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THE

# BRIEF

News Worth Knowing



**NamRA collects N\$500m in three months, recovers N\$622m through legal action**

MONDAY 13 APRIL 2026

## MAIN STORY



## NamRA collects N\$500m in three months, recovers N\$622m through legal action

**N**amibia Revenue Agency (NamRA) collected N\$500 million within three months through a targeted compliance drive and recovered a further N\$622 million through legal action against non-compliant taxpayers.

NamRA Commissioner Sam Shivute said the agency handled 15 legal cases valued at approximately N\$622 million, winning 14 of them, reflecting a strong enforcement record.

The collections form part of NamRA's

### Crucial Dates

- **Bank of Namibia Monetary Policy announcement dates:**
  - \* 22 April 2026
  - \* 17 June 2026
  - \* 12 August 2026
  - \* 21 October 2026
  - \* 02 December 2026
- **Namibia Oil and Gas Conference 18–21 August 2026 in Windhoek**

A total of 43 drug-related cases were intercepted, with an estimated value of N\$67 million, highlighting the agency’s role in border enforcement and customs control.

broader push to improve tax compliance and strengthen revenue mobilisation.

Shivute said the agency has also made progress in combating fraud, particularly in value-added tax (VAT), where N\$171 million was recovered from fraudulent activities.

“These outcomes demonstrate our commitment to enforcing compliance and protecting the integrity of the tax system,” he said.

The N\$500 million was collected during a focused initiative referred to as “injury time”, aimed at accelerating outstanding payments and boosting revenue performance.

The enforcement measures come as NamRA works towards its revised revenue target of N\$88 billion, contributing to the funding of Namibia’s roughly N\$100 billion national budget.

Beyond tax enforcement, the agency also reported progress in tackling illicit activities linked to revenue losses.

“A total of 43 drug-related cases were intercepted, with an estimated value of N\$67 million, highlighting the agency’s role in border enforcement and customs control,” Shivute said.

He said NamRA’s approach combines enforcement with

taxpayer engagement to improve compliance.

“We are firm but fair. Those who comply are supported, and those who do not will face the full force of the law,” he said.

Shivute added that the agency’s performance reflects its growing institutional capacity since its establishment in 2021.



## Request For Proposal (RFP) ref number: NARFX11281

FNB Namibia Ltd invites reputable, qualified and experienced service providers to submit tenders for the provision of cleaning services at its Parkside Head Office in Windhoek, Namibia.

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Interested and reputable Namibian-registered companies with proven experience can request the RFP document via the below email address: [procurement@fbnamibia.com.na](mailto:procurement@fbnamibia.com.na)

**Submission:** A formal RFP request will be issued through the FNB portal for your submission.

No hand delivered applications will be accepted.

**Enquiries:** Any enquiries relating to this tender should be directed via email to [procurement@fbnamibia.com.na](mailto:procurement@fbnamibia.com.na) on or before 10 April 2026.

**Disclaimer:** FNB Namibia Limited shall not be responsible for any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a response to this tender and furthermore reserves the right to not give any reasons for acceptance or rejection of any offer, and no correspondence will be entered into in this regard.

**Closing date:** Wednesday, 15 April 2026 at 12pm



## BoN forecasts 2.6% growth for Namibia in 2026

Namibia's economy is projected to expand by 2.6% in 2026, following growth of 1.7% in 2025, according to the Bank of Namibia's March 2026 Economic Outlook update.

Growth is expected to strengthen further to 2.9% in 2027, supported by activity across key sectors of the economy.

Bank of Namibia Director of Strategic Communications and International Relations Kazembire Zemburuka said expansion will be driven by construction, electricity and water, wholesale and retail trade, financial services, and public

administration and defence.

Uranium mining is also expected to remain a key contributor within the primary industries.

"Despite downward revisions compared to the December 2025 Economic Outlook update, growth in 2026 and 2027 remains moderate, primarily supported by anticipated expansion in the secondary and tertiary industries," Zemburuka said.

The central bank warned that the outlook remains exposed to both domestic and external risks.

"The domestic economic outlook remains

subject to several downside risks from both external and domestic developments,” Zemburuka said.

Regionally, outbreaks of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in Botswana and South Africa could affect livestock production and export earnings, while global geopolitical tensions and evolving United States policies may drive volatility in commodity

prices, exchange rates and fuel costs.

On the global front, growth prospects have improved slightly, with world GDP expected to expand by 3.3% in 2026.

Advanced economies are projected to grow by 1.8% in 2026 before easing to 1.7% in 2027, while Sub-Saharan Africa is forecast to expand by 4.6% over the same period.



## EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENT

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER DESIGNATE

**Welwitchia University Group is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Edward Kafita as the Group Chief Executive Officer-Designate, effective 1 April 2026.**

This designation forms part of the organisation’s structured succession planning process aimed at ensuring leadership continuity and a smooth transition. In this capacity, Mr Kafita will work closely with the current Group CEO and contribute to key strategic and operational initiatives.

An executive leader with over a decade of experience across higher education, corporate operations, and governance, Mr. Kafita brings a multidisciplinary background supported by qualifications in law and international relations.

Mr. Kafita currently serves as Chief Executive Officer of Welwitchia Integrated Services, a commercially entity of Welwitchia University Group, where he has been instrumental in driving organisational growth, innovation and strategic alignment. His Leadership experience is complemented by a track record in stakeholder engagement, risk management, compliance and strategic partnerships at both senior and executive levels.

Mr. Kafita holds an LLB (Hons) from the University of Namibia and a Bachelor of Social Sciences Honours in Industrial Sociology and Labour from the University of Pretoria. He further holds a Master’s degree in International Relations and a Postgraduate Diploma in Development Finance from the University of Cape Town. He is currently pursuing a PhD at the International University of Management (IUM) as well as a Master of Business Administration (MBA) at the University of Johannesburg, to further strengthen his leadership and management capabilities.

He has served on various boards and governance structures, including as Deputy Chairperson of the Welwitchia Health Training Centre (WHTC) Council and as a current Council member of Welwitchia University. He also serves as a Board Member of the Namibia Training Authority and Rent-to-Own Housing Namibia (Ongos Valley). Through these roles, he has gained exposure to governance oversight, policy development, and institutional decision-making processes.

A strategic thinker and advocate for ethical leadership, Mr. Kafita is committed to organisational excellence, capacity building and sustainable development. His broad exposure and leadership experience position him to contribute meaningfully at the executive level.

**The Board is confident that this designation will support a smooth and effective leadership transition, while ensuring continued organisational stability and performance.**

**Mr. Edward Kafita**

**Chief Executive Officer Designate**



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## Meatco processes Wagyu beef for the first time in push into premium markets

**M**eatco has processed Wagyu cattle at its facilities for the first time, marking a move into the high-value segment of the global beef market.

The development is aimed at strengthening Namibia's position in premium export markets, where quality, traceability and sustainability determine pricing and market access. Wagyu production is associated with high-end beef, requiring specialised breeding, feeding and management practices.

Meatco said local processing will support value addition within Namibia while enabling producers to access higher-value markets.

"This is more than a processing milestone; it is a statement of intent. Namibia is not just participating in global beef markets, we are moving decisively into the premium segment where value, not volume, defines success," said Meatco Interim Chief Executive Officer Albertus Aochamub.

The company said the milestone reflects ongoing investment in infrastructure, skills and quality systems to support entry into

specialised export markets.

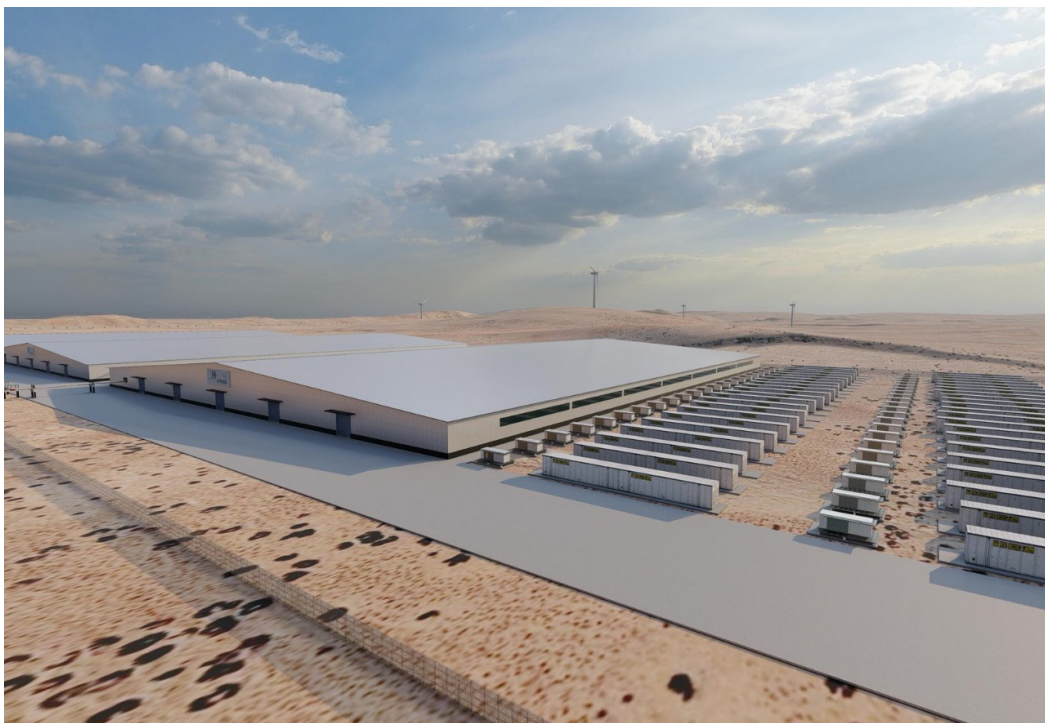
This includes the use of advanced grading technologies, independent marbling assessments and targeted training for butchers and feedlot operators, supported by international expertise.

Meatco also highlighted its farm-to-fork traceability systems, which are designed to meet strict international standards and ensure product integrity across the value chain.

"Wagyu processing strengthens the entire value chain, from producer to consumer, while reinforcing Namibia's reputation as a trusted origin for high-quality, traceable and sustainably produced beef," Aochamub said.

Meatco said Namibian Wagyu is already reaching premium international markets, including high-end restaurants in Europe.

The meat processor, said the move forms part of the company's broader strategy to expand market access, improve returns for producers and position Namibia as a supplier of premium beef products.



## Hyphen to procure N\$54bn in services from Namibian firms

**H**yphen Hydrogen Energy plans to channel about N\$54 billion into Namibian businesses through its green hydrogen project, as part of a commitment to allocate 30% of total investment to local procurement.

The commitment is based on an estimated project value of more than US\$10 billion, positioning the initiative as one of the largest planned injections of capital into the local private sector.

Senior Manager Johannes Shipepe said the scale of the investment requires targeted efforts to identify capable Namibian firms and build the capacity needed to meet

project demands.

“We have committed to spend about 30% of our investment on local companies, which translates to roughly US\$3 billion, or about N\$54 billion flowing into the Namibian economy. This is a significant amount and requires us to identify the right opportunities and support local companies to deliver the required goods and services,” he said.

The company has rolled out an Enterprise and Supplier Development programme to prepare local firms for participation in the project and the wider hydrogen sector.

More than 400 companies have already

been assessed to determine their readiness, operational constraints and potential role in supplying goods and services across the value chain.

Shipepe said the programme focuses on strengthening tendering capacity, compliance and certification, while improving access to finance and facilitating partnerships with experienced international players.

“The objective is to ensure Namibian companies are not limited to basic services but are able to compete for more specialised opportunities across the value chain,” he said. Hyphen Chief Executive Officer Marco Raffinetti said the localisation drive is central to building a domestic industrial base linked to the hydrogen sector.

“We made a commitment to the Government of Namibia to drive local

content, and this initiative demonstrates that commitment. It is about building supply chains, skills and industrial capacity that will support future developments,” he said.

The project is currently in the feasibility stage, with a final investment decision targeted for 2026 and construction of the first phase expected to begin before year-end.

Located in the Tsau //Khaeb National Park near Lüderitz, the development is expected to produce one million tonnes of green ammonia annually by 2028, doubling to two million tonnes by 2030.

The project is also expected to create around 15,000 construction jobs and 3,000 permanent positions, while supporting additional power and water supply to Lüderitz and the national grid.



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## Namibia earns N\$2.1bn in foreign exchange from beef exports

Namibia's beef industry generated more than N\$2.1 billion in foreign exchange in 2025, as government intensifies efforts to protect export markets and shift the sector towards greater local value addition.

Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform Inge Zaamwani said the country's access to premium markets remains a key competitive advantage.

"These measures are critical to safeguarding our animal health status and maintaining access to high-value export markets," she said.

Namibia remains the only African country with concurrent beef export access to the United States, China, Norway and the European Union, supported by strict animal health controls. More than 319,000 cattle were vaccinated against Foot-and-Mouth Disease and nearly 800,000 against

Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia north of the Veterinary Cordon Fence.

Despite strong export performance, government is moving to reduce the export of live cattle, which continues to limit domestic processing and value addition. In 2025 alone, 59,224 cattle were exported on the hoof.

"We are committed to ensuring that more value is retained locally by strengthening the upstream livestock value chain," Zaamwani said.

The livestock sector remains a key economic pillar, supporting the livelihoods of about 70% of the population and sustaining over 45,000 direct jobs, with a further 12,000 roles in processing and exports. It contributed 3.5% to Namibia's gross domestic product during the period under review.

"The livestock value chain is not only central to food security, but also to employment creation and inclusive economic growth," she

# NAMIBIA'S BEEF POWERHOUSE: BRIDGING GLOBAL MARKETS AND LOCAL GROWTH

## GLOBAL EXPORT DOMINANCE

**N\$2.1 Billion**  
in Foreign Exchange

Total earnings generated by the beef sector in 2025



**Only African Nation with Quadruple Market Access:**  
US, China, Norway, EU



### Proactive Disease Safeguards

Over 1.1 million cattle were vaccinated to maintain international animal health standards



## STRATEGY FOR LOCAL VALUE ADDITION



### Shifting from "On the Hoof" to Local Processing

Government aims to reduce live exports (59,224 head) to strengthen local processing



**Etunda Feedlot:**  
Local value addition capacity

18% Complete



**Outapi Abattoir:**  
Regional meat processing

Rehabilitated & Ready



**Eenhana & Ongwediva:**  
Processing and slaughtering

Operationalized



**N\$434.7 Million**

### Strategic Investment

Combined funding for veterinary services and the new Etunda feedlot project



**Sustaining 57,000+ Domestic Jobs**

The sector supports 45,000 direct roles and 12,000 in processing and exports

said.

To expand local processing capacity, a N\$78.9 million feedlot project is under development at the Etunda Irrigation Project in partnership with the National Planning Commission and the European Union. The project is currently 18% complete and is expected to be finalised by the end of the year.

Additional infrastructure investments include the operationalisation of the Eenhana abattoir and the Ongwediva Meat Processing

Plant, while the Outapi abattoir has been rehabilitated and is ready for operations.

Government has also allocated N\$355.8 million to veterinary services and livestock development to strengthen disease control, traceability systems and compliance with international standards.

"These investments are essential to protect the N\$2.1 billion in annual export earnings and ensure the long-term sustainability of the livestock sector," Zaamwani said.

# The urgent call for a centralised M&E information system in Namibia

By Oswald Siku Mughongora

Namibia has long demonstrated a strong commitment to development planning through successive National Development Plans aimed at improving livelihoods and driving inclusive growth. Yet a critical question remains:

Are we truly able to track our national development progress?

This question underpinned my MPhil research at Stellenbosch University, which assessed data management within Namibia's Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) landscape, focusing on the Fifth National Development Plan (NDP5). The findings are both revealing and concerning.

## A System Under Strain

Namibia's M&E system is marked by three structural weaknesses:

- Fragmented data systems operating independently
- Institutional silos limiting data sharing
- Limited interoperability across platforms

In effect, data exists—but whether it “speak” across systems remains to be seen. Valuable insights remain isolated, reducing their usefulness for national decision-making.

## How Data Flows — and Where It Breaks

Consider a typical scenario. A regional council—such as Kavango East or Oshana collects data on indicators like water access, agricultural productivity, school infrastructure, and employment initiatives. This data is consolidated at regional level and then:



**If Namibia is to achieve its development ambitions, it must ensure**

**decisions are guided by integrated, reliable, and actionable data.**

1. Submitted to line ministries using sector-specific templates
2. Sometimes reported directly to the National Planning Commission through M&E frameworks
3. Aggregated by ministries and submitted to the National Planning Commission for national reporting

While this appears functional, it creates inefficiencies:

- Duplication: Data reported through multiple channels
- Delays: Slow movement from local to national level
- Inconsistencies: Variations due to manual aggregation
- Loss of detail: Local insights diluted during aggregation

By the time data reaches the National Planning Commission, it is often static, delayed, and inconsistent—yet it informs national performance assessments. This creates a fundamental tension: the same

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institution is responsible for coordinating implementation and tracking performance without an integrated, real-time system.

**The Real Risk: Planning and Tracking Performance Without a Full Picture**

Namibia may be planning and tracking development performance without a fully reliable and integrated view of progress. This is not just a technical issue—it is a governance challenge.

Without integrated data:

- Decisions are made on incomplete or inconsistent information
- Performance reports may not reflect realities on the ground
- Opportunities for timely intervention are lost

This is not a data collection problem. Namibia generates substantial data. The challenge lies in data management, coordination, and systems integration.

**From Fragmentation to Integration**

The solution is clear: Namibia needs a centralised, interoperable National M&E Information System.

Such a system would:

- Enable single-point data entry accessible across institutions
- Standardise indicators and reporting formats
- Provide real-time tracking of development progress
- Strengthen evidence-based

polycymaking

It would shift the system from fragmented reporting to a single source of truth, enabling a coherent national development trajectory.

**A Strategic Imperative**

Institutions such as the University of Namibia and the Namibian Institute of Public Administration and Management can support this transition through research and capacity building. However, leadership must come from the National Planning Commission to drive system design and institutionalisation.

**A Call to Rethink Development Information**

Namibia must shift:

- From data collection → to data integration
- From reporting → to real-time insights
- From silos → to whole-of-government intelligence

This is a call to action. If Namibia is to achieve its development ambitions, it must ensure decisions are guided by integrated, reliable, and actionable data.

The question is no longer whether we collect data—but whether we use it collectively, coherently, and strategically to drive development impact.

**\* Oswald Siku Mughongora is an M&E expert writing in his personal capacity. Contact: oswaldozzy196@gmail.com**



## Capricorn Foundation commits N\$3.24m to youth banking programme

The Capricorn Foundation, in partnership with Bank Windhoek, has launched the 2026/2027 Emerging Bankers Programme, committing N\$3.24 million to support a second cohort of young Namibians entering the financial services sector.

The programme, forms part of Bank Windhoek's Young Talent Development Programme and targets school leavers, particularly from rural and underserved areas, who lack access to tertiary education or funding.

Thirteen participants have been enrolled in the new intake, which will run for 18 months and provide structured workplace training, mentoring and practical experience across Bank Windhoek branches.

Capricorn Group Chief Executive Officer

David Nuyoma said the programme is designed to bridge the gap between talent and opportunity.

“At the Capricorn Group, we believe talent is everywhere, but opportunity is not. The Emerging Bankers Programme is about opening doors, building confidence and giving young people the support they need to take their first steps into the world of work. Developing talent is both a strategic priority and a responsibility, because the future of our Group and our industry depend on the people we nurture today,” he said.

The second intake follows the completion of the inaugural cohort in 2025, where participants gained workplace experience, with some transitioning into permanent roles or further training.

According to the 2023 Labour Force

Report, Namibia has more than one million young people aged between 15 and 34, many of whom are not in employment, education or training. Capricorn Foundation Executive Director Marelize Horn said the programme demonstrates the impact of structured investment in youth development.

“The Emerging Bankers Programme demonstrates what is possible when organisations invest in young people in a meaningful and structured way. Through this N\$3.24 million investment, we are not only

creating access to work experience, but also helping young Namibians build confidence, purpose and a foundation for long-term careers. This is how sustainable change is created,” she said.

Bank Windhoek Managing Director James Chapman said the initiative is critical in building the future skills pipeline of the banking sector.

“By investing in young talent, we are strengthening the future skills pipeline of the banking sector. What makes this Programme particularly significant is its national reach.

It is implemented across our network, with a deliberate focus on rural and underserved communities, where employment opportunities are often scarce and difficult to access. By extending this opportunity beyond urban centres, we are ensuring that no talent is overlooked and that young people, regardless of where they come from, are given a fair chance to succeed, therefore contributing to a more inclusive Namibian economy,” he said.

The participants will be placed at Bank Windhoek branches near their home communities, allowing them to gain experience while remaining connected to local economies.

The group said the programme forms part of broader efforts to improve youth participation in the financial services sector and expand access to employment opportunities.

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*We look forward to welcoming a dedicated professional to our team!*

# Welwitchia University Group appoints Edward Kafita as CEO-designate

**W**elwitchia University Group has appointed Edward Kafita as Group Chief Executive Officer-designate, effective 1 April 2026, as part of a structured succession plan aimed at ensuring leadership continuity.

The group said Kafita will work closely with the current Chief Executive Officer during the transition period, contributing to key strategic and operational priorities.

Kafita currently serves as Chief Executive Officer of Welwitchia Integrated Services, the commercial arm of the group, where he has been involved in driving organisational growth, innovation and strategic alignment.

The university said his appointment reflects a broader effort to ensure a smooth leadership transition while maintaining operational stability.

Kafita brings more than a decade of experience across higher education, corporate operations and governance. His experience includes stakeholder engagement, risk management, compliance and strategic partnerships at senior and executive levels.

He holds a Bachelor of Laws (LLB Hons) from the University of Namibia and a Bachelor of Social Sciences Honours in Industrial Sociology and Labour from the University of Pretoria. He also holds a Master's degree in International Relations and a Postgraduate Diploma in Development Finance from the University of Cape Town.

Kafita is currently pursuing a PhD at the International University of Management and a Master of Business Administration at the University of Johannesburg.

He has served on several boards and



governance structures, including as Deputy Chairperson of the Welwitchia Health Training Centre Council and as a current Council member of Welwitchia University. He is also a board member of the Namibia Training Authority and Rent-to-Own Housing Namibia.

The Board said the appointment is expected to support continuity in leadership while positioning the institution for its next phase of growth.



livelihoods.

The inland fisheries segment remains a key source of income and food security, supporting more than 280,000 people in riparian communities and fish traders along major river systems, particularly in the Zambezi and Kavango regions.

“Inland fisheries are not only an economic activity but a vital livelihood for thousands of Namibians, and our focus is to ensure their sustainability while improving community benefits,” Masake said.

In aquaculture, Namibia produced about 700 metric tonnes of fish in 2025, employing 509 people across marine and freshwater subsectors. The sector is attracting growing private investment, particularly in high-value projects such as seaweed, Atlantic salmon and abalone in Lüderitz.

“Private sector interest in aquaculture is encouraging, and we are positioning the sector to unlock new investment opportunities while safeguarding resources,” she said.

Government has finalised the Blue Economy Policy, which is expected to be launched in the first quarter of the current financial year. The policy aims to maximise economic returns from marine resources while ensuring fair distribution of benefits.

A performance scorecard for

fishing rights holders has also been developed to guide quota allocations in line with the Marine Resources Act of 2000.

“The scorecard will ensure accountability in the allocation of fishing rights and reward those who contribute meaningfully to the sector,” Masake said.

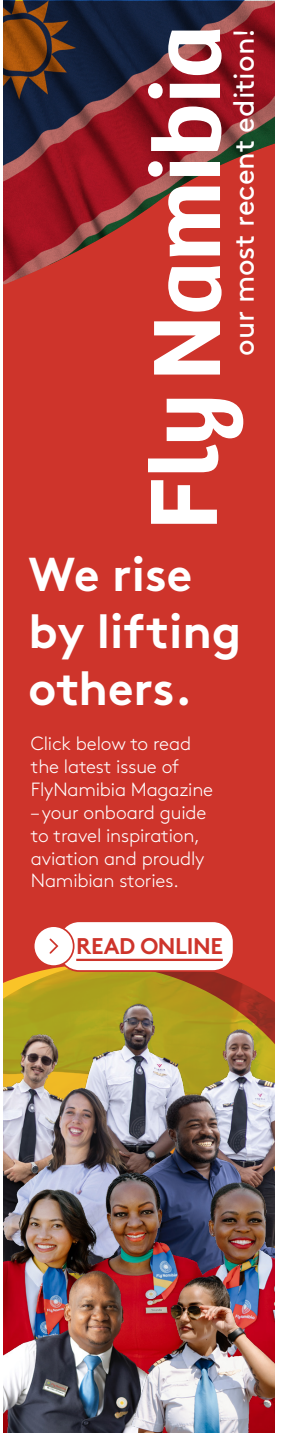
Namibia has retained its Marine Stewardship Council certification, reinforcing its standing in global markets, while all marine surveys and stock assessments for 2025/26 have been completed to guide catch limits.

To curb illegal fishing, N\$104.5 million has been allocated to monitoring, control and surveillance, including joint patrols with the Ministry of Defence and NamPol.

Government also plans to table the World Trade Organisation Fisheries Agreement for ratification and has set aside N\$15.68 million for policy, planning and the review of 163 fishing rights.

The ministry is planning a National Fisheries and Aquaculture Indaba in mid-2026 to support sector reforms and improve measurement of the industry’s contribution to the economy.

“Our focus is on building a fisheries sector that delivers sustainable growth, economic value and meaningful employment for all Namibians,” Masake said.



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## Hyphen, Enertrag and GIZ sign partnership to develop local enterprises in green hydrogen industry

**H**ypHEN Hydrogen Energy Senior Manager Johannes Shipepe said the programme is designed to address capacity constraints among local companies as green hydrogen projects move closer to construction.

He said the initiative is funded through a €300,000 grant, matched on a 50:50

basis to bring the total to about €600,000, or roughly N\$11 million. The funding will be used to implement an Enterprise and Supplier Development programme aimed at increasing local participation in large-scale energy projects.

More than 400 companies have already been assessed to determine their readiness,

operational challenges and potential role in supplying goods and services to the sector.

“Through this programme, we are developing mechanisms to support Namibian companies with capacity building, technical support and access to suitable financial products so that they can deliver on project requirements. The aim is to ensure these companies move beyond basic services and are able to participate in larger and more specialised opportunities across the value chain,” Shipepe said.

The programme will focus on strengthening key areas such as tendering capacity, compliance requirements and certification standards, while also facilitating partnerships with experienced technical and financial partners.

Shipepe said collaboration with banks, industry players and government will be critical to reducing risk and improving

access to finance for local firms.

“We are now moving into a more detailed phase where we assess specific supply chains, identify requirements and evaluate whether local companies are ready to meet those standards,” he said.

The initiative is being implemented under the H2UPPP programme, funded by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy.

GIZ Country Director Tobias Gerster said the programme aims to support economic diversification and strengthen long-term cooperation in renewable energy.

National Planning Commission Executive Director I-Ben Nashandi said the intervention aligns with Namibia’s Sixth National Development Plan, which identifies green hydrogen as a key driver of industrialisation and economic transformation.

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# A new frontline: Rethinking national security in an age of global volatility

By Joram Kayofa

**A**cross our continent, from the bustling streets of Katutura to the wider SADC region, there is a troubling tendency to spectate, and sometimes even scoff, when nations like Iran find themselves under siege on the global stage.

Yet, as Namibians, we must pause and ask ourselves a profoundly uncomfortable question. If the very forces that once subjugated and colonised our land were to return today, how long would our Republic genuinely hold out?

Should the geopolitical tides ever turn against us, how long could the Land of the Brave defend its borders against the advanced military apparatus of Germany, the United Kingdom, the United States or even France?

We need only look towards Europe and Asia for a sobering reality check. These regions are aggressively expanding their domestic weapons industries, investing heavily in modern technologies, and fortifying their own defence systems.

They do not undertake these immense financial burdens out of paranoia or foolishness; rather, they do so because they possess a clear-eyed understanding of how global power functions.

Namibia fought a long, bitter, and bloody liberation struggle to secure its sovereignty. However, relying on foreign powers for our armaments, our military technology, and our ultimate security is not



**As Namibians, and indeed as Africans, we must critically reassess what genuine sovereignty demands in the twenty-first century.**

true independence; it is merely a modern iteration of dependence.

Whatever one's geopolitical stance may be, the inescapable truth is that a nation like Iran is weathering its current crises largely because it relies on indigenous defence capabilities and home-grown technology. It is a stark reminder that true autonomy is underwritten by self-sufficiency.

As Namibians, and indeed as Africans, we must critically reassess what genuine sovereignty demands in the twenty-first century. We can no longer afford to be mere spectators, casually dismissing global conflicts as distant theatre. Instead, we must absorb the harsh, pragmatic lessons of self-reliance before the choice is no longer ours to make.

***\* Joram N Kayofa is an author of multiple published and unpublished books and articles.***



## Green Scheme projects generate over N\$60m amid food security push

**G**reen Scheme projects generated more than N\$60 million in revenue during the latest review period, as government intensifies efforts to reduce Namibia's reliance on food imports.

Delivering the 2026 State of the Nation Address, President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah said the programme is beginning to produce measurable results, although its full potential has yet to be realised.

A total of 6,758.65 metric tonnes of maize

were harvested from 1,133.38 hectares, generating N\$56.9 million. In addition, wheat production on 609 hectares yielded N\$10.5 million, pushing combined earnings beyond N\$60 million.

Nandi-Ndaitwah said agriculture remains central to the 8th Administration's strategy to achieve food self-sufficiency, with a target to cut food imports by 80% by 2030.

Namibia also recorded N\$2 billion in agricultural exports during the period

A promotional graphic for 'The Brief' news outlet. It features a central QR code with the text 'SCAN HERE' to its left. Above the QR code is a circular icon with a bar chart and the word 'Finance'. Below the QR code is a circular icon with a bar chart and the word 'Business'. To the right of the QR code is the text 'TO FOLLOW OUR WHATSAPP CHANNEL' and 'for Daily Namibian News' with a WhatsApp icon. The top right corner has the logo 'THE BR/EF News Worth Knowing'. The bottom left corner has social media handles for Facebook (@thebrieflive), LinkedIn (@thebrieflive.nam), and Twitter (@TheBriefLive, @thebrieflive). A small icon of a PDF document is also present with the text 'Daily PDF version sent via email'.

under review, amounting to roughly 90,000 metric tonnes. Table grapes accounted for 62% of export volumes, followed by tomatoes at 14%.

“Domestic production also showed incremental gains. Local fruit output increased from 4% to 6%, while Namibia secured a 56% share of the vegetable market, valued at N\$323 million, compared to imports which accounted for 44% at N\$257 million,” she said.

White maize production more than doubled, rising from 33,000 metric tonnes to 69,541 metric tonnes by the end of the 2025 marketing season, covering 31% of national demand.

The latest figures build on expansion plans announced by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform to scale up output across Green Scheme projects.

At Etunda, 210 hectares of wheat were harvested at a yield of four tonnes per hectare. A further 210 hectares of maize were planted in January 2025, with an additional 240 hectares scheduled for February.

Sikondo recorded yields of six tonnes per hectare after harvesting 120 hectares of wheat in October 2024, with plans to expand to 300 hectares during the current season. At Uvhungu Vhungu, 147 hectares of maize have been planted alongside smaller volumes of butternut and green peppers, while Shadikongoro is preparing to cultivate 300 hectares of maize.

However, water constraints continue to limit output at some sites. At Hardap, restricted water availability has confined lucerne production to just 10 hectares out of a potential 80.

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## Govt auctions 492 state vehicles, generates N\$36m

The government has raised N\$36 million from the disposal of 492 ageing vehicles through public auctions as it moves to phase out its outdated fleet. Works and Transport Minister Veikko

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The effort to phase out the ageing government fleet has gained significant momentum.

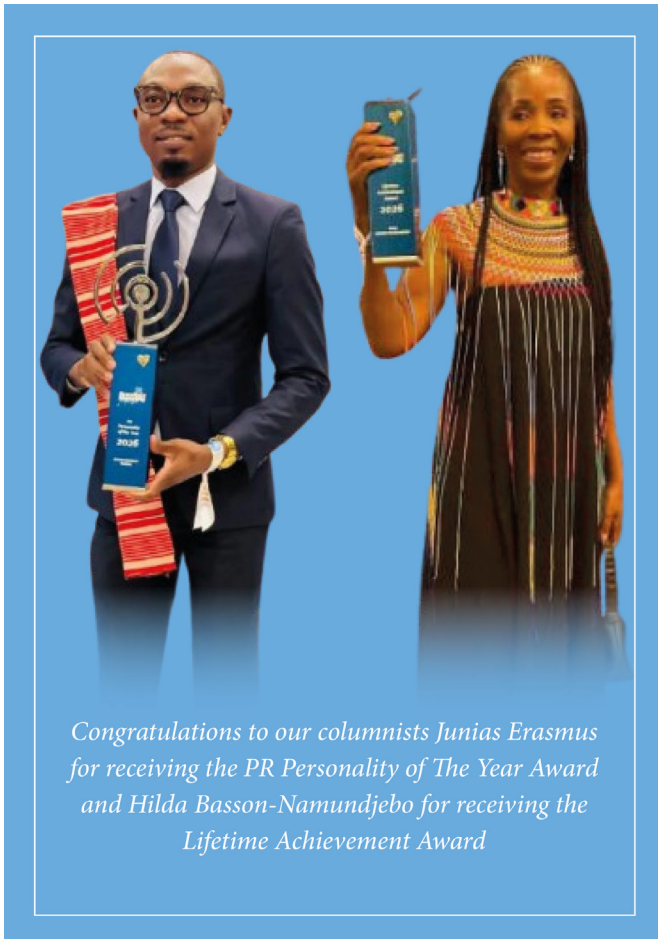
Nekundi revealed the figures in Parliament while outlining the ministry's performance during the 2025/26 financial year.

“The effort to phase out the ageing government fleet has gained significant momentum. To date, 492 government vehicles have been successfully disposed of through public auctions, generating total revenue of N\$36,430,757.75,” he said.

The disposals form part of a broader plan announced last year, in which the ministry identified 1,500 government vehicles for replacement after exceeding the five-year lifespan and 120,000-kilometre limit set out in the fleet policy.

A total of 306 vehicles deemed damaged beyond repair or mechanically obsolete were auctioned between 16 June and 3 September 2025, generating N\$24.9 million.

Nekundi said a large portion of the fleet had been procured in or before 2014, with many vehicles remaining in service for more than a decade, double the intended lifespan. He warned that the ageing fleet had compromised safety and undermined service delivery across government operations.



*Congratulations to our columnists Junias Erasmus for receiving the PR Personality of The Year Award and Hilda Basson-Namundjebo for receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award*

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