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THE

# BR/EF

News Worth Knowing

## Namibia urged to ditch rain-dependent farming



MONDAY 19 MAY 2025

## MAIN STORY

# Namibia urged to ditch rain-dependent farming

Namibia's agronomic sector is calling for an urgent shift from rain-fed to irrigated agriculture as recurring droughts and climate variability continue to cripple crop production across the country.

According to Namibian Agronomic Board (NAB) CEO, Fidelis Mwazi, the country's reliance on seasonal rainfall is no longer sustainable, and the agricultural sector must adapt to ensure food security.

"The days of relying solely on rainfall agriculture are behind us. The shift to irrigated agriculture is no longer an option. It is essential, and it has to be done. One can already see the impact of rainfall variability on production volumes," Mwazi said.

Namibia's crop output has dropped sharply in recent years, exposing the vulnerabilities of a rain-dependent system.

"Last year, in terms of mass production, for example, we only managed around 33,000 metric tonnes. In the past, during good rainfall years, we normally did around 98,000, close to 100,000 metric tonnes," he said.

He said to address the issue, the NAB is working with financial institutions to develop accessible funding models for



## Crucial Dates

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

the crop value chain, aimed at reducing the cost barriers to irrigation systems and modern farming inputs.

“That’s why we are working tirelessly to engage different financial institutions to come up with crop value chain financial packages that might be easily accessible by our farmers and other stakeholders in the industry,” Mwazi added.

He also stressed that financial support alone is not enough.

“We need structured programmes – technical support, access to equipment and trained consultants – to make this transition work,” he said, warning that failure to act could worsen food insecurity in the years ahead.

“We need public-private partnerships that support strategic agricultural transformation. Sustainable collaboration is critical to achieving food self-sufficiency and building resilience to climate shocks,” he said. He said as part of a broader solution, the NAB is spearheading the development of a national crop value chain strategy, aimed at building a resilient and competitive crop sector through environmentally responsible practices, targeted research, supportive policy, and improved market access.

Mwazi said the foundation of this

strategy is collaboration among public, private, and civil society stakeholders, with a strong focus on empowering farmers to meet yield targets and supply both local and international markets.

He said reducing Namibia’s reliance on food imports remains a key objective, which according to him, the NAB’s Market Share Promotion Scheme has already helped increase local production from just 5% in the early 2000s to nearly 47% today.

However, he acknowledged that challenges remain.

“Market access is still a constraint for some crops. We need to intervene in the value chain – in processing, storage, logistics – to ensure locally grown products can reach viable markets,” he said.

Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform, Inge Zaamwani, echoed the call for a shift in approach and urged stakeholders to explore new support mechanisms for farming recovery and restocking.

“Most of the developed economies are built on the foundation of agriculture, and there is no reason why Namibia cannot do the same. We have huge land, a small population, and we must ensure we optimise the land available to us,” she said.



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## MEDIA RELEASE



## PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

## ECB APPROVES 3.8% NAMPOWER BULK ELECTRICITY TARIFF FOR THE 2025/2026 FINANCIAL PERIOD

## 1. BULK TARIFF APPLICATION

In accordance with the existing legal provisions, NamPower submitted a tariff application for an effective bulk tariff increase of 17.44%, for both generation and transmission tariff. NamPower submitted their bulk tariff application on 17 February 2025. The requested adjustment would have resulted in a bulk tariff increase from NS 1.8869 per kilowatt-hour (kWh) to NS 2.3319 per kWh for the financial period 2025/2026.

The Board of Directors of the Electricity Control Board (ECB) met on 16 April 2025 and 12 May 2025, to deliberate on the NamPower bulk tariff application submitted, which will be effective 01 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

## 2. ECB BULK TARIFF REVIEW PROCESS

## 2.1. ECB Internal Review Process

In accordance with the tariff regulatory tools, the ECB conducted a comprehensive review process that included:

- Detailed analysis of the submitted tariff application;
- Financial impact analysis on NamPower;
- Economic impact analysis of the application; and
- Optimal dispatch of the local generation versus contracted imports of electricity.

Based on the detailed analysis, NamPower's revenue requirement was adjusted from NS\$8.8 billion to NS\$1.1 billion.

## 2.2. Bulk Tariff Review Process Stakeholder Consultations

As part of the bulk tariff review process, the ECB facilitated stakeholder consultation meetings where NamPower presented its tariff application to various stakeholders. These stakeholders included members of the public, industry's associations, business and employer federations and associations, agricultural unions, Independent Power Producers (IPPs), the renewable energy association, Government Ministries and agencies, and electricity distributors. Stakeholders were invited to engage and interrogate NamPower's application and to provide verbal and/or written comments and inputs for ECB's consideration. The ECB indeed considered the comments and inputs provided, in determining the final tariff.

## 3. BULK TARIFF REVIEW OUTCOME

After due consideration, especially the impact on affordability of electricity, and in accordance with the ECB tariff review methodology, the ECB Board resolved to approve a 3.8% for NamPower instead of the 17.44% initially requested by NamPower. However, the 3.8% will be supported with a financial support of NS\$283 million by the shareholder (Namibian Government), equivalent to 3.8%. This adjustment changes the average tariff from the current approved rate of NS1.8869 per kWh to NS 2.0611 per kWh for the financial period 2025/2026.

Regarding the impact of the approved bulk tariff on the economy, with the tariff increasing at 3.8%, below the current inflation rate of 4.2% (March 2025), it is expected that the tariff adjustment will have minimal impact on future inflation as well as on prices of goods and services. But it will slightly negatively impact the GDP growth as electricity cost is a component of the inflation calculation.

## 4. PRIMARY FACTORS CONSIDERED IN THE BULK TARIFF ADJUSTMENT

The primary factors influencing the tariff adjustment include:

- An increase in the return on assets and depreciation due to the revaluation of the transmission regulatory asset base, which rose from NS\$4.55 billion to NS\$17.4 billion.
- The cost of electricity generation, particularly the expenses associated with imported electricity. Approximately 25% of the generation cost is denominated in US dollar, making it susceptible to currency exchange fluctuations.

Further, NamPower's revenue is based on the approved budgeted costs, volumes (energy and capacity), and tariffs. The 2023/2024 period saw an over-recovery of NS\$63 million, attributed to higher-than-expected generation from the Ruacana Hydropower Plant. This over-recovery was considered, to reduce the revenue requirement, and therefore providing relief to customers.

We wish to highlight that the ECB assessed the various factors of the financial impact of the tariff increase of 3.8% and Government financial support of NS\$283 million on NamPower's financial sustainability, and we confirm that NamPower will remain financially sustainable.

## 5. AVERAGE GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION TARIFF PER SOURCE

The following Table indicates the average generation and transmission tariffs per source, to give an indication of the current tariff and projected tariff path.

Table 1: Average Generation and Transmission Tariffs per source:

Generation Source	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27*	2027/28*	2028/29*	2029/30*
NamPower	0.5051	0.5645	0.4070	0.4083	0.4106	0.4135
IPPs	1.4338	1.3685	1.2974	1.3518	1.4086	1.4678
Imports	1.7507	2.1210	2.2101	2.3029	2.3996	2.5004
Average Generation Tariff	1.3356	1.1526	1.3750	1.3340	1.1889	1.2483
Transmission Tariff	0.5228	0.6075	0.7202	0.7562	0.7941	0.8338
Reliability Tariff	0.1258	0.1429	0.1688	0.1772	0.1861	0.1954
Losses	0.1349	0.1582	0.1514	0.1590	0.1669	0.1753
<b>Total bulk tariff</b>	<b>1.9856</b>	<b>2.0611</b>	<b>2.2855</b>	<b>2.4454</b>	<b>2.5188</b>	<b>2.5944</b>
Tariff Increases	0%	3.8%	11%	7%	3%	3%

*\*Italics: Forecasted (the asterisk serves to provide clarity in the event a photocopy isn't clear or some persons can't distinguish between plain and italicized text)*

## 6. DISTRIBUTION UTILITIES TARIFF APPLICATION PROCESS

The approved bulk electricity tariff will be applicable to NamPower bulk customers such as Regional Electricity Distributors (REDs), Local Authorities, Regional Councils and large industrial transmission customers (e.g. mines). All distribution licensees will individually apply to the ECB for a review of their distribution tariffs, which, when applied timely, will be applicable to end-consumers effective from 01 July 2025.

To enhance end-consumers' involvement in the determination of end-consumer tariff, all major distribution utilities will

continue to present their tariff applications directly to end-consumers in their designated areas. These engagements will be facilitated by the ECB, and we believe it will give licensees the opportunity to clarify and explain their tariff applications to their customers. The engagements have been scheduled to take place as follows:

Table 2: Licensee - End Consumer Consultative Engagement:

Date	Licensee	Town	Venue	Starting Time
2 June	Keetmanshoop Municipality	Keetmanshoop	Westdene Moth Hall	14:00 – 16:00
4 June	ERONGO RED	Walvis Bay	Municipality Hall	10:00 – 12:00
6 June	City of Windhoek	Windhoek	Khomas Regional Council Hall	14:00 – 16:00
9 June	CENORED	Tsumeb	Nomtsoub Community Hall	17:00 – 19:00
11 June	Oshakati Premier Electric (OPE)	Oshakati	Oshandira Lodge	09:00 – 11:00
	NORED	Ongwediva	Ongwediva Trade Fair Centre Conference Hall	17:00 – 19:00
12 June	NORED	Rundu	Regional Council Auditorium	17:00 – 19:00

NB: Please note that the presentation dates will be published in the local media outlets and on social media platforms of the ECB and the distribution utilities.

In addition, all distribution utilities are urged to apply for their annual tariff reviews before the end of May 2025. Utilities that do not apply for tariff adjustments in time to coincide with the implementation of the bulk tariffs, which is effective 01 July 2025, will lose revenue because they will be selling electricity based on outdated tariffs while purchasing on new tariffs, especially pre-paid revenue that is collected through pre-paid sales. We wish to reiterate that this non-constructive practice by some distribution utilities is not financially sustainable, and it affects their financial ability to honour NamPower's bills, and it further affects service delivery. This causes insecurity or instability in electricity supply to end consumers.

## 7. OVERALL ELECTRICITY SUPPLY SITUATION

For the 2025/2026 period, it is projected that 53% of the national demand will be supplied by local generation, with the remaining 47% to be met with regional imports. The Ruacana Hydropower Plant remains the primary source of local generation, with performance dependent on the water flow of the Kunene River. Compared to other generation sources, electricity is generated relatively cheaply at the Ruacana Hydropower Plant. Therefore, less generation at Ruacana results in increased generation of power from expensive alternatives or imports at higher costs. Hydropower is generally considered a low-cost source of electricity.

It is important to note that during the period 2023/2024, Ruacana generation achieved one of its best productions in years, generating 2,067 GWh (Gigawatt-hour or one billion watt-hour) due to favourable water management and water flow conditions.

Notably, there has been an increase in local generation from renewable energy plants over the period. To complement local generation, two plants have been added to the national grid in the 2024/2025 period.

- Anxias 1 – 58MW (Megawatt or one million watts) (Heavy Fuel Oil)
- Khan Solar PV – 20MW

The two aforementioned plants are part of the 79 electricity generation licenses (excluding standby generators) that the ECB has issued, out of which 41 are operational and 38 are still under development. We hope that those licensees that have not yet commissioned their plants will do so soon; this will have a positive impact on end-consumer prices.

To further improve the electricity supply situation, Government introduced the Modified Single Buyer (MSB) Market model, a unique Namibian market platform which allows private generators and considerable customers to transact electricity. There are seven (7) operational solar PV plants with a combined installed capacity of 28MW established under the MSB Model. It is anticipated that about 93MW will be commissioned during 2025/2026 financial period, meaning that more electricity will be generated locally, hence reducing imports and overall cost of electricity.

## 8. ELECTRICITY CONTROL BOARD'S POSITION ON FUTURE SECURITY OF SUPPLY THROUGH A BASELOAD POWER PLANT OPTION

The Electricity Control Board is concerned about the country's reliance on imports and supports efforts to address security of supply. Namibia thus needs to urgently develop a Base Load Power Plant that will stabilize and enhance security of supply and result in cheaper locally generated electricity than imports. Base-load power is reliable minimum amount of electricity supplied, or consistently required, to meet demand over a long period, typically 24 hours.

Government's financial support towards capital investments, for such a plant, as opposed to funding operational activities of licensees, will thus be a sustainable way of addressing reliability and affordability in the long run. Investments towards a base-load plant must be accompanied by other investments in strengthening transmission infrastructure, to unlock local generation capacity, and export potential.

## 9. CONCLUSION

Overall, a modern economy cannot function properly without secure and stable electricity supply. Much less without electricity. The stable supply of electricity is critical for economic growth and development. Electricity generation, transmission and distribution comes at variable costs, which must be reviewed regularly in order to provide predictability, availability and stability in the market. While we are cognizant of the impact of any tariff increase on the end consumers, a zero tariff increase has unintended consequences: deterioration of infrastructure without the necessary and continual refurbishment and renewal, which will lead to an unstable grid, damage to equipment and blackouts. These, in turn, will lead to financial and economic losses, and poor economic performance, thus an unfavourable investment environment for citizens and other interested parties.

Consequently, we wish to assure the public that the ECB takes a measured judgement in every step of the electricity tariff review process, ensuring electricity affordability, reliability and security of supply, and sustained economic industry performance.

END/

Issued by:

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Chief Executive Officer



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## Regional approach needed to unlock Namibia's infrastructure potential

Namibia's top infrastructure and finance experts have called for stronger regional coordination, harmonised legal frameworks and increased project preparation funding to unlock both national and regional development

opportunities.

The call was made during a recent panel discussion hosted by the Namibia Savings and Investment Association (NaSIA), under the theme "Unlocking Namibia's Infrastructure Future: Mobilising Domestic



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Speaking at the event, Government Institutions Pension Fund (GIPF) CEO Martin Inkumbi said Namibia cannot justify large-scale infrastructure investment without regional collaboration and shared use of such infrastructure.

“We cannot expect a country of just over 3 million people to sustain large-scale infrastructure like railways or roads on its own. These assets must be used by our neighbours if we want them to be financially and environmentally sustainable. Without regional integration, we risk building

infrastructure that cannot fund or maintain itself,” he said.

Inkumbi proposed the creation of a Southern African Development Community (SADC) infrastructure development fund, suggesting it operate like a regional development bank but with a sole focus on infrastructure.

“It should allow for capital pooling from governments, development finance institutions, and private investors, with the purpose of financing projects that serve the whole region, not just individual countries,” he said.

Eos Capital Managing Director Immanuel Kadhila added that fragmented legal and regulatory frameworks across the region are a major stumbling block to investment.

“If we do not harmonise our legal frameworks around infrastructure and PPPs, investors will continue to hesitate. A common legal approach across SADC would streamline investment processes and remove confusion. Investors want predictability, and we must create that regionally, not just nationally,” he said.

Kadhila also introduced the idea of “infrastructure without borders,” advocating for shared master plans among neighbouring countries.

“It makes no sense for Namibia to build a transport corridor in isolation while Botswana or Zambia develop theirs independently. We need one plan, agreed upon



Namibian Ports Authority (Namport) hereby invites bids through Open National Bidding (ONB) procedures for the Construction of a Road Over Rail Bridge in the Port of Walvis Bay.

Bid Reference Number	Brief Description	Pre-bid Conference	Last Day for Clarification Requests	Closing Date
W/ONB/NAMPOR-3670/2025	Construction of a Road Over Rail Bridge in the Port of Walvis Bay	Non-Compulsory Pre-bid/Site Visit meeting on 19/05/2025 @10h00 AM	06/06/2025	26/06/2025@ 12h00 PM  (Virtual Bid Opening Link available on website)

1. Bids are invited through the Open National Bidding (ONB) procedure and the invitation is open to all eligible bidders. All Bidders must comply with the requirements outlined in the bidding document.
2. Interested eligible bidders are requested to visit the Namport website at <https://www.namport.com.na/procurement> for details of the bidding requirements. Bidders must register as suppliers, express interest in a specific bid, make a payment of the (non-refundable) bid levy of **N\$600.00** and submit the proof of payment in order to be granted access to the bidding documents. The Namport Banking Details are available on the link: <https://www.namport.com.na/procurement/banking-details/558/>
3. A Non-compulsory **Pre-Bid/Site Visit meeting** is scheduled for **19 May 2025 AT 10H00 AM**. The meeting will be held at **Executive Boardroom, Namport Head Office, Walvis Bay**. Bidders should take note that the virtual meeting link is also available on the website for bidders that would like to join the meeting virtually.
4. Bids must be delivered to: **The Tender Box, Namibian Ports Authority (Namport) Reception, No. 17 Rikumbi Kandanga Road, Walvis Bay**

ALL enquiries related to these bids must be directed in writing by email to the following contact details:

**Procurement Manager**  
Melani de Klerk  
Tel: +264 208 2319  
Email: [m.deklerk@namport.com.na](mailto:m.deklerk@namport.com.na) or [procurement@namport.com.na](mailto:procurement@namport.com.na)

**Tender and Contracts Administrator**  
Owiike Amunkete  
Tel: +264 208 2217  
Email: [o.amunkete@namport.com.na](mailto:o.amunkete@namport.com.na) or [procurement@namport.com.na](mailto:procurement@namport.com.na)



by all involved countries, so that every project adds value to the next and contributes to a regional logistics network,” he said.

Development Bank of Namibia Chief Strategy Officer Heike Scholtz highlighted that many infrastructure proposals are not investment-ready due to lack of funding for early-stage preparation.

“Most infrastructure projects we see are not ready to be funded in their current form. There is often a gap in feasibility studies, regulatory approvals, or technical details. Without sufficient early-stage capital to prepare and de-risk these projects, they simply do not move forward,” she said.

Scholtz also pointed to reluctance among some local developers to collaborate with more experienced international firms.

“There is a tendency among some local developers to hold onto full control of a project, even if that means the project never gets built. They would rather own 100% of a stalled idea than 10% of a fully financed, high-impact infrastructure development. This mentality must change,” she said.

NaSIA CEO Josephat Mwatotele underscored that infrastructure setbacks are often the result of poor intergovernmental coordination rather than a lack of funds.

“We are dealing with infrastructure delays not because the money isn’t there, but because governments are not moving in sync.If we are building a railway from Namibia to

Zambia, both sides need to be aligned from day one. Infrastructure must be planned and executed across borders, not within them,” he said.

Mwatotele added that access to capital is not enough. Technical and managerial capacity are also critical to ensuring infrastructure projects succeed.

“When we are trusted with billions in pension or donor funds, there is no room for amateurism. Capital demands a return, and that return is delivered by people who know how to execute.We need to bring in experienced talent and build local capacity to meet those expectations.,” he said.



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Upload Speed (up to)	2Mbps	2Mbps	2Mbps	10Mbps
Internet usage	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
CPE	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded
(12-month service duration including installation)	5,119	5,579	5,819	8,059

Speedlink liteplus (Asymmetric)				
Package/Contract Period	25Mbps	50Mbps	75Mbps	100Mbps
Download Speed (up to)	25Mbps	50Mbps	75Mbps	100Mbps
Upload Speed (up to)	10Mbps	15Mbps	25Mbps	35Mbps
Internet usage	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
CPE	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded
Monthly charge (N\$) (12-month)	749	909	1,109	1,309
Monthly charge (N\$) (24-month)	679	799	1,009	1,179
Monthly charge (N\$) (36-month)	639	749	979	1,679

Speedlink liteplus (Symmetric)				
Package/Contract Period	10Mbps	15Mbps	25Mbps	50Mbps
Download Speed (up to)	10Mbps	15Mbps	25Mbps	50Mbps
Upload Speed (up to)	10Mbps	15Mbps	25Mbps	50Mbps
Internet usage	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
CPE	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded	Excluded
Monthly charge (N\$) (12-month)	799	989	1,299	1,979
Monthly charge (N\$) (24-month)	719	889	1,169	1,779
Monthly charge (N\$) (36-month)	679	849	1,109	1,679

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BUSINESS

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HANDBOOK

# Build It is May's cheapest hardware retailer

Build It has overtaken Pupkewitz Megabuild to become the most affordable hardware retailer in May 2025.

After months in second place, Build It cut its basket price by 3.3% to N\$7,154.64, moving ahead of Pupkewitz, whose prices remained unchanged at N\$7,314.41.

This shift wasn't due to Pupkewitz raising prices, but rather holding them steady while Build It made downward adjustments.

Hardware Store	Total Cost: April	Total Cost: May	% Change	Rank Change
Build It	N\$ 7,397.23	N\$ 7,154.64	-3.3%	2 <sup>nd</sup> ▲ 1 <sup>st</sup>
Pupkewitz Megabuild	N\$ 7,314.41	N\$ 7,314.41	0%	1 <sup>st</sup> ▼ 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Ark Trading	N\$ 7,602.24	N\$ 8,907.68	+17.2%	3 <sup>rd</sup> ▼ 4 <sup>th</sup>
BUCO	N\$ 8,281.99	N\$ 7,903.78	-4.6%	4 <sup>th</sup> ▲ 3 <sup>rd</sup>

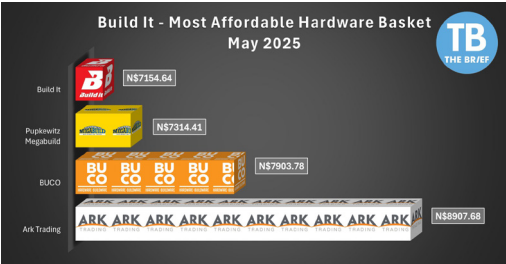
The changes show how quickly pricing shifts can affect rankings.

Build It's price cuts have made it the go-to option for budget-conscious buyers, especially contractors and SMEs buying in bulk.

Pupkewitz, while no longer the cheapest, remains consistent and predictable—an advantage for those who value stable pricing.

Ark's large price hike puts it at a disadvantage, especially for buyers needing cost control.

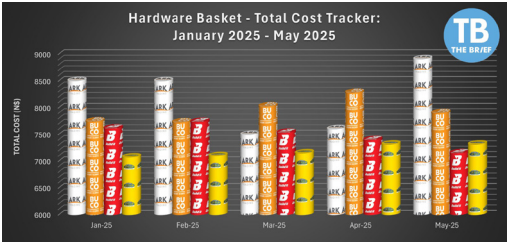
BUCO's drop in prices is a positive sign, but it will need to show more consistency to be a serious contender for the top spot.



BUCO also reduced its prices, dropping its basket by 4.6% to N\$7,903.78.

This helped it move up from last place to third.

In contrast, Ark Trading raised prices significantly—by 17.2%—pushing its basket to N\$8,907.68 and placing it at the bottom of the affordability rankings.



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### Ranking Summary – May 2025

- Cheapest: Build It – N\$7,154.64
- Most expensive: Ark Trading – N\$8,907.68
- Biggest price drop: BUCO – down N\$378.21
- Biggest increase: Ark Trading – up N\$1,305.44
- Most stable: Pupkewitz Megabuild (under N\$7,400 all year)
- Most volatile: Ark Trading
- Lowest average in 2025: Pupkewitz Megabuild – N\$7,191.16
- Highest average in 2025: Ark Trading – N\$8,201.13

### Notable price increases – Ark Trading

- Brickforce 150MM: +18.7%
- Door Hardboard Interior: +18.7%
- Ceiling Board: +18.2%
- Copper Tube: +18.2%
- Galvanised Roofing: +17.5%

### Notable price drops

- Door Frame Steel (Build It): -30.7%
- Brickforce 75MM (BUCO): -23.2%
- Brickforce 150MM (BUCO): -22.7%
- Lockset 2 Lever (Build It): -16%
- Aluminium Window (BUCO): -15.6%

### Consumer takeaway

Build It has steadily cut prices since February, positioning itself as the best value option. Pupkewitz remains reliable and may still appeal to those who prefer consistent pricing. BUCO's latest move is promising, but it needs to maintain this direction. Ark Trading's sharp increase is a warning for cost-sensitive buyers—its current pricing can affect project budgets, particularly for small businesses.

In a market where construction costs matter more than ever, these shifts could influence purchasing decisions. Strategic buyers may benefit from comparing retailers or mixing purchases to save costs.

### Survey background

The Brief conducts a monthly price survey tracking 18 commonly purchased hardware items at Ark Trading, BUCO, Build It, and Pupkewitz Megabuild. Prices include VAT and reflect trends in supply, demand, and retailer strategy.

### Disclaimer

This survey is for information purposes only. Prices may vary due to supplier changes, stock issues, or timing. Contact retailers directly for the latest information.



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# Power without relief: Another year of pretend progress



## BRIEFLY

**E**lectricity policy in Namibia has become an exercise in managed optics. Announce a modest tariff hike.

Offset it with government “support.” Reference hydropower gains. Mention renewables. But strip away the talking points and here’s what remains: Namibians are being charged more for a service that remains structurally unreliable, imported, and overpriced.

This week, the Electricity Control Board approved a 3.8% hike in NamPower’s bulk tariff—down from the 17.44% originally requested.

The discount, we’re told, comes courtesy of a N\$283 million cash injection from the government.

Call it what it is: a public subsidy masking a pricing failure.

Taxpayers are covering the increase through a back door, turning electricity tariffs into just another form of indirect taxation.

It gets worse. A year of record performance from Ruacana—2,067 GWh—resulted in an over-recovery of nearly N\$600 million.

Instead of returning that windfall to consumers or investing it in actual generation capacity, it’s been used as a

buffer to prop up the illusion of affordability. NamPower wins. Government claims fiscal prudence. The consumer pays—again.

We’re told that 53% of energy demand will now be met locally. That’s not a success story.

It’s a confession that nearly half the country’s electricity is still sourced externally, much of it priced in US dollars. As the Namibia dollar weakens, those costs surge—and the poorest households feel it first.

The regulator, in its usual abstract register, speaks of the “need” for baseload power.

That need isn’t new. It’s been on every policy document for over a decade. And yet we’re still commissioning diesel-burning plants and calling it development. This is not infrastructure planning. It’s drift.

Tariff setting in this environment has become a performance: pick a number, soften it with subsidies, frame it with concern. But none of it changes the lived reality—of consumers who pay more every year, with no structural improvements in sight.

Namibians deserve better than boardroom acrobatics and bureaucratic pageantry.

Until we stop pretending that delay is strategy and cost-passing is relief, this cycle will repeat. The lights may stay on. But the system is still broken.

***\*Briefly is a weekly opinion column offering sharp, analytical insights on business and economic developments.***

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- Jackets
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- Tracksuits
- Work Wear
- Footwear



### Corporate Gifting ▼



- Notebook
- Diaries & Pens
- Backpacks
- Drinkwear
- Giftsets/Bags
- Umbrellas
- Lanyards
- Key Chains
- Flash Drives
- Power Banks

### ▼ Display Items

- Gazebos
- Tear Drops
- Director Chairs
- Table Cloths
- Kiosks
- Banner Walls
- Pop-up Banners
- A Frames
- Pull-up Banners
- PVC Banners



[orbitalmedianam@gmail.com](mailto:orbitalmedianam@gmail.com)



+264 81 434 3145



# MTC upskills installers to improve customer experience

Mobile Telecommunications Limited (MTC) has trained 47 independent installers as part of a drive to improve installation efficiency and customer service.

The participants completed a one-week training programme in Windhoek focused on connectivity installations, customer engagement, and professional development.

The sessions included hands-on technical training, customer onboarding procedures, application assessments, as well as communication and time management skills.

Tim Ekandjo, MTC's Chief Officer for Brand, Corporate Affairs, Marketing and Sustainability, said the initiative forms part of the

company's broader efforts to enhance customer experience.

“By investing in our installers, we're not only improving the quality of our installations but also ensuring that every



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### EXECUTIVE CHEF

The successful incumbent will report to the Lodge Manager. We are looking for an experienced, creative, and passionate Executive Chef to join our team. As Executive Chef, you will run the back-of-house. You will manage the daily operations of the kitchen, oversee the kitchen staff, provide training and to ensure that the highest quality of cuisine is served to our guests, and ensure that all food and labor cost goals are met at our establishments countrywide.

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

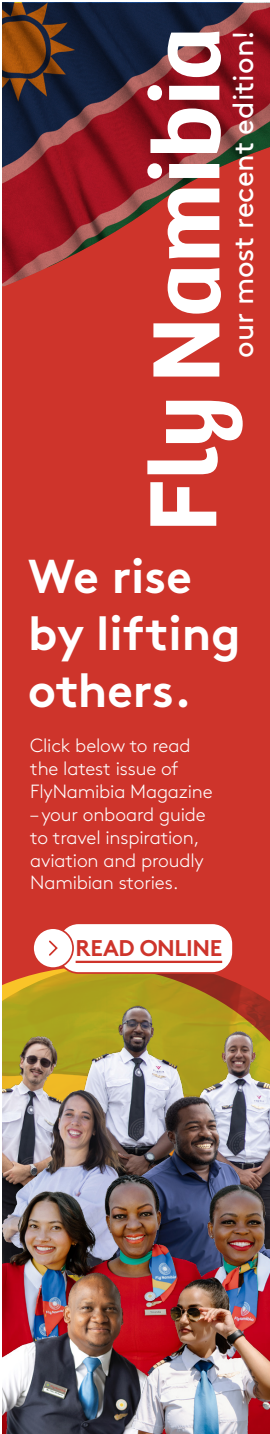
- Grade 12
- Culinary Arts degree and/or other culinary certification with at least 20 years' experience in the kitchen
- 10 years experience in a head chef or managerial kitchen position at high-end luxury remote lodge
- Excellent time management and organizational skills
- Proven leadership and creative abilities inside the kitchen
- Expert problem solver who thrives under pressure
- Top of the line customer service skills
- Expert skills and experience planning, designing, and preparing meals
- International culinary knowledge and skills
- Training skills
- Valid driver's license will be an advantage

#### KEY FUNCTIONS

- Develop and implement innovative menus to optimize international guest satisfaction and retention while leading staff training initiatives
- Direct kitchen operations, including food preparation, cooking, and cleanup
- Assign tasks; supervise chefs and cooks in the preparation and presentation of food
- Prepare international standard food
- Maintain control of the kitchen to ensure that all tasks are carried out efficiently and effectively
- Ensure that kitchen and waiting staff adhere to food safety and hygiene regulations to ensure a clean and sanitary kitchen
- Plan menus and set prices, adjusting as needed based on the availability of ingredients
- Inspect raw and cooked food items to guarantee that the highest quality products are prepared and served to customers
- Collaborate with management to align kitchen operations with the overarching goals of the establishment
- Maintaining/raising the food's profit margins
- Monitor and control stock levels

**CLOSING DATE: 16 May 2025**  
Interested candidates should please forward their CV's to:  
CV@sunkkarros.com





# FlyNamibia

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The newly trained installers are now better prepared to handle a wide range of connectivity solutions, troubleshoot issues efficiently, and provide a customer-first approach in every service call.

customer interaction reflects our values of professionalism, reliability, and care,” he said.

Ekanjio added that the training is expected to reduce installation times and improve first-time resolution rates.

“The newly trained installers are now better prepared to handle a wide range of connectivity solutions, troubleshoot issues efficiently, and provide a customer-first approach in every service call,” he said.

“This initiative is expected to significantly reduce installation times, increase first-time resolution rates, and boost overall customer satisfaction.”

The telco said the current round of training focused on installers from central Namibia, but it plans to roll out similar programmes in the north, south and coastal regions.

The company said it also intends to offer ongoing training and support tools to its contractors to maintain high service standards.

#### NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Junior Baiano Industrial Consultants cc hereby gives notice to all potentially interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) that an application will be made to Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No 7 of 2007) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (GN 30 of 6 February 2012) for the following activity:

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**  
Proposed exploration activities on EPL 9275

**PROJECT LOCATION:**  
EPL 9275 borders along Otjivarango, Okahandja and Omaruru town. Therefore covered in Farm Okazambuka, Okaturua, Vastrop, Oandjise, Carstania, Heldewag, Otjikoko, Otjikoko South and Okatete respectively. The EPL stretches over in two regions namely: Erongo and Otjozondjupa.

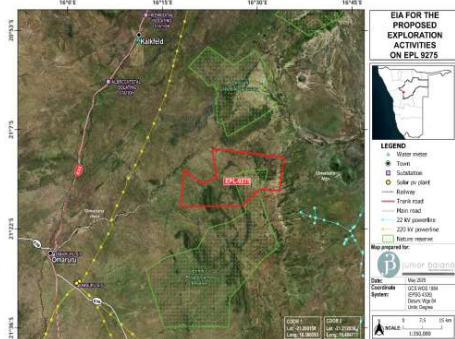
**PROPOSITOR:** Jaip Gold Mining (Pty) Ltd

IAPs are invited to register with the consultant and give their comments and concerns in writing. Please take note of the following:

**PUBLIC MEETING**  
Date: Tuesday, 27 May 2025  
Venue: Kalkfeld Community Hall, Kalkfeld Settlement, Otjozondjupa Region  
Time: 11h00

To register or request for documents please submit your name, contact information and interest in the project, in writing to:

Mr Nghiyolwa, Fredrich  
Tel: +264 (0) 81 147 2029  
Email: [juniorb200581@gmail.com](mailto:juniorb200581@gmail.com)





## Nedbank partners with Agra to support agricultural training

**N**edbank Namibia has partnered with Agra Limited to support skills development in the country's agricultural sector through a sponsorship of N\$560,000 to the Agra Agricultural Academy.

The funding will cover registration and tuition fees for 20 students pursuing national certificates and diplomas in plant and animal production, farm management, and agricultural services.

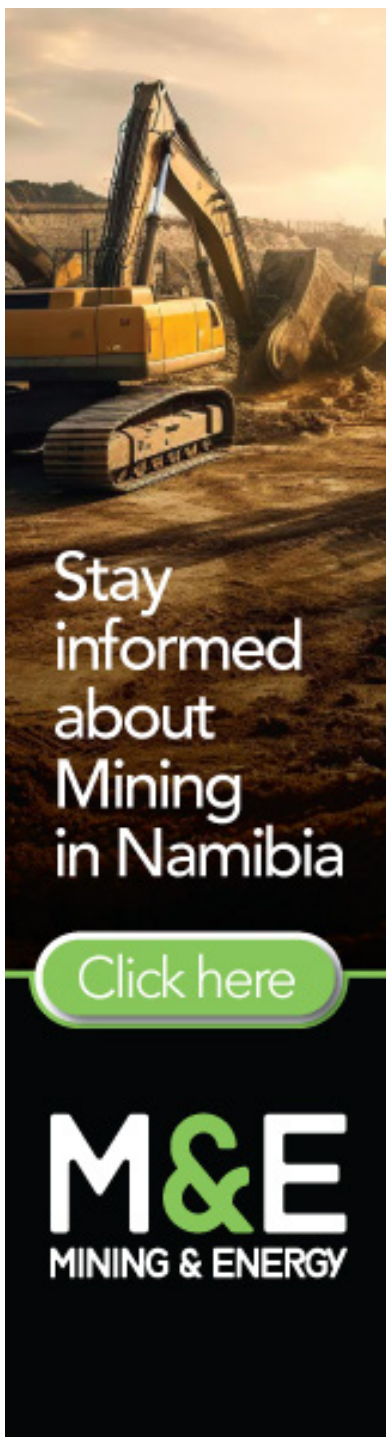
Managed by Agra ProVision, the academy provides accredited online training through the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA).

The partnership is aimed at making

agricultural education more accessible while equipping students with the practical skills needed to contribute to the growth of Namibia's agriculture sector.

Speaking at the official handover, Nedbank Namibia Managing Director Martha Murorua said the bursaries are intended to encourage more young people to pursue qualifications in agriculture.

"By investing in practical education, we hope to inspire the current and next generation to see agriculture as a vital and rewarding career path. Practical degrees equip students with hands-on experience and real-world skills, preparing them to tackle modern agricultural challenges and



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contribute to the sector's growth," she said.

Murorua added that the bank's broader investment in education includes its N\$800,000 bursary programme and the award-winning Nedbank Education Trust.

These initiatives, she said, are essential for building a skilled workforce to drive economic development, ensure food security, and create sustainable employment in Namibia.

Agra Limited CEO Arnold Klein pointed out some of the challenges facing the agricultural sector, particularly the lack of practical experience among new entrants.

"There is a significant gap between theoretical education and the hands-on experience required in farming. An ageing farming population is also a concern, with the average age of farmers around 55, and limited youth participation in the sector," he said.

Klein also noted that many emerging and communal farmers face financial and logistical barriers to accessing training, with high costs and the need for travel often discouraging enrolment and retention.

Fiona Anderson, Manager at Agra ProVision, said the academy is working to bridge the gap between theory and practice, not only through support from Nedbank but also in collaboration with the Namibian Agronomic Board. "Our vision is to provide graduates with practical, on-the-job training at agricultural institutes supported by the Board. The academy's e-learning platform allows students to study at their own pace from any location, which is ideal for those balancing education with other responsibilities," Anderson said.

A memorandum of understanding is currently being finalised to clearly define the roles and responsibilities of all involved partners.

The CEO of the Namibian Agronomic Board, Fidelis Mwazi, said the Board envisions graduates eventually becoming independent consultants, mentors, and transformative agents in the agricultural sector. He also acknowledged the growing impact of climate change.

"The days of relying solely on rain-fed agriculture are behind us. The shift to irrigated agriculture is no longer optional – it is essential. That is why we are engaging with financial institutions to develop crop value chain financing packages to help farmers and stakeholders adopt more resilient and productive systems," Mwazi said.



Enriching Generations

# FINANCIAL MARKET MONITOR

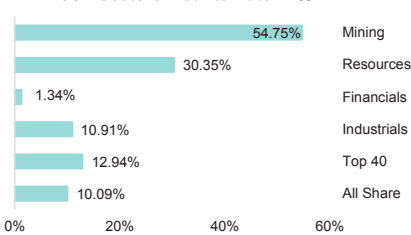
### Commodities

Spot Gold	3235.11
Platinum	997.86
Palladium	973.26
Silver	32.17
Uranium	70.50
Brent Crude	65.25
Iron Ore	96.07
Copper	9479.43
Natural Gas	3.15
Lithium	8.15

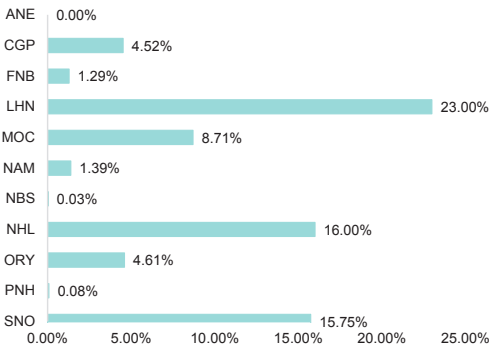
### Currencies

USD/ZAR	18.0681
EUR/ZAR	19.2300
GBP/ZAR	24.1483
USD/CNY	7.2149
EUR/USD	1.1253
GBP/USD	1.3365
USD/RUB	80.2585
CPI	3.60%
Repo Rate	6.75%
Prime Rate	10.50%

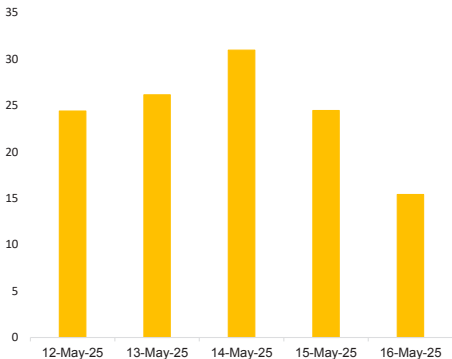
### JSE Sectors: Year to Date in %



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



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



### Global Indices: Year to Date in %

