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News Worth Knowing



Namibia's value-added sectors to feel impact of AGOA expiry

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MAIN STORY

Namibia's value-added sectors to feel impact of AGOA expiry

The expiry of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) is expected to weaken Namibia's export diversification and reduce investment incentives in value-added industries, Simonis Storm has warned.

The U.S. trade framework officially expired on 30 September, ending 25 years of duty-free access for goods exported from sub-Saharan African countries to the United States.

Simonis Storm Junior Economist Almandro Jansen said the loss of U.S. trade preferences will make it harder for Namibian sectors such as fish processing, beef, beverages and manufactured goods to compete globally.

"For Namibia, the direct exposure under AGOA has historically been modest, given that its U.S.-bound exports are concentrated in uranium, non-monetary gold, copper and diamonds — commodities that already attract low MFN duties," Jansen said.

He noted that AGOA's expiry marks a major shift in Africa-U.S. trade relations, with far-reaching implications for export growth, industrialisation and regional strategy. "Its lapse removes these preferences, subjecting African goods to most-favoured-nation (MFN) tariffs and, in some cases, additional U.S. sector-



Crucial Dates

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

specific duties,” he said.

Jansen said that while Namibia’s export mix cushions it from immediate tariff exposure, the long-term risk lies in slower diversification and declining investor confidence. “Without AGOA, new manufacturing and processing ventures targeting the U.S. market are likely to slow. This reduces Namibia’s incentives to channel investment into higher-value exports, at a time when broadening beyond raw minerals is a strategic imperative,” he said.

Across the continent, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) projects that the loss of AGOA could cut African exports to the U.S. by nearly 9%, with the largest impact on countries that had used the scheme to move up the value chain.

“The uncertainty around U.S. trade policy — magnified by the simultaneous imposition of new tariffs on China, Mexico and Canada — adds to the volatility of global value chains,” Jansen said.

He added that the end of AGOA serves both as a warning and an opportunity for Namibia.

“The warning lies in dependence on unilateral trade preferences that can vanish overnight, while the opportunity lies

in accelerating local value addition, expanding agro-processing and leveraging Walvis Bay’s logistics hub under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA),” Jansen said.

“Namibia’s ability to capture greater value will depend less on preferential access to distant markets and more on building resilient regional value chains, improving industrial competitiveness and aligning with Africa’s broader trade integration agenda,” he added.

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White maize boosts Namibia's crop output as livestock sales decline

A sharp increase in white maize production has driven Namibia's total local crop output to 34,196 tonnes in the second quarter of 2025, up from 22,244 tonnes recorded in the same period of 2024.

According to the Bank of Namibia's Quarterly Bulletin for September 2025, the rise was underpinned by favourable rainfall and increased investment in irrigation-fed plantations.

"Local crop production stood at 34,196

tons in the quarter under review and an increase relative to 22,244 tons in 2024. This was attributed to high rainfall and investments made at irrigation-fed plantations,” the report stated.

On a quarterly basis, total crop output surged from 1,666 tonnes in the first quarter, with white maize alone soaring to 34,155 tonnes compared to just 958 tonnes previously.

The apex bank noted that the strong performance reflected the late but effective rains received earlier in the year.

Milk production continued to grow steadily, reaching 4.1 million litres in the second quarter — a 7.4% year-on-year and 3.9% quarterly increase.

The growth according to the central bank, was linked to a higher number of milk-producing cows, improved weather conditions, and the adoption of better technological practices in dairy farming.

In contrast, cattle marketing dropped sharply by 55.9% year-on-year to 53,815 head, mainly due to farmers’ restocking efforts and disease outbreaks such as lumpy skin disease and foot-and-mouth disease in South Africa, which disrupted live exports.

However, on a quarterly basis, cattle marketed increased by 32.3%, supported by higher slaughter numbers for export and improved body

scores of slaughter-ready animals.

“The annual decline stemmed from live weaners exported and cattle slaughtered for exports during the quarter under review. Restocking activities by farmers, lumpy skin disease and foot and mouth outbreak in South Africa also hampered live exports,” the report read.

Beef producer prices remained firm, averaging N\$64.68 per kilogram — up 12.8% year-on-year but slightly down by 0.76% from the previous quarter as more cattle became ready for slaughter.

The annual increase was driven by undersupply at abattoirs, while weaner prices improved due to limited auction numbers and better grazing conditions.

The small stock sector recorded mixed results. The number of small stock marketed fell by 38% year-on-year to 221,897 head, reflecting lower slaughter and export volumes.

Quarter-on-quarter, however, the sector rebounded by 61.7%, supported by higher slaughter numbers for export and live exports.

Sheep producer prices rose by 32.6% year-on-year and 1.6% quarter-on-quarter to N\$62.65 per kilogram, supported by low supply and strong market demand.

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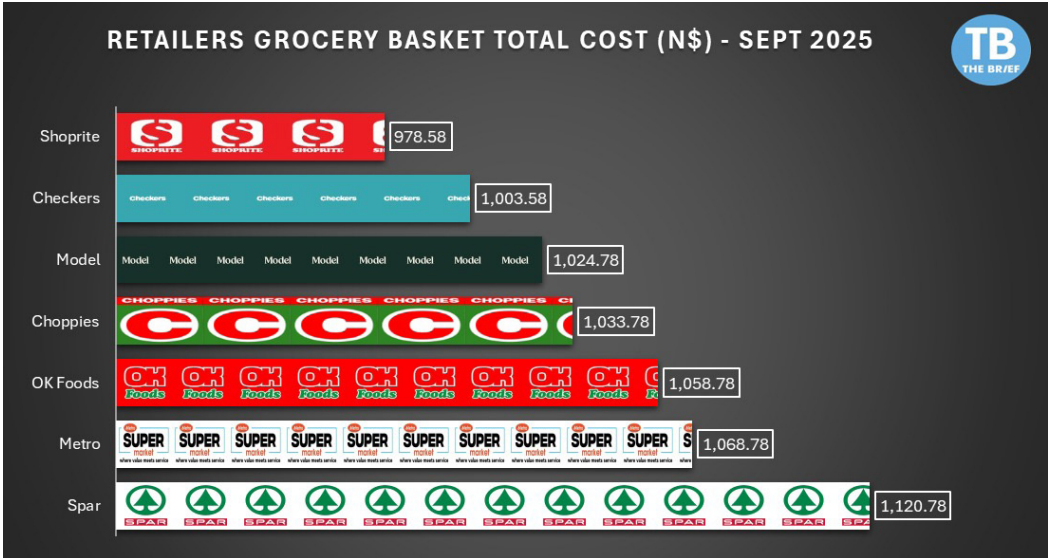
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Shoprite Windhoek’s cheapest retailer in September

Shoprite emerged as the cheapest retailer in Windhoek in September. Our basket of 21 everyday essentials totalled an impressive N\$978.58, making Shoprite the only retailer to come in under the N\$1,000 mark for the entire shopping list.

For shoppers chasing the lowest overall bill in September, Shoprite emerged as the undisputed champion. Tallying up our basket of 21 everyday essentials, the final bill at Shoprite came to an impressive N\$978.58, making it the only retailer to come in under the N\$1,000 mark for the entire shopping list.

Checkers claimed second place with a basket cost of N\$1,003.58, positioning itself as another strong value option. For budget-conscious households, the modest N\$25 gap between Shoprite and Checkers could easily influence where the next

grocery run happens.

On the other end of the spectrum, Spar recorded the highest total for the same basket of goods, coming in at N\$1,120.78. This is significant N\$142.20 more expensive than Shoprite, highlighting just how much one’s choice of supermarket can impact monthly spending.

Overall Ranking (by affordability)

Winning the Aisles: Where to Shop for Specifics

While Shoprite takes the lead for the lowest overall cost, a strategic shopper knows that the best deals are often spread across different stores.

- Fresh Produce: Choppies leads with the lowest prices on onions and potatoes, while Shoprite offers the best deal on tomatoes.
- Staples: For bread, sugar, rice, and pasta, Shoprite and Checkers consistently provide the most affordable options.



Key Takeaways

- **Overall Value:** If you are a one-stop shopper, Shoprite would have been your best bet for the lowest total bill, with Checkers as a close second during the month of September.
- **Do not Judge a Store by One Item:** The cheapest store for maize meal (OK Foods) is not the cheapest overall. Smart shopping means knowing which items to buy were.
- **Significant Savings on High-Ticket Items:** The biggest price differences were seen on items like mince and cooking oil. Paying attention to these prices can lead to the largest savings.
- **The Power of Choice:** The N\$142 gap between the most and least expensive baskets demonstrates that where you shop truly matters.

• **Meat & Fish:** Chicken prices are fairly similar across all retailers, but Shoprite offers the lowest price on mince, while also remaining competitive on canned pilchards.

• **Dairy & Fats:** Milk is most affordable at Shoprite and Checkers, while OK Foods edges ahead with the lowest butter price.

• **Cooking Essentials:** OK Foods is best for cooking oil, with Metro taking the lead on tomato sauce.

• **Household & Cleaning:** Model and Choppies are strongest here, especially on toilet paper, washing powder, and dishwashing liquid. Shoprite comes in lowest for bar soap.

• **Personal Care:** Toothpaste pricing is most competitive at Spar, Choppies, and Checkers, which all tie.

Key Takeaways for the Smart Shopper:
About This Survey

This comparative analysis was conducted on a monthly basis to provide consumers in

	Retailer	Basket Cost
1	Shoprite	N\$978.58
2	Checkers	N\$1,003.58
3	Model	N\$1,024.78
4	Choppies	N\$1,033.78
5	OK Foods	N\$1,058.78
6	Metro	N\$1,068.78
7	Spar	N\$1,120.78

Windhoek with a clear and practical guide to grocery prices.

As households continue to navigate their budgets, our goal is to highlight where the best value can be found.

The survey is based on a standard basket of 21 essential grocery items, with prices recorded across seven of the city’s major retail chains.

The totals reflect the cost of purchasing the entire basket from a single store.

Namibia's tourism revival trips on its own red tape



Namibia's tourism industry is showing signs of revival. Passenger arrivals reached 144 500 in the second quarter of 2025, with July posting the highest monthly inflow since the pandemic began. Restaurants surged 7.2%, and business travel strengthened. The recovery is real.

But government policy is stifling it at the border.

A new visa regime has created exactly the kind of friction that deters high-value visitors. Travellers now face a N\$400 "administration fee" for manual visas-on-arrival, a cost meant to push them toward an e-visa platform. That platform is not yet available at all land borders and is plagued by technical glitches. The result: congestion, delays and frustration at Namibia's points of entry.

Weak Growth Where It Matters

The GDP data clearly show the distortion. Hotels grew by only 0.9% in the quarter, while restaurants jumped by 7.2%. Visitors are eating out but not staying longer, not booking premium accommodation, and not spending at the levels the industry needs.

The contrast is stark. Restaurants can benefit from day-trippers and short-stay travellers. Hotels depend on tourists who arrive, settle in, and spend. When border procedures turn into bottlenecks, it is precisely those longer-stay, higher-spend visitors who think twice.

Red Tape at the Border

The problem is not demand. Passenger arrivals are at post-COVID highs. But instead

of smoothing the path for more growth, the government has inserted friction. The new fee and dysfunctional e-visa system are not an incentive to travel; they are a deterrent.

Other sectors in the economy are faltering. Agriculture contracted 3.5% in the same quarter, manufacturing collapsed 9.7%, and household consumption fell by 7.2%. Tourism is one of the few segments posting consistent growth, yet it is being undermined by bureaucratic mismanagement.

A Costly Misstep

The short-term revenue from a N\$400 levy cannot compensate for the longer-term loss in visitor spend. The figures are unforgiving: hotels barely above water, restaurants carrying the sector, and border congestion discouraging repeat visits.

The GDP report itself warns that Namibia's growth streak is fragile and dependent on too few sectors. Tourism is one of those sectors. Undermining it with policy that clogs entry points is more than careless — it is self-defeating.

The Hard Lesson

Namibia has a chance to build a durable recovery in tourism. Passenger numbers show the appetite is there. But travellers will not wait in queues, wrestle with half-built systems, or pay fees that feel arbitrary. They will go elsewhere.

The data tell a simple story: restaurants are busy, hotels are not, and government policy is to blame. Namibia's tourism revival is tripping not on lack of demand, but on its own red tape.

**** Briefly is a weekly column that is opinionated and analytical. It sifts through the noise to make sense of the numbers, trends and headlines shaping business and the economy with insight, wit and just enough scepticism to keep things interesting. *THE VIEWS EXPRESSED ARE NOT OUR OWN, we simply relay them as part of the conversation.***



RMB backs Namibia's global investment drive at UN General Assembly

Rand Merchant Bank (RMB) Namibia joined President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah's private sector delegation at the recent United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York to promote

investment opportunities in Namibia.

The bank was represented by Conrad Dempsey, Chief Executive Officer of FirstRand Namibia, Jason Shikalepo, Head of Investment Banking, and Angelique

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Peake, Sector Lead for Oil and Gas, Energy and Resources.

The delegation attended the Africa-America Institute Gala Dinner, where the Presidents of Namibia and Mozambique held a fireside chat highlighting Africa's expanding influence in global affairs.

This was followed by investor meetings organised by the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB), culminating in the Experience Namibia showcase, which promoted the country's creative economy. Among the guests was Hollywood actor Eric Roberts, who filmed Skeleton Coast in Namibia.

The Namibian delegation also participated in a high-level roundtable hosted by the Business Council for International Understanding (BCIU), supported by RMB Namibia, S&P Global and Siemens Healthineers.

Delivering the opening remarks, Dempsey said Namibia is "known for consistently performing above its weight" and described the country's progress as a story of "human energy and limitless potential."

President Nandi-Ndaitwah underscored Africa's strategic importance as a market of 1.4 billion people and reaffirmed Namibia's commitment to advancing intra-African trade through the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

"Significant capital is essential for sustainable development," she said.

Reflecting on the week's engagements, Dempsey said it was "an honour to join the President of Namibia on the world stage and share in the momentum driving Namibia's investment story." He added that FirstRand Namibia remains a committed partner in driving sustainable progress and innovation.

Peake said the UNGA engagements "deepened our relationships with Namibia's leadership and key stakeholders," adding that RMB is dedicated to unlocking sustainable growth across energy, infrastructure and the creative industries.

RMB said its participation at the UNGA reaffirms Namibia's position as a credible and attractive investment destination and demonstrates its continued commitment to supporting the country's long-term economic development.



Metro cheapest hyper in September

In a close race for the title of September's most affordable hyper store, Metro managed to edge out the competition by the slimmest of margins.

The total basket at Metro was just N\$3.80 (N\$832.81) cheaper than Checkers (N\$836.61), and N\$4.70 less than Woermann Brock (N\$841.31). While the savings may seem minor, they still represent a win for budget-conscious shoppers, proof that every dollar counts in today's economy.

Where to Find the Best Deals

Metro

Metro secured its overall win by offering crucial savings on the medium-to-high cost necessities, ensuring their basket total stayed lean:

- **Biggest Wins:** Metro's Top Score Maize Meal (5kg at N\$68.99) comes in roughly N\$4 cheaper than competitors. It also offers the best prices on 2Ply Toilet Paper (9 Rolls at N\$72.99) and Wellingtons Tomato Sauce (750ml at N\$25.99).

- **Daily Needs:** Additional savings come

from Rama Butter (500g at N\$27.99) and Bar Soap (N\$13.99).

Checkers

Checkers, despite finishing second overall, offered the lowest price on 7 of the 20 surveyed items.

- **Staple Savings:** Checkers locks in the cheapest price on high-volume items like White Bread (N\$10.99), Tastic Rice (2kg at N\$32.99), and White Sugar (2.5kg at N\$49.99).

- **Protein & Produce:** They also offer the lowest price on Chicken (1.5kg at N\$79.99) and Tomatoes (1kg at N\$26.99).

Woermann Brock

While Woermann Brock ranked third overall, it shines for shoppers prioritizing fresh produce and select household bargains.


- **Freshness Focus:** The store leads with the lowest prices on Onions (1kg at N\$14.99) and Potatoes (1kg at N\$18.99), a notable saving of N\$8 compared to competitors.

- **Household Highlights:** It also offers

standout prices on Sunlight Dishwashing Liquid (750ml at N\$29.99) and Aquafresh Toothpaste (100ml at N\$21.99).

Although Metro claimed a narrow victory, price competition remains intense among the three hyper stores, with less than N\$5 separating the cheapest and most expensive baskets.

Woermann Brock continues to stand out for its affordable fresh produce, while Checkers maintains its edge with competitive prices on proteins and bakery items. Metro, on the other hand, proves strongest in dry goods, making it an ideal choice for bulk buyers and value-conscious shoppers.



NAMWATER
Namibia Water Corporation Ltd

BID INVITATION

NamWater is inviting registered and reputable firms to submit bids for the following procurement.

Reference Number	Description	Non-Compulsory Pre-Bid meeting	Restriction: Section (29)(1)(b)	Non-re-fundable Document Levy	Last day for clarification request	Closing Date
G/OIB-002/2026	Supply and Delivery of Pump-sets c/w Shaft Couplings and Base Frames for Ondangwa SE Pump Station	Not Applicable	The Invitation for Bids has been issued through an Open International Bidding procedure in terms of Section 30 of the Public Procurement Act, Act 15 of 2015 as amended...	N\$ 300.00	27 October 2025	18 November 2025 at 11h00
G/ONB/ NW- 016/2026	Supply and delivery of Electromagnetic flow meters for NamWater Pump Stations.	Not Applicable	This bid is reserved for Namibian registered entities as per section 29 (1)(b) of the Public Procurement Act 15 of 2015	N\$ 300.00	27 October 2025	18 November 2025 at 11h00
W/ONB/ NW –005/2026	The Upgrading & Rehabilitation of Access Roads at NamWater Reservoir Sites Halali, Braunfels and Braunfels Pipeline Access Road	21 October 2025, at 12h00, Braunfels NamWater Reservoir Site And Braunfels Pipeline Access Road. 23 October 2025, at 12h00, Etosha National Park, Halali NamWater Reservoir Site.	This bid is reserved for Namibian registered entities as per section 29 (1)(b) of the Public Procurement Act 15 of 2015.	N\$ 300.00	30 October 2025	18 November 2025 at 11h00
W/ONB/ NW-006/2026	Berg Aukas Deep Installation: Drilling and test pumping of 8 production boreholes and 4 monitoring boreholes at the Berg Aukas Water Supply Scheme, Otjozondjupa Region	Not Applicable	This bid is reserved for Namibian registered entities as per section 29 (1)(b) of the Public Procurement Act 15 of 2015.	N\$ 300.00	30 October 2025	18 November 2025 at 11h00

Bidding documents will be available as of **06 October 2025**. Free bidding documents can be requested with the Proof of payment from bids@namwater.com.na.

All prospective bidders who wish to do business with NamWater will be subject to the Public Procurement Act No 15 of 2015 as amended, Public Procurement Regulations 2017 and other directives issued under it.

Documents should be delivered to:

The Quotation/Bid Box
Namibia Water Corporation Ltd.
176 Iscor Street, NamWater Head Office, Aigams Building, Windhoek

Enquiries:

The Procurement Management Unit
Fax : (+264 61) 21 0741
Email : bids@namwater.com.na

NB: Please note that all enquiries should be made in writing.



Namibia seeks to build distinct national identity through brand initiative

The Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (MICT) says the new Brand Namibia initiative seeks to strengthen the country's global competitiveness by positioning it as an attractive destination for investment, trade and tourism.

"Every country exports its products and services to the rest of the world. For this to succeed, there must be a consistent and attractive environment for economic activity, one that encourages participation and growth. But we can only achieve that when people understand our vision and what Namibia has to offer," said Minister of Information and Communication Technology, Emma Theofelus.

Theofelus explained that the initiative focuses on three core pillars — economic competitiveness, national identity and global recognition — aimed at building a unified and distinctive national image.

"While we are putting our house in order, it does not mean we cannot make the outside beautiful. The world does not stop turning, and Namibia is not an island on its own but part of a global village. We must therefore highlight the positive stories of our progress even as we work to address our challenges," she said.

According to Theofelus, the campaign is designed to attract foreign direct investment, support local businesses in accessing export markets, and enhance the country's tourism appeal.

"In the past, Namibia has been known as the hidden gem of the world, a serene, quiet, and personalised destination. We can only sustain and enhance this image if we work together to promote our national brand. Today, we are elevating this discussion to you, our editors," Theofelus said during an engagement on Monday.

The Minister said the campaign will

showcase Namibia's strategic pillars and twelve key initiatives intended to firmly position the country on the global map. Central to this effort, she said, is defining what makes Namibia unique among other nations, with an emphasis on national pride, shared values and collective identity.

"People often ask what makes us different from other desert countries. Our main selling point is that we are a nation where the desert meets the ocean, a friendly, safe, and welcoming people. But many countries claim to be friendly and safe, so what truly sets Namibia apart? What are our Namibian values? Because we are so diverse, we must ask ourselves what unites us and what makes us one," she said.

Theofelus noted that Brand Namibia will also drive the country's international visibility through public diplomacy, tourism marketing and trade outreach.

"Another focus area is global recognition, by actively shaping and owning our national narrative to gain international recognition for our unique offerings and achievements.

My long-term vision is to position Namibia as a place to live, a place to visit, and a place to invest in," she added.

The Minister said the strategy will be presented to a wide range of stakeholders, including Parliament, embassies, community groups and transport associations, to ensure inclusivity and nationwide participation.

"A tourist's experience begins the moment they arrive, from their interaction with immigration officers to their taxi ride, their accommodation, and the people they meet. First impressions last, and every Namibian plays a role in shaping that experience," she said.

Theofelus urged all Namibians to support the initiative and contribute to a unified image that strengthens the country's standing on the global stage.

The Brand Namibia strategy, developed in collaboration with the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB), forms part of the government's broader Nationhood and National Pride Programme.



Female leadership still feels like an exception!

By Fenni Nghikevali

It is the year 2025. Women lead nations, organisations, communities and classrooms. Yet, somehow, female leadership still feels like a rarity, an exception, a milestone!

We still hear the phrase “the first woman to...” far too often. We still marvel when a woman occupies the highest seat.

The presence of women in leadership continues to be treated as a moment of celebration rather than a normal state of progress. And until that changes, leadership itself remains incomplete.

Progress has been made but it seems the perception has not caught up.

The presence of women in leadership is still treated as a milestone, not a norm.

The question is no longer whether women can lead. History, competence, and experience have answered that.

The question is: “When will we stop treating Female Leadership as remarkable?”

The real work is to normalize female leadership and to move from admiration to acceptance, and from symbolism to substance.

Redefining Leadership

The goal is not merely to increase the number of women in leadership roles, but rather to redefine and reshape what leadership itself means.

True progress will come from a world that welcomes the full spectrum of leadership styles, in other words, masculine, feminine, and everything in



“

Leadership should not demand that women abandon their natural strengths to be taken seriously.

between.

Leadership should not demand that women abandon their natural strengths to be taken seriously.

It should evolve to recognize that compassion, intuition, and collaboration are not opposites of strength, they are extensions of it.

Research continues to reveal that women in leadership are judged more harshly, interrupted more often, and held to higher standards of performance.

A confident male leader is seen as assertive; a confident female leader is sometimes called aggressive.

A compassionate male leader is praised for emotional intelligence; a compassionate woman is sometimes labeled as too soft.

When leadership reflects diversity, it becomes richer, more grounded, and more effective.

This redefinition benefits everyone. When women rise, organizations gain perspective, families gain role models, and societies gain balance.

In this redefinition, leadership becomes

less about who sits at the head of the table, and more about how that table is built, who is invited to it, and whether every voice is heard once seated.

The Face of Leadership Still Isn't Female Enough

For generations, leadership has been defined through a narrow lens of authority, dominance, and decisiveness, traits historically associated with masculinity.

For centuries, this narrow definition shaped what “a leader” looks and sounds like.

When women step into that space, they are often viewed as exceptions to the rule. The expectation still lingers that female leaders must either “toughen up” or “soften down” to be accepted.

Completing the Story

We are no longer living in a time when female leadership is a novelty. Yet, perception lags behind reality. Too often, women leaders are still described in terms of rarity rather than capability.

We must create systems that not only allow women to lead but allow them to lead authentically.

Spaces where their voices are not an interruption to the conversation, but a natural part of it.

When that happens, we will not have more women leading, we will have a world finally led by the fullness of its potential.

To move forward, we must build systems that do not merely allow women to lead but empower them to lead authentically. That means workplaces where leadership is measured not by conformity, but by contribution.

Therefore, mentorship, sponsorship, and visibility matter.

Representation matters. But more than that, normality matters.

When a young girl sees women leading with confidence and integrity across

all fields, not as rare exceptions but as everyday examples, her vision of leadership expands.

She learns that leadership does not require her to emulate someone else's voice; it only asks that she use her own.

Redefining leadership is about dismantling the silent assumptions that make their presence seem extraordinary. It is about ensuring that the word leader no longer requires a gendered prefix.

A world that fully embraces female leadership is not one that celebrates women for stepping into leadership.

It is a world where empathy and excellence coexist, where vision is not limited by gender, and where leadership is seen not as a title to be earned by a few, but a responsibility shared by many.

When that day comes, leadership will finally reflect the fullness of human potential. We will not have more women leading. On the contrary, we will have a world complete in its leadership.

Female Leadership is not charity. It is strategy.

****Fenni Nghikevali is a Leadership Advocate who has been recognised as an Honoree in Leadership Excellence by the African Achievers Award, in recognition of transformational impact and leadership. She is a Chartered Accountant, Governance Enthusiast, Business Consulting Owner, Strategic Ambassador, Public Speaker and Executive Mentor to emerging leaders.***

This article is written in her personal capacity and is not representative of any institution. For inquiries, contact her at fnghikevali@gmail.com.



A Stores: Food Lover’s Market retains top spot in September

Food Lover’s Market retained its position as the most affordable store for the second consecutive month, offering shoppers an overall saving of N\$81 compared to SuperSpar.

Woermann Fresh followed closely behind, narrowing the gap with a total just N\$4 cheaper than SuperSpar. These small differences highlight that while one store emerges as the winner, the true savings depend on each shopper’s unique basket composition.

Total Basket Comparison:

- 1st Place: Food Lover’s Market – N\$1,497.77
- 2nd Place: Woermann Fresh – N\$1,574.77
- 3rd Place: SuperSpar – N\$1,578.78

Category Breakdown: Where Each Store Excelled

Although Food Lover’s Market took the top spot overall, each retailer demonstrated distinct pricing advantages across different product categories:

• Food Lover’s Market:

The retailer’s win was supported by strong pricing in the dairy and pantry sections. Key savings included 400g Cheddar Cheese (N\$79.99) and a standout deal on Olive Oil (N\$82.99). Food Lover’s also led on staples such as 2 kg White Sugar (N\$44.99) and Salted Butter (N\$75.99), both considerably lower than SuperSpar.

• Woermann Fresh:

Also known for its fresh produce, Woermann Fresh delivered the lowest prices on Cucumber (N\$19.99), Tomatoes (N\$19.99), and Basmati Rice (N\$89.99). However, higher costs in some categories

such as Toilet Paper (N\$169.99) and Sirloin Steak (N\$269.99) slightly offset its savings advantage.

• SuperSpar:

While ranking third overall, SuperSpar remained competitive on several protein and household items, matching Food Lover’s on Sirloin Steak (N\$199.99) and offering fair prices on Foam Bath (N\$89.99). However, its steep pricing on Olive Oil (N\$180) and Salted Butter (N\$99.99) weakened its overall position this month.

Spotlight: The Breakfast Club Basket

To capture how prices compare for the most important meal of the day, a “Breakfast Club Basket” was created, including White Bread, Salted Butter, Cheddar Cheese, Long Life Milk, Apples, and White Sugar.

Breakfast Basket Totals:

- 1st Place: Food Lover’s Market – N\$265.94
- 2nd Place: Woermann Fresh – N\$289.94
- 3rd Place: SuperSpar – N\$324.94

Food Lover’s Market emerged as the clear leader, nearly N\$60 cheaper than SuperSpar for the same items. Major savings were recorded on Salted Butter and White Sugar, while Woermann Fresh performed well on Long Life Milk and Apples. SuperSpar, however, remained the costliest option for breakfast basics.

Consumer Takeaway

September’s results reaffirm a key takeaway, there is no single “cheapest” store for every shopper. While Food Lover’s Market holds the overall title for affordability, Woermann Fresh performed strongly in fresh produce, and SuperSpar remains a solid contender for meats and select high-value items.

Ultimately, the best savings depend on your personal shopping habits. Monitoring prices of frequently purchased goods and mixing your shopping between stores remains the smartest way to stretch your grocery budget.



VACANCY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Inceptus Holding (Pty) Ltd ("Inceptus"), the commercial arm of the University of Namibia ("UNAM"), invites suitably qualified and dynamic individuals to apply for the position of Chief Executive Officer ("CEO").

The CEO will be responsible for providing strategic leadership, driving growth and innovation, and ensuring the effective execution of the company's mandate of creating value through its commercial ventures while aligning with UNAM's broader strategic objectives.

Key Responsibilities	Minimum Qualifications & Experience
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide overall leadership and strategic direction to Inceptus.• Develop and implement strategies that ensure growth, profitability and sustainability of the organisation and its business units.• Strengthen corporate governance, compliance and stakeholder relations.• Oversee financial and operational performance to achieve set targets.• Build, lead and empower a high-performing management team.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Master's degree in Entrepreneurship, Business Administration, Finance, Economics, or a related field (an MBA will be an added advantage).• At least 5 years of relevant senior management/leadership experience, preferably in a commercial, investment or corporate environment.• Demonstrated experience in strategic leadership, corporate governance, stakeholder management, and business development.

Application Closing Date:
Wednesday, 15 October 2025

For detailed information and to apply for this vacancy, kindly visit:
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Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. All foreign qualifications should be accompanied by a Namibia Qualifications Authority (NQA) evaluation certificate. Should you have any queries kindly contact +264 61 206 4709



Bank liquidity jumps to N\$8.1 billion on strong diamond earnings

Namibia's banking sector liquidity climbed sharply to an average of N\$8.1 billion in August 2025, up from N\$5.8 billion in July, mainly on the back of strong inflows from diamond sales.

According to Simonis Storm Junior Economist, Almandro Jansen, the increase helped ease the tighter funding conditions observed earlier in the year.

"The surge in liquidity was mainly driven by inflows from diamond sales, which boosted market liquidity conditions and provided relief to the funding environment after the mid-year squeeze," Jansen said.

On the external front, Jansen reported that the Bank of Namibia's international reserves fell by 1.9% month-on-month to N\$57 billion at the end of August, down from N\$58.1 billion in July.

He attributed the decline to higher government foreign payments and commercial bank withdrawals of Customer Foreign Currency balances.

"Import cover weakened slightly to 3.7 months, or 4.2 months excluding oil-related exploration imports. While still above adequacy thresholds to safeguard Namibia's currency peg, this reflects mounting pressure on reserves from fiscal and capital account outflows," he said.

Jansen noted that the August data reflected a contrasting liquidity environment, where strong export earnings replenished domestic liquidity even as external buffers came under strain.

Broad money supply growth moderated to 10.2% year-on-year in August, from 10.4% in July, signalling weaker long-term deposit growth, particularly among other financial corporations, as well as softer net claims on the central government.



"Currency outside depository corporations slowed to 10.7% from 12.8% in July, while other deposits eased to 12.2% from 12.8%. Transferable deposits, however, remained stable at 8.4% year-on-year, supported by steady business demand," Jansen explained.

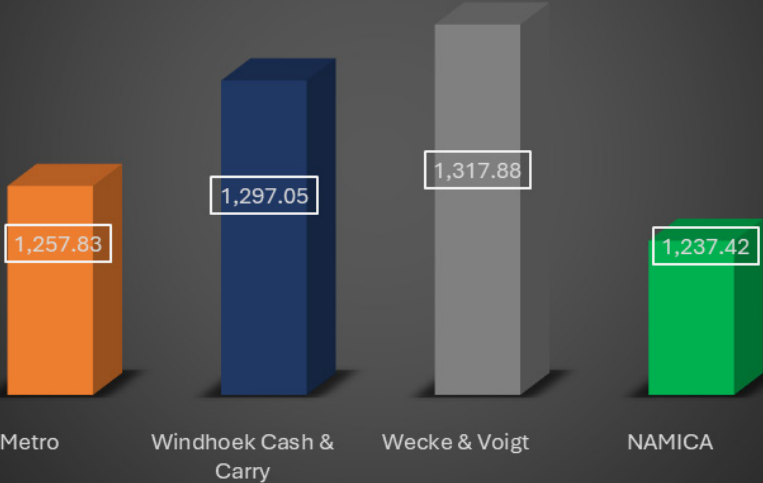
On inflation, Jansen said the consumer price index eased to 3.2% in August from 3.5% in July, continuing a disinflationary trend that has persisted since the start of the year.

"While inflation remains comfortably within the Bank of Namibia's 3 to 6% target range, risks are shifting upward for the remainder of 2025. Imported cost pressures remain the principal concern, with the 30% U.S. tariff on South African vehicle and machinery exports, as well as ongoing tariff reviews on Chinese goods, likely to reshape supply chains and feed into domestic prices," he said.

He added that lower fuel prices, alongside softer food, housing, and utilities inflation, were the main factors behind the recent slowdown in price growth.



Basket Cost by Wholesaler (N\$) - September 2025



NAMICA Retains Top Spot as Cheapest Wholesaler in September 2025

For bulk buyers and households stocking up, price differences between wholesalers can quickly add up. Our comparison basket of eight common essentials (cooking oil, maize meal, sugar, chicken, rice, pasta, milk, and flour) shows where the best value lies this month.

*** NAMICA emerges as the most affordable wholesaler for the third**

consecutive time with a basket total of N\$1,237.42.

*** Metro follows closely at N\$1,257.83, just N\$20 more expensive.**

*** Windhoek Cash & Carry comes in at N\$1,297.05.**

*** Wecke & Voigts is the most expensive, totaling N\$1,317.88, nearly N\$80 higher than NAMICA.**


Wholesaler	Total Cost (N\$)	Affordability Rank	Difference from Most Affordable (NAMICA)
NAMICA	1,237.42	1st	-
Metro	1,257.83	2nd	N\$20.41 higher
Windhoek C & C	1,297.05	3rd	N\$59.63 higher
Wecke & Voigts	1,317.88	4th	N\$80.46 higher

Item-by-Item Price Showdown

While NAMICA wins the overall race, a deeper dive into the individual items shows that every shop has a few competitive advantages. The savvy shopper will want to cherry-pick the best deals.

Store Item	Lowest Price (N\$)	Best Wholesaler(s)	Notes on Savings
Cooking Oil (5l)	171.99	NAMICA	NAMICA is the cheapest. Wecke & Voigts is N\$10.51 more expensive.
Top Score (10kg)	119.99	Metro	Metro has the edge, just undercutting the others.
Marathon Sugar (10kg)	179.99	Metro & NAMICA	Both offer a strong price point, beating the other two by almost N\$17.00
Chicken (4kg)	179.99	NAMICA	NAMICA offers the best deal here, a significant saving of N\$28.41 compared to Wecke & Voigts' price of N\$208.40.
Rice (Tastic Rice) (10kg)	184.95	Windhoek C & C	The only item where Windhoek C & C offers the lowest price, a slight saving over the competition.
Macaroni Pasta Polana (5kg)	119.99	NAMICA	Another win for NAMICA, who is N\$12.01 cheaper than Wecke & Voigts.
Fresh Milk (1l 6 pack)	119.99	Metro & NAMICA	Tie for the lowest price. Windhoek C & C is the most expensive at N\$130.30.
Vetkoek Wheat Flour (10kg)	139.99	Metro	Metro has the lowest price, saving you N\$10.00 compared to Wecke & Voigts.

In short, if you are looking to save money on a typical grocery run, NAMICA should have been the primary destination during September. For the ultimate savings, consider a dual-shop strategy by visiting Metro for your flour and Top Score, and then heading to NAMICA for the bulk of your other items.



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Namibia tightens used car import rules, bans vehicles older than 12 years

The Namibian government has announced new restrictions on the importation of second-hand motor vehicles older than 12 years. According to the Ministry of International Relations and Trade, the

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importation of used vehicles older than 12 years from outside the Common Customs Area (CCA) — which includes Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia and South Africa — is now prohibited.

The measure according to the ministry, aims to regulate the influx of ageing vehicles into the country and align Namibia's import policy with regional standards.

The restriction applies to all categories of second-hand passenger and light commercial vehicles and this includes most cars, station wagons, double-cab pickups and small trucks primarily designed for transporting people or goods.

Vehicles falling under these categories will not be allowed entry into Namibia if they are more than 12 years old from the date of manufacture, except for those imported within the Common Customs

Area for less than two years prior to entry.

The ministry clarified that the prohibition does not apply to specific categories of vehicles ,such as special-purpose vehicles — including cranes, fire engines, ambulances, mobile clinics and television broadcasting units — as well as certain chassis fitted with engines.

The ministry said the official point of entry for all second-hand motor vehicles imported into Namibia remains Walvis Bay, where compliance inspections will be conducted.

Deputy Director for Trade Promotion, Salutus Kapenda, said the measure forms part of efforts to regulate vehicle standards and improve road safety. “This policy aims to reduce the inflow of old, unsafe vehicles into Namibia while ensuring that imports meet regional environmental and technical requirements,” he said.



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