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MAIN STORY



IMF flags risks in Namibia's mortgage-focused banking sector

Namibia's banking sector is too heavily focused on mortgage lending, limiting credit to businesses and constraining private sector growth, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has warned.

In its latest assessment of Namibia's financial system, the IMF found that nearly half of all private sector credit is allocated to housing, while lending to businesses remains limited. This, the Fund said, is

stalling efforts to diversify the economy and reduce reliance on resource extraction.

Crucial Dates

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

“As Namibia seeks to diversify its economy and foster private sector-led growth, it is important to develop solutions that support sound lending to non-financial corporations,” the IMF stated in its report.

The Fund cited a 2024 World Bank enterprise survey which revealed that two-thirds of Namibian firms identified access to finance as the most significant obstacle to doing business—ranking above regulatory issues, infrastructure, and security concerns.

“Access to finance is the top obstacle identified by firms in the survey, surpassing other challenges such as regulatory burdens, security and stability, and infrastructure,” the IMF noted.

While mining companies tend to rely on intra-group funding from parent firms, the IMF said other businesses are struggling to meet collateral requirements, leaving many unable to secure loans from commercial banks.

To address these issues, the IMF has called on the Bank of Namibia to tighten lending standards while encouraging targeted credit growth in productive sectors. It specifically recommended the reintroduction of downpayment requirements for residential mortgages and the collection of borrower-level data

such as debt-to-income ratios.


“Maintaining minimum lending standards is crucial for preventing future NPLs [non-performing loans],” the Fund warned.


The IMF also urged the Bank of Namibia to proceed with implementing a countercyclical capital buffer by the end of 2025. It further recommended introducing a systemic risk buffer for banks with high levels of sovereign exposure, noting that commercial banks remain vulnerable due to their significant holdings of government debt and dependence on wholesale funding from non-bank financial institutions.

“Namibia’s vulnerabilities to external and commodity price shocks and a fixed exchange rate underscore the need for a resilient financial system,” the IMF stated.

According to the Fund, wholesale funding from non-bank financial institutions accounted for 15% of GDP at the end of 2024. Despite the size of the country’s financial sector, credit to the private sector has continued to decline since the pandemic, leading to a widening negative credit gap.

“By the end of the analysis period, all methodologies indicated that Namibia’s credit gap was negative as of mid-2024,” the IMF concluded.





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And together, we'll shape what comes next.

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Meatco suspends Liebenberg, appoints Kwenani as Acting CEO

Meatco has appointed Kingsley Kwenani as its new Acting CEO, replacing Patrick Liebenberg, who had been serving in the role but has now been placed on suspension.

Kwenani, who is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Meatco NCA, officially took over on 15 July 2025.

According to an internal memo issued to staff by the Deputy Chairperson of the Board, Stephanie De Klerk, Liebenberg was suspended on 14 July 2025 pending an investigation.

He also held the position of Executive for Livestock Procurement & Production.

“The Meatco Board of Directors hereby informs all employees of the corporation that it has resolved to place the Acting CEO/Executive: Livestock Procurement



& Production, Mr. Patrick Liebenberg, on suspension with effect from 14 July 2025, pending an investigation, during which process, the corporation will accord whistle-blowers the necessary protection,” De Klerk said.

No reasons were given for the suspension, and the nature of the investigation remains undisclosed.

Kwenani’s appointment will run until 31 August 2025 or until an external secondment is confirmed by the Ministry of Finance.

“To this end, the Board has, in the interim, appointed Mr. Kingsley Kwenani as Acting CEO effective from Tuesday, 15 July 2025 until 31st August 2025, or the earlier of the external secondment acting appointment being finalised by the Ministry of Finance,” De Klerk said.




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Know your winter vegetables and how to grow them

By Hanks Saisai

Wintertime offers an opportune time for farmers to grow a variety of cool weather loving crops. Vegetables grown at the right time typically thrive and grow optimally, producing significant yields. Namibia has seven crop production zones, namely Zambezi, Kavango, KARST, North Central, Central, South and Orange,

according to the Namibian Agronomic Board (NAB). During winter, farmers in these zones can grow a variety of winter vegetables such as onions, cabbage, lettuce, beetroot, carrots, broccoli and cauliflower to meet local demand.

Onions (*Allium cepa*) are a common crop that can be grown during the upcoming winter season. This crop prefers a range of soils, but loamy soils conventionally produce



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better results for farmers. The ideal soil for growing onions should be well-drained, with good aeration and a soil pH range of 5.5 to 6.5 (slightly acidic conditions). Onions require temperature ranges of 18 – 22 °C during the day and wintertime offers such temperatures for optimal growth. The ideal planting time for onions is the end of March to the beginning of April, and the seeds can be sown directly into prepared planting beds. Onions have a growing period of 90 to 155 or 200 days, depending on the variety grown by the farmer. The common spacing recommendations are 15 to 20 cm between rows, 7 to 10 cm within rows, and a sowing depth of 0.5 – 1 cm. Adding manure during land preparation is recommended, but it

is essential for farmers to test the soil for accurate fertilizer application. Farmers can also apply NPK (2:3:2 or 2:3:4) throughout the growing period. Moreover, the water requirements for onions range from 400 to 600 mm over the growing period, and if planted accordingly, a farmer can achieve an average yield of 30 tons per Hectare.

Cabbage (*Brassica oleracea*) is another common crop that can be grown during the winter season. This crop prefers a range of soils, but loamy soil produces the best results for farmers. The soil should be well-drained with good aeration and contain an abundance of organic matter to supply sufficient nutrients. The soil must have a soil pH range of 6.5 to 7 (slightly acidic to neutral



THE CHAMBER OF MINES OF NAMIBIA

13 July 2025

Correction of Sinomine Tsumeb Smelter financial information reported in 2024 Chamber of Mines Annual Review

To the esteemed members of the media,

The Chamber of Mines is compelled to rectify an error in our 2024 Annual Review regarding the Sinomine Tsumeb Smelter's financial performance. Contrary to the published figure, the smelter incurred a loss, not a profit of N\$274 million as incorrectly stated.

We sincerely apologise for any damage or misinformation this error may have caused our members and stakeholders. We kindly request that the media correct this inaccuracy in their reporting to reflect the true financial position of the smelter.

We appreciate your cooperation and commitment to accurate reporting, and we look forward to continued collaboration

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Executive Committee: George Botshiwe (President), John Roos (1st Vice President), Irvinne Simataa (2nd Vice President), Veston Malango (CEO)

soils). Cabbages require temperature ranges of 15 to 20 oC during the day and can tolerate frost up to – 3 oC, and wintertime offers such temperatures for optimal growth. The end of March to the beginning of April offers an ideal planting time for cabbages. Cabbage seeds must be sown in seedling trays, and at a later stage, the farmer can transplant the seedlings into prepared seedbeds until they reach maturity. Cabbages have a growing period of 85 to 90 or 120 days, depending on the variety grown. The common spacing recommendations are 50 to 70 cm between rows, 40 to 50 cm within rows, and a sowing depth of 0.5 – 1 cm in the seedling trays. A soil test should be conducted to ensure correct fertilizer application, however, the addition of manure at soil preparation is ideal.

Moreover, cabbages may prefer Nitrogen-rich fertilizers, such as Urea or chicken manure can be an ideal organic fertilizer (NB: Do not make use of fresh chicken manure, it must be 2 months old before you can use it). The water requirements for growing cabbages range from 440 to 500 mm over the growing period. If planted correctly and properly cared for, a farmer can achieve an average yield of 40,000 to 50,000 heads per Hectare.

Beetroot (*Beta vulgaris*) can also be grown during winter, known for its nutritious roots. This crop can also be grown in a wide range of soils but prefers loamy soil for good results. The soil should be well drained with good aeration and must have a soil pH range of 5.5 to 6.5 (slightly acidic soil condition).

The ideal day temperature for growing beetroot should range from 15 to 20 oC for optimal growth. The end of March and beginning of April offer an ideal planting time, and beetroot seeds can be sown directly in the seedbeds or seedling trays and later be transplanted by the farmer. Beetroots have a growing period of 60 to 90 days, depending on the variety. The commonly recommended spacing requirements of beetroot are 40 cm between rows, 10 cm within rows, and a depth of 1 –2 cm in beds or seedling trays. A soil test should be conducted to ensure correct fertilizer application, however, adding manure at soil preparation is ideal to ensure the soil supplies essential elements. Beetroot has water requirements ranging from 400 to 600 mm over the growing period. If planted correctly and



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properly cared for, a farmer can achieve an average yield of 20 tons per Hectare.

Lettuce (*Lactuca sativa*) is another common crop that can be grown during winter, known for its nutritious leaves that are often popular in the fast-food industry. Lettuce can be grown in a range of soils, but loamy soil is always ideal for optimal yields. The soil should be well-drained with good aeration and must contain a lot of organic matter to provide sufficient nutrients. The soil pH should range from 6.5 to 7 (slightly acidic to neutral soils). Lettuce requires temperature ranges of 15 to 20 oC during the day and can tolerate frost up to – 3 oC, and wintertime offers such temperatures for optimal growth. The end of March to the beginning of April offers an ideal planting time, and lettuce seeds must be sown in seedling trays. The seedlings can be transplanted at a later stage into prepared seedbeds until they reach maturity. Lettuce has a growing period of 45 to 75 days, depending on the variety grown by the farmer. The commonly recommended spacing requirements for lettuce crops are 60 cm between rows, 30 cm within rows, and a sowing depth of 1 – 2 cm in beds or seedling trays. Correct fertilizer application requires a farmer to conduct a soil test, however, adding manure during soil preparation is ideal. Due to its leafy nature, lettuce may prefer Nitrogen-rich fertilizers, such as Urea or chicken manure can be an ideal organic fertilizer (NB: Do not make use of fresh chicken manure, it must be 2 months old before you can use it). The water requirements for lettuce crops range from 440 to

500 mm over the growing period. If planted correctly and properly cared for, a farmer can achieve an average yield of 20 tons per Hectare.

Other crops that can be grown by farmers during winter include carrots, broccoli and cauliflower. Ideally, farmers should grow crops driven by market demand, and it is equally vital to secure a market before venturing into the production of these crops. Moreover, if a farmer's production site is larger than 0.5 Hectares (5,000 m²), it is essential to register as a producer with the Namibian Agronomic Board (NAB).

*** Hanks Saisai is a Technical Advisor: Crops and Poultry at Agribank**



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Airlink adds second daily Walvis Bay– Johannesburg flight

Airlink has launched a second daily flight between Walvis Bay and Johannesburg, with the new service starting on 4 July 2025.

The additional frequency offers travellers more flexibility between Namibia's coast and South Africa's economic hub, supporting both tourism and business travel, and is expected to benefit key sectors including logistics, port operations and energy.

The updated schedule sees two flights a day in both directions. From Johannesburg, Flight 4Z141 departs at 10:20 and Flight 4Z143 at 14:05. From Walvis Bay, Flight 4Z142 departs at 13:40 and Flight 4Z144 at 17:25.

"This new Airlink expansion offers travellers improved air access to Walvis Bay and Swakopmund. It is a strategic link that reinforces Walvis Bay's role as a Southern African trade, investment

This new Airlink expansion offers travellers improved air access to Walvis Bay and Swakopmund.

and tourism hub,” said Bisey /Uirab, CEO of the Namibia Airports Company and spokesperson for Air Connect Namibia.

supports airlines operating in and out of Namibia’s international airports.

He added that the expansion reflects strong collaboration between the public and private sectors and highlights what joint efforts can achieve in strengthening Namibia’s air connectivity.

Walvis Bay serves as a gateway to some of Namibia’s top tourist destinations, including Swakopmund, the Namib Desert and the Namib-Naukluft National Park.

Air Connect Namibia, launched in 2024, is a national air service development programme led by the Namibia Airports Company. It works in partnership with the Gondwana Collection, Namibia Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board, Namibia Tourism Board, Walvis Bay Corridor Group and the City of Windhoek. The initiative

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CLOSING DATE: 8 AUGUST 2025



Paratus Namibia gears up for 5G rollout

Paratus Namibia is preparing to expand its mobile technology footprint in the country with the rollout of 5G, positioning itself at the centre of the country's next phase of digital transformation.

According to Managing Director Andrew Hall, the company sees 5G as a key growth area and is actively investing in the necessary infrastructure.

"Looking ahead, our next big move is expanding our mobile technology

footprint—specifically 5G. That's where we see the next wave of opportunity," Hall said in an interview on The African Tech Roundup. He said the company is doubling down on its investment in fibre while preparing for its 5G rollout, as part of a broader effort to meet rising demand for faster and more reliable digital connectivity.

Hall also used the platform to call for greater collaboration among telecom operators, warning that infrastructure duplication is hindering efficiency and

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slowing sector growth.

He highlighted the costly and unnecessary trend of multiple operators installing separate fibre lines and mobile towers along the same routes. “We often see multiple fibre cables and towers running parallel across the same routes, which is inefficient. Open access models, like the one we introduced, are key to improving competition and service delivery,” he said.

While Namibia has three main telecom operators, Hall noted that regulatory and structural challenges often limit opportunities for infrastructure sharing. Still, he emphasised that cooperation, not duplication, is essential if Namibia is to expand digital access affordably and sustainably.

He said Paratus is one of the first operators in the country to adopt an open access network, allowing smaller internet service providers (ISPs) to use its fibre

infrastructure. Hall said this model not only reduces redundant investments but also enhances consumer choice and supports a more competitive telecom environment.

While Paratus remains primarily enterprise-focused, generating about 75% of its business from corporate clients, it has seen strong growth in the consumer segment since 2016. Hall attributes this success to delivering consistent, high-quality internet service and being agile in adapting to customer needs.

Hall emphasised that Paratus has consistently reinvested in the Namibian market since its inception. The company initially built a wireless network before laying down its first major fibre backhaul from the cable landing station in Swakopmund to the Botswana border. In 2018, it began rolling out fibre-to-the-home (FTTX) infrastructure in Windhoek, later expanding nationally.



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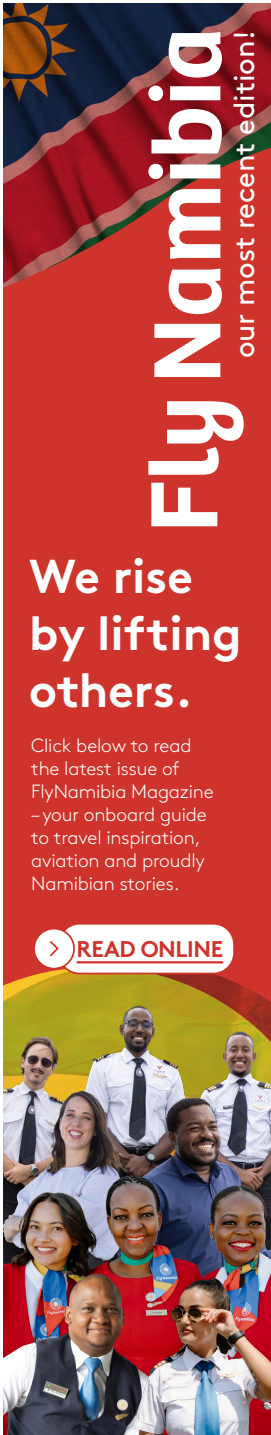
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NIP to roll out 24-hour lab services to cut turnaround times

The Namibia Institute of Pathology Limited (NIP) is set to introduce 24-hour laboratory operations at major sites across the country as part of a phased rollout of a new multishift system, aimed at improving diagnostic capacity and reducing turnaround times.

According to NIP, the move is part of efforts to operationalise its Hub-Spoke-Node operating model, which includes the establishment of Centres of Excellence (CoEs)

and the introduction of continuous laboratory services at high-volume sites.

“The multishift system will be implemented in phases, starting this financial year with laboratories such as the National Reference Laboratory at Windhoek Central Hospital, Oshakati, Rundu, and Onandjokwe,” the institution said.

“These sites will operate on a two- or three-shift system to ensure continuous service delivery in response to

growing test volumes.”

NIP noted that most of its laboratories currently operate on a single-shift system, which limits service hours and leads to high external referral costs. The organisation said historical trends point to increased testing demand without a corresponding rise in operational capacity.

“The multishift system will allow us to absorb more testing in-house, reduce our dependence on outsourced services, and improve overall client satisfaction,” NIP stated.

The proposed Centres of Excellence will serve as specialised hubs in areas such as Molecular Medicine and Anatomical Pathology.

According to NIP, these centres will play a key role in decentralising diagnostic services, improving specimen handling, and reducing delays related to sample transport.

“The introduction of CoEs will further strengthen NIP’s diagnostic capabilities and support ongoing research and innovation,” the organisation said.

Niita Evaristus, Chief Strategy and Business Development Officer at NIP, said the initiative is about more than just operational efficiency.

“This integrated approach positions NIP to better meet the nation’s public health demands while fostering innovation, research, and collaboration between clinicians and pathologists,” she said.

She added that the multishift system has been designed to comply fully with labour laws and protect staff wellbeing.

“By maximising equipment use and balancing workloads, the model will not only improve productivity but also ensure employee welfare is not compromised,” Evaristus said.



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Will Namibia be ready when the next pandemic hits?

By Dr. Matuikuani N. Dax

While much of the world is engulfed in geopolitical conflict, Namibia faces a quieter — yet urgent — reckoning. Cholera has re-emerged, malaria remains endemic increasing fatalities, new HIV infections are increasing and coordination between routine services and emergency response vie for the same overstretched pool of resources.

Yet, in a striking juxtaposition, Namibia's Minister of Health, Dr. Luvindao, now chairs Committee A of the 78th World Health Assembly — the very committee tasked with shaping global pandemic preparedness and response. This dissonance is not merely symbolic; it is structural.

Namibia's inability to bridge public health emergency response with routine service delivery reflects a deeper institutional void: the absence of a strong, centralized public health authority.

Namibia's health policy record reads like a model student's transcript — ratification of the International Health Regulations (IHR 2005), participation in WHO's emergency preparedness framework, membership in the Pandemic Fund, and most recently, the adoption of a One Health Strategy (2024–2028). Yet, this checklist compliance risks masking a dangerous inertia.

Against this backdrop, it is time to operationalize what has already been agreed in principle: a cabinet decision mandating the establishment of the Namibia Institute of Public Health (NIPH). If Namibia is to lead internationally, it must first demonstrate capacity and



Namibia's inability to bridge public health emergency response with routine service delivery reflects a deeper institutional void.

accountability at home.

A Vision Deferred: More Than a Decade in the Making

The idea of a public health institute in Namibia is not new. As early as 2013, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) was in discussion with the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS) to establish a national body responsible for public health surveillance and response. Since then, epidemic after epidemic — from hepatitis E to COVID-19 and now cholera — has highlighted the urgency of such an institution.

The challenge is not technical capacity, but a lack of political momentum and institutional coordination. Namibia has already invested in pieces of what would constitute a functional public health institute: a Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Program (FELTP), an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), outbreak response protocols, and skilled personnel.

However, these remain scattered and under-leveraged in the absence of an overarching institutional home with legal

standing, operational independence, and a clear national mandate.

Support from the Robert Koch Institute, the Africa CDC, and other development partners has strengthened the country's capabilities — from piloting event-based surveillance to expanding genomic sequencing capacity. But the NIPH remains institutionally anchorless.

Why Namibia Needs a Functional Public Health Institute — Now

The current cholera outbreak is a case in point. In the absence of a central coordinating body, response efforts will suffer from delays in case confirmation, weak risk communication, and fragmented deployment of personnel. But this crisis unfolds alongside another persistent threat — malaria. Malaria outbreaks continue to overwhelm local facilities, strain diagnostic capacity, and expose critical gaps in real-time data sharing and surge response.

These converging epidemics represent a double calamity compounding risk at both population and patient levels. In many cases, individuals may suffer from both diseases simultaneously. This scenario magnifies the urgent need for a centralized institution capable of coordinating multi-threat responses.

NIPH would not simply respond to these issues — it would pre-empt them. As an autonomous or semi-autonomous body, NIPH would consolidate disease surveillance, laboratory coordination, emergency

preparedness, and analytics under one roof. It would provide the institutional home required to fulfill Namibia's IHR (2005) obligations serving as the engine room for National Health Security as laid out in the National Action Plan for Health Security (NAPHS).

Without NIPH, these frameworks remain theoretical — policy without infrastructure, vision without execution.

A Platform for Applied Public Health Research

Beyond emergency response, NIPH could also transform the country's public health research landscape. Currently, most

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First date of publication: 09 June 2025

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EPCM COMPETENCIES REQUIRED:
The Engineering, Procurement and Construction Management (EPCM) service provider must be able to demonstrate:

1. A successful track record in delivering the full scope of project phases relevant to multidisciplinary Greenfields and Brownfields mining and construction infrastructure projects.
2. Adequate project management, project controls, project procurement and project engineering competencies, qualifications, experience, controls, systems and processes for successful project delivery of multidisciplinary capital projects.

DOCUMENTS TO SUBMIT:

1. Business profile
2. Track record: comprehensive detail and references of at least 3 previous large multidiscipline capital projects to demonstrate project performance on:
 - a) Project safety performance and metrics used;
 - b) Project cost performance and controls / metrics used to track cost performance;
 - c) Project schedule performance and controls / metrics used to track project schedule performance;
 - d) Project scope/quality performance and metrics/ criteria used to measure project quality performance.
3. A demonstration of competencies in the application of best Project Management and Engineering practices and standards in multidisciplinary capital projects (via appropriate CV's & related experience and proof of certified qualifications).
4. To demonstrate competency and understanding of projects of this nature, by providing a high-level study work plan for a Conceptual Study for a typical multidisciplinary Greenfields capital project incorporating considerations of improved performance in technical solution, improved maintainability and cost efficiency and inclusive of trade-off options. The conceptual study work plan to include:
 - a) A work breakdown structure (WBS) for the typical deliverables associated with a concept study of this nature;
 - b) A resource management plan (clearly indicating the disciplines and efforts needed for a concept study of this nature);
 - c) A high-level schedule and schedule management plan for the concept study;
 - d) A high-level cost estimate and cost management plan for the concept study (Note: the cost will not be for contractual purposes and will only be used to determine understanding and competency).


CLOSING DATE: 18 July 2025 at 12:00.

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Subject line: DBMNE0602 – MULTIDISCIPLINARY PROJECT DELIVERY EPCM SERVICES

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DISCLAIMER:
Debmarmine Namibia shall not be responsible for any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a response to this Expression of Interest and furthermore reserves the right not to extend this Expression of Interest into any future tenders, negotiations and/or engagements. Debmarmine Namibia will not accept submissions rendered after the closing date and time.

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This new Airlink expansion offers travellers improved air access to Walvis Bay and Swakopmund.

health research in Namibia is externally funded, thematically scattered, and often disconnected from implementation. With NIPH, there is an opportunity to institutionalize a learning health system — one that continuously generates, tests, and applies evidence to improve programs, policies, and outcomes.

It would also operationalize key elements of the One Health Strategy (2024–2028), which emphasizes coordinated responses to zoonotic diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and environmental health threats. Implementing that strategy demands not only cross-sectoral collaboration but also data integration — and NIPH is the logical institutional home for that work.

By anchoring partnerships with universities, think tanks, and regional bodies, NIPH would strengthen Namibia's research footprint. It would create structured pathways for public health practitioners and postgraduate students — to conduct operational research that is directly relevant to national priorities. Importantly, it would ensure that research is not an academic afterthought, but a core

function of national health governance.

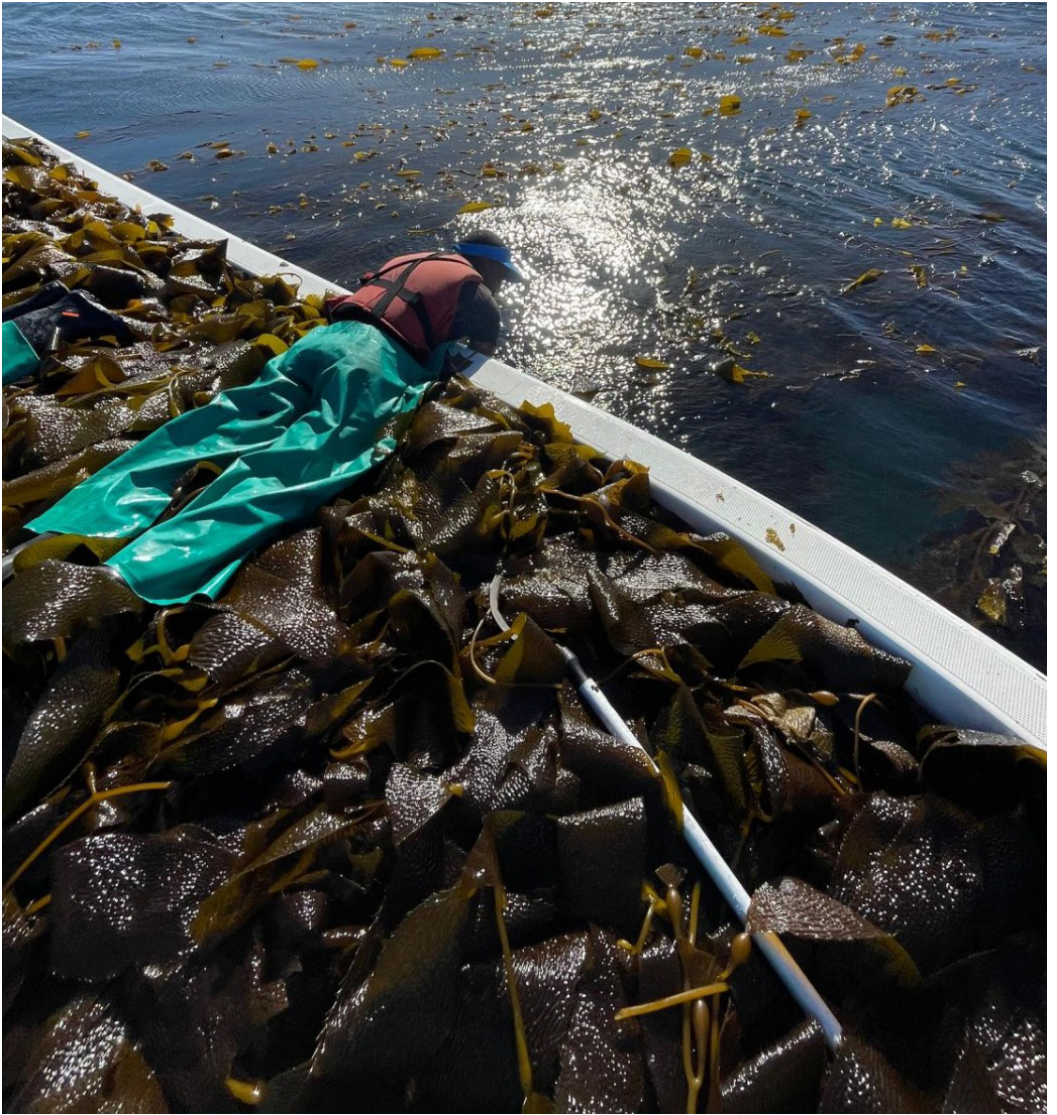
Closing the Credibility Gap

Namibia's elevation in global health diplomacy — symbolized by Dr. Luvindao's chairmanship — is a diplomatic achievement. But prestige must be matched by preparedness.

If we wish to lead in shaping global health policy, we must ensure that our systems at home can stand up to the very scrutiny we expect of others.

Establishing the NIPH is not a technical recommendation. It is a political imperative — the linchpin that connects Namibia's international commitments to its domestic reality. It would strengthen pandemic readiness, build long-overdue institutional memory, and place Namibia's public health system on a path to long-term resilience.

****Dr. Dax is a global health specialist with a robust background in clinical medicine, health systems strengthening, and program management. She is a dedicated health professional committed to addressing health inequalities and improving global health outcomes.***



Kelp Blue harvests over 200 tonnes of Kelp near Lüderitz

Kelp Blue has harvested more than 200 tonnes of kelp this year from its offshore site near Lüderitz.

The company holds a 15-year commercial licence to cultivate giant kelp (*Macrocystis pyrifera*) across 6,400 hectares.

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Founder and CEO Daniel Hooft said the harvest method focuses on long-term sustainability by trimming only the canopy of the kelp.

“We trim only the canopy of our underwater forests to ensure healthy regrowth, capture carbon, and boost marine biodiversity,” said Hooft.

He noted that the planted kelp forests have already shown significant ecological improvements.

“This happens incredibly quickly. We have seen three- to fourfold biodiversity increases in our farms within five months of planting,” he said.

According to Hooft, the kelp zones are being used by fish as nurseries, with seasonal spikes in hake and sardine eDNA indicating the forests are functioning as hatcheries.

“This increases an individual fish egg's chance of survival by one hundred times,” he said, adding that various marine species are returning to the area in greater numbers.

“We see mola mola cruising our forests to Hoover up jellyfish. The dolphins are thriving in this new hunting ground, which also gives them shelter against the occasional squad of dolphin-killer orcas,” said Hooft.

The kelp forests also appear to support shark populations. “Mermaids’ purse counts are up drastically, showing we are increasing the shark population by providing attachment points for egg sacs,” he said.

The harvested kelp is processed into a biostimulant called Stimblue+, which supports regenerative agriculture.

“At Kelp Blue, we convert the biomass into Stimblue+, a kelp extract that boosts farmers' crop yields and quality while improving soil health,” said Hooft.

He added that, through the Kelp Forest Foundation, the company quantifies ecosystem services such as carbon sequestration, biodiversity, and job creation, while working towards the conservation and restoration of the world's kelp forests.

The company also runs a marine education initiative based in Lüderitz. “With the Lüderitz Blue School, we are raising a new generation of ocean custodians and leaders,” said Hooft.



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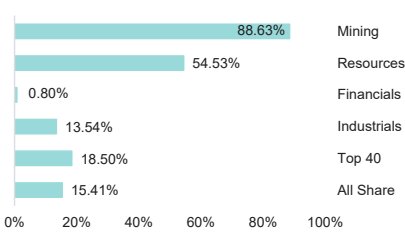
Commodities

Spot Gold	3347.16
Platinum	1377.78
Palladium	1208.83
Silver	32.17
Uranium	75.15
Brent Crude	69.01
Iron Ore	94.25
Copper	9619.00
Natural Gas	3.51
Lithium	8.05

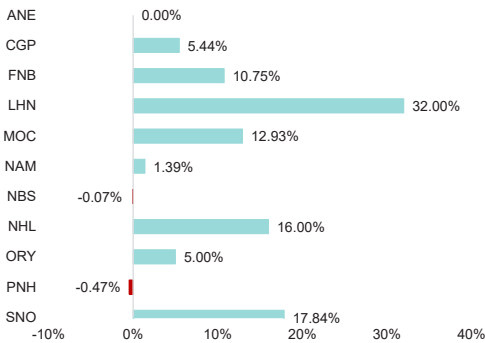
Currencies

USD/ZAR	17.8757
EUR/ZAR	19.2300
GBP/ZAR	23.9451
USD/CNY	7.1807
EUR/USD	1.1617
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USD/RUB	77.9502
CPI	3.70%
Repo Rate	6.75%
Prime Rate	10.50%

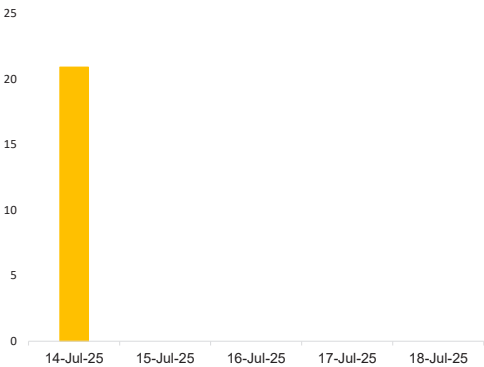
JSE Sectors: Year to Date in %



NSX Local Stocks: Year to Date in %



JSE ALL SHARE VALUE TRADED (ZAR BILLIONS)



Global Indices: Year to Date in %

