

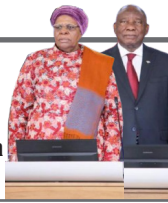
BEING NEEDED

Being needed
vs being
valued
p. 07



AGREEMENTS

Nam, SA sign seven
agreements to deepen
economic cooperation
p. 13



LEADERSHIP

A leadership
discipline for
national progress
p. 15



THE

BRIEF

News Worth Knowing



**Namibia imports 97% of its fruit as
N\$600,000 entry costs stall local production**

FRIDAY 17 JULY 2026

MAIN STORY

Namibia imports 97% of its fruit as N\$600,000 entry costs stall local production

Namibia continues to rely overwhelmingly on imported fruit, with about 97% of domestic consumption sourced from outside the country as high production costs, financing barriers and inadequate infrastructure continue to constrain local horticultural production.

The Namibian Agronomic Board (NAB) says fruit remains the country's most import-dependent horticultural product, underscoring the need to accelerate investment in domestic production to improve food security and reduce the outflow of foreign currency.

Speaking at an Information Sharing Session on Access to Finance: Opportunities for the Youth, hosted by Khomas Region Governor Sam Nujoma, NAB General Manager for Agronomy and Horticulture Development Gilbert Mate Mulonda said Namibia still imports significantly more agricultural produce than it produces.

According to Mulonda, one of the biggest obstacles facing the sector is the high cost of establishing commercial fruit orchards, which ranges from N\$300,000 to N\$600,000 per hectare, placing commercial fruit production beyond the reach of many emerging farmers.

He said the sector is further constrained by inadequate agro-processing capacity, limited storage infrastructure and high transport costs, all of which undermine the competitiveness of locally produced crops.



Crucial Dates

- **Bank of Namibia Monetary Policy announcement dates:**
 - * 12 August 2026
 - * 29 October 2026
 - * 10 December 2026
- **Namibia Corporate Social Investment (CSI) Mukopano**
11 August 2026 at the Hilton Windhoek.
- **Namibia Oil and Gas Conference**
18–21 August 2026 in Windhoek

Potatoes remain another major import burden, with Namibia importing about 70% of its annual requirements at a cost of roughly N\$162 million a year.

Access to finance also remains a significant hurdle, with financing requirements preventing many farmers from accessing available funding.

"So probably we need to look at the requirements. We need to panel a bit there to make it easier for them to access this finance," Mulonda said.

To reduce import dependence, the Agronomic Board is implementing targeted support programmes across the potato, fruit and grain value chains.

Potatoes remain another major import burden, with Namibia importing about 70% of its annual requirements at a cost of roughly N\$162 million a year.

"So it's very important that we actually increase the production of potatoes. We are importing around 70% of our potatoes from outside," Mulonda said.

The Board's Potato Value Chain

Development Scheme offers qualifying small-scale farmers cultivating between 0.5 and two hectares a 50% input subsidy in the first year and 25% in the second year.

Its Fruit Development Scheme supports the establishment of citrus, mango, avocado, banana, pineapple, table grape, blueberry, date and pomegranate orchards through a 30% development subsidy, while also providing input support until the first harvest.

"So apart from that, all our programmes also come with support services, capacity building, mentorship and market access for free," Mulonda said.

Mulonda added that the Grain Irrigation Support Scheme, also known as the One Farmer One Solar Centre Pivot initiative, is intended to strengthen domestic grain production and improve resilience against recurring droughts.

Let the Cook-off Begin

Join the Nedbank Kapana Cook-off 2026 events across Namibia:

Coastal Round	Swakopmund	1 August	Entries close: 24 July
Northern Round	Oshakati	29 August	Entries close: 21 August
Central Round	Windhoek	19 September	Entries close: 12 September

Enter now: Entry forms available at all Nedbank branches.

Supported by



Terms and Conditions apply. Nedbank Namibia Ltd Reg No 73/04561. Licensed financial institution and credit provider.





Windhoek says congestion will worsen without major public transport investment

The City of Windhoek has warned that traffic congestion will continue to worsen unless Namibia invests in a modern, integrated public transport system, saying expanding roads alone will not solve the capital's growing mobility challenges.

The municipality said congestion is a symptom of a broader transport challenge driven by increasing reliance on private vehicles and the absence of a mass public

transport network.

According to the City, international experience shows that no major city has successfully eliminated congestion simply by building more roads or upgrading intersections.

Instead, it said sustainable urban mobility depends on integrating road infrastructure with reliable and affordable public transport, supported by safe walking and cycling



From *Legacy* to *Lasting Impact* Investing in Namibia's Communities

The late **Harold Pupkewitz** believed that a nation's greatest asset is its people, whose vision, determination, and contributions shape its future.

We continue to honour the legacy of a remarkable philanthropist whose vision and compassion continue to inspire us today.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTHDAY OF HAROLD PUPKEWITZ

N\$500,000

Grants awarded to **25 organisations**
in Namibia

A FUTURE OF HOPE

Part of our **N\$10 MILLION** Centenary Pledge
supporting **NDP6 & UN SDGs**

100 YEARS OF PURPOSE

Celebrating a century of impact, compassion,
and a lasting commitment to Namibia.

OUR 6 PILLARS



EDUCATION



HEALTH



COMMUNITY
CARE



ARTS &
CULTURE



ENVIRONMENT



SPORT

www.pupkewitzfoundation.org



facilities.

"Globally, successful cities rely on integrated transport systems where strategic road infrastructure is complemented by efficient, reliable and affordable public transport, together with safe walking and cycling facilities."

The City said Windhoek remains relatively small by international standards but has become increasingly dependent on private motor vehicles. Although vehicle ownership remains comparatively low, particularly in the north-western suburbs, four-door sedan taxis remain the dominant form of public transport and contribute significantly to peak-hour traffic volumes.

The municipality identified funding as the biggest obstacle to developing a modern public transport system, noting that urban transport requires significant capital investment and ongoing operational subsidies.

"The primary reason why this has not yet been realised in Windhoek is not a lack of planning or vision, but simply funding. Unlike road infrastructure, urban public transport across the world requires ongoing operational subsidies in addition to substantial capital investment. To date, Namibia has not established a sustainable funding mechanism to support such a system."

The City said it has been

engaging the Ministry of Works and Transport and the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development over the past year to develop a sustainable funding model for urban public transport.

At the same time, the municipality is updating its Integrated Transport Master Plan (ITMP), which includes traffic counts, travel demand forecasting and transport modelling to assess mobility needs over the next 20 years.

Preliminary findings indicate that traffic congestion will deteriorate significantly under a business-as-usual scenario unless public transport is substantially improved.

"The preliminary findings of the ITMP confirm that, under a 'business-as-usual' scenario, and without a significant improvement in public transport, traffic congestion will continue to worsen drastically as the city grows."

While road upgrades remain part of the City's transport strategy, officials stressed they must be complemented by investment in public transport infrastructure.

Current projects include upgrades to Winnie Madikizela-Mandela Drive, Auas Road, Peter Nanyemba Road and the lower section of Independence Avenue. Future upgrades are planned for Sam Nujoma Drive (west), Hosea Kutako Drive through the Northern Industrial Area and David Herero

Fly Namibia

our most recent edition!



> **READ ONLINE**

Your guide to
travel inspiration,
aviation and proudly
Namibian stories!

Meroro Road serving Rocky Crest, with these corridors designed to accommodate future public transport and non-motorised transport infrastructure. The City said investing in public transport is ultimately more sustainable and cost-effective than

continually expanding road capacity, which is constrained by both cost and available space.

The warning comes amid growing criticism from residents over worsening traffic congestion across Windhoek, particularly during peak commuting hours.



OSINO

RESOURCES

SHANJIN INTERNATIONAL

OSINO

NEW VACANCIES

RELEASE

LOCATION: TWIN HILLS GOLD MINE SITE (KARIBIB)

POSITION	QUANTITY	JOB SPECIFICATION
SURVEY OPERATOR (Permanent)	2	• Grade 12 with a minimum of 20 points • Higher Certificate or Diploma in Land Surveying or relevant qualification • Two to Four years of relevant experience in a mining environment • Strong technical and coordinate calculation skills • Good communication and interpersonal skills • Physically fit, with good eyesight and depth perception • A drone operating permit will be an added advantage • Establish survey control points and benchmarks. • Measure distances, elevations, angles, and coordinates. • Conduct site checks before survey work. • Collect, record, download, and process survey data. • Verify accuracy of measurements and maintain records. • Maintain, calibrate, store, and transport survey equipment
PROCESSING PLANT TRAINING SPECIALIST (Permanent)	1	• Grade 12 • Diploma or Degree in Metallurgy, Process Engineering, Education, or Technical Training • Mandatory Certified trainer/assessor in accordance with Namibian vocational training requirements • Ten to Twelve (10–12) years mining/process plant experience as a trainer • Proven experience in: Developing training systems & delivering technical training • Experience in greenfield projects and setting up plant training systems from scratch is mandatory • Good comprehension of the NTA Act • Excellent communication and interpersonal skills • Develop and maintain plant training and competency systems. • Implement and manage process plant training programmes and Learning Management Systems platforms. • Ensure all training aligns with site Safety, Health, Environment, and Quality (SHEQ) framework & Regulatory compliance requirements • Develop, maintain, and embed SOPs, work instructions, and training manuals. • Convert Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) and Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) documentation into plant-specific training and competency materials. • Manage training documentation and support effective project knowledge transfer.
PRACTITIONER: LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT (Fixed-Term 24 Months)	1	• Grade 12 with a minimum of 25 points • Bachelor's degree in human resources or related field • 3-5 years of experience in a similar role • Valid driving license • Microsoft Suite with proficient knowledge of Excel • Good comprehension of the NTA and AA Acts • Excellent communication and interpersonal skills • Conduct training needs and skills gap assessments. • Coordinate and facilitate training programmes and workshops. • Support employee development through mentorship and on-the-job training. • Implement and evaluate training programmes using feedback, assessments, and performance metrics. • Maintain training records and ensure compliance requirements. • Advocate for compliance with internal policies and external regulations regarding training documentation and reporting. • Support Organizational Development (OD) initiatives.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidates should submit a resume, all supporting documents and a letter of motivation detailing relevant experience and potential starting date to recruitment@osinoresources.com by **31 JULY 2026**. Please clearly indicate position applied for in the subject matter line. If you have not heard anything from us two weeks after the due date, please consider your application unsuccessful.

NO HARD COPY CV'S WILL BE ACCEPTED AT OUR OFFICES.

Osino Gold Exploration and Mining and Shanjin International are an equal opportunity employer, committed to fostering diversity and inclusion in the workplace. Preference given to suitably qualified Namibian citizens. People with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

Being needed vs being valued

By Junias Erasmus

In life, one of the greatest lessons we must learn is understanding the difference between being needed and being valued.

Many people spend their time trying to become useful to others, believing that being needed automatically means they are appreciated.

However, these two things are not always the same.

The saying, “Do not confuse being needed with being valued,” reminds us that our importance should not only come from what we do for others, but also from who we are.

A person can be needed because of their skills, resources, position, or ability to solve problems, but true value comes from respect, appreciation, and genuine recognition.

Being needed can feel good because it gives us a sense of purpose. It feels meaningful when people depend on us for advice, assistance, or support.

In families, workplaces, and communities, responsible people often become the ones others turn to when help is required. However, the danger comes when we believe that our usefulness is the only reason people appreciate us.

Sometimes people may only recognise our value when they need something from us.

They may call when they require assistance, seek our expertise when they face challenges, or remember our importance when we provide solutions.

But when our usefulness disappears, their attention may also disappear. This is why it is important to understand that being



“

A person who is valued is respected even when they are not providing a service.

needed is not the same as being truly valued.

A person who is valued is respected even when they are not providing a service. They are appreciated for their character, principles, kindness, and presence.

Their worth is not measured only by what they can offer but by who they are as a person.

This lesson is especially important in the workplace. Many hardworking employees become known as the people who can always solve problems, take on extra responsibilities, and support others.

While dedication and commitment are admirable qualities, employees must also ensure that their contributions are recognised and appreciated.

A healthy workplace should not only depend on people's abilities but should also respect their well-being, growth, and professional development.

There is a difference between being an asset and being taken for granted. An asset is someone whose contribution is appreciated and developed.

A person who is taken for granted is often only approached when there is a need, without receiving the respect or recognition they deserve.

In personal relationships, this lesson is equally important. Some people remain in relationships where they are only appreciated because of what they provide.

They may offer emotional support, financial assistance, or constant sacrifices, but they do not receive the same care and appreciation in return.

Healthy relationships require mutual respect, where people value each other beyond what they can do for one another.

One of the reasons people confuse being needed with being valued is because they seek external validation.

They feel important when others depend on them. However, true confidence comes from knowing your worth even when you are not solving someone else's problems. Your value should not depend only on how useful you are to others.

This does not mean we should stop helping people or refuse to be supportive. Helping others is a sign of compassion and good character.

However, we must ensure that our kindness does not become a reason for others to take advantage of us. There must be a balance between serving others and respecting ourselves.

Learning to set boundaries is part of recognising our own value. Saying "no" when necessary does not mean we are selfish; it means we understand that our time, energy, and abilities are valuable. People who truly

value us will respect our boundaries and appreciate us beyond what we can provide.

For young people, this is an important life lesson. Success is not only about becoming useful; it is also about becoming a person of integrity, knowledge, and purpose.

Build skills, but also build character. Offer value to others, but never forget your own value.

In leadership, the best leaders understand this principle. They do not only use people for what they can contribute; they develop, respect, and appreciate them. Great leaders create environments where people feel valued, not just needed.

At the end of the day, everyone wants to feel important and appreciated. However, we must remember that our worth is not determined only by our ability to solve problems or meet the needs of others.

We are valuable because we are human beings with unique talents, experiences, and qualities.

Therefore, do not confuse being needed with being valued. Being needed may make you useful, but being valued makes you respected.

Continue to help others, contribute positively, and share your gifts, but always remember that your worth is greater than what you can do for someone else. Your value is not measured only by what you provide. It is reflected in who you are.



INVITATION FOR BID

The Road Fund Administration (RFA), in line with the Public Procurement Act, 2015 (Act No. 15 of 2015) as amended, hereby invites suitable and competent Namibian service providers to submit their best bids for the provision of services listed below:

PROVISION OF RECRUITMENT CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO CONDUCT AN EXECUTIVE SEARCH AND RECRUITMENT PROCESS
PROCUREMENT REFERENCE NO.: SC/RP/RFA – 05/2026

Bid documents are available on the E-GP Portal and the RFA website or on request via email: procurement@rfanam.com.na

Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes, clearly marked with the applicable Procurement Reference Number and description, addressed to the Procurement Management Unit (PMU), Road Fund Administration, 21 Sir Seretse Khama Street, Windhoek. Delivery must be made into the bid box on the ground floor.

Closing date and time: 27 July 2026, 11:00 a.m.
Levy: No levy

Enquiries: PROCUREMENT MANAGEMENT UNIT
Tel: +264(6) 433 3007 / 3049 / 3082 / 3074
Email: procurement@rfanam.com.na

Visit our website for more information
www.rfanam.com.na



** Junias Erasmus is an Interdisciplinary Scholar, Philosopher, and Legal Researcher, with recognised expertise in Artificial Intelligence grounded in*

a Multidisciplinary foundation in Management Science. He is also a Motivational Speaker. This article is authored in his personal capacity. For enquiries, he may be contacted at Junias99@gmail.com.



MEET OUR BOARD MEMBERS

INDEPENDENT CHAIRPERSON



Mr. Kenandai Tjivikua
Independent Chairperson

A seasoned executive, board leader and governance specialist with extensive leadership experience across financial services- spanning banking, investments and insurance- as well as development finance, and social protection administration and institutional governance.

The Payments Association of Namibia (PAN) proudly introduces its Board Members, who provide strategic leadership and oversight in support of the Association’s mandate under the Payment System Management Act, 2023.

Together, they are committed to strengthening governance, fostering collaboration, and supporting the continued development of a safe, efficient, resilient and inclusive National Payment System for Namibia.

INDEPENDENT NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Mr. Titus Kanyanda
Independent
Non-Executive Director

A Chartered Accountant and business strategist with extensive experience in finance, audit, and advisory services. He currently serves as Head of Finance at Hyphen Hydrogen Energy and provides consulting services through Profitik Consulting



Ms. Selma Ambunda
Independent
Non-Executive Director

Executive: Human Capital at NamPower and an accomplished executive with extensive leadership experience across Namibia’s public sector institutions. Her expertise spans human capital management, organisational development, governance, and strategic transformation.

BOARD MEMBERS



Mr. Stephen Chase
Banking Institutions

Head of Payments Product House at First National Bank Namibia, with more than 20 years of experience in financial services and payment systems. He has played a key role in the development of Namibia’s payments ecosystem and previously served on the PAN Management Council.



Mr. Rodney Shivangulula
Non-Bank Financial Institutions

Head: Payment Solutions at NamPost Financial Services and a seasoned payments and technology professional. He has extensive experience in digital financial services, payment systems modernisation, and banking technology, contributing significantly to Namibia’s evolving payments landscape.



Ms. Irene Venter
Ex-officio and Executive Members

A seasoned financial sector professional with extensive experience in banking, payments regulation, policy development, and digital financial innovation. She currently serves as the Deputy Director: National Payment System and Financial Surveillance at the Bank of Namibia, where she contributes to the oversight and modernization of Namibia’s payment system.



Mr. David Lewies
Affiliate Members

Executive: Business Development at Lewfin Group and an experienced business leader with over 60 years of expertise in banking, payments, credit management, sales, and corporate governance.



Mr. Herman Kruger
Payment System Participants

Chief Risk Officer at RealPay and a highly experienced financial services executive specialising in payments, risk management, governance, and compliance.



Mr. Fabian Tait
Payment System Operators

Managing Director of Namclear and an accomplished executive with extensive experience in financial management, strategy execution, governance, and operational leadership.



Mr. Allvan Farmer
Banking Institutions

Chief Information Officer at Standard Bank Namibia and a seasoned executive with over 20 years of experience in banking, technology, operations, and digital transformation across Southern Africa.



Namibia's First Legal AI Platform: Murphy's Law

Murphy's Law famously holds that anything that can go wrong, will go wrong. Namibia's newest legal AI platform was named for the adage, and built to prove the opposite.

Murphy's Law, the proudly African legal AI platform that has been changing how South African lawyers work, has officially launched Murphy's Law Namibia: a dedicated, Namibia-first AI legal assistant built for Namibian practitioners, businesses and citizens. In a profession where time is billed by the hour and lost by the afternoon, it arrives with a simple promise: legal work done at light speed.

Built on Namibian Law

Plenty of AI tools can talk about the law in general. Very few can talk about Namibian law in particular. Ask a generic chatbot about a Namibian statute or a recent High Court judgment, and the answer will be fluent, confident – and quite possibly wrong.

Murphy's Law Namibia was built to close that gap. The platform is plugged into and trained on all of Namibia's legal sources,

including case law from the Supreme Court and High Court, the full body of legislation and regulations, and Government Gazettes, with the underlying collections updated continuously as the law develops. Every answer comes with built-in citations linking directly to the relevant judgment, Act or Gazette notice, so practitioners can verify the source in seconds instead of taking the AI's word for it.

And because Namibian law shares deep Roman-Dutch roots with its neighbour, South Africa is available as an optional secondary jurisdiction. This is invaluable where South African authority remains persuasive or where a point has not yet been decided by a Namibian court, and can be toggled on or off by the user as needed.

What Can Murphy Actually Do?

Think of Murphy as the colleague who never sleeps. It drafts contracts, pleadings, letters and standard agreements in minutes. It conducts legal research and summarises judgments, complete with citations. It reviews uploaded documents to flag unusual or risky clauses, and it generates

near-complete first drafts of opinions and memorandums.

Beyond the basics, the platform's Workflows feature lets teams automate repetitive processes, such as compliance checks, client onboarding and standard reporting, while Murphy's Courtroom, a legal argument simulator, builds and stress-tests arguments for both sides of a dispute before an AI judge that scores each submission and suggests improvements. Projects and Vault provide secure, centralised storage for up to 1,000 documents per matter, and a Microsoft Word plugin is on the way, bringing the assistant directly into the profession's favourite drafting environment.

Early Adoption by the Namibian Legal Fraternity

Namibia's legal community is compact, close-knit and, it turns out, quicker off the mark than the profession's cautious reputation suggests. Several Namibian firms have already signed on as paying subscribers, putting the platform to work on research, drafting and document review. In a market where word of mouth travels faster than a court roll, early adopters tend to become early advantages.

More Than a Tool for Lawyers

Murphy's Law Namibia launches with three plans. The Free Plan gives every Namibian access to plain-language legal answers, guided workflows for common issues such as labour, family and consumer disputes, document templates, and prompts to consult a lawyer where professional help is needed.

The Pro Plan adds document uploads, higher daily limits and matter-specific projects for small businesses, consultancies and individual practitioners.

The Business Plan is built for law firms, corporate legal teams, banks, insurers

and other enterprise users, with team collaboration, deep research and advanced drafting tools.

The model is deliberate: revenue from the professional plans helps sustain free public access, positioning the platform as both a productivity engine for the profession and an access-to-justice layer for the country.

Security First

Legal work lives and dies on confidentiality, and the platform is built accordingly: data is encrypted at rest and in transit, client environments are strictly isolated from one another, and client prompts and documents are never used to train other models.

The Bottom Line

As the Murphy's Law founder puts it: "For lawyers, time is the currency of impact. AI isn't a substitute for legal expertise – it's the multiplier that amplifies it."

The firms that learn to wield that multiplier first will set the pace for everyone else. To see the platform in action, visit <https://murphys-law.ai/> or get in touch at tim@kvelld.co.za for a demo and a free trial.

Murphy's Law Namibia at a Glance

- Trained on all Namibian legal sources: case law, legislation and Government Gazettes
- South Africa available as an optional secondary jurisdiction for persuasive and relevant authoritative precedent
- Drafting, research, review and workflow automation, with built-in citations for every answer
- Murphy's Courtroom argument simulator plus secure Projects and Vault
- Free Plan for all Namibians; Pro and Business Plans for professionals and firms
- Secure by design: encrypted, isolated, and never used to train other models

It turns out Murphy's Law has a sense of humour after all. In Namibia, everything that can go right... just might.



Launch your brand into orbit with premium corporate wear

Corporate Lounge Shirts
 Branded Golf Shirts
 Formal & Casual Trousers
 Workwear & Overalls
 Corporate Dresses & Skirts
 Branded Winter Jackets
 Body Warmers & Fleeces
 Safety Boots & PPE Wear
 Caps, Beanies & Accessories
 Custom Embroidery & Branding



Contact us today to place your order

✉ orbitalmedianam@gmail.com

☎ +264 81 434 3154





Namibia, South Africa sign seven agreements to deepen economic cooperation

Namibia and South Africa have signed seven bilateral agreements covering labour, aviation, legal cooperation, public sector capacity building, correctional services, business collaboration and gender equality as the two countries moved to deepen economic and institutional ties.

The agreements were concluded on Friday during the Fourth Session of the Namibia-South Africa Bi-National Commission (BNC), co-chaired by President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa.

The two leaders directed ministries, departments and government agencies to develop implementation plans with clear responsibilities and timelines to ensure the agreements deliver measurable outcomes.

According to the joint communiqué, the agreements are intended to accelerate implementation of decisions taken under

the BNC framework and strengthen bilateral cooperation across key sectors.

Among the agreements signed was a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on employment and labour to enhance collaboration on labour-related issues.

The two countries also concluded an MoU between South Africa's National School of Government and the Namibia Institute of Public Administration and Management (NIPAM) to strengthen public sector capacity building through the exchange of expertise and training.

In the aviation sector, Namibia and South Africa signed a Bilateral Air Services Agreement, while legal cooperation was enhanced through a separate memorandum covering collaboration in legal affairs.

The two governments also signed an MoU on correctional services to improve cooperation between their correctional

institutions.

To strengthen private sector engagement, the Namibia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NCCI) and the South African Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SACCI) signed an Economic Partnership Agreement aimed at promoting trade, investment and business partnerships between companies in both countries.

A seventh agreement focused on bilateral cooperation in gender equality and women's empowerment.

Beyond the signed agreements, the two

governments reaffirmed their commitment to expanding trade and investment, strengthening regional value chains, facilitating private sector partnerships and advancing industrial development and mineral beneficiation.

The two countries also agreed to deepen cooperation in the mining, petroleum and natural gas sectors through skills development, research, technology transfer, local value addition and beneficiation.

In the energy sector, Namibia and South Africa committed to closer collaboration in electricity generation and transmission,

renewable energy development and regional energy security, including accelerating implementation of the Kudu Gas Power Project.

The leaders further agreed to strengthen cooperation on the Trans-Kalahari Corridor and other regional transport links while expanding collaboration in water resource management, agriculture, food security, public health, skills development and public sector capacity building.

President Nandi-Ndaitwah and President Ramaphosa instructed relevant ministries and agencies to prepare implementation plans for all decisions reached during the Fourth Session of the BNC, with progress to be monitored through regular reviews and the commission's Mid-Term Review mechanism.



NAMIBIA CORPORATE SOCIAL INVESTMENT Mukopano

ABOUT THE NAMIBIA CORPORATE SOCIAL INVESTMENT MUKOPANO

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

Government, Public and Private sector, NGO's, NPO's, Civil Society, Funders, Community Groups and any stakeholders in the CSI space.

WHAT IS THE MUKOPANO?

It is a joint initiative by corporate Namibia that brings all CSI stakeholders under one roof to ensure alignment of resources to national social challenges. Mukopano is a Siloso word that means Conference.

WHEN WILL IT TAKE PLACE?

It is scheduled as a full one day event at Hilton Hotel on the 11th August 2026 starting from 08h00 am to 17h00 pm.

THE FORMAT :

We will have a host of presentations from Corporates, NGO's, investors and other stakeholders. Presentations will be short and concise and no longer than 5 minutes each. If you are a corporate this is your opportunity to share your CSI scope and activities. If you are an NGO, this is an opportunity to tell the corporates what you do for social change and where you need assistance. This is also an opportunity for corporates to collaborate with each other.

HOW DO I BOOK A PRESENTATION SLOT?

Simply write an email to Sesilia on SAuala@mtc.com.na and the Committee consisting of all the partners will review your request and give you feedback soon.

HOW DO I REGISTER TO BECOME A DELEGATE?

Registration is free. Whether you are a corporate or NGO, simply request for a seat by emailing Sesilia on SAuala@mtc.com.na

WILL THE MUKOPANO BE LIVESTREAMED?

Yes it will be to ensure that all CSI stakeholders who cannot attend follow and learn from the engagements.

HOW DO I BECOME A PARTNER?

So far MTC, FirstRand Namibia Foundation, Capricorn Foundation, Allan Gray Orbis Foundation, Gondwana Care Trust, Namport Social Investment Fund, Debmarmine Namibia Corporate Social Investment Fund and The Brief have confirmed their partnership by each contributing an amount of N\$50,000. The partners will actively be involved in planning and executing the Mukopano and they will automatically get a presentation slot. Should you wish to confirm your partnership please email Sesilia on SAuala@mtc.com.na at your earliest convenience.

HOW CAN WE PARTICIPATE?

You can participate in 4 ways. Firstly by becoming a partner. Secondly, by participating in the presentations. Please note that any stakeholder can request for a presentation slot and you are not required to be a partner to do so. Thirdly, simply by attending as a delegate. Lastly, you may opt to volunteer your services at the event.

For enquiries: SAuala@mtc.com.na

OFFICIAL PARTNERS:



Communication reconsidered: A leadership discipline for national progress

By Hilda Basson Namundjebo

At the Effective Communications Conference this week, my 45 minute keynote was restrained due to programme constraints.

I remain ever so grateful to the leadership of this initiative namely Nampa, for the opportunities they make available for communication to take centre stage.

To ensure conference delegates receive the complete narrative as I had intended to share, I felt a responsibility to ensure delegates receive the complete message.

Communication is too consequential to be reduced to headlines. I am therefore sharing my full address in two parts. Part 1 explores the philosophy behind “Communication Reconsidered” and why communication must be understood as a leadership function.

Part 2, will examine the practical lessons from crisis, national development, and the urgent need to rebuild trust and confidence in institutions.

“Where there is change, there is opportunity.” Media Trends 2026 captures this paradox well. We are living through the most significant transformation in human history a moment of structural disruption that demands new thinking, new leadership, and new communication.

The theme of the conference, Communication Reconsidered: A Driving Force for Constant Progress, invites us to rethink communication entirely.

It challenges us to move beyond the traditional view of communication as a



**A Driving Force
for Constant
Progress, invites
us to rethink
communication
entirely.**

decorative function, where communications act as the “cute” department responsible for press releases, social media posts, and events but to rather transition our collective thinking and to recognise it as a strategic discipline that belongs at all who serve at the centre of leadership.

For decades, communication has been understood too narrowly. We have associated it with tools rather than purpose. But communication, when reconsidered, becomes a strategic process.

A process, not an event. It belongs inside decision making, not consequential to it. It helps leaders understand stakeholders, anticipate concerns, build trust, and reduce resistance long before implementation.

Progress does not depend only on what leaders do. It depends on what people understand, trust, and support.

A policy can be excellent, but if citizens do not understand it, progress stalls. A national initiative can be visionary, but without communication, it becomes misunderstood.

Communication is the bridge between intention and impact, between vision and progress.

During 2025, we conducted research across Namibia’s 14 regions, interviewing economists, community leaders, and citizens.

Their insights were clear: people decide better when they understand context, consequences, and rationale. Stakeholder engagement strengthens decisions. Reputation shapes trust. Misinformation disrupts progress.

Digital transformation has raised expectations for speed, clarity, and accessibility. And communication professionals strengthen democracy by improving public understanding.

The conclusion is unmistakable:

communication is not a support function. It is a leadership function. But more importantly it is one which must be integrated into the DNA of the institution.

That communication must sit central on the agenda, and not be treated as a mop up operation but rather as a strategic driver of institutional and national progress.

But for communication to be reconsidered, we must embrace collective responsibility. Communication is not the job of one department. It is the responsibility of every leader, every institution, every decision maker.

When leaders communicate poorly, institutions lose trust. When leaders communicate well, institutions gain confidence, legitimacy, and momentum.

Trust is the currency of leadership. Confidence is the outcome of clarity. And communication is the mechanism through which both are built; or broken.

Strategic communication asks: Who will be affected? What concerns might arise? What information is needed to build trust? How do we create support rather than resistance? It integrates stakeholder needs from the beginning. It is leadership.

Stakeholders like employees, communities, investors, government, media,



NAMIBIA
INSTITUTE OF
CORPORATE
GOVERNANCE

LEADING THE BOARD

Chairperson's Governance Masterclass



Prof. Thuli Madonsela
Keynote: The Chairperson as the
Conscience of the Board



Mr. Patrick Chisanga
Keynote: Governing in Africa: What
the Textbook Doesn't Tell You

A high-level governance masterclass designed exclusively for Board Chairpersons, bringing together leading voices in corporate governance for a focused morning of insight, reflection and practical boardroom leadership dialogue.

 Wednesday
22 July 2026

 07:30 AM to
14:00 PM

 The Weinberg,
Windhoek

 NS\$9,800 for
non-members

Discounted rates apply for NICG Members

For registration or enquires:
training.events@nicg.org.na

OFFICIAL MEDIA PARTNER

THE
BR/EF

Power to Inspire

Communication, reconsidered, becomes a leadership discipline, an important ingredient that determines whether progress accelerates or collapses.

must be informed, heard, respected, and included. When stakeholders feel ignored, resistance grows. When they are engaged early, trust grows.

Reputation, too, is built through consistent communication, transparency, meaningful engagement, and responsible behaviour. Every message, every action, every response shapes how institutions are perceived.

Communication, reconsidered, becomes a leadership discipline, an important ingredient that determines whether progress

accelerates or collapses. It is not decoration. It is not a support function. It is the architecture of trust, the engine of confidence, and the foundation of national progress.

In the follow up in Part 2, I will explore how communication becomes infrastructure in moments of crisis, change, and national ambition; the performative nature of social media communication which pursues likes rather than engagement and why rebuilding trust requires communication that is clear, two-way, credible, and collectively owned.

17 ARTISTS, 6 CHOIRS, 1 NIGHT. AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE.

THE RESTORATION
Concert 4.0

SATURDAY
31 OCTOBER 2026
DR. HAGE GEINGOB STADIUM
WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA

Never Walk Alone

MINISTER GLIC

MIN. MICHAEL MAHENDERERE

BENJAMIN DUBE

IPINWE KIDS

BR. CLARENCE

RUTH

LENTINA GRACE

DEA

LINDA

ASHI

MINISTER BOBBY RICHTER

ERIC MAHUA

ESME

MIN. ADOLPHUS AMAH

MINISTER MOSES

GRACE NOTES CHOIR

JOSI CHOIR

ADORATION CHOIR

HALLELUJAH SINGERS CHOIR

VOCAL DYNAMIX

JMM WORSHIP TEAM

TICKET PRICES:

VIP BOOTH 25 PERSONS	VIP SINGLE	GOLDEN CIRCLE
N\$50,000	N\$2,000	N\$300

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT

webtickets

BOOK NOW

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

NEVERWALKALONE359@GMAIL.COM OR +264813496234



Namibia, South Africa launch business council to drive cross-border investment

The Namibia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NCCI) and the South African Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SACCI) will formally launch the Namibia-South Africa Business Council, creating a permanent private sector platform aimed at accelerating trade, investment and cross-border business partnerships.

The council was established following a decision by the two Heads of State during the 2023 Namibia-South Africa Bi-National Commission (BNC), where both governments agreed to create a structured mechanism to strengthen private sector cooperation.

According to the NCCI, the council is intended to transform the two countries' strong political relationship into tangible commercial outcomes by facilitating joint

ventures, addressing trade barriers and promoting investment opportunities.

NCCI Chief Executive Officer Titus Nampala said the launch marks the beginning of a new phase in bilateral economic cooperation.

"This Council is the private sector taking up the mandate that our two Presidents gave us. The Bi-National Commission created the political runway. Our task now is to make sure that runway leads somewhere real - to signed deals, cross-border partnerships and growth that Namibian and South African businesses can actually feel. We are building a Council that listens, leads and delivers and that is deliberately designed to open doors for our large corporates and our MSMEs alike," Nampala said.

Namibia and South Africa maintain

one of Southern Africa's largest trading relationships, spanning sectors including mining, agriculture, manufacturing, financial services, logistics and tourism. However, both chambers said the full potential of the partnership has yet to be realised because of fragmented private sector engagement and limited coordination between businesses.

The Business Council will serve as a permanent platform through which companies, industry associations and trade bodies from both countries can identify investment opportunities, establish joint ventures and address challenges related to market access, non-tariff barriers, cross-border logistics and regional value chains.

SACCI President Advocate Mtho Xulu said the council represents an important step towards strengthening commercial relations between the two countries.

"For too long, the depth of goodwill between our two countries has outpaced the depth of our commercial engagement. This Council gives business leaders in both countries a standing table to sit at - not once every few years at a summit, but on an ongoing basis. That is how trust is built and that is how real progress is made," Xulu said.

The NCCI said the council has been structured to ensure participation by micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), providing them with access to business matchmaking opportunities, market information and a platform to raise regulatory

and financing challenges affecting cross-border trade.

"No Namibian enterprise should be left out of this opportunity because of its size. SMEs are the heartbeat of inclusive growth and this Council must generate sustainable, decent jobs and open doors that were previously only accessible to the biggest players," Nampala said.

The chambers said the council also supports broader regional integration efforts under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) by strengthening industrial cooperation and investment across sectors such as green hydrogen, critical minerals, agro-processing and logistics.

16th ANNUAL EDITION IPM NAMIBIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2026

IPM INSTITUTE OF PEOPLE MANAGEMENT NAMIBIA

Official Partner

ANNOUNCEMENT

TB THE BR/EF X IPM INSTITUTE OF PEOPLE MANAGEMENT NAMIBIA

Official Media Partner

Namibia's state visit to China: A defining moment to accelerate the nation's AI future

By Dr Etuna Simon

The recent State Visit to China by the Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sport, Arts and Culture, Hon. Sanet Steenkamp, as part of the Presidential delegation, comes at a pivotal moment in Namibia's development journey.

While the visit strengthens diplomatic and economic relations, it also presents an opportunity for Namibia to position itself within one of the most transformative technologies of our time Artificial Intelligence (AI).

China has become a global leader in AI through sustained investment in research, digital infrastructure, education, innovation and industry.

Its experience demonstrates that long-term planning, strategic partnerships and investment in human capital can transform economies and improve public services.

Namibia should seize this opportunity not only to strengthen bilateral relations but also to learn how AI can drive sustainable national development.

The question is no longer whether AI will change Namibia it already is. The real question is whether Namibia will become a creator of AI-enabled solutions or remain a consumer of technologies developed elsewhere.

Fortunately, Namibia is not starting from scratch.

The launch of Namibia's Artificial Intelligence Readiness Assessment Report by the National Commission on Research,



“

China has become a global leader in AI through sustained investment in research, digital infrastructure, education, innovation and industry.

Science and Technology (NCRST), in partnership with UNESCO, marked an important milestone.

The report highlights encouraging progress in digital connectivity, AI awareness and education, while also identifying key gaps, including limited AI expertise, insufficient research funding, inadequate digital infrastructure and the absence of a comprehensive national AI strategy.

These challenges should not discourage us; they should guide our priorities.

Rather than attempting to compete with countries such as China or the United States in developing massive AI platforms, Namibia should focus on using AI to solve its own development challenges.

Imagine AI assisting healthcare professionals to diagnose diseases in remote clinics, supporting teachers through intelligent learning systems, helping farmers predict droughts and optimise crop production, improving water resource

management, strengthening mining safety, detecting financial fraud and modernising government services. These are practical opportunities that can improve lives while stimulating economic growth.

Education will be the foundation of this transformation.

Schools, TVET institutions and universities must equip learners not only with digital skills but also with critical thinking, creativity, ethical reasoning and problem-solving abilities. Graduates must be prepared to work alongside AI, innovate with it and develop solutions relevant to Namibia's unique context.

At the same time, educators require continuous professional development to integrate AI effectively into teaching, research and assessment while maintaining academic integrity.

AI also presents significant economic opportunities. Emerging industries in data science, software engineering, robotics, cybersecurity, digital agriculture and intelligent manufacturing will require new skills and create new careers.

Preparing Namibia's workforce for these opportunities will ensure that technological change becomes a driver of employment rather than a threat.

The State Visit to China should therefore inspire partnerships that go beyond traditional cooperation.

Namibia should pursue joint AI research, faculty exchanges, innovation hubs, technology transfer, startup incubation, scholarship programmes and collaborative centres of excellence.

Such partnerships should focus on building local expertise and strengthening national institutions rather than creating dependence on imported technologies.

AI also offers Namibia an opportunity to preserve its rich cultural heritage. Indigenous languages, oral histories and traditional knowledge can be digitised and protected using AI technologies, ensuring that Namibia's diverse cultural identity remains visible in the digital age.

To realise these opportunities, coordinated national action is essential.

Namibia should accelerate the implementation of a National Artificial Intelligence Strategy aligned with Vision 2030 and the Sixth National Development Plan.

Greater investment is needed in digital

AGRI-WOMEN

Full-Day Farm Tour



Join us for a full day of learning, networking and inspiration at **AvoGro Farm**.



DATE
30 July 2026



LOCATION
AvaGro Farm, River Plots,
Swakopmund, Namibia

PRICING



N\$1,700
Agri-Women Members



N\$2,000
Non-Members

INCLUDES:



Transport from Windhoek, to and from Swakopmund



Breakfast snack



Lunch



Information pack



SCAN TO REGISTER

info@agri-women.com | 081 398 3096 | www.agri-women.com

A 30% deposit is required to secure a booking. Limited Seating.

Official Media Partner of the Agri-Women Network



Namibia now has an opportunity to move beyond observing technological change and become an active participant in shaping Africa's digital future.

infrastructure, affordable broadband, cybersecurity, research, innovation and reliable electricity, particularly in underserved communities.

Universities should establish AI research laboratories and innovation centres where students, researchers and industry collaborate to develop practical solutions for national challenges.

Government should also introduce dedicated funding mechanisms to support AI startups, university research and innovation commercialisation while strengthening legal and ethical frameworks for data governance, privacy and responsible AI.

Artificial intelligence is not simply about technology it is about people, productivity, competitiveness and national development. Countries that invest strategically today will shape the economies of tomorrow.

Namibia has a unique opportunity to learn from one of the world's leading AI nations while building solutions that reflect its own

priorities and aspirations. The recent State Visit to China should therefore be viewed not only as a diplomatic success but also as the beginning of a bold national conversation on how AI can transform education, healthcare, agriculture, mining, entrepreneurship and public service delivery.

The AI revolution is already underway. Namibia now has an opportunity to move beyond observing technological change and become an active participant in shaping Africa's digital future.

****Dr Etuna Simon holds a PhD in Mathematics, Science and Technology Education and serves as Head of the Centre for Curriculum Development and Innovation at Welwitschia University. The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of Welwitschia University or any affiliated institution.***

SCAN HERE

Daily PDF version sent via email

Facebook: @thebrieflive, LinkedIn: @thebrieflive.nam, Twitter: @TheBriefLive, Instagram: @thebrieflive

Finance

Business

for Daily Namibian News

THE BRIEF
News Worth Knowing

TO FOLLOW OUR WHATSAPP CHANNEL



Windhoek building plan approvals jump 44.7% to N\$193.7m in June

The City of Windhoek approved 179 building plans valued at N\$193.7 million in June, marking a 44.7% month-on-month increase in the value of approved projects and a 23.4% rise in the number of approvals, signalling a rebound in construction activity, according to IJG Securities.

Approvals increased from 138 projects in May to 179 in June, with the higher value of approved developments pointing to a shift towards larger, more capital-intensive projects.

"Notably, the increase in approvals was accompanied by a substantial 44.7%

month-on-month surge in the value of plans, suggesting a shift towards larger capital-intensive projects," IJG said.

Despite the monthly improvement, building approvals for the first six months of 2026 remained below last year's levels. The cumulative value of approved plans fell 20.8% year on year to N\$784.0 million, compared with N\$990.3 million during the corresponding period in 2025.

Residential approvals remained relatively resilient. During June, the municipality approved 30 residential units valued at N\$60.8 million, while cumulative residential approvals for the first half of

the year rose 2.2% year on year to N\$341.6 million.

Property additions recorded the strongest performance during the month, with 142 approvals valued at N\$107.1 million. On a year-to-date basis, the value of approved additions increased 15.3% to N\$349.2 million.

Commercial and industrial approvals also recovered in June, with seven projects worth N\$25.8 million receiving approval.

However, IJG said the segment remained significantly weaker than a year earlier, with the cumulative value of commercial and industrial approvals declining 73.6% year on year to N\$93.1 million, despite a 48.0% increase in the number of approved projects.

"While more commercial projects are receiving approval, they are substantially smaller in scale and value than those approved in the prior year," IJG said.

Building completions also improved during June, rising to 25 projects valued at N\$54.6 million from 21 projects worth

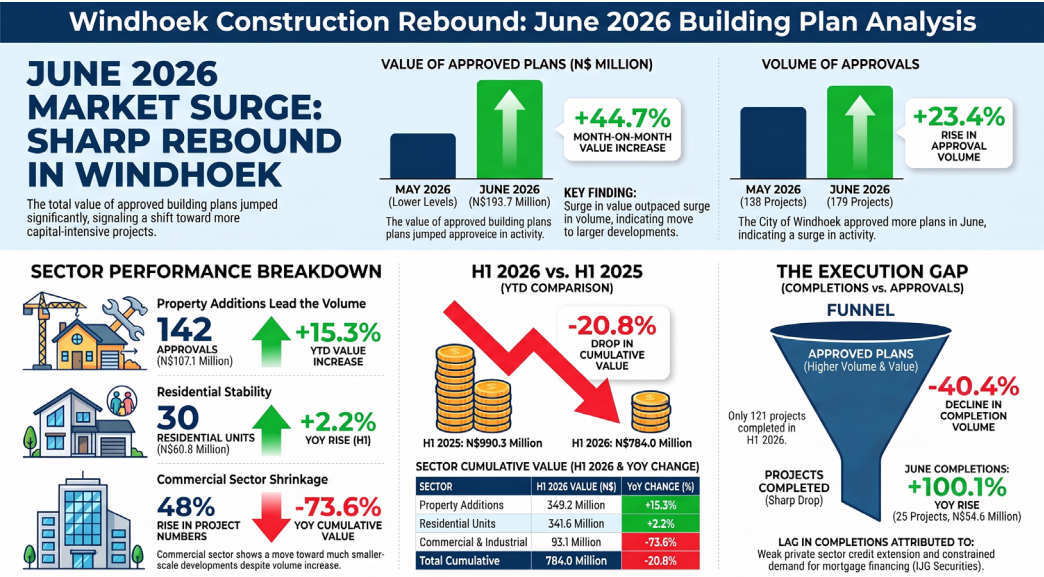
N\$37.0 million in May. The value of completed projects was 100.1% higher than in June 2025.

Despite the improvement, construction activity continued to lag behind approvals. During the first half of the year, only 121 building projects valued at N\$168.6 million were completed, representing declines of 40.4% in volume and 16.0% in value compared with the same period last year.

"Building activity in Windhoek rebounded sharply in June 2026, with both approvals and completions recovering from May's subdued levels. A more concerning trend emerges from completion data," IJG said.

The brokerage said the persistent gap between approved and completed projects points to ongoing delays in project execution across the construction sector.

"This subdued performance is consistent with ongoing weakness in private sector credit extension, which continues to reflect constrained demand for mortgage financing from both households and corporates amid prevailing economic headwinds," IJG said.



Business

2026
HANDBOOK



BOARDS AND EXCOS



THE
BR/EF
News Worth Knowing