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THE BRIEF

News Worth Knowing



Most Namibian mining and petroleum licence deals not declared for tax

THURSDAY 12 MARCH 2026

MAIN STORY

Most Namibian mining and petroleum licence deals not declared for tax

Most transactions involving the sale of shares or interests in companies holding mining and petroleum licences in Namibia have not been reported for tax purposes, the Namibia Revenue Agency (NamRA) has revealed.

NamRA Commissioner Sam Shivute said compliance with tax obligations linked to such transactions remains extremely low, with only about 5% of deals declared over the past decade.

According to NamRA data, approximately 250 licence-related transactions have taken place in Namibia during the past ten years, yet the majority were not reported for tax assessment.

“From the data that we are having now, we’re talking about maybe about 250 licences that have been traded over a period of about 10 years, and the compliance rate, as we are saying, is only 5%,” Shivute said.

He made the remarks during a stakeholder engagement session held at NamRA’s head office in Windhoek aimed at clarifying tax obligations related to the sale or transfer of shares in companies that hold mineral and petroleum licences.

Shivute noted that Namibia introduced provisions in 2011 allowing the taxation of gains arising from the disposal of mining interests, while similar provisions covering petroleum licence transactions were implemented in 2015.



Crucial Dates

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

He said NamRA has recently strengthened its enforcement capacity through technical cooperation with institutions such as the African Development Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the African Tax Administration Forum.

The enhanced capacity has enabled the agency to identify previously undisclosed transactions, including one deal valued at more than US\$100 million.

“We have moved into a stage now where we are strengthening our compliance mechanisms. Because of this capacity, we are able to pick up transactions that were previously not visible, and tax has to be paid on that,” Shivute said.

He urged companies operating in the mining and petroleum sectors to prioritise voluntary compliance as the agency strengthens its audit systems and monitoring of licence-related transactions.

Shivute also reminded taxpayers that Namibia’s tax amnesty programme, introduced in 2017, will expire on 31 October 2026, after which stricter enforcement measures are expected.

“Voluntary compliance will help. People should make proper arrangements before the amnesty comes to an end,” he said.

NamRA maintains a growing database of licence transfers and share disposals dating back to 2011. Shivute noted that tax liabilities arising from such transactions do not prescribe, meaning they can still be pursued by the tax authority.

The stakeholder engagement session brought together representatives from the mining, oil and gas industries, as well as accountants and tax specialists, to clarify reporting requirements and highlight the tax implications of licence-related transactions.



Advancing Solar Innovation and Infrastructure

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Namibia's sheep marketing surges as exports to South Africa drive livestock trade

Sheep marketing in Namibia surged by 157.5% year-on-year in January 2026, rising from 19,771 head in January 2025 to 50,897 head, according to the Namibia Livestock and Livestock Products Board (LLPB).

The increase was largely driven by strong growth in live exports as well as improved slaughter throughput at export-oriented abattoirs.

On a month-on-month basis, sheep marketing also increased by 14.4%, rising from 44,491 head recorded in December 2025.

Total sheep slaughter increased by 62.7% year-on-year to 11,713 head, up from 7,200 head during the same period last year. The growth was primarily recorded at A-class abattoirs, where slaughter volumes rose

sharply by 429.7%.

In contrast, slaughter at B and C class abattoirs declined by 11.2%, suggesting a shift towards export-focused processing facilities.

Compared with December 2025, however, total sheep slaughter declined by 19.8%. While A-class abattoir throughput increased moderately by 12.6%, slaughter at B and C class facilities dropped sharply by 40.5%, reflecting reduced domestic slaughter activity.

Live sheep exports more than tripled during the month, increasing by 211.7% to 39,184 head. South Africa remained the dominant destination, absorbing 99.1% of total exports, with smaller volumes exported to Zambia, Angola, Zimbabwe and Botswana.

Sheep meat exports also rose significantly, increasing from 272 kilograms in January 2025 to 13,078 kilograms in January 2026, representing a 4,709.6% year-on-year increase. However, exports declined sharply compared with the 71,190 kilograms recorded in December 2025.

Meanwhile, Namibia's pork sector recorded modest growth during the month. Total pig marketing increased by 3.2% year-on-year to 4,372 head, up from 4,235 head in January 2025.

Despite the annual increase, pig marketing declined by 11% compared with December 2025, reflecting a seasonal slowdown following higher slaughter volumes during the festive period.

The LLPB noted that pig marketing in Namibia consists entirely of slaughter activity, with no live exports recorded during the period, underscoring the sector's domestic orientation.

In the goat sector, marketing increased by 48.7% year-on-year, rising from 4,542 head in January 2025 to 6,754 head in January 2026.

However, on a month-on-month basis goat marketing fell sharply by 64.1% from 18,796 head recorded in December 2025, reflecting a seasonal slowdown after strong year-end export activity.

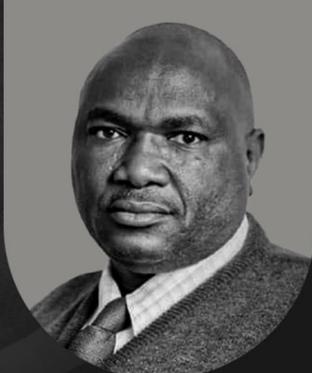
Live exports dominated goat marketing, rising by 49.8% year-on-year to 6,729 head. South Africa remained the primary destination, absorbing

84.8% of exports.

Other regional markets included Zambia, which accounted for 8.9% of exports, followed by Angola (4.6%), Zimbabwe (1.4%) and Botswana (0.2%).

Auction prices for goat lambs averaged N\$37.82 per kilogram, down 15.9% from the previous year. However, prices for Kapater goats and rams increased slightly to N\$48.00 per kilogram and N\$54.00 per kilogram respectively.

The LLPB noted that the goat sector continues to be largely export-driven, with live exports dominating overall marketing performance while regional markets show gradual diversification.




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O&L Leisure appoints Maryke van Lill as Managing Director

O&L Leisure, the hospitality division of the Ohlthaver & List (O&L) Group, has appointed Maryke van Lill as its new Managing Director with effect from 1 March 2026.

Van Lill will also join the O&L Group Executive team as part of her new role, marking a leadership transition within one of Namibia's prominent hospitality operators.

Her appointment follows more than 15 years of experience across marketing, brand strategy, innovation and client leadership. She

previously served as General Manager: Marketing at O&L Leisure, where she played a central role in shaping the company's brand positioning and marketing strategy.

During her tenure, van Lill led the development of the "Namibia Through Our Eyes" platform, a brand concept aimed at presenting Namibia to both local and international travellers through a more authentic narrative centred on the country's landscapes, culture and people.

O&L Group Executive Chairman Sven Thieme said

the appointment reflects the group's confidence in internal leadership development.

"I am confident that Maryke's passion for crafting extraordinary guest experiences and her authentic, caring and passionate leadership style will continue to inspire a commitment to excellence across the business," Thieme said.

"Maryke's appointment is a testament to the depth of talent within O&L, and I look forward to seeing her guide the business and the team as we work towards achieving Vision 2029."

As Managing Director, van Lill will oversee the strategic direction of O&L Leisure, with a focus on sustainable growth, strengthening the group's premium hospitality brands and expanding its role in destination marketing across Africa.

The company said her leadership will prioritise growing intra-African tourism, strengthening partnerships with travel agents and trade operators, and promoting Namibia as a leading tourism destination.

Van Lill said she was committed to building on the company's existing momentum while ensuring staff and leadership teams remain central to the business.

"I am deeply grateful for the trust the Executive Committee has placed in me to take on this responsibility. I remain committed to ensuring that our business is well cared for and that our teams continue to feel supported, valued and heard," she said.

"Together with our senior leadership team, we will continue to craft experiences that showcase Namibia through our eyes."

O&L Leisure operates six hotels and lodges across Namibia and forms part of the Ohlthaver & List Group, one of the country's largest privately held business groups.

Founded in 1919, the O&L Group has diversified operations spanning hospitality, fishing and aquaculture, food production, property development, renewable energy, engineering and information technology.



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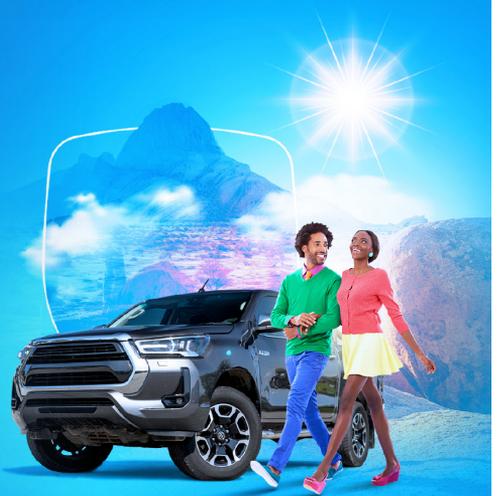
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Namibia's unit trusts: What investors need to know about current returns

By Erastus Kalenga Hamunjela

For many Namibians, saving money often begins and ends with a bank account. While saving is an important first step, it should not be the final goal. The real objective is to grow money over time, and that is where investing becomes important.

One of the most accessible ways for ordinary consumers to begin investing is through unit trusts. These are professionally managed funds where asset managers pool money from many investors and invest it into shares, bonds, property and other financial assets on their behalf.

Namibia has a well-developed investment industry with more than fifty different funds available through institutions such as Old Mutual Namibia, Capricorn Asset Management, Sanlam, Allan Gray Namibia, Ninety One Namibia, Namibia Asset Management and Momentum Metropolitan. Each fund has a different investment strategy and level of risk, but the overall aim is the same: long-term capital growth.

One of the longest-standing unit trusts in Namibia is the Old Mutual Namibia Growth Fund, which delivered a 37.7% return over the past year. The fund was launched in July 1994 and today manages approximately N\$843 million in assets. It invests across a diversified portfolio of Namibian and South African companies



One of the most accessible ways for ordinary consumers to begin investing is through unit trusts.

including Naspers, Gold Fields, FirstRand Namibia, AngloGold Ashanti, Capricorn Group, Capitec Bank and Harmony Gold. Resources make up the largest share of the portfolio at 38.1%, followed by financials at 27.7% and industrials at 27%, giving investors exposure to multiple sectors of the economy.

Perhaps the most important point for consumers is accessibility. With Old Mutual Namibia, investors can open a unit trust with a lump sum of as little as N\$300, and monthly contributions can start from just N\$100.

This makes investing far more accessible than many people realise and shows that long-term investing does not require large amounts of money to begin.

Another example is the Capricorn Equity Fund, managed by Capricorn Asset Management, which delivered a 57.63% return over the past year. The fund tracks the FTSE/JSE Capped Top 40 Index, giving investors exposure to some of the largest companies listed in Southern Africa. However, this particular fund has a higher entry level, with a minimum

opening investment of around N\$75,000.

While a 57% return is exceptional, it also reflects the higher risk and volatility associated with equity-only funds, which can experience larger market swings compared to more balanced investment options.

What many investors may not realise is that Namibia offers a relatively favourable tax environment for long-term investing. The country does not have a capital gains tax, which means investors do not pay tax on profits made when selling shares or investment funds. Dividends from many Namibian companies are generally subject to a 10% withholding tax, which is often deducted at source.

This compares favourably with countries such as South Africa, where investors must pay capital gains tax when selling investments at a profit.

This tax structure gives Namibian investors a meaningful advantage in long-term wealth building. Yet many people are still unaware of it and leave their savings in low-interest accounts where money may lose value over time due to inflation.

The key message for consumers is simple, saving money is the beginning of financial discipline, but it should not be the end.

Investing allows savings to grow and compound over time. With more than 50 funds available in Namibia, and entry points as low as N\$100 per month, the barrier to entry is far lower than many people assume.

For those considering taking the first step, the process is often simpler than expected. A basic starting checklist would include choosing a regulated asset manager, selecting a fund that matches your risk tolerance and investment timeframe, starting with a small monthly contribution that you can maintain consistently, and allowing time for the investment to grow through long-term compounding rather than trying to time the market.

Developing the habit of investing early, even with small contributions, can make a significant difference to long-term financial security.

***Erastus Kalenga Hamunjela is a Namibian investment researcher and financial markets commentator with a strong focus on capital markets, investment literacy, and data driven financial education.**

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OTESA appoints Marius Burger as Chief Financial Officer



OTESA Civil Engineering (Pty) Ltd has appointed Marius Burger as Chief Financial Officer, effective 2 March 2026, as the company strengthens its financial management and prepares for further operational expansion.

The Namibian civil engineering contractor said Burger brings extensive executive and financial leadership experience across multiple sectors, including expertise in financial restructuring, operational efficiency, revenue growth and profitability improvement.

His appointment comes as the company focuses on strengthening its balance sheet, improving project delivery and expanding its operations.

OTESA Chief Executive Officer Elmo Kaiyamo said the appointment aligns with the company's strategy of reinforcing financial governance and ensuring sustainable growth.

"This appointment is strategic and fully aligned with the direction in which OTESA is progressing. Our success as an

organisation is underpinned by strong financial performance driven by revenue growth, productivity improvements and disciplined cost management," Kaiyamo said.

He added that Burger's leadership would play an important role in ensuring projects deliver sustainable profitability while enhancing the company's liquidity and financial resilience.

In his role as CFO, Burger will oversee compliance and risk management, strengthen cost control and work to improve liquidity across the business.

OTESA said the appointment reflects its continued focus on financial discipline, operational efficiency and prudent capital management as it positions itself to deliver long-term value to investors, partners and stakeholders.

Founded in 2009, OTESA has grown to become one of Namibia's leading civil engineering contractors, delivering infrastructure projects across the country.

Namibia's entrepreneurship training obsession: Lots of workshops, but little real help

By Gabriel Nghituwamata
Haulyamayi

Walk into any Namibian community hall, university campus or training centre this year and you will find the same scene: flipcharts, motivational speakers, business facilitators, group exercises and shiny certificates.

From programmes at NUST to EMPRETEC workshops, Youth-focused entrepreneurship and capacity-building programmes, Women-focused energy entrepreneur cohorts, UNESCO community initiatives and Ministry-led cultural entrepreneurship training, building business skills has become very common.

The idea is clear: give young Namibians business knowledge and watch unemployment drop. Yet after years of these efforts, the results tell a different story.



Vocational centres like COSDEC see high completion rates, but one year later only about 13 % of graduates work in their trained field.

A World Bank review found 21 separate youth employability and entrepreneurship programmes run by government, NGOs and partners. Most mix training with promises of loans or grants. Few have strong evaluations, but the available evidence is worrying.

Vocational centres like COSDEC see high completion rates, but one year later only about 13 % of graduates work in their trained field. Many TVET completers who



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try self-employment rely on family savings not programme funds and most never register their businesses formally.

Training Overload, Resources Under-Delivered

The pattern is consistent. Participants leave workshops with improved financial literacy, business plans and self-confidence. What they rarely leave with is actual money, viable markets or patient mentorship that lasts beyond the closing ceremony.

Policy reviews highlight the same choke points: strict collateral requirements, lack of youth-specific financial products, and regulatory hurdles that make formal finance almost impossible for first-time entrepreneurs.

The National Youth Development Fund

- repeatedly touted as the answer, has been criticised for heavy paperwork, slow disbursements, inadequate application process (lack of an online application platform), and a lack of transparency in selecting the qualified applicants.

Even programmes that promise “integrated support” often stop at the training module. Real seed capital is rare (UNESCO’s recent project being a welcome exception). Incubators exist on paper but seldom provide the working capital, supplier introductions or buyer linkages needed to scale. The result? Thousands of motivated young Namibians with beautiful business plans and no path to execute them.

The Human and Economic Cost

With overall unemployment near 37

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% and youth joblessness far higher, the opportunity cost is enormous. Every dollar spent on another two-day workshop is money not spent on collateral-free micro-lending facilities, market-access platforms or genuine incubator equity funds. Meanwhile, the private sector and the coming oil and green-hydrogen projects - desperately needs local suppliers, fabricators and service providers. The skills are being built; the bridge to opportunity is not. Business chambers and analysts have begun saying openly what many participants whisper after every closing ceremony: we are training people for businesses that never launch.

What Actually Works and What Namibia Must Do Next

Evidence from across Africa and the few successful Namibian outliers shows the formula is simple but politically inconvenient:

1. Link every training programme to a

transparent, fast-track financing window (no collateral for proven plans).

2. Create mandatory post-training mentorship and buyer-supplier matchmaking for at least 12–18 months.

3. Reform SME lending rules and expand the Welwitschia Sovereign Wealth Fund mandate to include dedicated SME and youth tranches once oil revenues flow.

The 2026/27 Budget talked about SME tax incentives and private-sector-led growth. Those words will remain ink on paper unless the entrepreneurship ecosystem moves beyond the workshop circuit to genuine resource injection.

Namibia does not lack ambition or ideas among its young people. It lacks the practical bridges - capital, markets and sustained support, that turn those ideas into payrolls. Until training stops being the end goal and becomes the starting line for real opportunity, the certificates will keep piling up while the unemployment statistics barely budge.

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Housing, alcohol and food drive Namibia's 2.4% inflation rate in February

Housing costs, alcohol and food prices were the main contributors to Namibia's annual inflation rate of 2.4% in February 2026, according to the latest Consumer Price Index (CPI) bulletin released by the Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA).

The NSA said headline inflation slowed to 2.4% in February from 3.6% recorded during the same period last year, reflecting easing price pressures across several consumer categories.

However, core inflation, which excludes more volatile components such as food and energy, stood at 3.2%, indicating that underlying price pressures remain relatively elevated.

According to the CPI report, the categories 'Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels', 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco', and 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' were the largest contributors to inflation during the month.

Together, these three categories accounted for about two percentage points of the overall annual inflation rate.

The housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels category made the largest contribution, adding 1.2 percentage points to the inflation rate. The category, which carries the largest weight in the consumer basket at 28.4%, recorded annual inflation of 4.7%, up from 3.6% in February 2025.

The NSA attributed the increase mainly to higher prices for electricity, gas and other fuels. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco contributed 0.5 percentage points to overall inflation. The category recorded annual inflation of 3.4%, slightly lower than the 3.7% recorded a year earlier.

The agency said the slower inflation in this category reflects more moderate price increases for products such as wines and brandies, as well as slower growth in tobacco prices.

Meanwhile, the food and non-alcoholic

beverages category contributed 0.3 percentage points to annual inflation. The category, which accounts for 16.5% of the CPI basket, recorded annual inflation of 1.6%, significantly lower than the 5.9% recorded in February 2025.

Despite the slower annual increase, the NSA said food prices still rose by 0.5% on a monthly basis.

Transport prices declined during the period, with the category recording deflation

of 1.0% compared with inflation of 1.3% a year earlier. The decline was mainly driven by lower costs related to the operation of personal transport equipment.

The NSA also reported that the highest annual inflation rates across consumer categories were recorded in hotels, cafés and restaurants at 4.8%, followed by housing and utilities at 4.7%, health at 4.0%, recreation and culture at 3.9%, and furnishings and household maintenance at 3.5%.

Namibia Consumer Price Index (CPI) Report: February 2026

2.4%

Annual Inflation Rate

Reflects a significant slowdown from 3.6% in February 2025.

NATIONAL INFLATION OVERVIEW

 **3.2%**
Core Inflation

Excluding volatile food and energy, underlying price pressures remain relatively elevated.

 **-1.0%** 
Transport Deflation

Costs declined due to lower expenses for operating personal transport equipment.

While overall pressures are easing, core inflation remains higher.

PRIMARY INFLATION DRIVERS



4.7% Inflation
Largest basket weight (26.4%) driven by higher electricity and gas prices.

Housing & Utilities

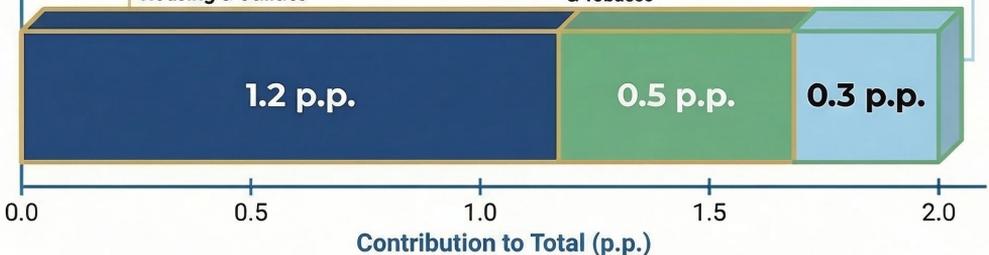


3.4% Inflation
Contributed 0.5 percentage points to the overall annual inflation rate.

Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco



1.6% Inflation
Prices slowed drastically from the 5.9% recorded the previous year.



Behind Namibia's fuel prices: the slate account explained

By Salome Nghoshi

Fuel prices are among the most visible economic indicators affecting households and businesses.

Each month, Namibians wait for the announcement of fuel price adjustments, often wondering why prices rise or fall and what mechanisms determine the prices at the pumps.

In a small, fuel-importing economy like Namibia, domestic fuel prices are shaped not only by local policy decisions but also by developments in global energy markets.

Understanding how Namibia's fuel pricing system works therefore requires looking beyond international oil prices to the regulatory framework that governs how those prices are transmitted into the domestic market.

Namibia is a net importer of refined petroleum products, meaning the country relies entirely on the international oil markets to meet domestic fuel demand.

In global energy markets, prices are influenced by supply and demand dynamics, geopolitical developments, production decisions by major oil producers, and fluctuations in global economic activity.



Namibia is a net importer of refined petroleum products, meaning the country relies entirely on the international oil markets to meet domestic fuel demand.

For fuel-importing countries, these forces ultimately determine the cost of bringing petroleum products into the domestic economy.

However, Namibia does not operate a fully liberalised fuel pricing system. Instead, the country applies a regulated pricing framework designed to promote price transparency, supply stability and consumer protection.

At the centre of Namibia's pricing framework is the Basic Fuel Price (BFP). The BFP represents the cost of importing petroleum products from international

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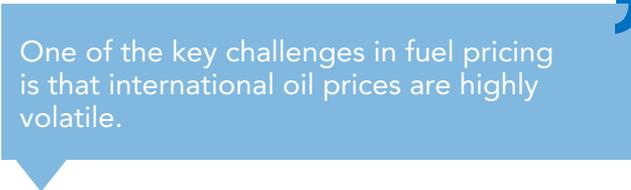
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One of the key challenges in fuel pricing is that international oil prices are highly volatile.

markets to Namibia's shores, Walvis Bay. It includes the international product price, freight charges, insurance, and other related logistics costs associated with bringing fuel to Namibia.

In other words, the BFP reflects what it would cost Namibia to import fuel under international oil market conditions. It is often referred to as an import parity price, because it represents the theoretical price that local fuel importers would pay if they sourced products from international oil markets. The BFP effectively links domestic fuel prices to international oil market developments.

Once the BFP is calculated, several domestic levies, taxes and margins are added to determine the final pump price. These include levies such as the fuel levy and the road fund levy, as well as margins for fuel wholesalers and retailers, and the cost of transporting fuel from coastal oil terminals to inland depots and areas across Namibia.

One of the key challenges in fuel pricing is that international oil prices are highly volatile. Global oil markets respond quickly to geopolitical tensions, changes in production levels, exchange rate movements and economic cycles.

If these fluctuations were passed directly to consumers, fuel prices could change dramatically from one month to the next, creating uncertainty for households and

businesses. To manage these challenges, Namibia employs an important price-stabilisation mechanism known as the slate account.

The slate account records the difference between the actual cost of importing fuel and the regulated pump price at which fuel is sold locally.

When international fuel prices rise faster than the regulated price, oil marketing companies experience under-recoveries, meaning they import fuel at a higher cost than the price at which fuel is sold domestically.

Conversely, when international prices fall below the regulated pump price, over-recoveries occur, meaning fuel is sold domestically at a price higher than the actual import cost.

These differences are accumulated in what is known as the cumulative slate account, which tracks the total balance of over-recoveries and under-recoveries over time.

An important but often overlooked feature of Namibia's fuel pricing system is that the slate account effectively operates as a risk-sharing mechanism across time.

Instead of transmitting international price shocks immediately to consumers, the slate account spreads the impact over several pricing cycles and allows under-recoveries and over-recoveries differences to accumulate temporarily and be corrected

gradually during future price reviews.

From an economic perspective, this means the slate account acts as a shock-absorbing buffer within the fuel pricing system. It moderates the speed at which exogenous factors affect domestic consumers and businesses, helping to avoid sudden spikes or drops in fuel prices.

However, the mechanism has limits. If international oil prices remain elevated for an extended period, accumulated under-recoveries in the slate account must eventually be corrected through adjustments in the regulated pump price.

In this sense, the slate account does not eliminate Namibia's exposure to global oil

price cycles; rather, it delays and smooths the transmission of those shocks. Understanding this dynamic helps explain why fuel price changes in Namibia sometimes appear gradual even when international oil prices move sharply.

As Namibia's economy continues to develop, understanding the mechanics of fuel pricing will remain important for both policymakers and the public. Fuel prices influence transportation costs, food prices, industrial activity and overall inflation. The pricing model therefore plays a critical role in balancing market realities with domestic economic stability.

**Salome Nghoshi is a Namibian petroleum economist specialising in fuel markets, pricing mechanisms, and downstream petroleum policy. She works in downstream petroleum directorate at the Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy and focuses on fuel pricing, petroleum market regulation, and energy governance.*

She has specialised training in oil and gas industry fundamentals, oil price risk management and trading, and energy economics and policy.

The views expressed are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy.

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Inge Zaamwani appointed chair of SASSCAL Council of Ministers

Namibia's Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform, Inge Zaamwani, has been appointed Chairperson of the Council of Ministers of the Southern African Science Service Centre for Climate Change and Adaptive Land Management (SASSCAL).

Her appointment was confirmed on 12 March 2026 during the 4th Ordinary Meeting of the Council held in Gaborone, Botswana. Namibia previously served as Vice Chair of the Council before assuming the leadership position.

Speaking after accepting the role, Zaamwani said Namibia remains committed to advancing SASSCAL's mandate of supporting climate change research and adaptive land management across the region.

"It is with a deep sense of humility and honour that, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Namibia, I accept the responsibility bestowed upon me to serve as Chairperson of the Council of Ministers of the Southern African Science Service Centre for Climate Change and Adaptive

Land Management for the next two years,” she said.

Zaamwani said the Council would prioritise strengthening cooperation with the Federal Republic of Germany, SASSCAL’s principal funding partner, to secure continued financial support for regional research programmes and the implementation of SASSCAL Strategy 3.0.

“A strong and predictable partnership framework will be essential to safeguard ongoing programmes, scale up impactful research and position SASSCAL as a leading regional centre of excellence in climate change and adaptive land management,” she said.

She also paid tribute to the outgoing chairperson, Botswana’s Minister of Environment and Tourism Wynter B. Mmolotsi, commending his leadership and the strategic direction provided to the organisation during his tenure.

“Under his tenure, the Council provided clear strategic direction to the Governing Board and Management,” Zaamwani said.

Looking ahead, Zaamwani outlined Namibia’s priorities during her term, highlighting the need to strengthen institutional sustainability and improve financial compliance among member states.

“During my tenure, I will advocate for member states to ratify the SASSCAL Treaty and urge them to honour their financial obligations. Institutional sustainability and credibility are anchored in the collective responsibility of its member states,” she said.

SASSCAL is a regional research initiative that supports scientific collaboration on climate change, environmental management and sustainable land use across southern Africa.



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