ACQUISITION

Trustco CEO receives acquisition offer from Cayman-based VeldBridge p. 05



CONSUMERS

CRAN sees gains for consumers and creative industry in Canal+, MultiChoice merger



PGRADE

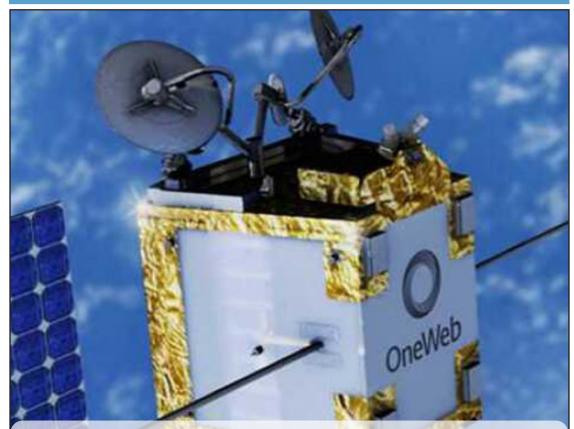
NamWater secures N\$40 Million for Calueque Pump Station upgrade p. 15



ГНЕ

BR/EF

News Worth Knowing



Echo Namibia eyes September launch for LEO satellite internet

FRIDAY 08 AUGUST 2025

MAIN STORY

Echo Namibia eyes September launch for LEO satellite internet

cho Namibia plans to commercially launch its Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite internet services on 1 September 2025, pending final approval of its pricing structure by the Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN).

"If all goes according to plan, with final pricing approval from CRAN, then our aim is to launch LEO VSAT in Namibia by the 1st of September. This is if there are no delays," Echo Namibia's Managing Director, Christo Greeff told The Brief.

The company has already received regulatory approval for the OneWeb LEO satellite technology and the required spectrum. However, the rollout now hinges on CRAN's green light for its pricing model.

"Phase 1 was getting OneWeb LEO approved in Namibia as well as the spectrum that comes with it. We are now busy with Phase 2 whereby we need to get approval on the pricing," Greeff explained.

The service will use OneWeb's enterprisegrade satellite internet system, with local infrastructure linked to a regional hub based in Johannesburg. Greeff said the offering is geared toward sectors with high connectivity demands, including mining, banking, tourism and fishing.

"All packages will have a download speed up to 100Mb and an upload of up to 20Mb. Packages start with a CAP of 250Gb, with the biggest package being 2000Gb of data. There



Crucial Dates

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

All packages will have a download speed up to 100Mb and an upload of up to 20Mb.

will be a once-off installation fee to go with the monthly recurring internet costs, which we are waiting for approval before being allowed to share," he said.

Although Starlink remains a well-known consumer-focused competitor, Greeff positioned OneWeb as a more reliable solution for business-critical operations.

"OneWeb, with its enterprise focus, provides more robust and reliable connectivity, especially in challenging environments, with more complex equipment, professional installation and real-time support," he said.

He added that the service's 24/7 customer support is a key differentiator. "OneWeb's support excels with 24/7 phone assistance, ensuring quick assistance and robust

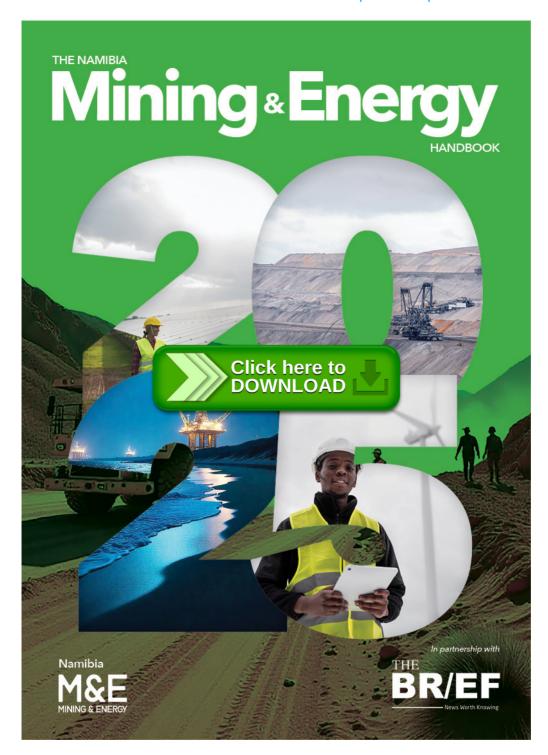
troubleshooting capabilities," said Greeff.

He noted that Echo Namibia's capital expenditure on the rollout has been limited, as the core LEO infrastructure is owned and operated by OneWeb.

"There is not much capital expenditure done from our side as this system is from OneWeb. It's their LEO VSAT system and hub. The nearest OneWeb hub sits in Joburg, SA. A customer buys or rents the physical site equipment from us, as with any internet connection," Greeff explained.

Echo Namibia's launch would mark a significant step forward in Namibia's enterprise connectivity landscape, especially for industries operating in remote or underserved areas.







Trustco CEO receives acquisition offer from Cayman-based VeldBridge

Trustco Group Holdings says its CEO and founding family shareholder, Quinton van Rooyen, has received a private acquisition offer from VeldBridge Holdings Ltd, a Cayman Islands-based investment company, for his entire shareholding and related debt assets valued at N\$5.05 billion (US\$ 281 million).

"The offer encompasses Dr van Rooyen's entire shareholding in Trustco. Additionally, VeldBridge seeks to acquire debt assets, that include both interest-bearing and non-interest-bearing components, subordinated and first-ranked obligations, as well as secured and unsecured claims totalling NA\$ 5,053,073,500 (US\$ 281 million)," said Trustco's Head of Public Relations and Communication, Neville Basson.

The Van Rooyen family currently holds 71% of Trustco's long-term debt.



VACANCY NOTICE

Genetic Rollout & Feedlot Management Specialist

Join Namibia's leading premium beef export team at the forefront of Wagyu production. We're hiring a driven specialist to support producers in genetic rollout, manage feedlot operations, and enhance cattle nutrition and performance.

Key Responsibilities:

- Roll out genetic plans with producers
 - Oversee feedlot operations, health, and performance tracking
 - Formulate and monitor feed for all growth phases
- Consult on ruminant nutrition
- Coordinate Artificial Insemination (AI) protocols

Minimum Requirements:

- MSc Agric in Animal Science (BSc minimum)
 - 2+ years in ruminant nutrition, herd/feedlot management, and feed formulation
 - Al qualification
- Proven experience in animal breeding and reproduction technologies
- Solid knowledge of Wagyu genetics and global protocols

Preferred Competencies:

- Expertise across the beef value chain (genetics to carcass)
- Networked in Wagyu and animal feed industries (local & global)
- Record of AI procedures conducted

Location: Windhoek

Email CV on or before 22 August 2025: nm@fortis-projects.com

VeldBridge has also proposed providing up to N\$4.5 billion (US\$ 250 million) in debt financing to Trustco at rates not exceeding 6.5% per annum.

If accepted, the deal would require Trustco to withdraw its pending NASDAQ listing under the ticker "TRCO", allowing VeldBridge to pursue its own listing on a senior U.S. exchange by the first quarter of 2026.

Trustco Managing Director Van Rooyen

said the offer includes an equity exchange, where he or his nominee would receive over 7.3 billion common shares and 5,000 Series B preferred shares in VeldBridge, granting majority voting control.

He would join the VeldBridge board and be subject to a 12-month lock-up period after listing. "The family has taken note of the offer. We will now engage with likeminded shareholders and debtholders, while

> pursuing the required regulatory clearances. Namibia recently attracted high value. long-term growth investment capital, and this is no different. Namibia and its people deserve the confidence that investors place in its because prospects, earned it over a long time," he said.

> VeldBridge has also pledged to establish an independent foundation in Namibia with seed capital of up to N\$90 million (US\$ 5 million) to support local development.

The offer accroding to Trustco, is valid for 21 working days after formal notice from VeldBridge of its U.S. listing application or Trustco's NASDAQ withdrawal.

The deal is subject to regulatory and foreign exchange approvals, and the signing of binding agreements.





CRAN sees gains for consumers and creative industry in Canal+, MultiChoice merger

he Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN) says Namibia stands to benefit from the proposed N\$35 billion (US\$2 billion) acquisition of MultiChoice Group by French media company Canal+.

CRAN said the transaction—though resulting in an indirect transfer of control—has no immediate impact on Namibia's broadcasting licences, but could have broader implications for the region's media landscape.

"The merger could offer several potential benefits for Namibia.These may include access to a broader range of high-quality content and innovative broadcasting services," Mufaro Nesongano, Executive for Communication and Consumer Relations at CRAN told The Brief.

CRAN noted that Namibian consumers may see improved service delivery, enhanced competition, and potentially lower subscription costs. It added that the deal could lead to increased investment in infrastructure, technology, and local content production.

Of particular importance, according to CRAN, is the potential boost to Namibia's creative industry. The merger could support job creation in media production and distribution and increase visibility for Namibian talent through culturally relevant programming.

"We are especially focused on how this consolidation might enhance value for Namibian consumers, who are the primary beneficiaries," Nesongano said.

CRAN also pointed to the possibility of greater regional collaboration and professional development in the media



sector, giving Namibia's creative professionals access to new markets and expertise.

The authority said it will continue monitoring the situation to ensure that national interests—especially those of consumers and local industry players—are safeguarded.

Under the terms of the deal, the French group has agreed pay N\$35 billion (US\$2 billion) to acquire MultiChoice Group which is valued at around N\$55 billion (US\$3.1 billion).

Canal+ has been seeking to build out its business in Africa, in particular Englishspeaking markets, and has invested in several drama series as it built its stake in MultiChoice.

Lead with purpose, not with pressure

By Junias Erasmus

n today's evolving workplace, leadership is no longer about barking orders, micromanaging, or placing unrealistic demands on teams.

It's about vision, integrity, and intentional impact. The difference between purposeful leadership and pressure- based leadership is vast.

One builds trust, engagement, and longterm success. The other may yield short bursts of performance, but often at the expense of morale, creativity, and retention.

To "lead with purpose, not with pressure" is to adopt a human-centered leadership style that elevates people, aligns them to shared goals, and drives meaningful outcomes.

Purposeful leaders understand why they lead. They connect their personal values to their organization's mission and inspire others to see the bigger picture. Their leadership is anchored in clarity, not chaos. They don't lead by intimidation or fear.

Instead, they provide direction, nurture growth, and create space for others to shine.

These are the leaders who encourage their teams to ask questions, to challenge the status quo, and to find joy and meaning in their work.

As a result, they cultivate a culture of ownership and intrinsic motivation, where 66

The difference between purposeful leadership and pressure- based leadership is vast.

people don't just comply, they commit.

On the other hand, pressure-based leadership relies heavily on control, deadlines, and fear of consequences.

It's performance driven but people blind. When pressure becomes the primary tool, teams may experience burnout, anxiety, and a lack of innovation.

Employees begin to operate in survival mode, meeting expectations not because they're inspired, but because they're afraid.

This creates a cycle where results may come, but loyalty, passion, and well-being are lost along the way.

The most successful organizations today are those that are led by purpose-driven leaders, those who understand that people are not just resources, but whole human beings with dreams, emotions, and unique contributions.

Purpose ignites passion. It brings people together around something bigger than themselves. When employees know that

Insurance cover for over 30 million Africans

🛊 Sanlam Allianz 🕕

their work matters, that their voice is heard. and that their leaders believe in them, they are more likely to go the extra mile, not because they're pushed, but because they're pulled by a shared sense of meaning.

Leading with purpose also requires emotional intelligence. It calls on leaders to be self-aware, empathetic, and adaptive.

It means listening more, blaming less, and guiding with compassion and courage. It's about having honest conversations. celebrating progress, and supporting your team through challenges, not just demanding results without providing support.

Leadership is not a title, it's responsibility. A responsibility to serve, to guide, and to strategically influence positively.

In a world full of external pressures and uncertainties, purposeful leaders stand as beacons of clarity and calm. They don't crack the whip, they open the path.

Let us choose to lead with purpose. Let us be the kind of leaders who uplift others, who turn vision into action, and who measure success not only by profits and targets but by the growth and well-being of those we

Because in the end, the legacy of great leadership is not found in how many people we pressured, but in how many people we inspired.

*Junias Erasmus works in the Financial Sector. He is a Management Scientist and Operational Researcher, a Strategic Scholar & amp: a Motivational Speaker. This article is written in his personal capacity. For inquiries, contact him at Junias99@amail.com



Agribank specializes in financing the entire value chain from land acquisition, production inputs, harvesting, transporting, processing, and marketing of the products at competitive interest

Interested candidates with relevant qualifications and experience are hereby invited to apply for the following position:

Position: Chief Executive Offic

Department: CEO's Office Duty Station: Head Office
Contract: Five (5) year Fixed-Term Cont

Purpose of the Position

The CEO is accountable to the Board of Directors, responsible for setting the business and corporate gaenda and steering the overall strategic direction of Agribank in line with the Agribank Act. Leads effort to forge new partnerships, drive growth and implement developmental mandate and business strategies while ensuring that the bank's performance and sustainability is progressive

Key Performance Areas

- · Lead Strateav Development and Execution
- · Oversee Governance, Policy Oversight, and Compliance
- · Provide Leadership and Organizational Culture
- Financial Sustainability and Prudence
- · Develop & Maintain Stakeholder Relations and Partnerships · Optimize Organizational Systems Effectiveness and
- Efficiencies Drive Corporate/ Special Projects
- · Strengthen Relationship Effectiveness and Brand Management

Minimum Educational Qualification and **Experience Requirements**

- · Master's degree in commerce, Finance, Agricultural Economics or any other relevant equivalent auglification.
- · Minimum of 12 years' experience in development finance/financial services environment of which at least 8 years were at executive management level.
- · Proven track record of delivering results at senior management level and transformational leadership elville
- · Financial Business Acumen, Agricultural and Development Financing will be an added advantage.

CLOSING DATE: 15 AUGUST 2025 Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted

Please visit https://eliteemployment.com.na and upload your CV for consideration.



Antoinette Druker

antoinette@eliteemployment.com.na

083 723 4152

Note: Agribank is an Equal Opportunity Employer and operates in line with affirmative action

Kindly take note: Any applications sent to Agribank directly, will NOT be considered.

This recruitment is managed by **Elite Employment Consultancy**



Values

- · Customer Service
- Fairness Accountability
- Integrity Professionalism Transparency

promote socio-economic development through affordable and innovative agricultural financing solutions.

To be the catalyst in transforming the agricultural sector where every Namibian enjoys a quality life.

www.agribank.com.na 🌐 👔 🐼 🕝 🔘 🔝









Cabinet approves tougher penalties to curb fisheries bycatch

he Namibian Cabinet has approved a raft of new penalties and enforcement measures aimed at reducing the unintentional capture of non-target marine species, known as bycatch, in the country's fisheries sector.

Minister of Information, Communication and Technology, Emma Theofilus, announced the decision during a recent Cabinet briefing, stating that the measures are intended to safeguard Namibia's marine resources and promote sustainable fishing practices.

"Cabinet approved for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform to impose actionable measures to reduce bycatch levels and implementation of measures to safeguard Namibia's marine resources," Theofilus said.

Among the key changes is the introduction of a 2% bycatch threshold, meaning fishing companies will only be allowed to retain up to 2% of their catch as bycatch.

Any amount above this limit will be subject to forfeiture at no cost to the government and may be used to support governmental objectives.

Additionally, bycatch penalty fees will be raised from the current 15% to 50% under Section 44 of the Marine Resources Act.

Theofilus noted that the revised framework includes tougher consequences for repeat offenders, who could face the suspension or permanent revocation of their fishing licences depending on the severity of their non-compliance.

Other enforcement measures include quota deductions, confiscation of fishing gear, and seizure of vessels in cases of serious or repeated breaches.

In a further effort to deter malpractice, the ministry will publish an Annual Public Listing of Bycatch Violators, naming companies that exceed bycatch thresholds.

The decision comes in response to growing public concern over rising bycatch levels. While vessels are currently instructed to relocate when high bycatch is observed, some operators are suspected of deliberately targeting vulnerable species, undermining marine conservation efforts.

Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform, Inge Zaamwani-Kamwi, said the existing enforcement regime was failing to deter illegal fishing. She stressed the need for stronger penalties to ensure compliance and support the recovery of affected species.



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
- Oustom Embroidery & Branding

CONTACT US TODAY
TO PLACE YOUR ORDER





From ideas to impact: Why Africa's youth need digital health bootcamps now more than ever

By Dr. Tuwilika Nafuka and Dr. Kieva Chris-Amusan

hat does it take to turn a youth-led health idea into a continent-shifting innovation? For many of us across Africa, the missing link isn't passion or potential, it's structured, intentional support.

That's why the Africa CDC Youth in Digital Health Network (YiDHN) mHealth and Mobile App Development Bootcamp, held in Accra, Ghana in July 2025, couldn't have come at a better time.

This wasn't just a training, it was a platform, a proving ground, and a call to action.

Across Africa, young innovators are

designing health solutions rooted in lived experience. But turning great ideas into real impact takes more than passion.

It takes technical training, mentorship, networks, and systems that understand the nuance of building for this

continent. The bootcamp created that kind of space, a space for reflection, connection, and capacity-building.

Over five intensive days, 28 digital health innovators explored everything from data privacy and API integration to AI-powered health tools, app testing, and investment readiness.

The curriculum was holistic, blending technical knowledge with adaptive

leadership, business and live modeling, pitching. Importantly, it centered the real challenges we face when building for young people in lowhigh-need resource, contexts.

As two participants navigating digital health ventures at different stages, we've come together to reflect on what this program offered and why it matters for the future of health





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

Countries 50+

Delegates 1000+

Speakers 100+

12-15 August 2025 Mercure Hotel Windhoek, Namibia

#NamibiaOGC25 www.namibiaoilandgasconf.com Secure your delegate pass now



innovation in Africa.

For me, as Dr. Tuwilika Nafuka, co-founder of TupaBloom Care, a social enterprise focusing on advocacy, research, and digital health innovation in Namibia, the sessions on leadership, monetization, and investment readiness were particularly impactful.

I was already building a solution, but the bootcamp helped me see how to structure it for sustainability and position it for scale across Africa.

Meeting facilitators like Stephanie Okpere (Design for Health by CcHub) and Carine Kalinda (Villgro Africa), both women deeply embedded in digital health and investment spaces, was affirming.

It was also deeply meaningful to see African women leading these sessions, a powerful signal to young women innovators across the continent.

The technical sessions, from app testing with Firebase and Appium to GitHub workflows and deployment strategies, gave practical skills that many youth innovators often lack access to.

But it was Pitch Day that truly brought everything together. Each team showed up with bold, locally grounded solutions. My project, TupaBloom Care, pitched a dual digital platform combining chatbots, gamified learning, and assessment tools to tackle Namibia's high rates of teenage pregnancy, SGBV, and youth suicide.

Seeing so many others building with the same heart and urgency made it clear:

Africa's youth are not waiting, we are already leading.

As Dr. Kieva Chris-Amusan, founder of Fertitude, a digital platform that helps women access discreet, 24/7 reproductive health support, I came into the YiDHN Bootcamp with the goal of deepening my technical and strategic understanding of mHealth systems in the African context.

Fertitude's mobile app is available on Google and Apple stores, serving over 5,000 users across Nigeria, 10 other African countries, and the diaspora. While we've seen strong early traction, I knew there were still gaps to close in order to scale more responsibly and inclusively.

The bootcamp offered more than I expected. Sessions on data protection, product testing, and interoperability reshaped how I think about growth, especially across diverse systems and user realities.

For Daily Namibian Finance and Business news

SUBSCRIBE













Custom Sizes Available Prices Excludeds VAT





I now see more clearly how regulation, infrastructure, and cultural context must guide product design for last-mile users. What stood out most, besides winning the award for Best Business Model, was the network.

Meeting builders from across the continent reminded me I'm not alone in the complexities of health innovation. I'm leaving with an expanded mindset on what it truly takes to scale across Africa. To every young builder out there: keep showing up. Africa needs what you carry.

One of the bootcamp's most powerful features was its commitment to inclusion. Women weren't just participants, they led core sessions and shaped the learning environment.

The program also meaningfully included participants with disabilities, such as Abiola Joseph from the Diversity Innovation Initiative in Uganda, a Deaf finalist and winner building an SRHR app for Deaf youth, a community he's part of.

These decisions weren't symbolic, they reflected a future of digital health that is accessible, diverse, and truly African.

This bootcamp offered something most funding cycles and global programs don't: a safe space for peer learning, regional exchange, and practical growth.

It provided the kind of mentorship and exposure that every young digital health innovator should have access to, regardless of where they live or what language they speak.

We hope to see more programs like this across the continent, and more follow-through with alumni networks, mentorship opportunities, and technical incubation tailored to Africa's realities.

We're grateful to the Africa CDC, GIZ Office to the African Union, representatives from the Africa CDC Youth Programme, expert partners, funders, investors, trainers from leading tech hubs, and government officials for making this bootcamp a reality, and to the facilitators and mentors who shared not just their knowledge, but their belief in the next generation of African digital health leaders.

*Dr.Tuwilika Nafuka is a Medical Doctor, MSc in Digital Health candidate, Africa CDC Bingwa PLUS and DHSA fellow, and a champion for digital health transformation. She is passionate about harnessing technology to advance health equity and strengthen community access to essential services across Namibia and beyond.

Dr. Kieva Chris-Amusan is the Co-founder & CEO of Fertitude, a digital platform that provides women with 24/7 stigma-free access to reproductive health products and services.

NamWater secures N\$40 Million for Calueque Pump Station upgrade

amWater has secured N\$40 million from the Technical Committee of Experts (TCE) account to fund Phase 2 of the upgrade to the Calueque Permanent Pump Station, which supplies water to central northern Namibia.

The project aims to improve the delivery of water from the Calueque Dam, located on the Namibian-Angolan border, to ensure a stable and sustainable supply that meets both current and future demand.

According to NamWater's Head of Public Relations and Corporate Communications, Lot Ndamanomhata, the second phase of the project will focus on commissioning high-capacity permanent pumps to replace ageing temporary units that have struggled to meet Namibia's full water entitlement of 6 cubic metres per second, as stipulated in a 1969 bilateral agreement with Angola.

"The total cost of Phase 2 is USD 2,072,817.32 (approximately NAD 40 million), excluding the 10% Withholding Tax. This amount is being fully sourced from the TCE Account," said Ndamanomhata.

He explained that the new pumps, with a combined capacity of 7.4 m³/s, are expected to improve reliability, reduce operational risks, and enable simultaneous water off-takes on the Angolan side of the system.

The infrastructure upgrades under Phase 2 will include the activation of 1MW pump groups, hydraulic enhancements, SCADA/PLC systems integration, electrical upgrades, and supporting works such as improved drainage and the construction of a new valve chamber linked to the Calueque Water Treatment Plant.

The implementation timeline is set at 10 months, with a performance-based payment



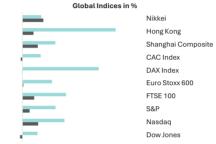
structure in place. Oversight measures include a trilateral contract between NamWater, Angola's GABHIC, and the contractor Mota-Engil Angola. The contract contains penalty clauses, provisions for independent audits, and a 12-month post-commissioning defects liability period to ensure project quality and accountability.

"Additionally, the project is expected to enhance support for regional economic growth and boost agricultural productivity. Importantly, it will further strengthen crossborder water cooperation between Namibia and Angola," Ndamanomhata added.

This latest phase follows the completion of Phase 1 in 2017, which involved the repair of two pumping lines transporting water from the Calueque Dam into the canal system serving northern Namibia.







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

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

