**FOOD COSTS** 

Namibia's food costs rise despite strong cereal harvest





#### **EXECUTIVES**

What Executives, sponsors & future employers observe silently



NAMFISA cautions against risks of unchecked fintech growth

p. 10





## launch within two years

**THURSDAY 07 AUGUST 2025** 

## **MAIN STORY**



## Namibia targets state lottery launch within two years

The Lotteries Board of Namibia says the country's first state lottery is expected to roll out within the next one to two years.

"At present, the plans to launch the state lottery are at an advanced preparatory stage," John Shimaneni, CEO of the Lotteries Board of Namibia told The Brief.



- Bank of Namibia Monetary Policy announcement date:
  - \* 13 August 2025
  - \* 15 October 2025
  - \* 3 December 2025



The Board is currently engaged in the procurement of Transactional Advisory Services to assist with the appointment of a licensed Lottery Operator, in accordance with the Lotteries Act. CRAZY DISPLAY DEALS

STANDARD PULL-UP Barnners
N\$1000.00

EXECUTIVE PULL-UP Banners
N\$1200.00

"The Board is currently engaged in the procurement of Transactional Advisory Services to assist with the appointment of a licensed Lottery Operator, in accordance with the Lotteries Act."

The Board is finalising legal, operational and procurement processes, with a phased rollout planned. Internal policies and regulatory systems are currently being developed to support the launch.

Shimaneni said the lottery will be used to fund key development areas such vouth empowerment, as education, healthcare and community development, with proceeds managed through the State Lottery Trust Fund. "To ensure transparency and accountability, a grant funding framework is being developed, with independent along

audits and strict reporting requirements," he said.

The Board is also developing a Responsible Gaming Strategy, which will include public awareness campaigns, age restrictions and support services for gambling-related harm. Licensed operators will be held to strict compliance and ethical standards.

"The proposed establishment of a state lottery represents a strategic opportunity for Namibia to mobilise domestic revenue for national development, while promoting job creation, innovation, and inclusive growth," Shimaneni said.

The project forms part of National Development Plan 6 and is projected to generate over N\$100 million in revenue by 2030.





#### CANVAS FRAME

A3 - N\$250.00 A2 - N\$400.00 A1 - N\$500.00

A0 - N\$850.00

Custom Sizes Available
Prices Excludeds VAT



CALL US TODAY

+264 81 434 3154



# Namibia's beef exports plunge nearly 50% in Q2

amibia's beef exports dropped sharply in the second quarter of 2025, with volumes down nearly 50% compared to the same period last year, according to the latest figures released by the Livestock and Livestock Products Board of Namibia (LLPBN).

"Year-on-year, beef exports totalled 4,036,300 kg during the period under review, marking a significant decrease of 49.7 percent compared to the 8,031,908 kg exported during the same period in 2024," the Board reported.

The European Union remained the primary export destination, accounting for 82.6% of total volumes. Other key markets included Norway (10.8%), China (2.4%), with the remainder shipped to South Africa, Botswana and Angola.

Despite the export downturn, beef prices strengthened. The s-VCF B2-grade beef averaged N\$67.36/kg, reflecting a yearon-year increase of N\$7.60/kg. Movement restrictions triggered by outbreaks of lumpy skin disease in some areas further limited the availability of cattle at auctions, resulting in a 23.8% surge in s-VCF weaner prices to N\$30.26/kg, up from N\$24.45/kg in Q2 2024.Overall cattle marketing recorded a steep 59.4% decline, with only 49,517 animals marketed, down from 122,103 in the same quarter last year. Live exports, typically the largest contributor, dropped by 74.5%, while export-approved abattoirs saw throughput fall by 37.6%. Slaughtering at domestic abattoirs also fell sharply, down 68.8%.

Exports of hides and skins during the quarter amounted to 193,443 kg, mainly

consisting of bovine wet blue and processed hides exported to South Africa and Zimbabwe. Meanwhile, Namibia imported 239,078 kg of hides and skins. "Hides and Skins imports on the other hand totalled 239,078 kg during the quarter under review," the report stated.

The sheep sector was similarly affected by shortages of market-ready animals, with live sheep exports falling 42.3%. Slaughter activity at export-approved abattoirs declined by 27.2%, while local abattoirs contracted by 42.8%.

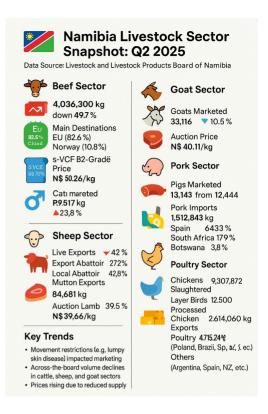
Mutton exports dropped by 65.8%, with only 84,681 kg exported to South Africa, Botswana and Norway. "Mutton exports during the period under review dropped due to significant reductions in throughput at export-approved abattoirs," the Board stated.

Nonetheless, the sector saw strong price increases. The A2 lamb producer carcass price averaged N\$96.38/kg, a rise of N\$25.75/kg compared to N\$70.63/kg a year earlier. The s-VCF auction lamb price rose by 29.5% to N\$39.66/kg.

Goat marketing also declined, with 33,116 goats sold in Q2 2025 – a 10.5% decrease from 36,988 goats in the same quarter of 2024. The drop was attributed to a lack of marketable animals. The lamb auction price averaged N\$40.11/kg during the period.

Pork marketing provided some relief, with modest growth recorded. A total of 13,143 pigs were marketed at LLPBN-approved abattoirs, up from 12,444 in Q2 2024. Imports, however, dropped significantly to 1,512,843 kg, representing a 34.3% year-on-year decrease. Spain was the largest source (64.3%), followed by South Africa (17.9%) and Botswana (3.8%), with smaller volumes from Belgium, France, Denmark, China, the UK and other countries.

"Although imports are dominant in the market, the Pork Market Share Promotion Scheme, administered by the LLPBN, continues to assist local producers in



maintaining significant market share," the report stated.

In the poultry sector, a total of 9,307,872 chickens were slaughtered for domestic consumption year-to-date. During the second quarter, 12,500 layer birds were imported for breeding purposes. Processed chicken exports reached 2,614,060 kg, with South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo as key markets.

Meanwhile, poultry imports totalled 4,715,248 kg during the quarter. "Of these imports, 51.8 percent originated from Poland, 25.6 percent came from Brazil, 15.5 percent came from South Africa and the remaining 7.4 percent jointly from Argentina, Spain, New Zealand, Ireland, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine and Swaziland," the LLPBN reported.



## Namibia's food costs rise despite strong cereal harvest

amibia is grappling with rising food inflation, despite a rebound in cereal production following last year's drought, according to the latest Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) report by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The report reveals that Namibia's annual food inflation rate reached 6.4% in June 2025, up from 4.3% recorded in the same month in 2023.

"The increase was largely driven by rising prices of meat, fruit and vegetables, while prices of bread and cereals, key staple foods, rose at a slower pace over the same period," the FAO stated.

The inflationary pressure comes despite a significant recovery in domestic cereal yields, underpinned by well-distributed rainfall between January and April 2025.

The improved weather conditions are expected to push this year's cereal output close to the five-year average, easing the country's reliance on imports.

Namibia, a net importer of cereals, brought in approximately 290,000 tonnes of maize during the 2024/25 marketing year to make up for production shortfalls.

However, the FAO noted that regional recovery, particularly in South Africa, has increased export availability and helped stabilise wholesale grain prices.

## When you're given access: What Executives, sponsors & future employers observe silently

By Ipupa Fadeyi

If I could sit across from my younger self, ambitious, driven, open-minded and determined to make the most of being "in the room" I would say: Access is not arrival. It's an invitation. And more importantly, it's a silent assessment.

In the course of my career, whether in port operations, corporate boardrooms, or mentoring emerging leaders, I've observed that when you are granted access to higher level conversations, strategic meetings, or sponsorship circles, what's being said out loud is only half the story. The other half? It's what's being silently observed.

Executives, sponsors, and future employers may not give you direct feedback in the moment. But rest assured, they are watching, and not just your performance, but your presence. Let's unpack this together:

### 1. How You Enter the Room

When you're invited into spaces of influence, the first thing silently observed is your energy and presence. Do you shrink back, waiting for permission to contribute? Or do you walk in with quiet confidence, prepared, observant and respectful?

This is not about being loud or forceful. It's about posture. Show that you value being there, that you've done your homework, and that you understand the tone of the room.

Advice to my younger self: You don't need to overcompensate. But don't underestimate yourself either. Your presence is already



When you're invited into spaces of influence, the first thing silently

observed is your energy and presence.

speaking. Let it say you belong.

### 2. Your Curiosity vs. Your Ego

One of the biggest turnoffs for Senior leaders is a Young professional who tries too hard to prove they know everything. On the other hand, curiosity, genuine, well placed curiosity, is magnetic.

Ask thoughtful questions. Seek to understand the bigger picture. Be interested in the "why" behind the strategy, not just your task.

What they're silently observing: Are you teachable? Do you listen more than you speak? Are you someone who will grow or someone who resists feedback?

Advice to my younger self: You're not here to impress them with what you know.

You're here to absorb, align and grow. Stay humble and hungry.

### 3. Your Awareness of Dynamics

Access means being privy to conversations and decisions that often involve politics, power and delicate timing. At this level, Executives are watching your situational awareness.

Do you interrupt? Do you name drop unnecessarily? Do you know when to speak and when to hold back? Are you attentive to body language and nuance?

They are silently asking: Can you be trusted with sensitive information? Are you emotionally intelligent? Do you make the room feel safe or uneasy?

Advice to my younger self: Be observant, not reactive. You're not just learning content. You're learning context.

## 4. Your Consistency Outside the Room

Gaining access once is one thing. Being invited back is another. Often, what you do after the meeting is what seals your reputation.

Do you follow through on action points? Do you acknowledge others' contributions, or make it all about yourself? Are you as polished in informal settings as you are in formal ones?

Executives notice: Do you have integrity when no one's watching? Are you consistent across environments?

Advice to my younger self: Being

impressive for one hour in a boardroom is easy.

What builds trust is who you are the rest of the time.

### 5. Your Relationship with Power

Some Young professionals get access and immediately start posturing, name dropping, taking credit, or trying to climb too quickly. Others shrink and remain silent, afraid to be seen.

But the most impactful ones treat access as stewardship. They don't hoard information or use it to control others. Instead, they seek to add value, build bridges, and remain grounded.

Silently observed: Are you power hungry or purpose driven? Will you lead with ego or with service?

Advice to my younger self: Power is not a trophy. It's a test. And how you treat others when you think you don't need them anymore reveals everything.

### 6. Your Long Game Thinking

Executive minds are always scanning for future leaders. They're not just looking at how well you deliver now. They're



considering how you think, plan, and carry yourself for the long term.

Are you always chasing the next title, or do you build strategically? Do you take ownership of your growth? Are you learning beyond your job description?

Silently assessed: Are you someone to invest in or just someone to use for the short term?

Advice to my younger self: Don't just aim to be impressive. Aim to be indispensable.

### Final Thoughts: Access Is a Mirror

When you gain access, it's tempting to think you're there to "perform" or "earn your place." But more often, it's an opportunity to be seen, as you are. Executives, sponsors, and future employers are not just looking at your CV anymore; they're reading your character, your maturity, and your potential.

Sometimes, you'll be given feedback. Other times, silence will be the loudest message. You may not get applause. But if you handle access well, you'll keep getting doors opened, often without you even knocking.

So to my younger self and every emerging professional reading this:

Treat every access point as sacred ground. You're not just there to be seen. You're being studied. Let your presence speak for you, even when you're not given the chance to speak.

The rooms you're being invited into today could be the stages you'll lead from tomorrow.

Walk in with intention.

Speak with wisdom.

Serve with humility.

Grow with grace.

You are the CEO of your career. Lead it with courage.

\*Ipupa Fadeyi is a Career Coach & Mentor| Founder, IpupaK Grow You



LAUNCH YOUR
BRAND INTO ORBIT
WITH PREMIUM
CORPORATE WEAR

- Corporate Lounge Shirts
- Branded Golf Shirts
- Formal & Casual Trousers
- Workwear & Overalls
- Corporate Dresses & Skirts
- Branded Winter Jackets
- Body Warmers & Fleeces
- Safety Boots & PPE Wear
- © Caps, Beanies & Accessories
- Custom Embroidery & Branding

CONTACT US TODAY
TO PLACE YOUR ORDER









## NAMFISA cautions against risks of unchecked fintech growth

The Namibia Financial I n s t i t u t i o n s Supervisory Authority (NAMFISA) has warned of the risks associated with rapid technological advancement in the financial sector, including cybersecurity threats, data privacy concerns, market concentration, and the emergence of new forms of

exclusion.

Speaking at the opening of FinTech Square 2025, NAMFISA Chief Executive Officer Kenneth Matomola stressed the need for regulators to manage innovation carefully.

"NAMFISA, as a regulator, must strike a delicate balance: How do we foster innovation while protecting consumers and promoting financial system stability?" he said.

Addressing delegates at the third edition of the annual event, Matomola emphasised that financial technology is no longer a passing trend but a vital tool reshaping how individuals and institutions engage with financial services.

He said the regulator remains committed to encouraging responsible innovation across the non-bank financial sector.

"Innovation must not deepen inequality, exclude vulnerable groups, or compromise financial integrity," he said.

"Our challenge is to innovate responsibly, inclusively, and deliberately, ensuring that

a smallholder farmer in rural Namibia benefits as much as a Windhoekbased entrepreneur."

He added that NAMFISA is actively modernising its supervisory frameworks to accommodate emerging business models and is engaging with the industry through structured dialogues, including the FinTech Square platform the authority's and Regulatory Sandbox initiative.

The **NAMFISA** Sandbox Regulatory currently hosts three participants. ReferredBy Financial Solutions CC operates a communitybased nano-loans platform that uses referrals to extend credit to financially excluded consumers. Ergo Analytics CC, trading as Verime, offers a digital identity verification service aimed at streamlining Know Your Customer (KYC) compliance for financial institutions. Express Credit, a registered microlender, is piloting a loan product specifically designed for informally unemployed individuals.

A fourth participant is under review, with plans to onboard new cohorts focusing on alternative financing models such as crowdfunding and peer-to-peer lending.

"We are not mere watchdogs – we are enablers. Our mandate is clear: it embodies financial system stability, protecting consumers, and nurturing a thriving financial sector," Matomola said.



## The Case for Natural Gas in Namibia

**By Cons Karamata** 

amibia's offshore oil discoveries have sparked widespread optimism about the country's future.

With billions of barrels of oil and trillions of cubic feet of gas now confirmed off the Namibian coast, there is growing hope that these resources can transform the economy.

However, reports have since indicated a technical and commercial challenge: the reservoirs contain a high proportion of associated natural gas.

According to investors, this "gas-to-oil" ratio could drive up production costs and delay project timelines unless addressed. This situation calls for careful, proactive negotiations to strike a balance between investor returns and the country's long-term development needs.

At the Economic Association of Namibia (EAN), we believe that Namibia must make full use of its natural gas, not treat it as a by-product. Natural gas is more than just a transitional fuel; it is a cornerstone for economic diversification.

It can power electricity generation, supply feedstock for fertilisers and petrochemicals, support the growth of heavy industries, and reduce Namibia's reliance on expensive energy imports. With appropriate planning, Namibia can unlock new value chains, create employment, and spur industrialisation.

Namibia is not alone in facing such complexities. Countries like Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago offer useful reference points. Guyana, though a newcomer to the oil industry, is implementing a Gas-to-Energy According to investors, this "gas-to-oil" ratio could drive up production costs and delay project timelines unless addressed.

project to utilise associated gas for domestic electricity—an initiative that supports both investor operations and national development.

Trinidad and Tobago, with a more mature sector, has long used its natural gas for downstream processing and LNG exports, building a globally competitive energy economy.

These experiences highlight the value of aligning gas strategies with broader national goals.

Nigeria's experience serves as a compelling case study. For decades, Nigeria flared vast volumes of gas— over 2.5 billion cubic feet per day in the early 2000s.

The economic and environmental costs were staggering. However, with the implementation of the Nigerian Gas Master Plan in 2008 and the Petroleum Industry Act in 2021, the country began turning this challenge into opportunity.

The Nigeria LNG project alone processes over 22 million tonnes of gas per annum, significantly contributing to government revenue and the country's energy needs. Between 2005 and 2022, Nigeria reduced gas

"

Namibia, still in the early stages of oil and gas development, has the advantage of foresight.

flaring by nearly 70%.

The lesson is clear: strategic policy reform, infrastructure investment, and stakeholder cooperation can transform natural gas from a cost burden into a pillar of national development.

Namibia, still in the early stages of oil and gas development, has the advantage of foresight. Globally, demand for natural gas continues to rise.

According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), natural gas consumption is projected to increase by 12% between 2022 and 2030, especially in regions where gas plays a key role in energy transition strategies.

Europe's recent energy crisis has further highlighted the strategic value of gas as a flexible and relatively cleaner energy source.

As stakeholders gather at the upcoming Namibia Oil and Gas Conference next week, hosted by the Economic Association of Namibia (EAN) in partnership with the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB) and the Hans Seidel Foundation (HSF), these issues will take centre stage.

The conference offers a vital opportunity for government, industry,



and civil society to align on a national gas strategy—one that ensures our gas resources are used for the benefit of the Namibian people.

As we shape the future of Namibia's energy economy, let us draw from the experiences of our peers, not just in governance and local content, but in how we view and use our natural resources.

By engaging early, negotiating constructively, and planning strategically, Namibia can ensure that its hydrocarbon resources are not only extracted—but transformed into building blocks of national development.

\*Cons Karamata is the Chief Executive of the Economic Association of Namibia





## The must-attend event for the energy industry

The Namibia Oil and Gas Conference 2025 is set to be the most dynamic edition yet, bringing together industry leaders, policymakers and key stakeholders to shape the future of Namibia's thriving energy sector. With an expanded programme designed to address the most pressing topics in energy, oil and gas, this year's event promises more insights, more networking and more business opportunities than ever before.

Exhibitors 60+

Countries 50+

Delegates 1000+

Speakers 100+

**12-15 August 2025** Mercure Hotel Windhoek, Namibia

#NamibiaOGC25 www.namibiaoilandgasconf.com







## Namibia's annual inflation eases to 3.5% in July

amibia's annual inflation rate slowed to 3.5% in July 2025, down from 4.6% recorded in the same month last year, according to the latest Namibia Consumer Price Index (NCPI) report released by the Namibia Statistics

Agency.

On a monthly basis, inflation stood at 0.1%, edging up slightly from 0.0% in June.

The NCPI report attributes the annual inflation rate to three main categories: Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages,

Insurance cover for over 30 million Africans

🛊 Sanlam Allianz 🕕

Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels, and Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco.

"The major contributors to the 3.5 annual inflation rate for July 2025 were mainly 'Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages,' contributing 1.2 percentage points; followed by 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels,' which contributed 0.9 percentage points and lastly 'Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco' at 0.8 percentage points," the report stated.

Food and non-alcoholic beverages, which make up 16.5% of the consumer basket, recorded an annual inflation rate of 6.1% – up from 4.8% in July 2024 – though prices remained flat on a monthly basis.

Housing-related costs, accounting for 28.4% of the consumer basket, saw a moderation in price increases, with annual inflation falling to 3.6% in July, compared to 4.1% a year ago. This was largely due to a sharp drop in electricity, gas, and other fuel prices, which fell from 6.4% to 1.4% year-on-year.

Alcoholic beverages and tobacco, which represent 12.6% of the basket, recorded an annual inflation rate of 6.0%, up from 4.9% in July 2024. However, prices in this category dropped by 0.2% compared to the previous month.

According to the NCPI, "The highest change in the annual inflation rate was witnessed in the categories of 'Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages' recorded at 6.1%; followed by divisions such as 'Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco' (6.0%); 'Hotels, Cafés, and Restaurants' (5.1%); 'Education' (4.3%) and 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels' (3.6%)."

Regionally, Zone 1 (northern and northeastern Namibia) recorded the highest inflation at 3.9%, followed by Zone 3 (southern and coastal regions) at 3.6%, and Zone 2 (Khomas) at 3.1%.

The report also highlights ongoing declines in the transport sector, which registered a deflation rate of 1.2%, in contrast to the 6.7% increase seen in July 2024. The decline was driven by reduced costs for vehicle purchases and operations.

Despite the broader easing, core inflation – which excludes volatile items like food and energy – stood at 3.9%, slightly higher than the headline rate, suggesting underlying price pressures remain.

# For Daily Namibian **Finance Business** news **SUBSCRIBE** Daily PDF version sent

## Three Namibians selected for Specialised Subsea training in Malaysia

The Petroleum Training and Education Fund (PETROFUND), in partnership with oil and gas service company Subsea7, has announced the deployment of three Namibian graduates for specialised training in subsea operations, as part of ongoing efforts to build local capacity in the petroleum sector.

The candidates – Leonard Johannes, Erasmus Shikongo and Rikardo Samuyumbe – are graduates of the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) with qualifications in Power and Mechanical Engineering. They have been selected to undergo Remote Operated Vehicle (ROV) Pilot Technician training at the Netherlands Maritime University College in Johor Bahru, Malaysia.

According to PETROFUND, the training is fully funded by the organisation and valued at over N\$870,000. Upon completion of the academic programme, the trainees will receive on-the-job training (OJT) from Subsea7, after which they will be employed as part of the company's global offshore ROV workforce.

Subsea7 has also committed to enrolling the candidates in its Competence and Assurance Programme, which supports professional development in the subsea field.

In addition, the company will fund the internationally recognised OPITO-certified Basic Offshore Safety Induction and Emergency Training (BOSIET), along with medical fitness assessments required for offshore work.

ROV pilot technicians are vital to offshore oil and gas operations, tasked with operating and maintaining remotely controlled underwater vehicles in environments



considered too deep or hazardous for human divers.

This is of particular importance in Namibia, where offshore waters are classified as ultradeep.

"This initiative reflects the shared commitment of the Government of the Republic of Namibia through PETROFUND, academia through NUST, and the industry through Subsea7 to equip Namibian youth with high-demand, specialised technical skills essential for the upstream petroleum sector," PETROFUND said.

The training comes at a crucial time for Namibia's oil and gas industry, with several operators edging closer to making their first Final Investment Decisions (FID).

PETROFUND said the move demonstrates Namibia's readiness to meaningfully participate in future oil production activities by investing in local expertise. - www. miningandenergy.com.na







-5.00% 0.00% 5.00% 10.00% 15.00% 20.00% 25.00% 30.00% 

## YTD % ## 30 day %

#### JSE Sectors: Year to Date Performance in % Telecommunications Technology SA Listed Property Precious Metals Industrials Health Care Financials ■ %1Y Energy # %YTD Consumer Staples Consumer Services Consumer Discretionary Construction and Materials Basic Materials 100 150



