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THE

# BRIEF

News Worth Knowing



**Poverty, inequality Namibia's  
biggest risks in 2025**

TUESDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2025

## MAIN STORY

# Poverty, inequality Namibia's biggest risks in 2025

The World Economic Forum (WEF) identifies poverty and inequality as Namibia's most pressing risks for 2025.

The WEF Global Risks report, based on a survey of over 11,000 respondents, highlights economic struggles, resource shortages and a lack of skilled labour as key concerns for the country.

"Risk 1 indicates the most frequently selected risk in each economy. Tied risks are presented in alphabetical order, with the tie indicated by numbering," the report read.

The survey asked respondents to select the five biggest risks likely to impact their country within the next two years from a list of 34 global threats.

In Namibia, the report further says that unemployment or lack of economic opportunity ranks in second place.

Water supply shortages emerged as the third biggest concern, while food supply shortages ranked fourth. Lastly, a labour and talent shortage were identified as the fifth most pressing issue.

According to Economist at Cirrus Capital, Oliver Diggle, water scarcity, ranked third in Namibia, is not a new issue.

The country suffered severe drought conditions in 2024, leading to the second-worst year for crop farming in recent



## Crucial Dates

- Bank of Namibia Monetary Policy announcement date:
  - \* 16 April 2025
  - \* 18 June 2025
  - \* 13 August 2025
  - \* 15 October 2025
  - \* 3 December 2025

history, surpassed only by 2019.

Unemployment is Namibia's second-biggest risk, and recent data has only reinforced these concerns.

Diggle said that the 2023 Labour Force Survey revealed that broad unemployment has increased to an alarming 54.8%, indicating a worsening economic landscape.

Despite Namibia's high expenditure on education relative to GDP, the country continues to struggle with poor education outcomes and a shortage of skilled labour.

"A lack of skilled labour is also identified as a critical issue holding Namibia back, and although Namibia is among the highest spenders on education relative to GDP worldwide, outcomes remain weak. The majority of this expenditure goes

towards personnel costs, peaking at 94% of total expenditure in FY 2017/18," he said.

He further explained that, unlike some global economies where geopolitical or technological risks are major concerns, Namibia's risk outlook remains rooted in practical, immediate challenges such as economic opportunity, resource shortages, and employment.

Nevertheless, Namibia's risk profile mirrors that of its neighbouring countries, where economic hardships and resource shortages dominate concerns.

Poverty and inequality are widespread in the region. Water and food shortages are also major concerns, particularly in Zambia and Zimbabwe, where they rank among the top three risks.



## IN LOVING MEMORY OF THE FOUNDING PRESIDENT

*Dr. Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma*

H.E. Dr. Sam Nujoma paved the way for a free and independent Namibia. His hard work, dedication and vision resulted in Namibians enjoying the fruits of a prosperous nation that thrives on unity and peace.

Let us be inspired by his selfless contributions and continue to celebrate the legacy of a true Namibian Hero as we collectively grow and guard our future.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.





## In Memory of the Founding Father of the Namibian Nation

### **H.E Dr. Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma**

12 May 1929 - 08 February 2025

It is with deep sorrow that we mourn the passing of Namibia's Founding Father and First President, Dr. Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma. A visionary leader, and liberation hero, Dr. Nujoma dedicated his life to the freedom, unity, and development of our beloved nation.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the Founding First Lady of The Republic of Namibia, Her Excellency Madame Kovambo Nujoma, his family, loved ones, and all Namibians during this difficult time.

**May his soul rest in peace.**

**Bank Windhoek**  
a member of **Capricorn Group**





## Rhino Resources confirms hydrocarbon discovery in Namibia's Orange Basin

**R**hino Resources Ltd, on behalf of the PEL 85 Joint Venture (JV), says it has encountered a hydrocarbon-bearing reservoir, confirming the presence of charge in the basin after successfully completing the drilling of its first exploration well, Sagittarius-1X, on Block 2914 in Namibia's offshore Orange Basin.

"We are pleased to have safely and successfully completed the drilling of the first exploration well in our programme on PEL 85. The hydrocarbon-bearing reservoir encountered is evidence of the effectiveness of charge, although further assessment will be required by Rhino and the PEL 85 JV partners to evaluate the results of the well," said Rhino CEO Travis Smithard.

Rhino stated that further evaluation will be

needed to determine the full implications of these findings.

Meanwhile, Rhino Resources and its JV partners are shifting their focus to the next target, the Capricornus prospect—a NE-SW trending channel system.

"Our attention now turns to the second target in the programme, the Capricornus prospect, a NE-SW trending channel system. The Capricornus-1X well is due to be spud within the next 24 hours and is estimated to take 47 days to drill," Smithard added.

Drilling operations on PEL 85 commenced in December with the spudding of the Sagittarius-1X well, utilizing the state-of-the-art drillship Noble Venturer.

Located in a water depth of approximately 1,400 meters, the well is positioned near

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significant recent discoveries, including Galp Energia's Mopane find in PEL 83 and multiple successful wells drilled by Shell in PEL 39, such as the Graff discovery.

Despite its proximity to these major discoveries, Rhino Resources emphasized

that the Sagittarius-1X well targets multiple stacked reservoirs in a distinct geological setting, positioned in an up-dip location within the basin to test different elements of the Orange Basin's play fairway.

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# Government disburses N\$89.2 million in electricity tariff subsidy

The Namibian government has disbursed N\$89.2 million of the N\$365 million allocated to subsidise electricity tariffs for the 2024/2025 financial year, an official has revealed.

The subsidy was introduced to cushion electricity consumers, ensuring that tariffs remain unchanged from the previous year.

“The Namibian Government made approximately N\$365 million available to subsidise electricity consumers for the 2024/2025 financial year, ensuring that consumers would pay the same tariff as per the 2023/2024 Schedule of Approved Tariffs,” said Electricity Control Board (ECB) CEO Robert Kahimise.

The subsidy, effective from 1 July 2024, aligns with the financial year of electricity licensees, who were given the option to maintain 2023/2024 tariffs while incorporating the government subsidy.

Of the total allocation, N\$251 million was directed to NamPower to ensure uninterrupted electricity supply, while N\$115 million was earmarked for distribution licensees to mitigate the tariff increase's impact on consumers.

“We have already processed the first quarter (Q1) claims, totalling N\$78.7 million, which have been paid to major licensees such as NamPower (Bulk), Erongo RED, Keetmanshoop Municipality, and others,” Kahimise confirmed.



From the N\$78.7 million paid to licensees, N\$62.75 million was allocated to NamPower, while Erongo RED received N\$3.71 million. The remaining funds were distributed among municipalities and regional suppliers, including Keetmanshoop Municipality (N\$524,866), NamPower Distribution (N\$1.34 million), NORED (N\$8.72 million), and Oshakati Premier Electric (N\$1.66 million).



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The Q1 claims covered the period from July to September 2024 and were disbursed promptly.

"Claims for Q1 received after the September 2024 deadline will be processed alongside Q2 claims for the period October to December 2024. These include payments to the City of Windhoek (N\$6.57 million), CENORED (N\$2.47 million), and others," said Kahimise.

However, Kahimise noted that some licensees, including Gobabis Municipality and Gochas Village Council, have yet to submit their claims.

"Licensees are urged to submit their claims promptly. Failure to do so could delay payments and hinder the overall

implementation of the subsidy," he emphasised.

He added that claims received after the September 2024 deadline would be processed alongside second-quarter claims for October to December 2024.

In the coming months, the ECB will continue engaging with licensees on the modalities for recovering their approved revenue requirements for the 2024/2025 period.

Kahimise reiterated that the government's subsidy would help cushion consumers against tariff increases while maintaining financial stability in the sector.

"We want to ensure that electricity consumers are protected from the full impact of tariff increases. This subsidy is one way we are working to balance the financial sustainability of the sector with the affordability needs of the public," he said.

Looking ahead, the ECB is preparing for the 2025/2026 bulk electricity tariff review and will conduct public consultations on the proposed tariffs.

"We will ensure that electricity consumers continue to have a voice in determining tariff levels," Kahimise stated, adding that the first public consultation session for the 2025/2026 tariff review will take place in Windhoek on 5 March 2025.

"The ECB will continue engaging with the public and distribution licensees to ensure transparency in the tariff-setting process," he said.



## PROCUREMENT MANAGEMENT UNIT

### REQUEST FOR SEALED QUOTATIONS

Namibia Wildlife Resorts Ltd hereby invites registered Namibian entities to submit their bids for the following:

#### SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF FIRST AID BOXES

**Procurement reference:** NCS/RFQ/NWRO3/FY24-25  
**Description of bid:** Supply & Delivery of First Aid Boxes  
**Levy Payable (non-refundable):** FREE

**BID SUBMISSION DUE DATE:** 14th March 2025 @ 11:00

#### SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE OF FIRE SUPPRESSION AND FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT

**Procurement reference:** NCS/RFQ/NWRO2/FY24-25  
**Description of bid:** Supply & Maintenance of Fire Suppression and Firefighting Equipment  
**Levy Payable (non-refundable):** FREE

**BID SUBMISSION DUE DATE:** 14th March 2025 @ 11:00

#### PROVISION FOR FOOD HANDLERS TEST

**Procurement reference:** NCS/RFQ/NWRO2/FY24-25  
**Description of bid:** Provision for Food Handlers Test  
**Levy Payable (non-refundable):** FREE

**BID SUBMISSION DUE DATE:** 14th March 2025 @ 11:00

#### LEVY (NON-REFUNDABLE): Free

**Collection of Bidding Document:** Available on the NWR website under Tenders or can be requested via email: [pmu@nwr.com.na](mailto:pmu@nwr.com.na)

**Submission of bids:** Sealed bids in envelopes clearly marked with the correct reference number, description, and clear details of bidders shall be delivered before the due date as stated above.

**Physical delivery:** The Procurement Management Unit, Namibia Wildlife Resorts Head Office, 1st floor, Gathemann Building, 181 Independence Avenue, Windhoek

**Enquiries:** Procurement Management Unit | **Tel:** +26461 2857106/7301 | **Email:** [pmu@nwr.com.na](mailto:pmu@nwr.com.na)





# TOYOTA

## Toyota trio, Hilux, Corolla Cross & Fortuner lead January vehicle sales



**T**oyota maintained its dominant position in the Namibian vehicle market in January 2025, selling 555 new vehicles, reinforcing its stronghold in both the passenger and commercial segments.

According to Simonis Storm Junior Economist Almandro Jansen, this accounted for a significant share of total vehicle sales, including 306 light commercial vehicles (Hilux), 242 passenger vehicles (notably the Corolla Cross and Fortuner), and several medium commercial vehicles.

“The Toyota Hilux remained the market leader, with 227 units sold. This reaffirms its position as the go-to choice for both commercial and private users, particularly in sectors requiring durable and high-performance vehicles,” Jansen said.

The Toyota Land Cruiser PU, a perennial favourite among farmers, businesses, and off-road enthusiasts, followed with 62 units, reflecting its reliability in Namibia’s rugged landscapes.

Volkswagen secured second place,

recording 76 units, largely supported by the strong performance of the Amarok. Ford ranked third, with 54 units of the Ranger contributing to its total sales. Meanwhile, Kia and Suzuki continued to gain traction, appealing to cost-conscious consumers with affordable yet well-equipped models.

The Ford Ranger, with 54 units sold, remains a strong alternative, offering modern features and robust performance. Meanwhile, the VW Amarok, with 17 units sold, maintains a niche market appeal, catering to customers who value comfort alongside utility. Other notable performers included the Mahindra Scorpio Pick-Up, which sold 12 units, and the JAC T-Series, which recorded 11 units, both targeting budget-conscious buyers seeking cost-effective workhorse vehicles.

January 2025 saw a steady performance in new vehicle sales, totalling 966 units, reflecting a 1.7% year-on-year increase from 950 units in January 2024. However, sales declined 12.2% month-on-month from December 2024—a seasonal trend typically

# THE BRIEF

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observed at the start of the year.

Of the 966 new units sold in January 2025, rental agencies acquired 23 vehicles, consisting of 17 Toyota Fortuners, four Toyota Hilux units, and two Toyota Quantum models. The rental segment accounted for 2.38% of total vehicle sales, marking a notable increase from zero units recorded in December 2024.

“While the rental market remains a small portion of total sales, this resurgence signals a recovery in the tourism sector, particularly in the demand for self-drive options,” said

Jansen.

Dealerships remained the dominant purchasers, accounting for 943 units of total sales. Government purchases, however, remained at zero, despite the lifting of procurement restrictions on official vehicle acquisitions.

Commercial vehicles were the primary driver of annual vehicle sales growth, accounting for 51.4% of total units sold in January 2025.

“Sales in this segment increased by 3.97% year-on-year, reflecting sustained demand from businesses and industries reliant on fleet expansion and logistics. Within this category, light commercial vehicles dominated, with 463 new units sold,” Jansen noted.

Additional figures show that 20 medium commercial vehicles, eight extra-heavy commercial vehicles, and six heavy commercial vehicles were sold, while no new bus sales were recorded during the period.

Passenger vehicles accounted for 48.6% of total sales, with 469 units sold, reflecting a marginal 0.21% year-on-year decline in January 2025. On a month-on-month basis, sales declined by 8.4% from November, yet saw a notable 20.2% year-on-year increase compared to December 2023.

Year-to-date, passenger vehicle sales totalled 5,854 units, marking a 6.5% contraction from the 6,264 units sold during the same period in 2023.

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## In memory of the Founding Father of Namibia

Honourable Dr. Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma  
12 May 1929 – 08 February 2025

Our heartfelt condolences on the passing  
of H.E. Dr. Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma.

His legacy as the founding father and leader  
will forever be remembered.

**May his soul rest in peace.**

# Healing from offense and workplace bullying: Reclaiming your power

By Loide Nantinda

**T**he corporate world, while often a place of ambition and achievement, can unfortunately also be a breeding ground for offense, bullying, harassment, and even abuse.

These experiences can leave deep wounds, impacting not only our professional lives but also our mental and emotional well-being. Healing from these experiences is crucial, and it requires a multi-pronged approach. Let's look at practical communication tips and strategies to ameliorate such challenging situations.

## Understanding the Impact

Workplace bullying, harassment, and abuse can manifest in various forms: verbal abuse, intimidation, exclusion, unreasonable workloads, undermining, and even physical threats. The impact can be significant, leading to anxiety, depression, sleep disturbances, decreased productivity, and even post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). It's vital to acknowledge the severity of these experiences and understand that you are not alone.

## Strategies for Healing

Navigating workplace bullying and harassment is a complex and deeply personal journey that requires careful consideration and a proactive approach. The experience of being bullied or harassed can leave a lasting impact, making it essential to address these issues thoughtfully to foster a healthier work environment.

The first step in this process is often acknowledging and validating your feelings.



**Navigating workplace bullying and harassment is a complex and deeply personal journey that requires careful consideration and a proactive approach.**

Recognizing the emotional turmoil caused by such experiences is crucial. It's important to allow yourself to feel these emotions without judgment, as this validation can be the foundation for healing.

Seeking support can also be a pivotal move. Sharing your experiences with someone you trust, whether it's a friend, family member, or a professional therapist, can provide a safe space for processing your feelings. This support network can assist you in developing effective coping strategies and remind you that you are not alone in your struggle.

Documentation plays an essential role in managing workplace bullying. Keeping a detailed record of every incident, including dates, times, specific actions, and any witnesses, can empower you if you choose to take further action. This meticulous account not only serves as a reference but also reinforces the seriousness of the situation.

Setting boundaries is another vital strategy. Reflecting on which boundaries



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have been crossed enables you to take proactive steps to protect yourself. This might involve limiting interactions with the individual causing harm or asserting your right to a respectful workplace. If necessary, don't hesitate to involve human resources or a supervisor to ensure your concerns are taken seriously.

In the midst of these challenges, focusing on self-care is paramount. Engaging in activities that bring you joy and relaxation, such as exercise, meditation, or spending time with loved ones, can significantly contribute to your emotional well-being. Nourishing your mental health is essential for recovery and resilience.

Reframing negative thoughts is also critical in combating the self-blame that often accompanies bullying. Challenging these thoughts and replacing them with positive affirmations can help restore your self-esteem. Remember, the behavior of the perpetrator is not a reflection of your worth.

If the emotional impact of workplace bullying becomes overwhelming, seeking professional help is a wise decision. A therapist or counselor who specializes in trauma can provide the guidance and support needed to navigate your feelings and experiences.

Effective communication is integral in addressing bullying and harassment. Staying calm and assertive can

make a significant difference in how your message is received. Using "I" statements to express your feelings can foster understanding, as it focuses on your experience rather than placing blame. Additionally, being clear about your boundaries reinforces your expectations for respectful treatment.

Documenting all communications related to the situation is crucial, as it creates a record that can be referenced if the need arises. Reporting the issue to HR or a supervisor is an important step if the behavior persists. Familiarizing yourself with your company's policies regarding bullying and harassment, as well as any legal protections, can empower you to take informed actions.

By incorporating these strategies into your approach, you can begin to reclaim your sense of safety and well-being in the workplace. Navigating these difficult experiences is undoubtedly challenging, but with the right tools and support, you can create a path toward healing and empowerment.

***\*Loide Nantinda is a seasoned communications professional and storyteller with expertise in corporate communications, change management, project coordination and stakeholder engagement. Email her @loideinvictus@gmail.com for consultancy services.***





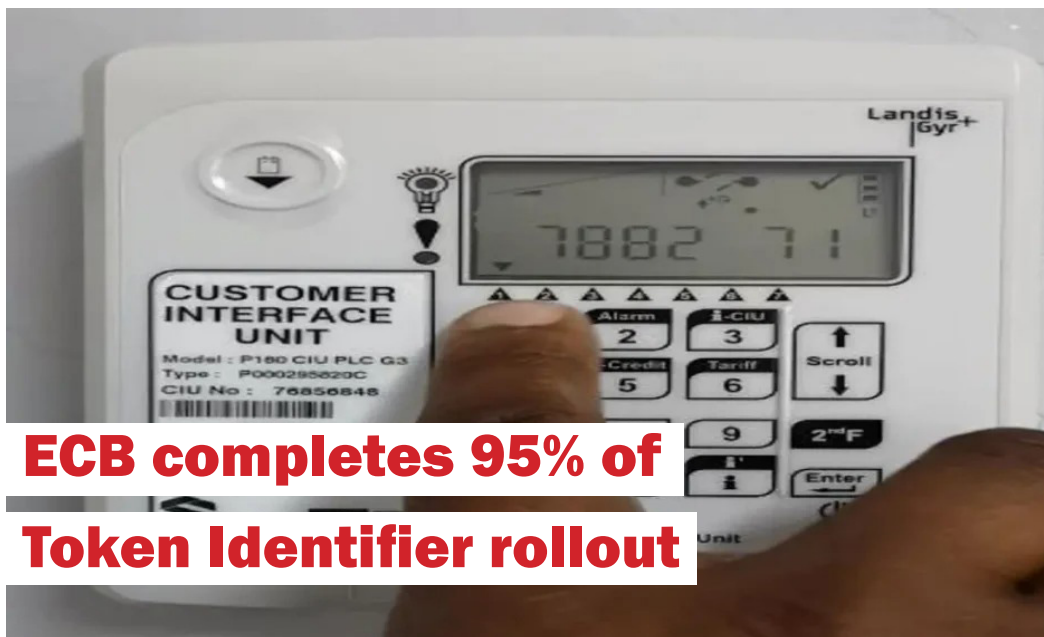
# Year in Review



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# Outlook 2025





## ECB completes 95% of Token Identifier rollout

The Electricity Control Board (ECB) says its Token Identifier (TID) roll-over campaign is complete, with a 95% execution rate.

ECB Chief Executive Officer Robert Kahimise said the campaign concluded on 24 November 2024, with 314,084 out of 329,347 prepaid electricity meters successfully rolled over.

However, he noted that 15,263 prepaid meters had not yet been updated by the cut-off date.

“ECB engaged the relevant licensees on an interim solution. Arrangements were made between those affected customers and their respective licensees by availing credits before the cut-off date or installing conventional meters whilst awaiting meter replacement,” he said.

He further indicated that licensees are in the process of submitting their final project close-off reports to the ECB for monitoring and evaluation.

“I wish to thank all electricity consumers

for their cooperation, which contributed towards the success of the TID roll-over exercise,” Kahimise said.

This comes as in 2023 only 13.4% of the total of 321,278 electricity metre boxes that need to be upgraded under the program have been attended to.

TID is a 24-bit field contained in a Standard Identification Specifications (STS) compliance token for the electricity prepayment meter that identifies the date and time of the token generation.

The TID is used to determine if an STS token has already been used in a prepayment meter. After a certain period (30 years), the TID in the token will reset back to zero, hence the need for an upgrade.

The TID roll-over project involves entering two TID tokens by the distribution licensee or its representative to update the customer prepayment meter from Key Revision 1 (KRN1) to Key Revision 2 (KRN2) and does not have any impact on the end consumer tariff and prepayment meter accuracy.



## Capricorn Foundation invests N\$2.6m in education

The Capricorn Foundation has invested N\$2.6 million in various educational and training initiatives over the past four months, focusing on infrastructure development, study materials, teacher training, and addressing rural-urban education disparities in Namibia.

The investment is in line with the Foundation's commitment to enhancing educational opportunities and promoting social and economic development across the country.

"As a Connector of Positive Change, the Capricorn Foundation takes pride in bringing about meaningful transformation through projects and programmes across Namibia. By investing in education and training, we empower Namibian learners, setting them on a path toward career success and personal development," Veripura Muukua, Capricorn Foundation Coordinator said.

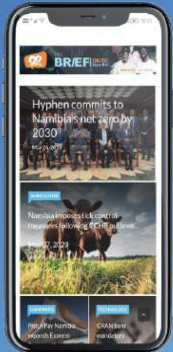
The funding has been allocated to several key educational projects. The DRC Women's Community in Swakopmund

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received N\$300,000 for its Early Childhood Development (ECD) project, benefiting 140 children from impoverished households and providing daily meals.

The project also empowers women through education and skills development.

The Foundation committed N\$582,000 to the Amos Meerkat Syllabus (AMS) programme, which prepares children in isolated rural areas for school. This initiative benefits 5,235 children and 263 teachers nationwide by providing essential school materials.

In support of youth empowerment, the Capricorn Foundation contributed N\$300,000 to the One Economy Foundation's #BeFree Youth Campus,

which offers educational and skill-building initiatives for young Namibians.

Hatika Adult Education Centre received an investment of N\$28,774 to fund literacy and vocational training for 100 adults in informal settlements.

The Foundation also pledged N\$670,000 to improve online learning access for Pioneer Secondary School in Schlip and C. //Oaseb Senior Secondary School in Gibeon, extending its support for a second year.

For Karstveld Academy, a N\$412,450 investment was allocated to provide bursaries for six Grade 11 learners in Grootfontein, covering their tuition and hostel fees for the 2025 academic year.

Additionally, the Foundation committed N\$300,000 to the Meerkat Learning programme, which will expand its reach to 10 schools in the Kunene Region. This programme aims to enhance numeracy and literacy skills among primary school students, benefiting 200 teachers and 1,000 learners.

"Our recent visit to the Meerkat Learning Project in Khorixas, alongside the Education Director for the Kunene Region, Mrs. Sophia Frederick, highlighted the importance of engaging with communities to understand challenges and foster collaboration," Muukua said.

Since its establishment in February 2020, the Capricorn Foundation has invested N\$37.4 million in corporate social responsibility initiatives across Namibia.

## A BRIGHTER OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUR TOMORROW

# TENDERS



**TENDER ENQUIRY NO. E002-ND-2025**  
**INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF 65-SEATER BUSES**

**1. OVERVIEW**  
 Namdeb Diamond Corporation (Pty) Ltd (Namdeb) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Namdeb Holdings (Pty) Ltd, and performs land-based prospecting (exploration), mining and rehabilitation operations.


**2. SPECIFICATION OF THE GOODS AND SERVICES**  
 Namdeb hereby invites reputable and qualified suppliers and/or service providers to submit tenders for the supply and delivery of 65-Seater Buses to Namdeb in Oranjemund, and after-sales support.

The supply requirements are any one of the following:  
 A) Four (4) Diesel 65-Seater Buses, or  
 B) Four (4) Battery-Electric 65-Seater Buses and 1x charger, or  
 C) Four (4) Buses which could consist of Diesel and Battery-Electric 65-Seater Buses including or excluding a charger


**3. TENDER ENQUIRY DOCUMENT**  
 Interested parties must contact the following person to obtain a copy of the tender enquiry documents by no later than **16h00 pm (Namibian time) on Tuesday, 4 March 2025**:

Contact: Supply Chain Helpdesk  
 Email: Elizabeth.Markowitz@namdeb.com  
 Tel.: +264 (63) 23 8502

**4. CLOSING DATE**  
 The closing date for the tender is **16h00 (Namibian time) on Monday, 31 March 2025**, and tender submissions must only be delivered to the address as specified in the tender enquiry document.



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# Baynes Hydropower Project: Powering Namibia's future and unlocking water solutions

By Lot Ndamanomhata

Namibia and Angola have achieved a historic milestone with the signing of the Baynes Implementation Agreement on 18 November 2024.

This pivotal step cements the foundation for the development of the Baynes Hydropower Project, with construction slated to commence in the first quarter of 2027. The agreement underscores both nations' commitment to addressing energy challenges, fostering regional cooperation, and unlocking solutions for sustainable water resource management (The Brief, 2024).

## A Collaborative Vision for Sustainable Development

The Baynes Hydropower Project is a model of transboundary cooperation between Namibia and Angola. Situated on the Kunene River at Namibia's northwest border, the 600-megawatt hydropower facility is expected to deliver 300 megawatts of electricity to each country, bolstering energy independence and driving regional economic growth (Energy Capital & Power, 2024).

However, the project's benefits extend far beyond energy. The planned Baynes Regulating Dam will serve as critical infrastructure to address water storage challenges and enhance bulk water supply for Namibia, especially in arid northern regions. This integration of energy and water management demonstrates the



**The Baynes Hydropower Project is a model of transboundary cooperation between Namibia and Angola.**

project's holistic approach to sustainable development (African Development Bank, 2024).

## Key Developments and Financial Commitments

Namibia's Minister of Mines and Energy, Tom Alweendo, has outlined the roadmap for the project, with financial close targeted by the end of 2026. The Namibian government has adopted a public funding model for financing the hydropower and regulating dams. The Ministry of Finance and Public Enterprises is tasked with mobilising funds and securing additional financing for access roads, with construction of these roads set to begin in September 2024 (Observer24, 2024).

The total cost of the Baynes Hydropower Project is estimated at N\$22 billion (US\$1.3 billion), with a construction timeline of six years. Namibia's national utility, NamPower, will oversee the integration of the generated energy into the national grid, while the Angola-Namibia Transmission Interconnection (ANNA Interconnection)

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will connect Angola to the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP), fostering regional energy trade (African Development Bank, 2024).

### **Institutional Framework for Effective Implementation**

To ensure smooth execution, Namibia and Angola have established robust governance structures:

1. Binational Implementation Unit (BIU): Replacing the existing Project Office, the BIU will coordinate with the Permanent Joint Technical Commission on the Cunene Basin.
2. Joint Project Office (JPO): Based in Windhoek or Luanda, this office will streamline coordination between the two nations, ensuring transparency and efficiency throughout the project lifecycle (The Brief, 2024).

### **Benefits for Namibia's Energy and Water Sectors**

The Baynes Hydropower Project is expected to transform Namibia's energy landscape, reducing reliance on imported electricity from neighbouring countries. It will complement existing renewable energy facilities, such as the Ruacana Hydropower Station, enhancing grid stability and affordability (Energy Capital & Power, 2024).

#### **For NamWater, the project could offer immense opportunities:**

- Enhanced water storage capacity through the regulating dam, mitigating the effects of drought and water scarcity.
- Development of strategic partnerships with Angola for joint water and energy resource management.
- Improved infrastructure to support bulk water supply in Namibia's northwestern regions, reducing costs and operational complexities (African Development Bank, 2024).

### **Comparisons with Other Hydropower Projects**

Unlike contentious projects like the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) on the Nile, which has sparked geopolitical tensions, the Baynes Project exemplifies successful cross-border collaboration.

The Namibian government has adopted a public funding model for financing the hydropower and regulating dams.

Namibia and Angola's mutual commitment to sustainable resource use and equitable benefits sets a benchmark for transboundary hydropower initiatives in Africa (BBC News, 2023).

### Regional and Economic Impacts

The Baynes Hydropower Project is poised to strengthen the Southern African Development Community (SADC) energy framework.

By integrating Angola into the SAPP, the project will enhance regional energy security and create opportunities for power trade within the regional market.

Additionally, the project is expected to generate significant economic benefits, including:

- Job creation during construction and operational phases.
- Stimulation of local economies through procurement and ancillary services.
- Attraction of foreign investment in energy-intensive industries (Observer24, 2024).

### Potential Challenges and Mitigation Measures

While the Baynes Project presents enormous opportunities, challenges such as funding delays, environmental concerns, and cross-border coordination

must be addressed. Both governments are committed to proactive risk management, including phased budget allocations and adherence to international environmental standards (The Brief, 2024).

### Conclusion

The signing of the Baynes Implementation Agreement marks a transformative moment for Namibia and Angola.

By 2031, the Baynes Hydropower Project will not only provide critical energy security but also unlock new avenues for water resource management, positioning the project as a cornerstone of sustainable development in Southern Africa.

For Namibia, the project represents a unique opportunity to integrate energy and water infrastructure, addressing dual challenges of power shortages and water scarcity.

By leveraging these synergies, Namibia can ensure that the Baynes Project delivers multi-sectoral benefits, aligns with national development goals, and contributes to long-term resilience in a changing climate.

***\*Lot Ndamanomhata is graduate of Public Management, Journalism and Communication. This article reflects his views and write entirely in his personal capacity.***



Enriching  
Generations

# FINANCIAL MARKET MONITOR

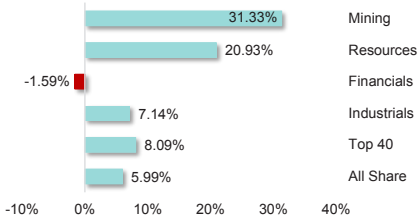
### Commodities

Spot Gold	2923.77
Platinum	981.22
Palladium	979.00
Silver	32.58
Uranium	67.85
Brent Crude	75.44
Iron Ore	100.57
Copper	9347.70
Natural Gas	3.72
Lithium	9.85

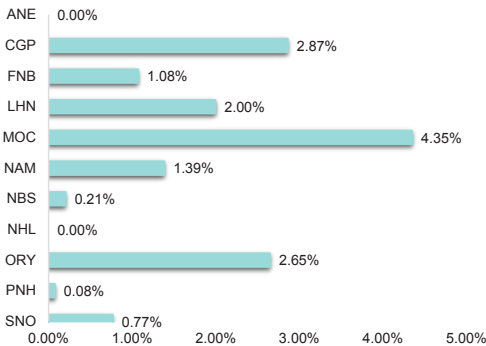
### Currencies

USD/ZAR	18.4216
EUR/ZAR	19.2300
GBP/ZAR	23.2090
USD/CNY	7.2804
EUR/USD	1.0449
GBP/USD	1.2598
USD/RUB	92.2600
CPI	3.20%
Repo Rate	6.75%
Prime Rate	10.50%

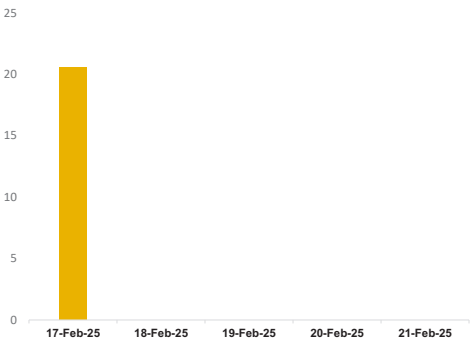
### JSE Sectors: Year to Date in %



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



### JSE ALL SHARE VALUE TRADED (ZAR BILLIONS)



### Global Indices: Year to Date in %

