the testing phase, Akinmoyeje's innovation addresses the issue of fragmented health information by integrating unstructured data into Electronic Medical Records (EMRs). As an academic, Akinmoyeje's work plays a pivotal role in driving research and fostering the adoption of innovative Digital Health technologies.

Another key innovation, Patient Care, developed by Jessé Liula Schiceya, a Forbes Africa 30 Under 30 entrepreneur, offers a hybrid Telehealth platform with integrated AI, patient portals, e-prescriptions, and medication delivery. The app is available on the Google Play Store and App Store, targeting medical professionals, patients, and healthcare facilities. This platform has the potential to complement Namibia's existing Health Information Systems and provide comprehensive healthcare solutions.


The limited focus on digital health at the ICT Summit highlighted the need for stronger collaboration among technology innovators, healthcare providers, and policymakers. While Namibia has made progress in laying the groundwork, the journey toward a robust digital health landscape will require sustained investment in technology, human resources, and policy reforms.

The future of healthcare in Namibia is undoubtedly digital, and the contributions of researchers like Dr. Iyawa and innovators like Akinmoyeje demonstrate the innovative solutions that can revolutionize healthcare delivery. Now is the time to accelerate the transition to a Digital Health ecosystem that can meet Namibia's healthcare needs.

\*Tuwilika

Nafuka

*is an innovative STEM medical professional, social justice advocate, and Digital Health Transformation champion, passionate about leveraging technology to revolutionize healthcare systems*



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND LAND REFORM

PUBLIC NOTICE

SACU DAIRY AND WHEAT REBATE IMPORT QUOTAS

The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR) hereby informs the public regarding the availability of a Tariff Rebate Quota (TRQ) facility for dairy and wheat products to be imported from the world market. The Rebate facility allows limited quantities of dairy and wheat products from the world market to be imported into Namibia duty-free. Therefore, MAWLR hereby invites Namibian registered companies to apply for this facility as listed below, applicable during the period commencing **01 October 2024 until 30 September 2025**.

Product Name	HS Code	Quantity in (Tons)
Butter	04.05	400
Cheese	04.06	300
Skimmed Milk Powder	04.02	700
Wheat	10.01	100,000
Whole Milk Powder	04.02	400

- Interested companies should indicate the quantities they intend to import for each product above in their applications. Previous utilization will determine new allocations.
- Applicants for the wheat TRQ must be in possession of a milling license from the Namibian Agronomic Board.**

Deadline for applications: Friday, 13 September 2024, 16H30

Contact Persons:

Mr. Sylvester Nauta, [Sylvester.Nauta@mawlr.gov.na](mailto:Sylvester.Nauta@mawlr.gov.na), 061 208 7674

Mr. Guilherme Sindjenge, [Guilherme.Sindjenge@mawlr.gov.na](mailto:Guilherme.Sindjenge@mawlr.gov.na), 061 208 7705

Ms. Emma Shafuda, [Emma.Shafuda@mawlr.gov.na](mailto:Emma.Shafuda@mawlr.gov.na), 061 208 7702

Ms. Beatha Muti, [Beatha.Muti@mawlr.gov.na](mailto:Beatha.Muti@mawlr.gov.na), 061 208 7685

[DPBD.PERMITS@mawlr.gov.na](mailto:DPBD.PERMITS@mawlr.gov.na)

All Application letters must be addressed and hand delivered to the:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform

Fourth Floor, East Wing Building

Government Office Park

WINDHOEK

# Rural development programme creates 600 jobs



**T**he Ministry of Urban and Rural Development says its Food and Cash for Work (FCFW) programme, implemented under the National Rural Development Policy (NRDP), has created over 600 temporary jobs in rural Namibia.

The programme provides food and occasional cash payments to unemployed adults who work on local development projects.

These projects include poultry and livestock farming, vegetable growing, classroom and bridge construction, earth

dams and debuting.

"Over 600 temporary jobs were created through the Food/Cash for Work programme in rural areas," Minister of Urban and Rural Development Erastus Uutoni said, highlighting the achievements of the programme during the 2024 Annual Rural Development and Progress Review and Planning Workshop at Keetmanshoop.

Other programmes the Minister noted include over 50 grants, totalling more than N\$8 million, which were provided to communities by regional councils for



micro-finance and food security projects.

He also reported that the programme created over 100 temporary jobs for young artisans through the Rural Development Centres.

“These artisans were involved in manufacturing productive equipment,” Uutoni stated.

Uutoni noted the increased interest in rural entrepreneurship, particularly in poultry and horticulture.

“Training and mentorship sessions have been provided to rural entrepreneurs through the Rural Development Centres, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform, the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare, Agribank, and One Economy Foundation,” he said.

The minister acknowledged the support from development partners and the private sector.

“We appreciate the support of the United Nations World Food Programme, valued at N\$8.4 million, and the Rossing Foundation for our Rapid Rural Transformation Initiative,” Uutoni added.

The initiative, which is being piloted in Omaheke Region and will soon extend to Kunene Region, aims to build resilience and self-help capacity in rural communities, especially for women and youth.

Looking ahead, Uutoni emphasised the need to use lessons from previous programmes to enhance future rural development efforts.

“We must create a supportive environment for entrepreneurship at the regional level to generate jobs and opportunities for rural development,” he said.

The Minister also stressed the importance of coordination among stakeholders noting that rural development is multi-faceted and consists of various role players.

“We must avoid working in silos and should pull in the same direction where we plan and execute our activities in an integrated manner. Resources are hard to come by nowadays, and we must prioritise and optimally use the limited resources at our disposal and do more with less. For what is entrusted to us, there must be full and collective accountability,” Uutoni said.

Stay  
informed  
about  
Energy  
sector in  
Namibia

[Click here](#)

**M&E**  
MINING & ENERGY

# To Program or to Project?

By Victor Mutonga

**W**hen a government or organization decides to launch an idea or initiative, choosing to manage such an idea as a program or a project can significantly impact its success.

This decision is more strategic than merely technical. While a project (tactical) focuses on delivering a specific outcome of the idea, within a set time and budget, the program (strategic) level aims to achieve broader and long-term goals.

If your idea is substantial, complex and aims to deliver sustained benefits over an extended period, selecting the suitable approach can be the difference between success and failure.

After your strategic plan is established, sets of initiatives to fulfil the strategic plan has characteristics that can help launch these ideas properly into flight either as programs or projects to obtain maximum impact you desire.



“

**If your idea is substantial, complex and aims to deliver sustained benefits over an extended period, selecting the suitable approach can be the difference between success and failure.**

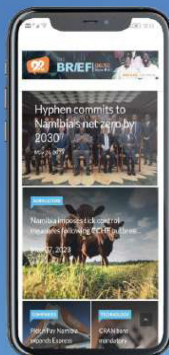
Let's look at this, if the initiative's aim is to create a far-reaching impact, contains multiple related projects, requires ongoing efforts to release benefits, with cross functional stakeholders, high complexity, higher risk and requires stronger oversight and governance structures, they should be

## SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

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

THE  
**BR/EF**  
News Worth Knowing

SCAN HERE  
TO SUBSCRIBE



launched as programs.

Contrary, to launch an initiative as a project, certain characteristics of that idea should make it suitable for launch as a stand-alone project than a program. Typically, projects are smaller in scope, with clearly defined objectives, straight forward execution, short-to medium-term time horizons, limited complexity, independent execution, limited stakeholder involvement, low to moderate risk and minimal oversight and governance needs.

Not taking the above into consideration during launch/ideation or initiation, can result in resource misallocation, delays, cost and time overruns, and even failure. Understanding the criteria for launching those initiatives as programs or projects ensures better management, improved risk mitigation, proper oversight, and great resource allocation, ultimately leading to the desired impact or outcome.

Now think of those programs and projects that failed within your space. Conduct a program/project post-mortem.

***\*Victor Mutonga is a certified Program and Project Management Professional working for Debmarine Namibia. The views expressed in this article are his own. For inquiries, please contact him at vmutonga@gmail.com***



# WIMAN

THE WOMEN IN MINING  
SUMMIT

2024

## REGISTRATION

### Ticket Information

- ☛ Conference Only: N\$ 2500
- ☛ Gala Dinner Only: N\$ 1000
- ☛ Conference & Gala Dinner: N\$ 3200
- ☛ Exhibitors: N\$ 1500 (includes access to the summit)
- ☛ Early Bird Special:

Register before 15 September 2024 for a combined ticket at N\$ 3000



SCAN ME TO  
REGISTER

SPONSOR



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

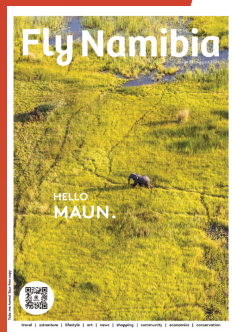


MEDIA PARTNERS



#WIMAN2024  
#WIMANSUMMIT

# Fly Namibia



with  
adventure,  
lifestyle,  
feel good  
stories and  
more.

**> READ ONLINE**



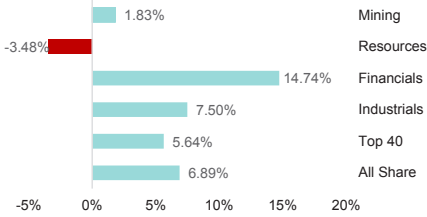
Commodities

Spot Gold	2578.32
Platinum	993.55
Palladium	1076.80
Silver	30.77
Uranium	79.55
Brent Crude	73.29
Iron Ore	89.04
Copper	9190.67
Natural Gas	2.35
Lithium	11.15

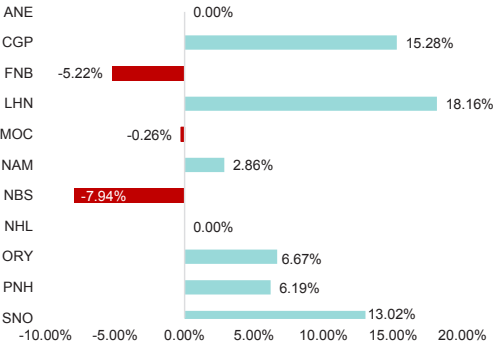
Currencies

USD/ZAR	17.6942
EUR/ZAR	19.6859
GBP/ZAR	23.3564
USD/CNY	7.0972
EUR/USD	1.1125
GBP/USD	1.3200
USD/RUB	91.2001
CPI	4.40%
Repo Rate	7.50%
Prime Rate	11.25%

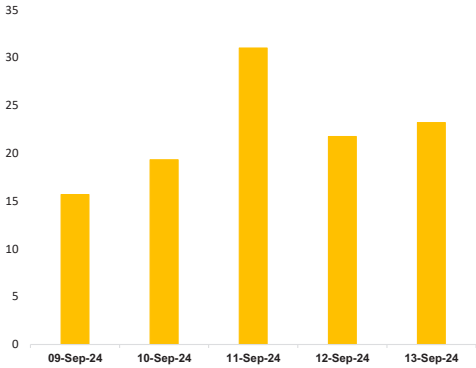
JSE Sectors: Year to Date in %



NSX Local Stocks: Year to Date in %



JSE ALL SHARE VALUE TRADED (ZAR BILLIONS)



Global Indices: Year to Date in %

