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THE BRIEF

News Worth Knowing



China commits N\$245m to Namibia smart city project

WEDNESDAY 08 JULY 2026

MAIN STORY



China commits N\$245m to Namibia smart city project

China has committed a grant of about N\$245 million (98 million yuan) towards Namibia's Smart City pilot project as the government deepens its partnership with Huawei on artificial intelligence (AI), digital infrastructure, skills development and the development of a National Data Centre.

The funding was announced during President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah's visit to Huawei's Headquarters Exhibition Centre in Shenzhen, China, where she

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

met the company's executives to discuss expanding cooperation under Namibia's digital transformation agenda.

The discussions focused on Huawei's collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security and the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology on smart city solutions and an AI-ready National Data Centre.

Addressing Huawei's leadership, Nandi-Ndaitwah said digital transformation has become a key pillar of Namibia's development strategy.

"Namibia recognises that digital transformation is no longer just a symbol of technology, but it's an inspiration. It's a strategic imperative for economic growth, industrialisation, good governance and sustainable development," she said.

The President said the partnership with Huawei is expected to support digital inclusion, modernise public services and create employment opportunities by equipping Namibians with the skills required for an AI-driven economy.

She welcomed Huawei's training initiatives, which have already reached more than 2,000 Namibians, saying skills development must remain at the centre of the country's digital transition.

"As we are embracing technology, we need digital skills. We are really looking

forward to work with you in creating those new jobs because, in a country like Namibia where unemployment is high, we don't want technology to put people back in the street," Nandi-Ndaitwah said.

She said the government also wants to ensure that Namibians are trained to operate and maintain the digital systems after implementation to avoid long-term dependence on foreign expertise.

"We want to be very careful to avoid a situation whereby we spend money and it will not have an impact. But I believe our cooperation with Huawei will be impactful in what we want to achieve," she said.

Huawei Senior Vice President of Enterprise Sales Leo Chen said the company is committed to supporting Namibia's digital transformation through investments in digital infrastructure, cloud technologies and artificial intelligence.

"We believe that the future lies in Namibia having its very own national data centre. We look at what the country demands, whether it is AI, security or data, train people in that specific field and ensure they can apply those skills in the real world," Chen said.

Huawei said its ICT Academy provides internationally recognised certifications and practical training in artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and digital infrastructure, and will continue supporting Namibia through technology transfer, skills development and digital solutions aligned with the country's development priorities.



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RMB Namibia named World's Best Sub-Custodian Bank



RMB Namibia has been named the World's Best Sub-Custodian Bank for 2026 by Global Finance, earning international recognition for its custody and asset servicing capabilities.

The award forms part of Global Finance's 24th Annual Best Sub-Custodian Bank Awards, which recognise leading institutions across 83 countries and territories.

Winners were selected based on market research, industry analysis and client feedback, with performance assessed throughout 2025.

Banks were evaluated on criteria including client service, operational excellence, technology, post-settlement efficiency and local market expertise.

RMB Namibia Chief Executive Officer Daniel Motinga said the award reflects the bank's commitment to delivering reliable custody services to institutional investors.

"This recognition is a proud moment for RMB Namibia and reflects the strength of our people, our systems, and our commitment to excellence in everything we do. In a rapidly evolving financial landscape, our clients rely on us for precision, trust, and consistency. This award affirms that we are delivering on that promise every day," Motinga said.

He said the recognition also demonstrates the group's growing capability across

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The award forms part of Global Finance's 24th Annual Best Sub-Custodian Bank Awards, which recognise leading institutions across 83 countries and territories.

Southern Africa. "Being recognised on a global stage speaks to the strength and the depth of capability we have built across Southern Africa. It reinforces our ambition to continuously raise the bar in custody services and to remain a trusted partner to institutional investors navigating increasingly complex global markets," he said.

According to Global Finance, sub-custodian banks are playing an increasingly important role as investors diversify internationally and financial markets become more heavily regulated, increasing demand for institutions capable of

delivering consistent and efficient custody services across multiple jurisdictions.

RMB Namibia said the award reinforces its position as a trusted partner for institutional investors and reflects its continued investment in governance, technology, operational excellence and client-focused custody solutions.

The bank is part of the FirstRand Group and has operated as a full corporate and investment bank in Namibia since 2014, providing corporate banking, trade finance, foreign exchange, global markets and custody services.

The banner features a background of faint icons related to finance and business. On the left, it says "SCAN HERE" in large blue letters. Below this is a red Adobe PDF icon with the text "Daily PDF version sent via email". Underneath are social media icons for Facebook (@thebrieflive), LinkedIn (@thebrieflive.nam), and Twitter (@TheBriefLive). In the center, there is a QR code. Above the QR code is a blue circle with a white bar chart icon and the word "Finance". Below the QR code is a blue circle with a white bar chart icon and the word "Business". To the right of the QR code is a blue circle with a white WhatsApp icon and the text "for Daily Namibian News". On the far right, it says "THE BRIEF News Worth Knowing" in blue and black, followed by "TO FOLLOW OUR WHATSAPP CHANNEL" in large blue letters.



Ohangwena commits N\$1.4bn to regional roads upgrade

The Ohangwena Regional Council has committed N\$1.4 billion to upgrade and expand its road network over the next five years, with plans to improve 645 kilometres of roads as part of a drive to enhance connectivity and support economic development.

Delivering the 2025/26 State of the Region Address, Ohangwena Governor Kadiva Hamutumwa said the investment forms part of the region's five-year Roads Master Plan, which identifies 10 priority

road projects for upgrading.

Of the planned works, 265 kilometres will be upgraded to bitumen standard at an estimated cost of N\$985 million, while a further 380 kilometres will be upgraded to gravel standard at a cost of N\$380 million.

"Together, these projects represent a total planned investment of approximately N\$1.4 billion, reflecting government's commitment to developing a safe, reliable and accessible road network across the region," Hamutumwa said.

Children walking to schools in Okambubu, Okanaimbula and Onhishe, as well as patients visiting Omuhongo Clinic, will soon benefit from safer, more reliable roads.

The Governor said several projects are already under way, including the completion of the Omulondo-Oshuuli road, which was officially commissioned in early 2026 by Minister of Works and Transport Veikko Nekundi.

Construction of the Omukukutu-Omboloka road is nearly 70% complete, while designs for the Oupili-Onkumbula road are currently under evaluation.

Rehabilitation work on the Onuno-Eenhana road, funded by the Road Fund Administration, is also in progress.

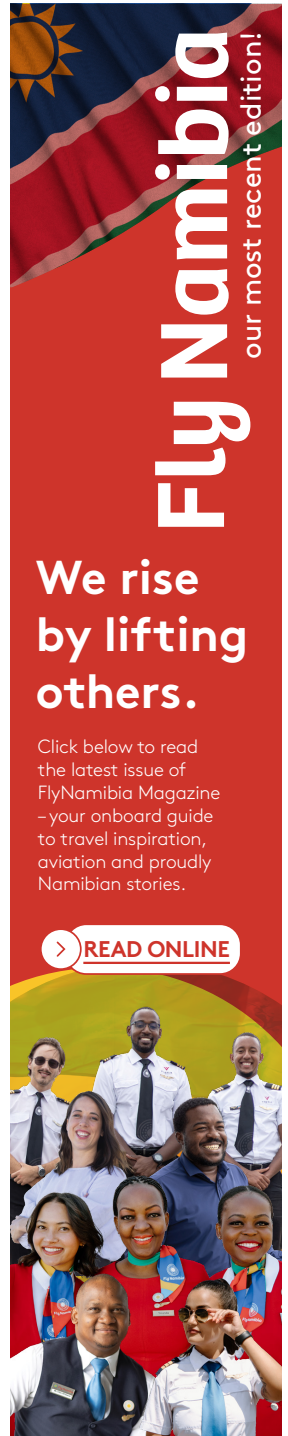
In addition to new road construction, the region has allocated N\$25 million for road maintenance, covering 384 kilometres of paved roads and 820 kilometres of unpaved roads. Hamutumwa said access roads to schools and healthcare facilities are being prioritised, with

designs already completed and contractors expected to be appointed shortly.

"Children walking to schools in Okambubu, Okanaimbula and Onhishe, as well as patients visiting Omuhongo Clinic, will soon benefit from safer, more reliable roads," she said.

The road programme is being funded jointly by the Namibian government and German development bank KfW and is expected to improve transport access while supporting long-term regional development.

Hamutumwa said the road investments form part of a broader infrastructure development strategy that also includes rural electrification, expanded access to potable water and agricultural initiatives aimed at strengthening food security and improving livelihoods across the region.



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Have we mistaken policy approval for policy implementation?

By Thomas Hamata

Many organisations do not suffer from a shortage of policies. In fact, many have exceptionally well-written policies, aligned with recognised standards and approved through the appropriate governance structures.

Yet the outcomes those policies were intended to produce are often not visible in practice.

This is one of the most persistent challenges in organisational governance: the gap between policy intent and implementation.

A policy may clearly define how risks should be managed, how information should be protected, how procurement decisions should be made or how employees are expected to conduct themselves.

However, the existence of a policy does not necessarily mean that the people expected to comply with it understand it, know how it applies to their work or have been equipped to implement it.

The policy may be excellent. The implementation environment may not be.

Closing this gap requires organisations to look beyond policy approval and consider how policies are translated, communicated, embedded and monitored. This article addresses three practical considerations that can help organisations move policies from paper into practice.

1. Translate policy requirements



Policies are unlikely to become part of everyday operations unless their requirements are embedded into organisational processes and controls.

into practical procedures

Policy approval should be viewed as the beginning of implementation, not the end. Once a policy has been approved by the relevant governance structures, it may be uploaded onto an internal platform, circulated by email or presented during employee induction. Employees may also be required to acknowledge that they have read and understood it. However, acknowledgement is not evidence of understanding, and understanding is not evidence of implementation.

Policies are often written by specialists in risk, compliance, legal, information technology, human resources or governance. Those expected to apply them are specialists in their professions. It is therefore unreasonable to assume that every employee will interpret a requirement in the same way as its authors.

This is where standard operating

procedures become essential. Policies establish principles, expectations and boundaries, while procedures explain how those expectations should be carried out in practice. They should set out who must act, what must be done, when it must happen, which approvals are required and what evidence must be retained.

2. Explain the “why” and “how” through mandatory refresher training

Training is another important bridge between policy intent and practical adherence. However, effective training must go beyond reading policy clauses, presenting rules or explaining prohibited conduct. It should help employees understand both why a policy exists and how they are expected to apply it in practice.

Policy training should be mandatory and, where possible, delivered through accessible e-learning platforms that allow completion to be tracked. It should also be interactive, engaging and memorable, using practical examples, scenarios and decision points rather than relying only on passive presentations.

Training should be tailored to the employee’s role and operating context, rather than being generic and unrelatable. Employees in different functions may be subject to the same policy, but the actions expected of them may differ. Training should also be periodic rather than once-off, with regular refreshers that keep requirements visible and provide opportunities for employees to ask questions or raise areas where a policy may be difficult to apply.

3. Embed policy requirements into controls

Policies are unlikely to become part of everyday operations unless their requirements are embedded into organisational processes and controls.

A control is a practical mechanism that helps ensure that a policy requirement is followed. It may take the form of an approval, management review, system restriction, reconciliation, checklist or monitoring report.

For every significant policy requirement, the organisation should determine what control will help ensure that the intended action occurs consistently. It is not enough merely to document the control. The organisation must establish who owns it, how frequently it should operate, what evidence it should produce and how failures will be identified and addressed. It must also document these attributes in a control register.

Controls should also be independently tested periodically to confirm that they are appropriately designed and operating as intended. Without such testing, management may assume that a policy has been implemented simply because a control has been documented or assigned. This is the essence of policy embedment: moving requirements from the page into the systems, processes and routines through which the organisation operates.

When non-compliance occurs, organisations often move quickly to consequence management. However, where the root cause is unclear procedures, inadequate training or weak controls, punishment alone will not solve the problem. Another employee is likely to make the same mistake.

This is why good governance cannot be measured simply by the number of policies an organisation has. It must be measured by whether those policies are properly implemented and whether they inform day-to-day decisions, guide behaviour and enable the effective execution of daily operations.



Over 350 stakeholders expected at Namibia's inaugural CSI Mukopano

More than 350 stakeholders from Namibia's corporate sector, government, non-governmental organisations and civil society will gather next month for the inaugural Namibia Corporate Social Investment (CSI) Mukopano, an initiative aimed at improving collaboration and increasing the impact of corporate social investment across the country.

The platform, launched this week, is a joint initiative of MTC, the Capricorn Foundation, the FirstRand Namibia Foundation Trust and the Allan Gray Orbis Foundation.

The inaugural conference will be held on 11 August 2026 at the Hilton Windhoek, with organisers inviting additional companies to join the initiative.

Speaking at the launch, MTC Chief Brand, Marketing, Communications and Sustainability Officer Tim Ekandjo said the platform was created in response to Namibia's persistent socio-economic challenges,

including inequality, unemployment, poverty, inadequate educational infrastructure, malnutrition and limited opportunities for graduates and people living with disabilities.

Ekandjo said the organisers have decided to make attendance free to encourage broad participation.

"We want all 350 delegates to attend on a complimentary basis because this event is about driving social impact, not generating ticket revenue. One of the greatest privileges of being a partner is that you co-own the platform, and we execute the planning, organisation and strategy together as a unified team. Most importantly, your organisation becomes an architectural part of transforming the industry. On the 11th of August 2026, we will be gathering at the Hilton Hotel," he said.

Unlike traditional conferences, the Mukopano will focus on facilitating partnerships between corporates and

development organisations.

Companies will present their corporate social investment priorities and funding cycles, while non-governmental organisations and community organisations will pitch projects directly to potential funders.

The organisers also plan to establish Namibia's first central CSI database to provide a national directory of corporates, NGOs and community organisations, with the aim of improving coordination and reducing duplication of development initiatives.

"Additionally, success means establishing the central Namibian CSI database website, adopting formal policy recommendations, and signing a collective pledge. The other day, Her Excellency the President made a passing note suggesting that if corporates operate here and refuse to invest in social development, perhaps we should mandate it by law. We don't want to get to the point of forced compliance. We want this platform to show our leaders that we can come together voluntarily and collaborate effectively,"

Ekandjo said.

Capricorn Group Brand and Corporate Affairs Executive and Capricorn Foundation Chief Executive Officer Marlize Horn described the initiative as the beginning of a national movement to reshape corporate social investment in Namibia.

"We really see this as the beginning of something big. It is the beginning of a purposeful national conversation about how organisations committed to corporate social investment can work together more effectively instead of operating in isolation," she said.

Horn said no single organisation could address Namibia's development challenges alone and called for closer collaboration between the private sector, government and civil society.

"Namibia is at a pivotal moment with enormous opportunities ahead. If we align our priorities with those of the government and work together, we can create meaningful and lasting change," she said.



The Brief officially presented the business handbook to Prime Minister Dr. Tjitunga Elijah Ngurare, who contributed the foreword to this year's edition.

This handbook brings together insights, leadership perspectives, and profiles of some of Namibia's leading organisations and executives, showcasing the people and institutions driving Namibia's growth and development.

Whether you're a business leader, investor, entrepreneur or professional, this is your guide to the trends, opportunities and leadership shaping Namibia's future.

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FNB Namibia named country's Best SME Bank

*Every business
that grows creates
employment,
strengthens local
industries and
contributes to a more
resilient economy.*



FNB Namibia has been named Best SME Bank in Namibia at the Global Banking & Finance Awards.

The award comes shortly after FNB, across its Namibia and South Africa operations, was named Africa's Best SME Bank, with the latest recognition specifically acknowledging the bank's contribution to Namibia's SME sector.

FNB Namibia said it currently serves businesses across all 14 regions and holds an estimated 35% to 40% share of the country's SME banking market, positioning it among the leading providers of banking

services to small businesses.

The bank said the award reflects its efforts to expand access to finance through alternative lending models, including unsecured lending products aimed at first-time borrowers, while reducing barriers faced by entrepreneurs seeking funding.

Beyond financing, FNB Namibia has invested in entrepreneur development through business training, incubation programmes and strategic partnerships, supporting more than 1,500 entrepreneurs with skills development and business growth initiatives.

The bank has also expanded its digital offering through its SME Hub, mobile business tools, alternative banking channels and simplified funding solutions designed to improve access to financial services for business owners.

According to FNB Namibia, it continues to prioritise support for women-owned businesses, youth entrepreneurs, first-time business owners and underserved communities through dedicated products and targeted programmes.

Head of SME Banking at FNB Namibia, Nesdha De Jongh, said the recognition reflects the confidence entrepreneurs have placed in the bank.

"Being recognised as Namibia's Best SME Bank is especially meaningful because it reflects the trust that entrepreneurs place in us every day. SMEs are at the heart of Namibia's economy, creating jobs, driving innovation and strengthening communities. Our role is to provide more than financial services. We strive to be a long-term partner that helps businesses unlock opportunities, overcome challenges and realise their ambitions," De Jongh said.

He said the award validates the bank's long-term strategy of combining finance with practical business support.

"Our SME banking strategy is built on the understanding that successful businesses need

more than access to funding. They need the right tools, practical support, relevant advice and innovative solutions that evolve alongside their needs," he said.

De Jongh added that FNB Namibia would continue investing in entrepreneurs as part of its contribution to employment creation and economic growth.

"Every business that grows creates employment, strengthens local industries and contributes to a more resilient economy. We remain committed to helping Namibian entrepreneurs succeed," he said.



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Amos Shiyuka appointed chair of Ongava board

Ongava has appointed Amos Hingashipwa Shiyuka as Chairman of the Boards of Ongava Game Reserve (Pty) Ltd and Ongava Hai//om Tourism (Pty) Ltd.

Shiyuka succeeds to the role with extensive leadership experience across the conservation, financial services, telecommunications, technology and corporate governance sectors.

He currently serves as Chairman of the Save the Rhino Trust Namibia, Independent Non-Executive Director of Namibia Breweries Limited, Chairman of the Namport Social Investment Fund, and Independent Non-Executive Director of NovaNam/Pescanova.

In the private sector, Shiyuka is Executive Director and Founder of Mobicash Payment Solutions, Independent Non-Executive Chairman of MCUBE Investments One Ltd, and Executive Chairman of CSS Tactical Solutions Namibia.

He previously served as Managing Director of Trustco Mobile and held several senior leadership positions in Namibia's telecommunications industry.

Ongava said Shiyuka's appointment comes as the organisation seeks to strengthen its governance framework while expanding its conservation, tourism and community development initiatives.

"We are honoured to welcome Amos Shiyuka as Chairman of the Board. His proven leadership, strategic insight, commitment to good governance and passion for conservation make him exceptionally well suited to guide Ongava through its next chapter. His appointment reinforces our commitment to world-class stewardship of Namibia's natural heritage while creating lasting value for our guests, our employees, our partners, the Hai//om community and



the nation," the organisation said.

Ongava said Shiyuka's experience across both the corporate and conservation sectors will support its strategy of integrating biodiversity conservation with sustainable tourism, scientific research and community development.

The appointment comes as Ongava continues to position itself as one of Africa's leading privately protected conservation landscapes, with a strategy focused on ensuring tourism revenues contribute to biodiversity conservation, rural development and environmental sustainability.

Shiyuka holds a Master of Business Administration from the Maastricht School of Management in the Netherlands.

Ongava is a leading Namibian conservation and hospitality organisation situated on a privately protected wilderness landscape adjoining Etosha National Park.

Beyond Uranium: What President Nandi-Ndaitwah's visit to China General Nuclear Reveals about Namibia's development vision

By Dr. Penny Tuna
Magdalena Uukunde

President Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah's visit to China General Nuclear Power Group (CGN) in Shenzhen was about considerably more than nuclear energy.

Properly understood, it was an opportunity to examine how natural resources, technology, institutions and long-term planning come together to create industrial capability and sustainable national development.

The Namibian delegation was received by Mr. Yang Changli, Chairman of China General Nuclear Power Group (CGN) and Secretary of the Party Committee. For Namibian readers, this level of engagement is significant.

CGN is one of China's largest state-owned clean energy enterprises and among the world's leading nuclear power operators.

Headquartered in Shenzhen, the company operates across the nuclear fuel cycle, renewable energy, engineering and clean energy technologies. It is one of the institutions that has helped shape China's modern energy industry and broader industrial development.

The significance of the visit, however, was not simply who the delegation met.

It was what they came to understand.

The delegation was taken through the complete uranium value chain, from processing to its eventual role in electricity



CGN is one of China's largest state-owned clean energy enterprises and among the world's leading nuclear power operators.

generation.

Rather than limiting the engagement to presentations, the visit provided direct exposure to operational systems, technical processes and the engineering behind one of the world's leading clean energy enterprises.

It offered first-hand insight into how uranium is transformed from a natural resource into part of a sophisticated industrial ecosystem.

The delegation therefore did not simply visit a nuclear facility.

They observed how scientific research, engineering, industrial production, operational management, regulation and long term planning work together to create productive capacity.

The visit demonstrated that industrial development is not built around a single factory or technology. It is built through interconnected institutions capable of supporting innovation, productivity and long-term economic growth.

For Namibia, this observation is particularly relevant.

Namibia is one of the world's leading uranium-producing countries. China, meanwhile, has developed internationally recognised expertise in uranium processing, nuclear engineering, reactor technology and electricity generation.

The visit therefore illustrated an important lesson in economic development: natural resources alone do not determine prosperity. Greater value is created through the knowledge, technology, institutions and skilled people that transform those resources into higher-value industries and services.

This broader lesson was reflected in the President's own public remarks.

President Nandi Ndaitwah stated that Namibia cannot allow its natural resources to remain underutilised and reaffirmed Government's intention to ensure that the country's resource wealth contributes more directly to national development.

She also announced that Namibia is developing a national nuclear energy policy, supported by legislation, as Government considers how the country's uranium resources can contribute to future energy security.

Viewed in this context, the visit was not simply about nuclear energy.

It was about understanding capability.

The Presidency's official communication following the engagement highlighted value addition, technology

transfer, skills development and the sustainable utilisation of Namibia's natural resources.

Together, these themes reflect a development approach that seeks to move beyond the traditional role of exporting raw materials towards building greater productive capacity within the domestic economy.

The visit also demonstrated the value of learning through direct observation.

By touring operational facilities, engaging technical experts and examining the complete production process, the delegation gained practical insight into the systems that underpin one of the world's leading clean energy industries.

For policymakers, this kind of engagement



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PROF. THULI MADONSELA

Keynote: The Chairperson as the Conscience of the Board

Prof. Thuli Madonsela is a renowned South African legal scholar, advocate and social justice leader. She is the Director of the Centre for Social Justice at Stellenbosch University and holds the Law Trust Chair in Social Justice. A former Public Protector of South Africa, she helped draft the South African Constitution and several key laws, including the Equality Act and Promotion of Administrative Justice Act. Prof. Madonsela has contributed to human rights work at UN, AU and SADC level and serves on various international bodies. Globally recognised, she has received over 70 awards, including being named in Time 100.

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provides more than technical knowledge it offers a deeper understanding of how industrial capability is developed, coordinated and sustained.

The visit is also significant because CGN is not a new partner to Namibia. Through its investment in the Husab Mine, one of the world's largest uranium mines, CGN already occupies an important place within Namibia's mining sector.

The discussions in Shenzhen therefore represented the continuation of an established relationship while exploring opportunities for broader cooperation in industrial development, technology, skills development and long-term economic transformation.

Perhaps the most important observation arising from the visit is that President Nandi Ndaitwah's engagement with CGN was ultimately not about a reactor.

It was about understanding how modern industrial economies create value.

Development is not produced by natural resources alone. It is built through institutions capable of long term planning, industries capable of adding value, scientists and engineers capable of advancing technology, education systems that develop human capital and public policy that connects these elements into a coherent national strategy.

For Namibia, these are lessons of strategic importance.

President Nandi-Ndaitwah's visit to China General Nuclear therefore represented far

more than a visit to one of China's leading energy enterprises. It reflected a deliberate effort to understand the systems that transform natural resources into industrial strength, technological capability and long-term economic resilience.

For a resource rich country such as Namibia, the most enduring lesson from Shenzhen may not be found in the reactor itself. It may be found in the broader development ecosystem surrounding it one in which science, engineering, institutions, policy and long-term planning work together to convert natural resources into sustainable national development.

That, perhaps, is the real significance of the visit.



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Chairperson's Governance Masterclass



MR. PATRICK CHISANGA

Keynote: Governing in Africa: What the Textbook Doesn't Tell You

Patrick Daniel Chisanga is a Chartered Governance Professional and Fellow of the Chartered Governance Institute, Institute of Directors of Zambia and Institute of Directors of Southern Africa. He is Chairman and Lead Consultant of Dynamic Concepts Limited, providing corporate governance and leadership development consulting across Africa. With extensive experience in public, corporate and private sectors, he has served as Chief Executive, Chairman and Board Member of several organisations. He was Director General of the Zambia Development Agency and has advised major companies in Zambia and Namibia. He is also the founder of the Zambian Institute of Leadership.



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PLUS

Holiday Voucher worth N\$20,000 at any NWR lodge



Ten (10) shopping vouchers worth N\$5000 each

BANK DETAILS:

BANK NAME: STANDARD BANK NAMIBIA
ACCOUNT NAME: WALK ALONE COMMUNITY PROJECT
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 60005628953
BRANCH CODE: 086872

CAMPAIGN STARTS

1st JUNE AND ENDS 2ND AUGUST 2026

TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY

FOR ENQUIRIES CONTACT +264 81 349 6234 OR NEVERWALKALONE359@GMAIL.COM



Namport earns top governance ranking

The Namibian Ports Authority (Namport) has been ranked among Namibia's three best-governed commercial public enterprises after achieving full marks for financial independence, leadership stability and corporate transparency in the inaugural IJG Annual Public Enterprise Governance Ranking 2026.

Namport secured a joint second-place ranking with a score of 19 out of 20 following an assessment of commercial public enterprises over the 2021 to 2025 period.

The ranking measured performance against governance indicators including annual report publication, profitability, reliance on government transfers and chief executive officer stability.

The authority received full marks for publishing annual reports, operating

without fiscal transfers from government and maintaining executive leadership stability throughout the assessment period.

According to Namport, the ranking validates its strategy of combining sound governance with commercial performance.

The authority also highlighted its financial turnaround, recovering from a N\$44.6 million loss in the 2020/21 financial year to N\$864.5 million in profit by the 2024/25 financial year.

"Following a loss of N\$44.6 million in the 2020/21 financial year, Namport demonstrated exceptional resilience, recovering strongly and growing profitability to N\$864.5 million by the 2024/25 financial year. That trajectory from loss to sustained, substantial profitability reflects the quality of the decisions made at every level of the institution, and the commitment of our people to execute with

Namport secured a joint second-place ranking with a score of 19 out of 20 following an assessment of commercial public enterprises over the 2021 to 2025 period.

excellence," the authority said.

Namport said its 25-year partnership with Terminal Investment Limited (TIL) to operate the new container terminal at the Port of Walvis Bay has strengthened the port's competitiveness and established a long-term commercial foundation for the country.

The authority also pointed to its growing role in offshore oil and gas and green hydrogen logistics as part of its strategy to position Walvis Bay as a regional energy hub.

"Our strategic engagements in offshore oil and gas, and in the green hydrogen space, are not peripheral activities; they are deliberate, commercially driven initiatives designed to ensure that Namport is positioned at the centre of Namibia's energy future," Namport said.

The authority said the ranking demonstrates that strong governance and commercial success go hand in hand and reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Namibia's trade, logistics and industrial development.





Cattle marketing jumps 34% as beef prices continue to rise

Cattle marketing increased by 34.4% year-on-year during the first quarter of 2026 as stronger demand from local, regional and international markets drove higher sales volumes and pushed beef prices higher, according to the Bank of Namibia's (BoN) Quarterly Bulletin.

A total of 59,498 cattle were marketed during the quarter, representing a 23.4% increase from the previous quarter, with growth reflected in both slaughtering activity and live exports.

BoN said beef producer prices rose to N\$72.97 per kilogram, up 12.0% year-on-year and 3.6% quarter-on-quarter, as demand for slaughter-ready cattle from farmers, abattoirs and export

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markets remained strong.

The central bank also reported that weaner prices climbed to N\$32.52 per kilogram, increasing by 10.9% year-on-year and 3.4% quarter-on-quarter, supported by stronger auction demand.

Small stock marketing also recorded robust growth, with 232,712 head marketed during the quarter, representing increases of 64.6% year-on-year and 43.7% quarter-on-quarter.

"The increase in small stock activity was supported by higher slaughter volumes as abattoir throughput improved following herd rebuilding during 2025. Sheep producer prices increased by 3.0% year-on-year, although they declined by 3.9% quarter-on-quarter to N\$63.94 per kilogram," BoN said.

The central bank said the livestock sector's performance reflected sustained demand for Namibian livestock, with higher marketing volumes recorded across both cattle and small stock categories.

Meanwhile, local crop production increased by 32.5% year-on-year to 2,171 tonnes, supported by improved rainfall and investment in irrigated farmland.

"Production of local crops stood at 2,171 tonnes in the quarter under review, increasing by 32.5% year-on-year on account of improved rainfall and investment in irrigated farmland, as reflected in white maize,

wheat and pearl millet production. However, first-quarter output remained low relative to surrounding quarters due to seasonal factors," BoN said.

Milk production, however, declined to 3.5 million litres, falling 9.8% year-on-year and 19.3% quarter-on-quarter due to unfavourable weather conditions.

"Milk production stood at 3.5 million litres in the first quarter of 2026, decreasing by 9.8% year-on-year and 19.3% quarter-on-quarter. The decline was attributed to unfavourable weather conditions that hindered milk production during the quarter under review," the bank said.

Business

2026
HANDBOOK



BOARDS AND EXCOS

