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THE

BRIEF

News Worth Knowing



Manufacturing sector to create 80,000 jobs by 2030

TUESDAY 22 JULY 2025

MAIN STORY



Manufacturing sector to create 80,000 jobs by 2030

Namibia's manufacturing sector is expected to create over 80,000 jobs by 2030, up from 53,491 in 2024, according to the newly launched Sixth National Development Plan (NDP6).

The plan outlines government's strategy to make manufacturing a major source of employment, economic growth, and exports over the next six years.

The policy, launched by President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, aims to raise the sector's share of GDP from 10.6% to 18%, while boosting its contribution to exports from

42% to 60%.

Average monthly wages in the sector are projected to increase from N\$5,749 to

Crucial Dates

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

N\$10,000.

To support these targets, investment in manufacturing is expected to rise from 6.1% to 15% of total investment by 2030.

According to the NDP6 document, “The sub-sub goal aims at adding value to raw materials and boosting manufacturing in a sustainable and environmentally-friendly way to ensure long-term economic and ecological health.”

The government plans to focus on five strategic areas: modernising industrial infrastructure, improving access to finance, introducing tailored incentives, promoting new technologies, and strengthening value chains. Priority sectors include agro-processing, pharmaceuticals, mineral beneficiation, textiles, and steel production.

“This policy aims to move Namibia further up the value chain by producing high-value, complex products, thereby creating jobs, stimulating economic growth, and enhancing competitiveness,” the plan notes.

Infrastructure development will centre on special economic zones, industrial parks, and ready-built facilities to attract both local and foreign investors.

“The strategy will review, redesign and implement the modernisation and expansion of essential facilities such as industrial parks, and specialised industrial zones i.e. special economic zones,” the report states.

To finance this growth, government will partner with international development finance institutions to mobilise capital and expertise. Support mechanisms will include low-interest loans, grants, and blended financing. “Foster partnerships with international development finance institutions to attract foreign capital and expertise, thus ensuring that financial support

reaches both emerging and established manufacturers,” the policy outlines.

Incentives tailored to industry needs will also be introduced, including industrial rebates, export support, and subsidies. “The aim is to establish an incentive programme tailored to the needs of the industry,” the document reads.

Technology and innovation will be central to the plan, with new hubs and incubation centres to be established. These will provide access to modern research, industrial skills training, and green technologies.

“Technology hubs, innovation and incubation centres will be established to provide manufacturers with industrial skills, modern research, and development resources including the adoption of green technologies,” it states.

Flagship programmes include Manufacturing Infrastructure and Value Chains Development, with specific focus on sectors such as poultry, charcoal, textiles, and rural-based manufacturing.

Despite its potential, the manufacturing sector has experienced stagnation.

Between 2015 and 2024, it contributed an average of 11.5% to GDP and just 9.8% to total employment.

Investment declined to 7% in 2024 and fell by an average of 5.6% per year since 2016.

“Namibia was able to diversify; however, it has diversified into less complex and less high value products; hence, its contribution remains constant over a longer period,” the report warns.

Through NDP6, the government aims to reverse this trend and establish manufacturing as a central pillar of Namibia’s economy, creating jobs, raising incomes, and increasing exports.

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Namibia's Visa-on-Arrival system nets N\$171 million in three months

Namibia has earned N\$171 million in visa revenue between April and June this year, following the introduction of the Visa on Arrival system aimed at

boosting tourism.

President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah announced the figures during the launch of the 6th National Development Plan (NDP6)



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at the University of Namibia, revealing that 115,857 visas were issued during the three-month period.

“The Government implemented the Visa on Arrival system on 1 April 2025. I am proud to share that, as of 30 June 2025, visas totalling 115,857 have been issued, generating 171 million Namibian Dollars in revenue for the State,” she said.

Tourism has been prioritised as a key economic enabler under NDP6, with the state working towards finalising a National Tourism Spatial Master Plan by September 2025. The plan is designed to promote socioeconomic inclusion and distribute tourism more evenly across the country.


According to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security, all revenue collected through the visa system, which was introduced on 3 March 2025, is paid directly into the State Revenue Fund to support development initiatives.

The sector is also undergoing broader reform through the National Spatial Development Master Plan, led by the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT), which targets an increase in direct tourism jobs from 57,000 to 80,000 by 2030.

MEFT Executive Director Sikongo Haihambo said the plan would ease the burden on popular sites like Etosha National Park and Sossusvlei by expanding tourism activity across all 14 regions.

“The tourism sector employs about 57,000. That’s now direct jobs. We’re looking at around 2030 to have grown this number to 80,000. So therefore the spatial development plan is going to assist us in the realisation of that aspiration,” Haihambo said.

The plan will also map undeveloped and underutilised areas with tourism potential and introduce investment opportunities through targeted zoning.

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Green Schemes harvest 10,000t of maize with three new sites in pipeline

Namibia's nine state-run Green Schemes have produced nearly 10,000 tonnes of maize by mid-June this year, with harvesting still ongoing, according to President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah.

Presenting her 100-day progress report alongside the

launch of the 6th National Development Plan (NDP6) on 21 July, Nandi-Ndaitwah said the schemes had yielded 9,947 tonnes of maize, 300 tonnes of potatoes and 39 tonnes of sunflower so far this season.

“All nine Green Schemes under the Ministry of

Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform, covering a total of 5,600 hectares of irrigable land, remain operational. As of this reporting period, 3,403 hectares are actively under cultivation, with harvesting currently underway. The aim is food security,” she said.

The Green Schemes form part of government efforts to improve national food self-sufficiency and reduce dependence on imports.

In a bid to expand the programme, the government has identified three additional sites for future Green Scheme development: Katima Farm in the Zambezi Region, Ekoka in Ohangwena, and the Uvhungu-Vhungu Dairy Farm in Kavango East, where de-bushing is currently underway.

“The Uvhungu-Vhungu Dairy Farm in Kavango East is also being prepared, with de-bushing already in progress. Strategic partnerships are being explored to establish commercial-scale super farms,” Nandi-Ndaitwah added.

Other interventions aimed at strengthening food systems include the acquisition of Farm Richlyn in the Omaheke Region for resettlement purposes, and the establishment of a 13-hectare food security pilot project in Otjombinde Constituency in partnership with the World Food Programme. Government plans to roll out the project to all 13

remaining regions.

Additional infrastructure developments include the refurbishment of the seed processing facility at Omahenene and the construction of new seed facilities in Katima Mulilo and Katwitwi. A feasibility study is also planned for a combined seed and fertiliser plant under a public-private partnership model.

Meanwhile, the Namibia Correctional Service produced food worth N\$13.9 million between May and June across its Divundu, Oluno and Hardap facilities, resulting in savings of N\$6.7 million for the state.



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/RFP/ GIPF- 01/2025	Survey Analysis Service Provider for GIPF for the 2025 - 2027 Financial Year Periods	N/A	Gisela Naris E: gnaris@gipf.com.na T: +264 61 205 1746	05 August 2025 at 12:00 p.m.
NCS/ RFP/GIPF- 01/2025	Implementation of GIPF File Plan	N/A	Julia Shipanga E: jshipanga@gipf.com.na T: +264 61 205 1745	06 August 2025 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 deadlines will not be considered.

www.gipf.com.na



Beyond the feed: What social media gets right, and what it can't do alone

By Angela Ndatipo

A few years ago, social media was considered the new frontier in marketing and communication.

Social media platforms promised brands a direct line to their audiences due to its setup of being fast, dynamic, and disruptive, in this respect it has delivered on this promise in more ways than one.

The Government Institutions Pension Fund (GIPF) has embraced this new and emerging technology as it has become a vital tool to share news, views, updates, and can respond to queries, and speak to our members in an engaging, personal, and accessible manner to many.

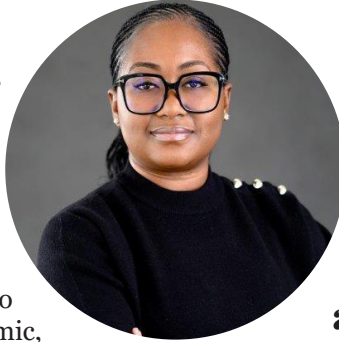
But here's the one thing that we've learned: social media is not the whole story, it is just one chapter in a much broader digital narrative, one that continues to unfold every day and one that we need to use strategically, proactively and appropriately, based on our message and audience.

If you ask around in most boardrooms, you will hear this: "we need to improve our digital strategy, let us boost our social media presence."

The response to this is that while the intention is correct, the assumption is flawed.

Social media is part of digital, it is not The digital.

Digital, in its true sense, is an ecosystem, it is inclusive of your mobile applications,



Social media is about how information flows, how services are accessed, how trust is built, and how all those elements come together to form an integrated experience.

online portals, websites, intranets, automated systems, emails, and even the data that is quietly working behind the scenes.

Social media is about how information flows, how services are accessed, how trust is built, and how all those elements come together to form an integrated experience.

The GIPF has embraced social media platforms strategically through the realisation that social media forms an integral and integrated part of a bigger picture and this approach has fundamentally changed how we operate and communicate with our members and strategic stakeholders at the Fund.

Social media a real solution for real people

The GIPF recently launched its Member

Verification Mobile Application.

This selfservice tool enables members to verify proof of life in the comfort of their homes and is accessible to GIPF pensioners, child and spousal annuitants who have access to a smart mobile device and data and is available on android and IOS devices.

Before this application, pensioners, many living in remote areas, had to travel long distances to verify their proof of life.

This application has positively transformed the Fund's operations in that the digital offerings streamline the GIPF's online presence to meet its strategic objective of being a member centric pension fund.

The mobile application requires a few taps, a smart mobile device and data and can do be done in the comfort of your own home.

The Online Member Portal (Self-Service Kiosk) on the other hand is not your typical physical booth, it is an accessible online platform where members can view and download their pension benefit statements.

This offering alleviates physical visits to

our branches, is a queue less offering, does not require paperwork, and is empowering in that members have access to information at the click of a button.

The question one now asks is, what is the role of social media in all new and emerging technological developments? The answer is simple, social media becomes the storyteller.

Social media enables organisations to demonstrate how these tools work, create awareness on their benefits, and what users should look out for are the regular updates and interfaces Organisations should, however, consider their audience demographics, needs and abilities when introducing new media platforms and must integrate such offerings with traditional media such as radio, print brochures, and face-to-face interaction.

At the GIPF we believe in a multi-channel approach, inclusive of outreach sessions in rural areas, SMS reminders, and printed information packs.

We aim to have a holistic integrated approach that does not merely push digital but ensures that all stakeholders have an

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experience and interaction with the Fund in a manner that is natural to them.

Digital has not only changed how we communicate to external stakeholders but has also changed the internal communication strategies of organisations. Teams collaborate more seamlessly through digital tools as internal campaigns, key internal updates, and performance updates flow through internal newsletters and messaging platforms.

Organisations are building a digital culture, not just digital content through their communications strategies.

This is backed with data, not vanity metrics, but insights, what content people respond to, what issues generate the most questions, where we can improve, providing key insights on how communication evolves from activity to strategy and stakeholder engagement and satisfaction.

Thus, marketing and communications teams are reminded that the magic does not just merely happen on these various platforms by chance, it happens through connections made with stakeholders on these platforms.

This is irrespective of whether it is a Facebook post, a mobile application interface, or a one-on-one conversation at a community event. It all amounts to the same thing, making people feel seen, heard, and supported.

Beyond the feed, social media gets it right as organisations cannot do it alone, therefore, be bold, use the many tools of offer, embrace the trends and build an ecosystem that is bigger than any one channel.

****Angela Ndatipo is a Digital Media & Marketing Officer at GIPF***



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Namibia targets to formalise 950 informal businesses by 2030

The Namibian government has announced plans to formalise 950 informal enterprises by 2030, up from a baseline of 310 in 2024, as part of its drive to transform the country’s informal economy under the newly launched Sixth National Development Plan (NDP6).

The initiative is aimed at strengthening the micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) sector and forms part of broader efforts to achieve inclusive economic growth, increased

competitiveness, and resilience.

According to the NDP6 document, the government aims to transition informal businesses into “productive, competitive, and resilient units capable of contributing meaningfully to national development.”

“Desired outcome: by 2030, the number of informal enterprises transitioned into the formal economy has increased to 950 from 310,” the report states.

The plan also targets an increase in the contribution of



TAKING STOCK NAMIBIA 2025

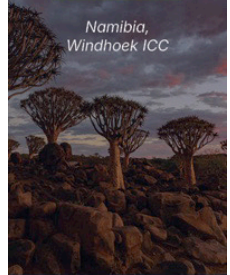
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The plan also targets an increase in the contribution of the MSME sector to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from the current 16% to 19.4% by 2030.

the MSME sector to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from the current 16% to 19.4% by 2030.

To achieve these goals, several interventions are planned. These include strengthening business support systems through mentorship and skills development, investing in infrastructure with essential amenities, and improving access to both financial and non-financial services tailored to the needs of MSMEs.

A flagship entrepreneurship development programme is set to equip entrepreneurs with the knowledge, tools, and resources to grow their businesses. This will be supported by a business formalisation programme focused specifically on helping informal enterprises scale up and integrate into the formal economy.

In addition, the government intends to develop market-access platforms such as e-commerce solutions, organised marketing groups, and temporary exhibitions to help small businesses connect with wider customer bases.

“This will significantly enhance the overall efficiency and productivity of MSMEs and the informal sector, leading to job creation, income generation and economic growth,” the report noted.

The efforts are part of a broader strategy under NDP6 to improve livelihoods and reduce barriers to economic participation across the country.



Namibia targets 130,000ha farms, N\$2.8bn in crop exports

Namibia plans to expand large-scale farming land from 11,200 hectares in 2024 to 130,000 hectares by 2030, according to the Sixth National Development Plan (NDP6).

The government also aims to increase the value of strategic crop exports from N\$1.9 billion to N\$2.8 billion over the same period.

The targets form part of a broader strategy to improve food self-sufficiency, reduce imports, and grow the agricultural sector's contribution to the economy.

“By 2030, the crop value chain's contribution to GDP is expected to rise from 2.1% to 4%, while the livestock value

chain is projected to increase from 2.5% to 4%. Combined, these sectors are targeted to contribute at least 8% to GDP, up from the current 4.6%,” the report states.

Government wants to raise the share of locally produced food from 60% to 80% by 2030. Currently, Namibia produces only about 40% of the food it consumes.

“During the 2024/25 season, imports accounted for 89% of maize, 98% of wheat, and 88% of pearl millet consumption. Total domestic cereal production for the season stood at 36,208 metric tonnes, just 8% of national demand,” according to the plan.

To address this, government plans to increase domestic production of key

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During the 2024/25 season, imports accounted for 89% of maize, 98% of wheat, and 88% of pearl millet consumption.

agricultural inputs such as seed, fertiliser, feed, and veterinary supplies from 0% to 65% by 2030.

This will be supported by investments in rangeland management, plant and animal health, and agricultural research.

The plan also includes a national programme to revitalise value chains in dairy, poultry, piggery, small stock, and horticulture.

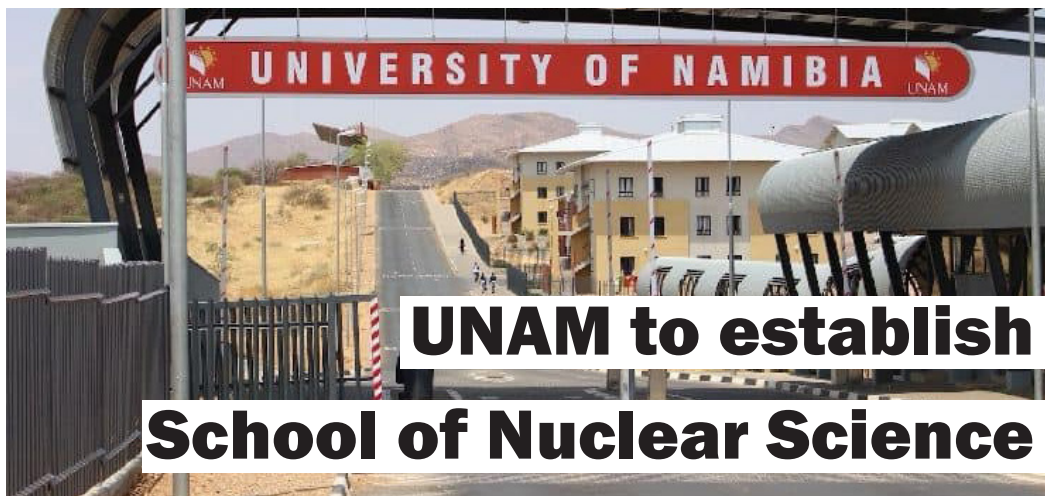
“These will be supported by feedlot expansions, targeted incentives, and livestock development schemes in the Northern Communal Areas to improve access to markets and services,” the report states.

NDP6 further calls for expanded agricultural exports, including a focus on high-value crops and improved logistics to reach regional and global markets.

Government will also promote climate-smart agriculture through solar and biogas energy systems, sustainable irrigation, and cold storage to improve productivity and reduce waste.

The NDP6 analysis notes that 70% of the population depends on agriculture. In 2024, the livestock sub-sector contributed 3.1% to GDP and grew by 7.6%. Under the previous development plan, Namibia exported over 1.3 million weaners and nearly 4 million small stock on hoof.

The agricultural goals set out in NDP6 align with regional and national commitments, including the Malabo and Kampala Declarations and the 2024 SWAPO Party Manifesto, which prioritise food systems development and aim to cut staple food imports by 80%.



UNAM to establish School of Nuclear Science

The University of Namibia (UNAM) is finalising plans to establish a School of Nuclear Science Applications, which will focus on nuclear energy, medicine, and uses in agriculture and water technologies.

UNAM Pro-Vice Chancellor Ellen Namhila made the announcement during the launch of the Sixth National Development Plan (NDP6), stating that the move is part of efforts to provide scientific solutions that support national development.

“I am pleased to inform you that we are at an advanced stage of establishing a School of Nuclear Science Applications, which will include departments for Nuclear Energy, Nuclear Medicine, and Nuclear Applications in Agriculture and Water Technologies,” Namhila said. “The establishment of this school reaffirms our promise to the nation that UNAM is committed to providing the government and the people of Namibia with the best possible scientific solutions.”

The planned school directly supports NDP6’s goal of increasing the contribution of the nuclear industry to Namibia’s economy.

According to the plan, government aims to grow the sector’s share of GDP from 3.2% to 4% by 2030.

It also plans to train at least 100 people in nuclear science, establish three significant applications of nuclear technology, and set up one fully functional radioanalytical laboratory.

The NDP6 report states: “The operational capacity will be assessed and revised to ensure that it has the number of personnel, skills and experience to adequately respond to the current scope and future projects in the nuclear industry by pursuing implementation of a management system to ensure operational excellence.”

Government also plans to review and strengthen the Atomic Energy and Radiation Protection Act (2005) to improve regulation of nuclear installations and reinforce independent oversight.

A proposed Nuclear Institute of Namibia will serve as a technical body to lead feasibility studies and project management.

In addition, Namibia will seek bilateral and multilateral partnerships to raise funding and attract investment into the sector.

According to the report, these partnerships aim to minimise risk while delivering meaningful returns for both Namibia and its international partners.

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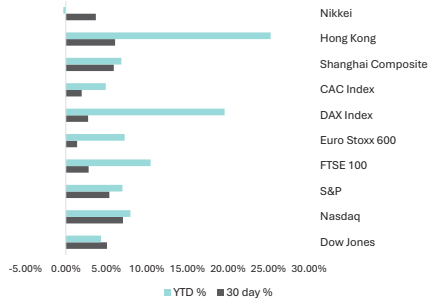
Commodities

Spot Gold	3425.36
Platinum	1450.59
Palladium	1273.56
Silver	32.17
Uranium	72.20
Brent Crude	68.42
Iron Ore (in CNY)	818.00
Copper	9860.00
Natural Gas	3.24
Lithium	8.25

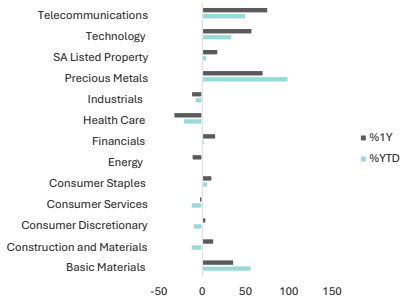
Currencies

USD/ZAR	17.60
EUR/ZAR	20.60
GBP/ZAR	23.74
USD/CNY	7.17
EUR/USD	1.17
GBP/USD	1.35
USD/JPY	146.58
Namibia Repo Rate	3.70%
Namibia Prime Rate	6.75%
Namibia Prime Rate	10.50%

Global Indices in %



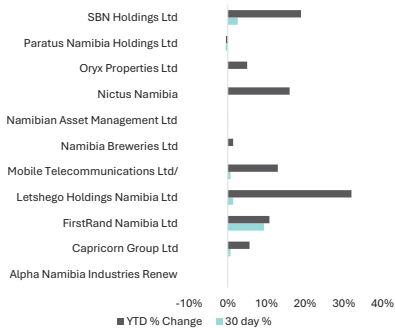
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