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BRIEF

News Worth Knowing

Namibia shortlists 78 projects under green industrialisation drive



WEDNESDAY 06 MAY 2026

MAIN STORY



Namibia shortlists 78 projects under green industrialisation drive

The Namibian Green Hydrogen Programme (NGH₂P) says it has shortlisted 78 projects and developers as part of efforts to develop a Sectoral Transformation Investment Plan under the Climate Investment Funds' Industry Decarbonisation Programme.

The development comes as Namibia has already secured access to up to N\$4 billion (US\$250 million) in concessional

Crucial Dates

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

climate finance aimed at supporting low-carbon industrial development.

Speaking at the launch of the inaugural Africa Green Industry Summit (AGIS), NGH2P Acting Head of Programme Joseph Mukwenda said the investment plan is currently being shaped through stakeholder consultations across the country, with support from international partners, including multilateral development banks.

“As part of this process, an expression of interest was issued to identify potential projects. The response revealed significant opportunity and strong interest in green industrialisation, with 78 projects and developers shortlisted for further consideration and engagement. These are Namibian entities operating across the value chain,” he said.

Mukwenda said the shortlisted projects span several sectors and value chains, including clean energy, industrial power generation, industrial decarbonisation, agriculture, the bioeconomy, climate innovation and broader industrial systems.

Also speaking at the event, Deputy Minister of Industries, Mines and Energy Gaudentia Khrone said Namibia is expected to submit its Sectoral Transformation Investment Plan for review in October 2026.

The plan is expected to support the development of industrial infrastructure, expansion of manufacturing capacity, strengthening of mineral beneficiation and job creation.

“Under the Climate Investment Funds’ Industry Decarbonisation Programme, the country has secured access to up to US\$250 million in concessional climate finance to support low-carbon industrial development. The Sectoral Transformation Investment Plan is expected to be submitted to the Climate Investment Funds for review in October 2026,” she said.

The investment plan is also expected to complement Namibia’s growing green industrial ecosystem, which includes major developments such as Hyphen Hydrogen Energy in southern Namibia, alongside projects such as Cleanergy Solutions, which has already demonstrated hydrogen applications in mobility and industrial operations.

Additional initiatives are advancing green ammonia production, logistics infrastructure and mineral beneficiation linked to green energy value chains.

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Household borrowing drives Namibia's credit growth



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TENDER: ST26_003

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Sinomine Tsumeb Smelter (Pty) Ltd. invites registered, competent and experienced individuals or companies to tender for the provision of Borehole Drilling Services.

Details of the Tender

Tender availability: From Tuesday, 5th May 2026
Tender documents can be obtained by e-mailing procurement.sts@sinomine.na

Cost per set: No levy

Closing date for submission: Friday, 29th May 2026

Submission requirements are defined in the tender documents and the closing date for submission is final, no extensions will be granted. Technical information, bid clarifications and any enquiries pertaining to this tender can be requested at procurement.sts@sinomine.na

All tender proposals must be submitted via e-mail to:
procurement.sts@sinomine.na

No other method of submission will be accepted

Sinomine Tsumeb Smelter employs an equal opportunity policy. Tenders will be awarded through a competitive bidding process which is transparent and open to all individuals or companies that meets the set criteria. Any person(s) or company that qualify as per the tender's evaluation criteria, may bid.

Household borrowing drove Namibia's private sector credit growth in March 2026, as mortgage lending and instalment credit gained momentum while business credit slowed sharply during the month.

According to Simonis Storm Securities Economist Almandro Jansen, private sector credit extension (PSCE) growth moderated to 4.3% in March from 4.7% in February, with the total loan book reaching N\$123.3 billion.

"The total loan book stood at N\$123.3 billion, representing a marginal N\$0.1 billion

increase in absolute terms over the month, with the annual increment reaching N\$4.6 billion in net new credit extended to the domestic private sector relative to March 2025,” Jansen said.

Household credit growth accelerated to 4.1% in March, up from 2.9% in February, pushing the household loan book to N\$71.6 billion.

Jansen said this marked the strongest household credit reading in the current cycle after growth remained largely constrained between 2.5% and 3.0% over the past year.

Mortgage lending recorded a notable recovery, with annual growth increasing to 1.9% from 0.4% in February and 0.3% in January. The total household mortgage book stood at N\$46.5 billion.

Household instalment and leasing credit continued to expand strongly, rising 15.3% year-on-year in March 2026 as consumer demand for vehicle and asset financing remained elevated.

Overdraft credit also returned to positive territory, recording 0.5% annual growth.

In contrast, corporate credit growth slowed significantly to 4.4% in March from 7.3% in February, with the business loan book declining to N\$51.8 billion.

“Business credit growth fell to 4.4% in March 2026 from 7.3% in February, a deceleration of 290 basis points in a single month and the lowest reading since

November 2024,” Jansen said.

The slowdown was largely driven by weaker overdraft activity, with business overdraft credit contracting by 2.6% year-on-year after recording positive growth of 5.4% in February.

Despite the broader slowdown in business lending, instalment and leasing credit in the corporate sector rose 28.6% year-on-year, with the corporate instalment book expanding to N\$8.3 billion, indicating continued investment in productive assets by businesses.



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Closing date: Friday, 08 May 2026 , At 16h00

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Educated, yet unkind? The emotional intelligence gap in our workplaces

By Frieda Nangolo

Not long ago, I walked into an office to ask for assistance. I had everything I needed, I waited my turn, and I approached the desk politely. But before I could even finish speaking, I was met with a sharp tone and a dismissive response that made me feel like I was a problem just for being there. I left with what I needed but I did not leave feeling helped.

That experience is not rare. Many of us have gone through something similar, whether in public offices, workplaces, or even within our own teams. It leaves you asking one simple question: how can we be so educated, yet still struggle to treat each other with basic respect and empathy?

This is where emotional intelligence comes in and where it is clearly lacking. Emotional intelligence is not about being overly polite or avoiding difficult conversations. It is about understanding yourself, managing your emotions, and being aware of how your actions affect others. It is the ability to listen, to communicate clearly, and to respond with respect, even under pressure. In many ways, it is the foundation of how we work with others.

Yet, despite its importance, it remains one of the most overlooked skills in our workplaces today. Namibia has made significant progress in education. More young people are graduating, entering the workforce, and taking up important roles in society. On paper, this is a success. But



Our education system focuses heavily on passing exams, completing assignments, and gaining qualifications.

in reality, there is a growing gap between being academically qualified and being able to work well with people. We are producing knowledgeable individuals but not always emotionally aware ones.

Our education system focuses heavily on passing exams, completing assignments, and gaining qualifications. While these are important, there is very little focus on how people understand themselves, manage emotions, or communicate effectively in real-life situations. As a result, many people enter the workplace without the skills needed to handle human interaction, and this becomes clear very quickly.

Workplaces begin to feel tense. Small issues turn into big conflicts. People avoid conversations instead of addressing problems. Teams struggle to work together not because they lack knowledge, but because they lack understanding. In public services, the impact is even more serious. People often arrive already stressed or in need of help, and the way they are being treated matters.

A simple interaction can make someone feel respected or completely dismissed.

When emotional intelligence is missing, service becomes mechanical. The task may be completed, but the person is forgotten. Over time, these damages trust not just in individuals, but in institutions. Organizations must begin to take this seriously. Emotional intelligence is not a “soft skill” that can be ignored it directly affects teamwork, leadership, service delivery, and overall performance.

Workplaces that lack empathy often struggle with low morale, poor communication, and constant conflict. On the other hand, workplaces that value emotional intelligence feel different. People communicate better, teams work more effectively, leaders are more understanding, and clients feel respected. This creates not only better working environments, but also stronger and more trusted organizations.

So, what needs to change?

Firstly, we need to rethink education. Emotional intelligence should not be something people are expected to figure out on their own. It should be taught, just like any other skill. Schools and universities should include learning around communication, self-awareness, and how to work with others. These are not optional skills

they are essential for both professional and personal life.

Secondly, organizations must go beyond one-time workshops. Emotional intelligence is not something you learn once it is something you develop over time. Workplaces need to create environments where people can reflect, receive feedback, and grow continuously. This means encouraging open communication, supporting learning, and leading by examples.


As an Organizational Learning and Development student, this is something I see clearly. There is a gap between what we are taught and what is expected of us in real workplaces. But it is also an opportunity, an opportunity to build workplaces where people are not only skilled, but also understanding; where service is not only delivered, but felt and where being professional also means being human.

Because in the end, being educated should not only mean being knowledgeable. It should also mean knowing how to treat people.


** Frieda Nangolo is an Organizational Learning and Development student at the University of Namibia, passionate about improving workplace culture and promoting human-centered approaches to learning and leadership.*

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Bank Windhoek names Bronwyn Moody Head of Strategic Communication and Social Impact

Bank Windhoek has appointed Bronwyn Moody as Head of Strategic Communication and Social Impact as the bank strengthens its communication, stakeholder engagement and corporate social responsibility functions.

The role will oversee strategic communication, stakeholder engagement, corporate social responsibility, sponsorships and events.

Moody brings 17 years of experience in strategic communication, public relations and corporate social responsibility, having worked across various entities within the Capricorn Group.

Her experience includes providing strategic communication and public relations support to entities such as Bank Gaborone, Cavmont Bank and Nam-mic Financial Services.

At Bank Windhoek, Moody previously managed the bank's corporate social responsibility portfolio and coordinated internal and external communication, sponsorships and stakeholder engagement initiatives.

Most recently, she served as Acting Head of Strategic Communication, where she led several strategic communication and digital marketing projects.

Moody holds a Bachelor of Communications degree from the Namibia University of Science and Technology and has completed professional development programmes, including the Management Development Programme at the University of Stellenbosch Business School.

Bank Windhoek Executive Officer of Marketing and Corporate Communication Services Jacqueline Pack said the



appointment reflects the bank's focus on integrated communication and social impact.

"Bronwyn Moody's depth of experience across the Group and her proven leadership in strategic communication positions her well to strengthen our stakeholder engagement, elevate our reputation, and advance our social impact priorities," she said.



MTC targets 1,600 internships, seeks N\$14m for youth programme

MTC Namibia is aiming to raise N\$14 million and create 1,600 internship opportunities through the Namibia National Internship Programme (NNIP) as it expands efforts to address youth unemployment and improve graduate employability.

The telecommunications company currently commits N\$2 million annually to the programme, which was launched in 2019 to provide tertiary students and graduates with paid internship opportunities, workplace exposure and mentorship.

What started as an MTC initiative has since evolved into a broader national programme involving universities, vocational training centres, public institutions and private sector partners.

To date, the initiative has supported hundreds of students from the Namibia University of Science and Technology, University of Namibia, International University of Management, Namibia Institute of Mining and Technology and institutions affiliated with the Namibia Training Authority.

The programme covers more than 40 disciplines, including geology, welding, logistics and supply chain, automotive mechatronics, environmental health science and animal health science.

In 2025 alone, 332 interns were placed through the programme. Of these, 104 came from NUST, 86 from UNAM, 65 from NIMT, 39 from IUM and 38 from NTA-affiliated institutions.

Interns receive monthly

A vertical banner for 'Fly Namibia' magazine. At the top is the Namibian flag. Below it, the text 'Fly Namibia' is written vertically in large white letters, with 'our most recent edition!' in smaller white text to its right. Below the text is the slogan 'We rise by lifting others.' in white. Underneath is a call to action: 'Click below to read the latest issue of FlyNamibia Magazine - your onboard guide to travel inspiration, aviation and proudly Namibian stories.' followed by a red button with a white arrow and the text 'READ ONLINE'. At the bottom is a group photo of several people, some in flight attendant uniforms, smiling against a yellow and red background.

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stipends of N\$3,000 for three-month placements and N\$1,500 for six-month placements to assist with transport, meals and other living expenses while gaining workplace experience.

MTC said the programme now aims to expand placements across both public and private sector institutions.

MTC Chief Brand, Marketing, Communications and Sustainability Officer Tim Ekandjo said youth unemployment remains one of the country’s most urgent socio-economic challenges.

“Through the Namibia National Internship Programme, we are intentionally

creating pathways that allow graduates to transition from education into meaningful workplace experience. In return, restoring hope, building confidence, and preparing a generation of young Namibians to actively participate in the economy,” he said.

Ekandjo said tackling youth unemployment requires a collective effort from both the public and private sectors.

“We are calling on Corporate Namibia to join us in shaping the future workforce of this country because youth unemployment is not a challenge one institution can solve alone. It requires collective national action. Every internship opportunity created has the potential to change the trajectory of a young person’s life,” he said.

Corporate partners supporting the programme include Standard Bank Namibia, Old Mutual Namibia, Momentum Metropolitan Namibia, Social Security Commission and the Namibia Institute of Pathology. MTC is now encouraging organisations across sectors such as mining, agriculture, ICT, construction, finance, retail, manufacturing, logistics, health, tourism and media to partner with the programme and create more workplace opportunities for graduates.

“As a country, we cannot allow talent to stagnate because opportunity is absent. The future of Namibia’s economy depends on whether we are willing to invest in the potential of our young people today,” Ekandjo said.

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What's the risk? Why risk management matters more than ever

By Maria Samahina

In many organisations, the importance of risk management is still underestimated. It is often treated as a compliance exercise rather than a strategic enabler.

Yet, the reality is simple: risk management can make or break an institution. Risk management is not only a corporate necessity; it is equally relevant in our personal lives.

Growth, whether personal or professional, requires awareness. We must identify the gaps, weaknesses, and constraints that hold us back. Without this level of self-assessment, we limit our potential and operate below our true capacity. In the same way, organisations that fail to identify and address their risks often plateau or, worse, decline.

A common sentiment within institutions is: "We have been operating just fine without formal risk management." But this raises an important question? are you truly operating optimally, or merely surviving?



“Growth, whether personal or professional, requires awareness.”

Stability should not be mistaken for success. Without structured risk management, organisations may unknowingly expose themselves to vulnerabilities that could ultimately lead to failure.

Effective risk management is not about avoiding risk altogether. It is about understanding risk, making informed decisions, and creating resilience. It enables organisations to move forward with confidence, knowing that uncertainties have been considered and managed appropriately.

In an increasingly complex and fast-changing environment, the question is no longer whether organisations can afford

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to invest in risk management. The real question is: can they afford not to?

At its core, risk management is about foresight. It is the ability to proactively identify, assess, and mitigate potential threats before they materialise into real losses. Institutions that embed this discipline into their decision-making processes are better positioned to navigate uncertainty, protect value, and seize opportunities.

There is a well-known saying in governance circles that “risk eats strategy for breakfast.” While strategy sets direction, unmanaged risk has the power to derail even the most well-crafted plans. When organisations fail to understand the risks they face, both management and the board are left making decisions in the dark, often reacting rather than leading.

The consequences of this are not theoretical. Across industries and

geographies, we have seen institutions collapse or suffer significant setbacks due to weak controls, poor oversight, and the absence of robust risk management frameworks or the failure to effectively implement them.

****Maria Samahina is a Certified Operational Risk Manager accredited by the Professional Risk Managers’ International Association (PRMIA), with over a decade of experience in enterprise-wide risk management, governance, and compliance. She holds an Honours Degree in Accounting and a Postgraduate Diploma in Risk Management from the University of South Africa (UNISA) and writes in her personal capacity as a risk and compliance specialist.***





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Namibia's economy expected to recover gradually in 2026 - FNB

Namibia's economy is expected to record a gradual recovery in 2026, supported by improved performance across key productive sectors, according to First National Bank of Namibia's latest GDP review.

The outlook comes after Namibia's real GDP growth slowed to 1.7% year-on-year in 2025, marking the country's weakest economic performance since 2021, when momentum in the oil and gas sector first began to accelerate.

According to FNB Market Research Manager Mandisa Van Wyk, cyclical improvements in agriculture are expected to support the primary sector while also boosting downstream manufacturing activities, particularly meat processing.

"Looking ahead to 2026, cyclical improvements in agriculture are expected to support the primary sector and downstream manufacturing, particularly meat processing," Van Wyk said.

She said mining activity is also expected to strengthen, supported by renewed oil and gas exploration activity. A potential final investment decision by TotalEnergies could act as a major catalyst for investor confidence and sector growth.

"Mining output should strengthen, aided by renewed oil and gas exploration, with TotalEnergies' anticipated final investment decision mid-year providing a possible catalyst for renewed investor interest," she said.

Infrastructure-related sectors are also projected to gain momentum as investment in water security and electricity generation continues. Increased capital spending in



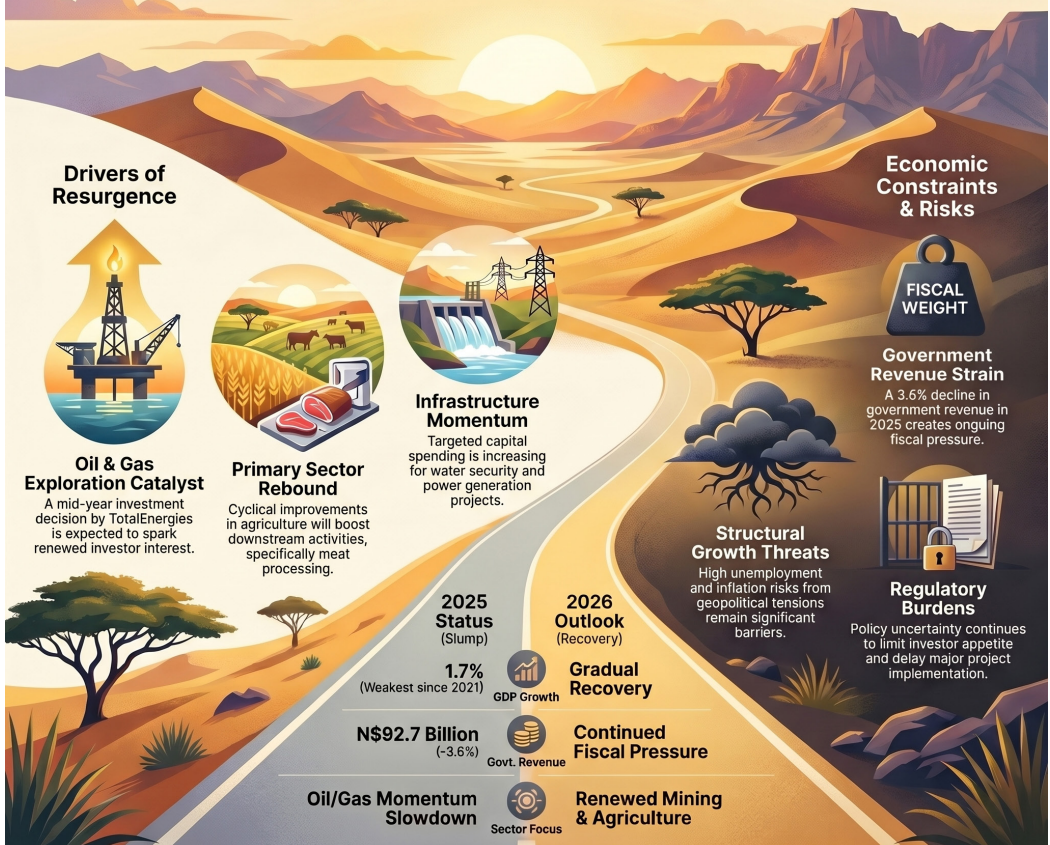
these areas is expected to support broader economic activity while helping to address long-standing supply constraints.

"The electricity and water sectors are projected to gain momentum as capital investments in water security and power generation continue," Van Wyk said.

Tourism is also expected to improve, driven by increased business travel and

Namibia's economy expected to recover gradually in 2026 - FNB

Navigating the path to recovery through primary sector rebound and infrastructure, amidst persistent fiscal pressures



corporate-related activity, with positive spillover effects anticipated for the wholesale and retail trade sectors.

Despite the improved outlook, FNB warned that economic growth remains constrained by ongoing fiscal pressures and structural weaknesses. Government revenue declined by 3.6% year-on-year to N\$92.7 billion in 2025, reflecting continued strain on public finances.

Van Wyk said planned fiscal consolidation measures in 2026 are likely

to weigh on domestic demand, particularly as lower development spending continues to affect the construction sector.

High unemployment levels, inflation risks linked to global geopolitical tensions and the possibility of higher oil prices remain key threats to growth.

FNB also noted that regulatory burdens and policy uncertainty continue to limit investor appetite and could delay the implementation of major projects across the economy.

Namibia's money supply rises by N\$12.7bn in March

Namibia's broad money supply increased by N\$12.7 billion over the 12 months to March 2026, although annual growth slowed to 7.9%, according to Simonis Storm Economist Almandro Jansen.

Jansen said the country's broad money supply, also known as M2, stood at N\$173.9 billion in March, compared to growth of 8.7% recorded in February.

Broad money supply refers to the total amount of money circulating in the economy, including cash, money in bank accounts, savings and fixed deposits. It is an important indicator of economic activity and inflation trends.

"The M2 stock stands at N\$173.9 billion, having expanded by N\$12.7 billion over the twelve months to March," Jansen said.

He said growth in money supply was mainly supported by stronger domestic lending, while declining foreign assets reduced overall liquidity conditions.

According to Jansen, Namibia's net foreign assets declined by N\$15.6 billion during the period as banks reduced their foreign asset holdings.

"Net foreign assets of the depository corporation system contracted 17.6% year-on-year in March 2026," he said.

At the same time, domestic



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Domestic claims expanded 15.8% year-on-year in March 2026.

claims rose strongly, driven largely by increased government borrowing from local banks.

“Domestic claims expanded 15.8% year-on-year in March 2026. The primary driver within domestic claims is a 54.8% year-on-year surge in net claims on central

government,” said Jansen.

The banking sector also recorded higher liquidity levels in March, supported by government spending and inflows from diamond sales.

“The commercial banking sector’s average cash position rose 24.0% month-on-month to N\$7.8 billion in March 2026 from N\$6.3 billion in February,” he said.

Meanwhile, the Namibian dollar weakened against the US dollar during March.

“The Namibian dollar depreciated 7.5% against the US dollar during March 2026, moving from N\$15.91 per dollar at end-February to N\$17.10 per dollar at end-March,” said Jansen.

Inflation, however, continued to slow during the period. “Namibia’s headline inflation fell further to 2.1% in March 2026 from 2.4% in February and 2.9% in January,” Jansen said.

Despite the current easing in inflation, Jansen warned that inflationary pressures could rise again later this year due to external risks and exchange rate movements.

“A rebound in headline inflation toward 4.0% to 5.0% is now our central scenario for the second half of 2026,” he said.

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