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THE BRIEF
News Worth Knowing



Namibians flock to South Africa as over 123,000 visit in nine months

MONDAY 09 NOVEMBER 2026

MAIN STORY



Namibians flock to South Africa as over 123,000 visit in nine months

Namibians continue to show a strong preference for South Africa as a travel destination, with 123,402 tourists visiting the neighbouring country during the first nine months of 2026, according to Statistics South Africa.

The agency's September 2026 International Tourism Report shows that an average of about 13,700 Namibian tourists visited South Africa each month between January and September, although total arrivals declined by 1.9% from the 125,791 recorded during the corresponding period in 2025.

In September alone, 13,923 Namibian tourists travelled to South Africa, representing a 9.5% decline from the 15,392 recorded during the same month last year.

The decrease of 1,469 visitors came despite an overall increase in tourist arrivals from the Southern African Development Community

Crucial Dates

- **Bank of Namibia Monetary Policy announcement dates:**
  * 10 December 2026

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> Road transport remained the preferred mode of travel, with 9,138 Namibian tourists, representing 65.6% of arrivals, entering South Africa by road.

(SADC), which rose by 2.1% to 659,613 during September, compared with 645,745 a year earlier.

Namibia remained South Africa's seventh-largest source of tourists within SADC, accounting for 2.1% of regional arrivals during the month.

The report shows that holidays remained the main reason Namibians travelled to South Africa, with 9,961 visitors, representing 71.5% of September arrivals, travelling for leisure.

Business travel accounted for 3,743 visitors, or 26.9%, while 207 Namibians travelled for study purposes and 12 for medical treatment.

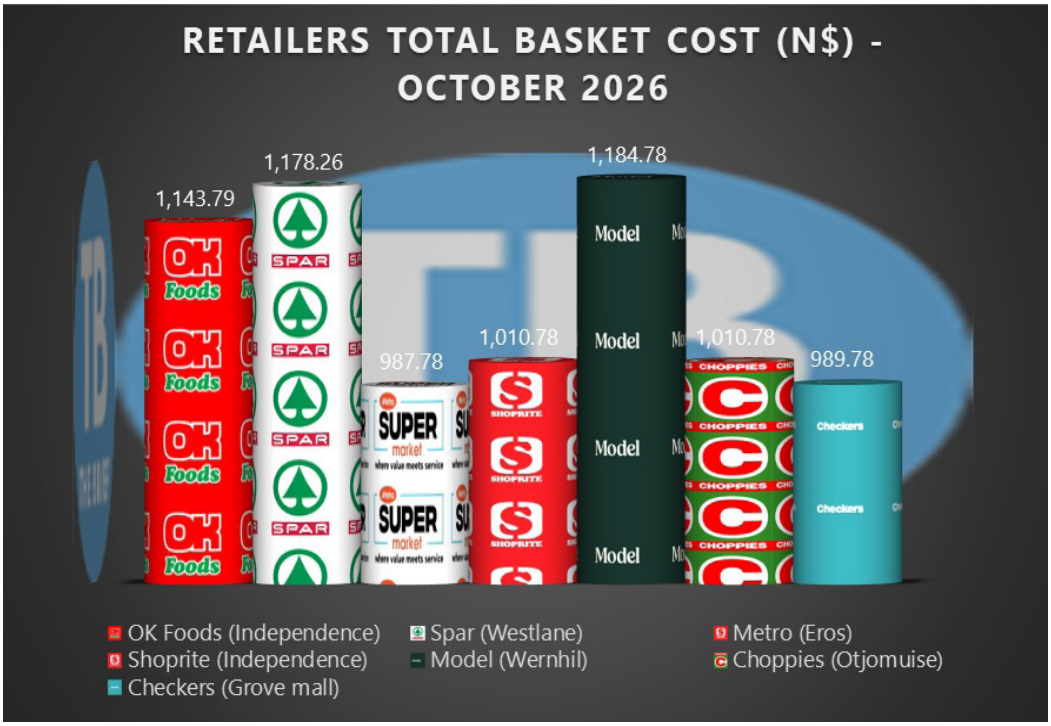
Road transport remained the preferred mode of travel, with 9,138 Namibian tourists, representing 65.6% of arrivals, entering South Africa by road.

The remaining 4,785 tourists, or 34.4%, travelled by air.

Overall, South Africa received 835,380 international tourists in September 2026, representing a 1.3% decline from the 846,367 recorded during the corresponding month in 2025.

Statistics South Africa noted that some ports of entry and exit had incomplete data due to network coverage challenges, which the Department of Home Affairs is working to address.





Metro records lowest retailer basket cost in October



Metro (Eros) recorded the lowest overall grocery basket cost in October 2026, at N$987.78, narrowly ahead of Checkers (Grove) at N$989.78. Shoprite (Independence) and Choppies (Otjomuise) followed in joint third place, with both retailers recording an identical basket total of N$1,010.78.

Model (Wernhil) recorded the highest basket total at N$1,184.78, followed by Spar (Westlane) at N$1,178.26 and OK Foods (Independence) at N$1,143.79.

The difference between the cheapest and most expensive baskets was N$197.00, highlighting the variation in grocery prices across the seven retailers surveyed.

Overall basket cost comparison

Product price highlights

Rank	Retailer	Total basket cost
1	Metro – Eros	N$987.78
2	Checkers – Grove	N$989.78
3	Shoprite – Independence	N$1,010.78
3	Choppies – Otjomuise	N$1,010.78
5	OK Foods – Independence	N$1,143.79
6	Spar – Westlane	N$1,178.26
7	Model – Wernhil	N$1,184.78

Metro recorded the lowest prices across several products, including 2L cooking oil (Family Favourite) at N$67.99, 5kg Top Score maize meal at N$73.99, 1.5kg chicken (Real Good) at N$76.99 and 3kg macaroni (Pasta Grande) at N$68.99. It also offered the cheapest 2kg Surf washing powder at N$52.99, 500g butter (Rama) at N$28.99 and 300g corned meat (Apex) at N$26.99.

Checkers recorded the lowest price for white bread at N$11.99 per loaf and 1kg mince at N$99.99. It also shared the lowest price for long-life full cream milk (Fair Cape) at N$18.99 with Shoprite.

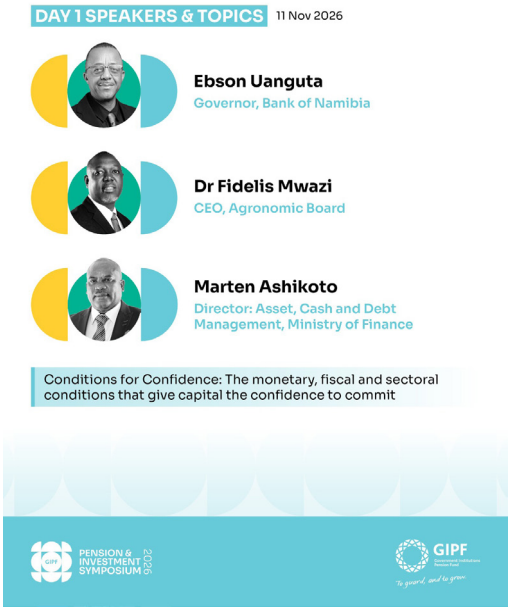
Choppies offered the lowest prices for 9-roll 2-ply toilet paper (DINU) at N$59.99, tomato sauce (Crystal Gold, 700ml) at N$25.99, potatoes at N$19.99 per kg and tomatoes at N$24.99 per kg.

Other notable findings included Metro, Shoprite, Model and Checkers offering the same price for 2kg Tastic rice at N$39.99. OK Foods offered the lowest white sugar price at N$39.99 under the Best Choice brand, while Spar offered the cheapest Aquafresh toothpaste at N$18.99. Metro and OK Foods shared the lowest price for 750ml Sunlight dishwashing liquid at N$28.99.

Conclusion & Consumer Takeaway

Metro recorded the lowest overall basket cost in October, although Checkers was only N$2.00 more expensive. The findings also show that the lowest prices were spread across different retailers, with Choppies, Shoprite, OK Foods and Spar each offering competitive prices on selected products.

Consumers may therefore benefit from comparing prices across retailers, particularly when purchasing frequently used grocery and household essentials.





Nandi-Ndaitwah questions hiring of foreigners for jobs Namibians can do



President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah has questioned why foreign nationals continue to be employed in positions that qualified Namibians can fill, citing failures by officials to enforce the country's employment and immigration laws.

Speaking during a community town hall meeting in Swakopmund, Erongo Region, on Friday, Nandi-Ndaitwah said Namibia already had laws regulating the employment of foreign workers, but these were not being consistently enforced.

Her remarks followed concerns raised by a resident who questioned why foreign nationals were being employed as machinery operators and safety officers while qualified Namibians remained unemployed.

The resident cited Chinese nationals

> The President urged residents to submit written complaints detailing suspected violations, saying this would allow her office to investigate specific cases and determine what action should be taken.

operating machinery and a South African national reportedly employed as a safety officer at a local company.

Responding to the concerns, Nandi-Ndaitwah said foreign nationals should only be permitted to take up positions where the required skills were not available locally.

"You can only bring non-Namibians to perform the work that is not available in the country, but ourselves, we are violating our own laws. Who gives the visas to those people? That's the problem," she said.

The President questioned why officials responsible for issuing work permits and enforcing immigration regulations continued to authorise the employment of foreign nationals in positions that Namibians could perform.

"If our law is saying only where you don't have a Namibian, you allow foreigners, why do those of us who are responsible allow that? There's a big problem, whether it's Chinese, whether it's South Africans. So, we have to change our fellow Namibians," she said.

Nandi-Ndaitwah stressed that the concern was not about the nationality of foreign workers but the failure of Namibian authorities to implement existing laws.

She said foreign nationals working in Namibia were expected to comply with the country's laws, just as Namibians working abroad were required to respect the laws of their host countries.

The President urged residents to submit written complaints detailing suspected violations, saying this would allow her office to investigate specific cases and determine what action should be taken.

She maintained that greater accountability among officials responsible for enforcing employment and immigration regulations was necessary to ensure that qualified Namibians were not overlooked for available jobs.





Namibia Dairies invests N$54.5m in long-life milk production line

Namibia Dairies has invested approximately N$54.5 million in a new long-life milk production line capable of packaging up to 8,000 units per hour, as the company seeks to improve production efficiency and meet growing demand for locally produced dairy products.



The investment involves the installation of a Tetra Pak A3 Flex filling line, replacing equipment that had been used for more than 15 years to package Namibia's only locally produced long-life milk.

The new production line includes a conveyor system, helix accumulator, cardboard packer, advanced cap application technology and supporting packaging and handling equipment.

According to Namibia Dairies, the investment is aimed at improving production reliability, reducing maintenance costs and strengthening the company's capacity to process increasing milk volumes from local and regional producers.

Ohlthaver & List (O&L) Group Executive Chairman Dr Sven Thieme, who recently visited the production facility, said the investment demonstrates the group's commitment to expanding local manufacturing capacity.

"Investments of this scale reflect our confidence in our people, our products and the future of Namibian manufacturing. They demonstrate our commitment to maintaining world-class production standards, supporting local food production and ensuring Namibia Dairies remains a modern, competitive manufacturer for years to come," Thieme said.

"This is the type of technology you would expect to see in leading dairy operations anywhere in the world and it now runs in Namibia. We are investing today for the next generation of growth."

The company said the new production line is expected to reduce packaging waste from approximately 4% to 1.5%, while improving operational efficiency and minimising unplanned production stoppages.

The previous filling equipment had become increasingly costly to maintain after more than 15 years of operation, with outdated technology creating challenges in sourcing replacement parts and technical support.

Namibia Dairies said the upgraded line

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- Oversee processing quality and food safety, and the growth of local and export markets.
- Oversee the development, health, safety and welfare of employees and crews, ashore and at sea.
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Minimum requirements

- An Honours degree (NQF Level 8) in Business Administration, Commerce, Finance, Marine or Fisheries Science, Engineering, or a related field. A master's degree, such as an MBA, is advantageous.
- A minimum of ten years of progressive management experience, of which five years or more at senior or executive level.
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Submit a detailed CV and certified copies of qualifications through our recruitment portal:
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Enquiries: Hilma Simon, 081 729 9623

Foreign qualifications will be verified for validity and recognition, and background checks will be conducted on shortlisted candidates.

Gendev Fishing is an equal opportunity employer. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. If you have not been contacted within four weeks of the closing date, please consider your application unsuccessful.

would also reduce packaging stockholding requirements through redesigned packaging configurations and the use of materials sourced from South Africa, contributing to lower supply chain costs.

The new equipment incorporates direct injection-moulded caps with tamper-proof ring-pull seals, replacing the previous glue-applied cap system to reduce packaging defects, including incorrectly fitted or missing caps.

The investment also provides capacity for future product expansion, including the introduction of 500ml long-life milk packaging formats and potential diversification into ambient juice products.

The filling line forms part of the company's ultra-high temperature (UHT) production process, under which milk is heat-treated and packaged under aseptic conditions to extend its shelf life.

Products processed through the UHT system can remain shelf-stable for six to nine months before opening, compared with the shorter shelf life of fresh dairy products.

Namibia Dairies said the upgraded equipment would strengthen the reliability of long-life milk supplies while supporting future growth in domestic production.

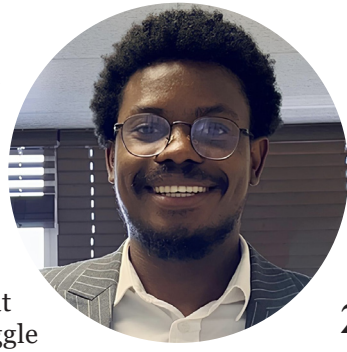
Established in 1997 through the merger of Melkor and Bonmilk, Namibia Dairies operates under the O&L Group and maintains distribution depots in Windhoek and Oshakati.

The company also operates the !Aimab Superfarm in Mariental, which houses approximately 1,400 milking cows and produces an average of 35,000 litres of milk daily.



The degree delusion: How Namibia's economy is failing its own graduates

By Juno Angula



> **Graduate employment fell from 83% in 2017 to 65% in 2024. Graduates wait 15 months on average for their first job.**

Namibia makes graduates faster than its economy can hire them. This is not because young people lack drive or brains. The system is not built to deliver jobs. Talented young people sit at home while employers struggle to fill key roles.

Government must do more than place graduates in short internships. It must rebuild how schools, business and the state work together. Universities have a big part to play. Welwitchia University (WU) is already acting.

In 2025, Namibia's colleges and universities produced 23,048 graduates. Yet few find work each year.

Graduate employment fell from 83% in 2017 to 65% in 2024. Graduates wait 15 months on average for their first job. One in three waits over two years. 47% of agriculture graduates have no job. Certificate and diploma holders face 45% unemployment, higher than degree holders. Youth unemployment is about 43%. The overall rate is expected to stay between 35% and 36%.

This is also a fit problem. Simonis Storm warns of a growing "misalignment between the type of qualifications produced and the structure of labour demand." Schools keep producing business, public administration and social science graduates. Meanwhile, energy, construction, logistics, manufacturing and mining lack technicians, artisans, mid-level engineers and plant operators. The skills pyramid is upside down.

The National Work Integrated Learning (WIL) Policy 2025–2030 is a good step. It aims to place 5,000 graduates in internships each year and keep 80%. But by June 2025, only 734 placements had been made. That is a small slice of the target. Many internships are unpaid or poorly paid. That shuts out graduates who cannot work for free.

Internships alone cannot fix the pipeline. Prime Minister, Dr. Elijah Ngurare, noted that employers ask fresh graduates for five years of experience. We are asking young people to cross a canyon with a stepladder.

In Kenya, the PropelA programme, run by Swisscontact with the National Industrial Training Authority, places apprentices at companies 70% of the time and in class 30%. More than 80% get jobs afterwards, and it has helped over 1,260

graduates find work. Companies earn an average 30% return and recover their cost within three years. A levy paid by private firms funds it, so it does not rely only on government.

In South Africa, BluLever Education designs trades programmes with employers, mixing campus learning with paid placements. Of those who pass their trade test, 88% are employed or still studying.

These are not miracles. They are design choices that treat skills as an investment, not charity.

Many degrees are out of date. NUST's Professor Frednard Gideon says, "skills get outdated more rapidly than ever." By the time students graduate, he says, "acquired skills or competencies are no longer needed in industry." Courses lean on theory and lack practical, technical and business skills.

The answer is not to drop degrees. Add short, stackable credentials that employers trust. Universities should also run Labour Market Intelligence Units to track skills in demand and update courses every two to three years. Accreditation should depend on proof that industry helped design the course and that graduates find work.

The Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) Memorandum of Understanding agreement covers joint research, resource sharing, staff training and work-integrated learning for students. Reliable data shows which skills are in demand and which graduates find work. WU and the NSA can build that evidence together. Students gain real experience on real national projects. The deal also covers who owns new ideas and how new technology moves from campus into use.

Recommendations: A Graduate Absorption Compact

Turn WIL into partnership. Every government-funded programme needs a named industry partner who shares in course design, mentoring and guaranteed interviews. The 5,000 target is a start. What counts is how many graduates are kept in paid jobs, not how many are placed.

Create an Apprenticeship Levy with teeth. Kenya shows a levy-funded system can work at scale without leaning on the treasury. Reform the vocational training levy so firms hosting structured apprenticeships get tax deductions of up to 50% of apprentice wages, as in Kenya.

Retire programmes that no longer fit. The NCHE and the Ministry should audit relevance every three years. Phase out programmes with low job rates and no industry link. This is not about closing universities. It is about stopping the production of graduates for jobs that do not exist.

Start dual apprenticeship pilots now. Do not wait for a perfect national framework. Fund three to five in energy, logistics, agri-processing and construction, using PropelA and BluLever as templates.

Make paid workplace learning a graduation requirement. It should earn credit and be judged by industry. Employers who host students should get recognition and rewards. Challenge employers who demand five years of experience to help create it.

The crisis is not too many graduates. It is too few pathways. Young Namibians did their part. They studied, kept going and earned their qualifications. Now government, universities and industry must build bridges that lead somewhere.

**** Juno Angula, Marketing and Brand Officer, Welwitchia University***



Export readiness, trade finance constraints hinder Namibia's AfCFTA participation

... as Namibia launches new AfCFTA trading guide

Limited export readiness, inadequate access to trade finance, fragmented market information and complex regulatory requirements continue to prevent Namibian businesses from fully benefiting from the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), government and United Nations officials said on Monday.

Speaking at the launch of Namibia's Step-by-Step Guide to Trading Goods under

the AfCFTA in Windhoek, officials said businesses continued to face difficulties navigating export procedures, meeting product standards, securing buyers and accessing logistics services, despite preferential access to continental markets.

Ministry of International Relations and Trade Executive Director Ambassador Jerobeam Shaanika said information on export and import procedures remained scattered across government institutions, creating uncertainty and additional costs for businesses, particularly micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs).

He said businesses with competitive products and the capacity to fulfil export orders were often discouraged by complex documentation, permit requirements, customs procedures and uncertainty over which institutions were responsible for specific approvals.

"A business may have a competitive product, the ambition to enter a new market and the capacity to fulfil an order, yet find itself confronted by uncertainty about documentation, permits, customs procedures, standards and the institutions responsible for particular requirements. Such challenges can create unnecessary costs, discourage entrepreneurship and prevent otherwise capable businesses from pursuing opportunities beyond our borders," Shaanika said.

He said the newly launched guide was intended to address these challenges by consolidating trade procedures and regulatory requirements into a single resource for exporters and importers.

"The Guide must not become a publication that is launched with enthusiasm and subsequently left on a shelf. It must become a working instrument that businesses consult, institutions promote and stakeholders continuously improve," he said.

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) Subregional Office for Southern Africa Director Eunice Kamwendo said preferential market access alone was insufficient to increase exports without improvements in productive capacity, export readiness and business support services.

She identified compliance costs associated with product standards, certification and customs procedures as additional barriers facing Namibian businesses.

Kamwendo said exporters also required market intelligence, trade finance, reliable logistics services and direct connections with potential buyers to convert market access into commercial transactions.

"Governments negotiate trade agreements, but businesses trade.



Ultimately, it is businesses that must identify markets, meet product standards, understand rules of origin, obtain the necessary certificates and documentation, and successfully complete transactions," she said.

Kamwendo said Namibia's trade under the agreement remained concentrated in traditional Southern African Customs Union (SACU) and Southern African Development Community (SADC) markets, highlighting the need to diversify exports into other African markets.

She identified fish and fish products, livestock and meat products, horticulture, salt, charcoal, cosmetics, essential oils and mineral beneficiation as sectors with the potential to expand exports under the agreement.

Namibia signed the AfCFTA Agreement in July 2018 and ratified it in January 2019. The country subsequently launched its National AfCFTA Implementation Strategy in November 2022 and gazetted its provisional schedule of tariff concessions in December 2024. Namibia recorded its first export consignment under the agreement in June 2025, when it shipped salt to Nigeria.

Kamwendo said the next phase of implementation should focus on helping businesses identify markets, comply with export requirements, establish commercial relationships and secure financing.

"The Guide can tell an enterprise how to trade. Market intelligence can help determine where to trade. Business-to-business engagements and trade missions can help firms identify whom to trade with. Export finance, logistics and business development services can then help businesses convert these opportunities into sustainable commercial transactions," she said.

The newly launched guide outlines export and import documentation, regulatory procedures, product-specific requirements and the government institutions responsible for trade approvals.

It also provides guidance on tariff classification, rules of origin, exporter registration and procedures for obtaining the AfCFTA Certificate of Origin.

The guide further directs businesses to continental trade information platforms, including the AfCFTA e-Tariff Book, African Trade Observatory and Non-Tariff Barriers Reporting Mechanism.

The publication was developed with technical assistance from the ECA and financial support from the Government of Japan.

Its contents were reviewed during a stakeholder validation workshop held in Windhoek from 5 to 6 February 2026.





New housing projects must be matched by expanded water and sewerage infrastructure

President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah has called on municipalities to expand water supply and sanitation infrastructure alongside new housing developments, warning that existing bulk infrastructure in many Namibian towns and cities is nearing capacity.

Speaking at a community town hall meeting in Swakopmund, Erongo Region, on Friday, Nandi-Ndaitwah said growing urban populations were placing increasing pressure on municipal water and sewerage systems, raising concerns about their ability to accommodate additional residential developments.

She said the expansion of housing must be accompanied by corresponding investments in bulk infrastructure to ensure that new residential areas have adequate access to water and sanitation services.

"The pressure is already there in most of our municipalities because they were built for a small population and as we stand now the bulk infrastructure almost reached their limit," she said.

The President warned that municipalities risked creating additional sanitation and public health problems if housing construction continued without sufficient upgrades to existing infrastructure.

"Even when we are talking about housing, I think our municipality first has to know that as we are building houses, how are we going to make sure that we do not create another problem of unhealthy situation if the bulk infrastructures are not able to carry," Nandi-Ndaitwah said.

She said municipalities needed to ensure that water supply networks and sewerage systems were expanded to accommodate the additional demand created by new housing developments.

Nandi-Ndaitwah stressed that increasing the number of houses without strengthening supporting infrastructure would place further pressure on municipal services already struggling to meet existing demand.

She said many towns and cities were experiencing population growth beyond the levels originally anticipated when their bulk infrastructure was developed.

As a result, she called for better coordination between housing development and infrastructure investment to ensure that municipalities could accommodate new residential areas without compromising service delivery. The President also emphasised the importance of adequate sanitation, saying access to proper sanitation facilities was essential to human dignity and improved living conditions.

She warned that housing expansion without sufficient sewerage capacity could worsen sanitation challenges, particularly in rapidly growing urban settlements.

Nandi-Ndaitwah further highlighted the need to strengthen Namibia's water security to support future residential and economic development.

She identified desalination, technologies capable of extracting water from the atmosphere and cooperation with Angola on water infrastructure as potential measures to expand the country's water supply.

The President said municipalities needed to plan infrastructure upgrades in line with projected population growth and housing demand rather than allowing residential development to outpace existing services.

She maintained that addressing Namibia's housing needs would require coordinated investment in water supply, sewerage and sanitation infrastructure to ensure that new developments were adequately serviced.





Tharisa secures secondary listing on Namibia Securities Exchange

Mining and metals company Tharisa plc has begun trading on the Namibia Securities Exchange (NSX) after securing a secondary listing.

Trading commenced on Monday, 9 November 2026, under the share code THR, providing local investors with direct access to shares in the platinum group metals (PGMs) and chrome producer.

The company said the secondary listing would allow its shares to qualify as Namibian assets, subject to applicable regulatory limits, enabling institutional investors to meet domestic investment requirements.

Tharisa, which maintains its primary listing on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) and a secondary listing on the London Stock Exchange (LSE), said the move formed part of its strategy

> The listing on the Namibia Securities Exchange is a measured and cost-effective step in our ongoing programme to broaden and diversify Tharisa's investor base.

to diversify its shareholder base, improve share liquidity and attract additional institutional investment.

Tharisa Chief Executive Officer Phoevos Pouroulis said the listing would provide Namibian pension funds and asset managers with an additional investment option in the mining sector.

"The listing on the Namibia Securities Exchange is a measured and cost-effective step in our ongoing programme to broaden and diversify Tharisa's investor base," Pouroulis said.

He said the listing aligned with the long-term investment strategies of Namibian pension funds, particularly as the company advances the development of its Karo Platinum Project.

"It affords Namibian institutional investors direct access to a PGM and chrome producer, an exposure not otherwise available to them on the NSX, and reflects the long-term nature of Namibian pension capital, which is well aligned with our growth strategy as we advance Karo Platinum," he said.

The company noted that the NSX's FTSE Capped Overall Index remained heavily weighted towards financial stocks, with Anglo American currently its only resources constituent.

Tharisa's listing is expected to broaden mining sector investment options on the local exchange and potentially attract additional demand from pension funds and asset managers seeking to diversify their portfolios.

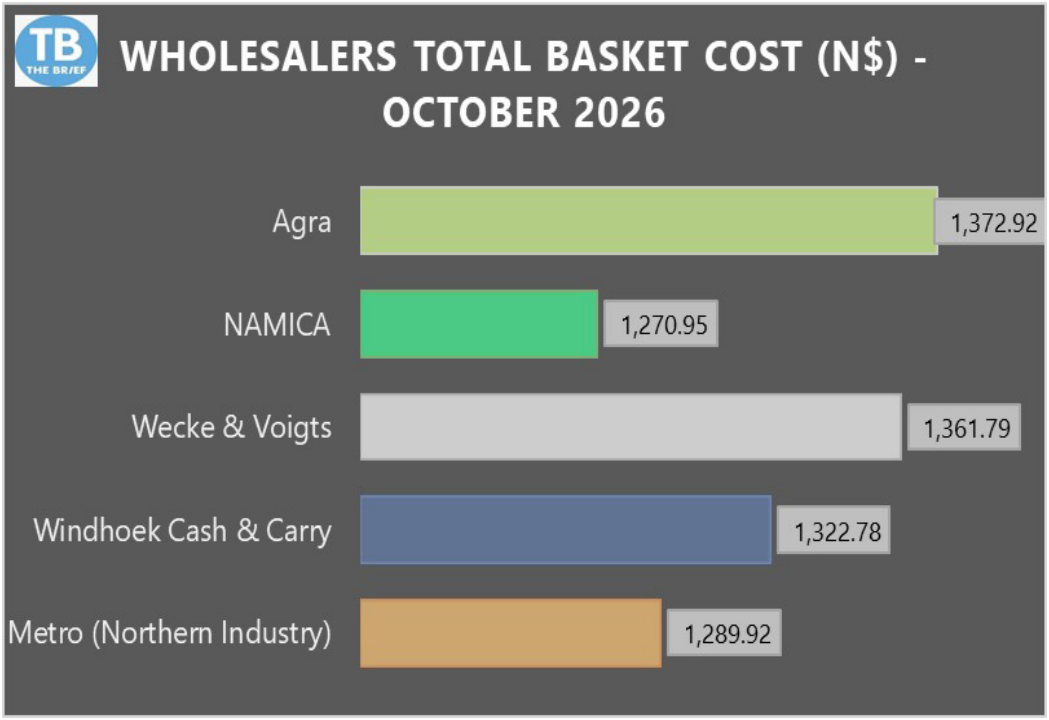
The company said the listing would also provide Namibian institutional investors with another avenue to allocate capital to qualifying domestic assets while gaining exposure to the mining sector.

Tharisa confirmed that its NSX-listed shares would remain interchangeable with those traded on the JSE, LSE and A2X, allowing investors to trade the same securities across the different exchanges.

The JSE will continue to serve as the company's primary market for price discovery, while the NSX will provide an additional trading platform for Namibian investors.

The company said the secondary listing followed a proposal by IJG Securities, which will serve as its sponsor on the NSX.

The listing expands the range of resource-sector securities available on the Namibian exchange and provides Tharisa with access to the country's institutional investment market



NAMICA records the lowest grocery basket cost in October 2026

NAMICA recorded the lowest overall cost for the selected grocery basket in October 2026, at N$1,270.95. Metro followed at N$1,289.92, while Windhoek Cash & Carry recorded N$1,322.78 and Wecke & Voigts N$1,361.79. Agra had the highest basket cost at N$1,372.92.

The difference between the cheapest and most expensive baskets was N$101.97, highlighting the potential savings available to consumers who compare prices across wholesalers before making their purchases.

Product price highlights

- NAMICA offered the cheapest white sugar at N$181.00 (Sugar King), chicken at N$194.99 (unbranded) and vetkoek wheat flour at N$134.99 (Bokomo).
- Metro recorded the lowest prices for Tastic rice at N$167.99, Polana macaroni pasta at N$119.99 and long-life full cream milk at N$125.99, with Fair Cape as its milk brand.
- Windhoek Cash & Carry offered the cheapest cooking oil at N$177.50, under the Excella Sunflower brand. Wecke & Voigts had the lowest price for Top Score maize meal at N$135.00.
- Agra recorded the highest overall basket cost and the highest chicken price, at N$239.99, although it remained

Product	Cheapest wholesaler	Price
Cooking Oil (5L)	Windhoek Cash & Carry	N$177.50 (Excella Sunflower)
Top Score Maize Meal (10kg)	Wecke & Voigts	N$135.00 (Top Score)
White Sugar (10kg)	NAMICA	N$181.00 (Sugar King)
Chicken (4kg)	NAMICA	N$194.99 (Unbranded)
Tastic Rice (10kg)	Metro	N$167.99 (Tastic)
Polana Macaroni Pasta (5kg)	Metro	N$119.99 (Polana)
Long Life Full Cream Milk (1L, 6-pack)	Metro	N$125.99 (Fair Cape)
Vetkoek Wheat Flour (10kg)	NAMICA	N$134.99 (Bokomo)

competitively priced on some of the other products surveyed.

Cheapest Wholesaler by Product

Conclusion & Consumer Takeaway

NAMICA was the most affordable wholesaler overall in October, but no single retailer offered the lowest price across all eight products.

Comparing prices across wholesalers can help consumers identify better deals and manage their grocery budgets, particularly when purchasing essential items in bulk.



Africa's poverty is a choice, not a lack of means

By Simeon Tuyoleni



> **Africa people cannot remain poor when Africa has its own resources.**

On 4 November 2026 at Farm 58 outside Walvis Bay, President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, Alhaji Aliko Dangote and Dr George Elombi of Afreximbank stood up one after the other at the groundbreaking of the Dangote tank farm and regional pipeline, and if you listened to what they said you would have heard that none of them was talking about a lack of money, they were talking about us.

The president said it straight. "Africa people cannot remain poor when Africa has its own resources." That is the whole thing in one line.

Let us start with the money, because that is always our first excuse. Dr Elombi told the room that his bank has put 10 billion dollars on the table for Dangote, and he said they have no difficulty doing it because "the money would not be lost." And he was clear about what was missing. "The money is there. We don't have the expertise." He even refused to be called a foreign bank. "We are a domestic bank. We belong to you," he said, and he asked the president to take them into the room with the central bank governor and the ministers and "tell us where it pains, where it hurts."

So the money is sitting there, it is our money, and it is waiting for us to tell it where it hurts.

Then skills, our second excuse. The president said that initially there was a programme of capacity and skills, "but Africans, you go to same universities, you read the same books that other continents are reading. So we should just make use of that."

Then our favourite excuse, waiting for someone to come and do it for us. Dangote said "Africa must industrialise Africa," and when he comes into an African country, "we are coming home. We are not coming to make money and take the money away."

So if it is not money, not skills and nobody is coming, what is it? Dr Elombi answered it himself. Conviction, trust and execution.

On conviction, the president said "no one can respect you as beggars," and "unless we feed ourselves, they will continue to keep us hostage." Dr Elombi said that if Dangote was doing this for profit, "he would not be in business again, he would be retired and enjoying the fruits." He keeps going because he feels a duty to this continent.

On trust, Dangote said that in almost fifty years of business it is "the one element that is non-negotiable for me," and that "money follows trust." Dr Elombi said Dangote is the kind of client "you give the money to and you go to sleep," you do not even need a recovery unit.

But it was the president who showed us why trust is not a soft thing. She took us back to our own story. After the Germans were defeated, the League of Nations

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put Namibia under a trust and gave South Africa the job of administering it until Namibians could take over. South Africa betrayed that trust, and what followed was a war between that administration and the Namibian people.

Then she said what I think every Namibian institution should put on its wall. "In any institutions where you are working and there's no trust, one day the danger will come. You might celebrate it at the initial stage but it will come out and it will be very difficult to control."

And on execution, she told us about investors who wanted to build a shipyard in Namibia. "After four years, they have to withdraw." That pained her more than any other loss, so with Dangote she said "I must sit on this project," put it in the Office of the President and it went from first meeting to groundbreaking in slightly over a year. She told us she had stopped going to groundbreakings, because "more than 10 years can pass without seeing the dust getting out of the ground," and that she accepted this one because of the trust and confidence she has in the Dangote group. And she warned, "if we move slow, our people will continue to languish in poverty."

That is not a lack of means. That is a choice, and we make it every day we let a file sit on a desk, every time we do not trust the person across the table, and every time we wait for somebody else to come and do what we already have the money and the brains to do ourselves.

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October 2026 Hypermarket Price Survey – Metro, Kleine Kuppe

Metro is currently the only hypermarket operating in Windhoek, making it the sole retailer in this category for the October price comparison.

The survey covered 20 products, including staple foods, meat, dairy products, household cleaning supplies and personal care items. Prices ranged from N$12.99 for a bar of soap to N$89.99 for a 1.5kg pack of chicken.

• The highest-priced item in the survey was chicken at N$89.99 for 1.5kg, followed by mince at N$82.99 per kilogram. Top Score maize meal (5kg) cost N$75.99, while Polana macaroni pasta (3kg) and 2-ply toilet paper (9 rolls) each cost N$74.99.

• Among the staple foods, cooking oil (2L) was priced at N$69.99 and white sugar (2kg) at N$39.99. Tastic rice (2kg)

also cost N$39.99, while white bread was priced at N$22.99 per loaf.

• For household and personal care products, Sunlight washing powder (2kg) cost N$64.99, and Sunlight dishwashing liquid (750ml) was priced at N$29.99. Aquafresh toothpaste (100ml) cost N$17.99, while a bar of soap was the cheapest item surveyed at N$12.99.

Overall, the October survey provides a snapshot of prices for 20 selected products at Metro Kleine Kuppe. As Metro is the only hypermarket in Windhoek, the findings provide a reference point for consumers tracking prices in this retail category.

Metro (Kleine Kuppe) October 2026 Groceries Basket

Item	Quantity	Price (N$)
1. Staples and dry goods		
Cooking Oil (Family Favourite)	2L	69.99
Maize Meal (Top Score)	5kg	75.99
White Sugar (Marathon)	2kg	39.99
Rice (Tastic)	2kg	39.99
Macaroni Pasta (Polana)	3kg	74.99
2. Meat and poultry		
Chicken (Real Good Chicken)	1.5kg	89.99
Mince	1kg	82.99
3. Dairy and eggs		
Long Life Full Cream Milk (First Choice)	1L	22.99
Butter (Rama)	500g	28.99
Eggs (Waldschmidt)	18 medium eggs	55.99
4. Fruits and vegetables		
Onions	1kg	36.99
Potatoes	1kg	29.99
Tomatoes	1kg	36.99
5. Bakery and condiments		
White Bread (Metro Fresh)	1 loaf	22.99
Tomato Sauce (Crystal Gold)	750ml	29.99
6. Household cleaning products		
Toilet Paper (Twinsaver)	9 rolls, 350 sheets	74.99
Washing Powder (Sunlight)	2kg	64.99
Dishwashing Liquid (Sunlight)	750ml	29.99
7. Personal care		
Toothpaste (Aquafresh)	100ml	17.99
Soap (Lifebuoy)	1 bar	12.99

