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ISSUE 139 | Monday, 16 December 2024 - 12 January 2025

Australian oil company enters talks to explore Namibian oil block

EX FINANCIAL MARKETS

Exchange Rates

N\$ – US Dollar:	17.87
N\$ – British Pound:	22.55
N\$ – Euro:	18.77
N\$ – Aus dollar:	11.37
N\$ – Yen:	0.12

Commodities

Gold:	2 647
Silver :	30.47
Palladium:	952.74
Platinum:	930.68
Brent crude:	74.49



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Mr. Eugene Tendekule
Executive Secretary NRSC



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Business Express is a Namibian quality journalism publication aimed at giving consumers cutting-edge business content with key focus on business and economic news.

Established in 2022, our premium weekly virtual newspaper (e-paper) has distinguished itself as an in-depth, analytical and discursive medium that helps readers make sense of the headlines. We provide daily news and popular multi-media content on our digital and social platforms. As an independent, non-partisan business, we see ourselves as, and pride ourselves in being, a critical alternative platform.

Our target market comprises of highly literate Namibians as well as diplomats, foreign communities, policymakers, industrialists and businesses, among other key constituencies.

As a digital-first media, we are available on all major platforms such as website <http://www.nambusinessexpress.com>, on WhatsApp, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn among others. Each week, we are able to reach thousands across these platforms making us one of the fastest growing media in Namibia. We are proud of the success and grateful for the support and custom of our various stakeholders.



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Business Insights
Weekly...

The heartbeat of deliveries in e-commerce

Consumers wanted real-time visibility on their online orders even before the pandemic turned the world upside down and propelled e-commerce to unprecedented heights.

The results of a survey published by YouGov and cloud applications provider Infor in May 2020 found that 78% of European respondents expected to receive updates on the status of their orders.

Fast forward to 2024, and that percentage now stands well above 90%, according to numerous studies released in the past year. Unsurprisingly, supply chain professionals have responded accordingly. A January 2024 survey by global logistics and supply chain technology provider Tive revealed that the number of respondents using the Internet of Things (IoT) devices for real-time shipment tracking had doubled within a year.

When customers make an online purchase, they want to experience the excitement of receiving their new item as quickly as possible. Keeping them updated on the progress of their order enhances their overall experience and satisfaction. Regular updates instil trust and reassurance, especially since the customer has already paid for the product. Logistics partners are increasingly adopting various technology solutions to enhance customer communication, with WhatsApp emerging as a popular tool for keeping customers informed. However, successful parcel delivery is about providing updates and ensuring that the information shared is accurate and reliable. Logistics companies must ensure that staff input shipment information accurately to achieve this.

There is no single solution or silver bullet to achieving seamless communication; it's about getting several key elements right to provide real-time visibility and build customer trust. Offering customers various delivery options enhances their experience and flexibility. Convenient locker pick-up points for collecting their parcels, for example, complement traditional door-to-door delivery. Success in logistics ultimately depends on two key factors: meeting delivery service level agreements and gathering and evaluating customer feedback.

A third metric to consider is first-attempt collection and delivery success. The more accurate your data and the better the communication between the courier company and the customer, the higher the likelihood of successful deliveries on the first attempt, reducing the need for costly and time-consuming second attempts.

>>>TALKS NOW AT AN ADVANCED STAGE

Australian oil firm enters talks to explore Nam oil block

Business Express Writer

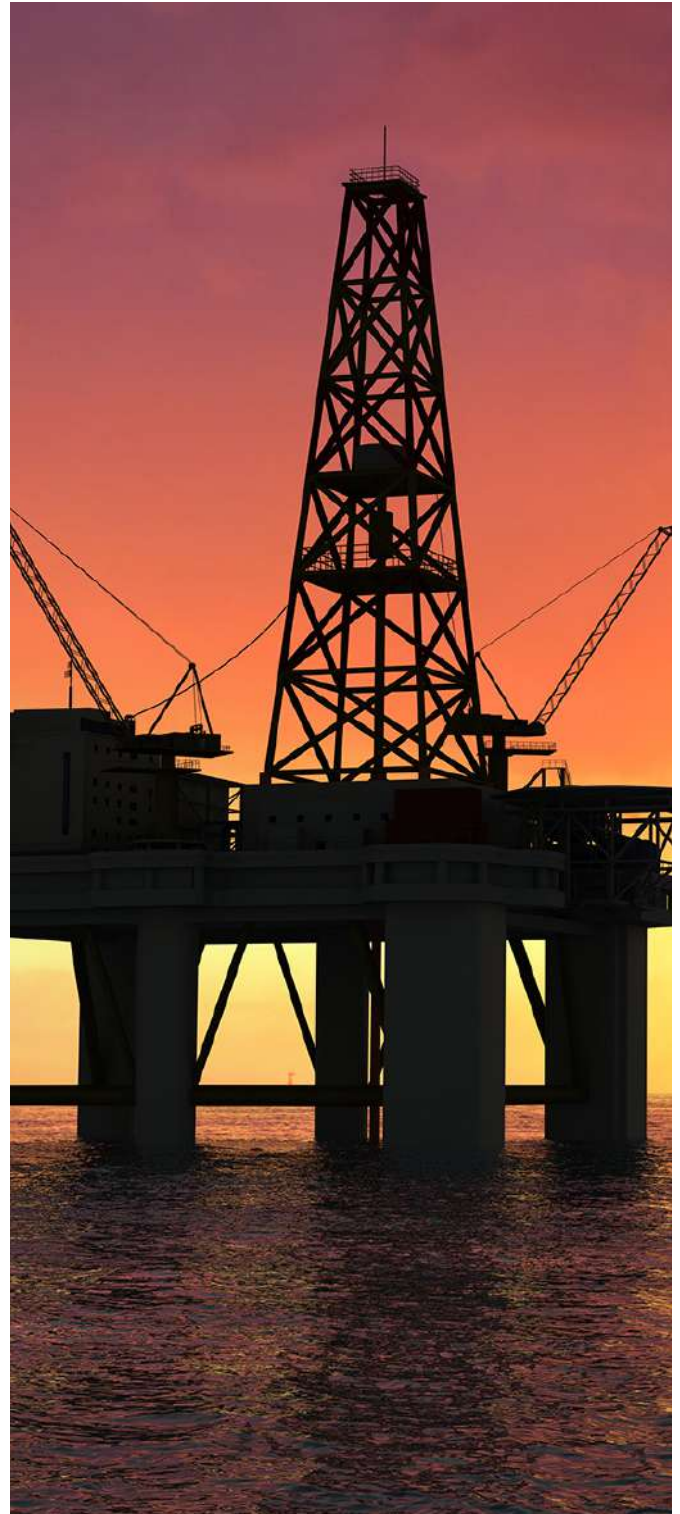
Australian based Global Petroleum, an AIM-listed oil and gas upstream exploration company presently focused on Africa and the Mediterranean, has engaged in discussions to secure a farm-in agreement with an undisclosed potential operating partner for its petroleum exploration license (PEL) 94 in Block 2011A in the Walvis Basin, off the coast of Namibia.

With the rise in planned offshore exploration activity in Namibia's offshore, including the Walvis Basin, where Chevron recently made arrangements to assume an 80% operated interest in PEL 82, Global Petroleum claims that it has seen an uptick in interest in the data for PEL 94 from various parties. As a result, the company has entered into early commercial discussions with an unnamed potential operating partner for a farm-in agreement related to PEL 94.

The firm is hopeful it will be able to reach a mutually beneficial agreement in due course following further due diligence and negotiations. This license covers 5,798 square kilometers in water depths ranging from 450 to 1,550 meters. Namibia's state-owned NAMCOR has a 17% carried interest and a private company, Aloe Investments Two Hundred and Two, has a 5% carried interest.

Global is renewing the annual license rental for 2024/2025 as it enters the second year of the first renewal period in September 2024, given its belief that a farm-in, if successfully concluded, could be "transformational" for the business, with a strategic partner potentially enabling the exploitation of the estimated 2,747 million barrels of oil on the license as part of unrisked net best estimate (P50) prospective resources.

The firm also held a formal representation meeting at the Ministry of Mines and Energy in Windhoek, Namibia where its plans were discussed. Global's primary objective is to enhance shareholder value, thus, aside from oil and gas exploration



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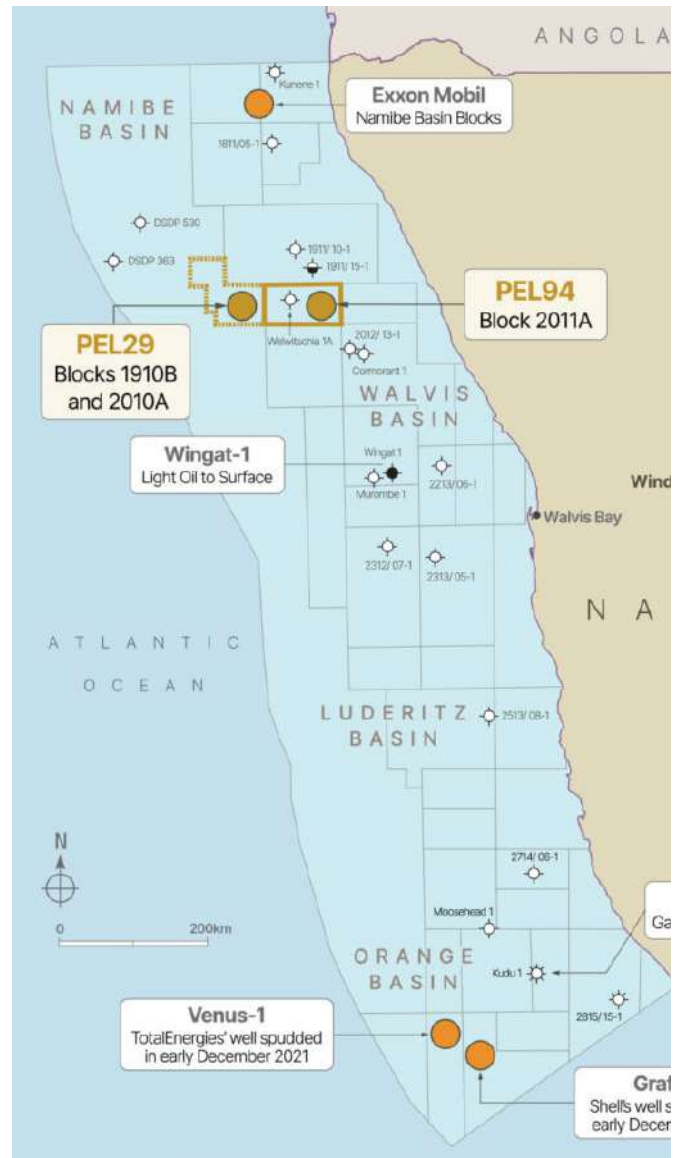
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prospects, it is actively assessing opportunities across the mineral resources sector to position itself as a multi-resource company with a diversified commodities portfolio.

According to the company, the entire Walvis Basin is under-explored with only eight wells drilled up to now by Norsk Hydro, Sasol, Ranger, HRT, Repsol, and, most recently in 2018, by Tullow and Chariot. Global regards the HRT-operated Wingat-1 well as being the most significant of the wells drilled in the Walvis Basin since liquid hydrocarbons were recovered from the Aptian interval, thus establishing for the first time that a source rock has charged oil into a trap in the Walvis Basin.

Furthermore, the company has mapped 3D and 2D seismic across the basin and this license, confirming that the source rock is present and can charge oil into the significant portfolio of prospects and leads. Since the firm had the license PEL 29, containing blocks 1910B and 2010A, for ten years until December 2020 and completed all license work program commitments, it plans to apply for a new license in due course.

Recently, the Namibian Ministry of Mines and Energy notified another company, Tower Resources, which holds a stake in Walvis Basin, of its agreement to the extension of the initial exploration period of the PEL 96 license to October 31, 2024, inviting it to apply for an extension lasting two to three years.



The UK firm has an 80% operated interest in the license, comprising blocks 1910A, 1911, and 1912B, covering 23,297 km² of the northern Walvis Basin and Dolphin Graben offshore Namibia.

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President-elect of the Republic of Namibia

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Star shareholders give greenlight for Cobra project in Namibia

By Business Express Writer

Star Minerals shareholders have voted through the company's proposed joint venture (JV) agreement to earn up to 85 per cent of the Cobra uranium project in the world-class Erongo district of Namibia.

The project lies just 5km from Rossing, the world's longest running uranium mine and is surrounded by further world-class operations including the Husab mine (previously the Rossing South mine) and Paladin Energy's Langer Heinrich project.

The farm in deal with Canadian-listed Madison Metals allows Star to earn an initial 51 per cent controlling stake in Cobra by investing US\$3.95 million (A\$6.17 million) across three years, with the opportunity to further increase its ownership to 85 per cent.

Management says the project has permits in place to immediately get drilling on an initial six-hole program.

The initial work programs – which it aims to kick off in January - will evaluate the strike potential and the twinning of some existing holes that make up the non-Jorc uranium estimate.

The Cobra project has a non-JORC resource of about

15.6 million tonnes at a grade of 260 parts per million (ppm) for 9 million pounds of uranium oxide.

The shareholder vote comes at a time when the historically lower-grade resource is experiencing a second wind on the back of continued stellar prices for the yellow uranium metal of over US\$77 (A\$121) per pound.

The project in the uranium-rich Erongo region – colloquially known as Africa's "Uranium Central" - will be overseen by one of the company's existing African experts in director Ashley Jones.

Jones has considerable experience in uranium exploration – particularly in Africa - having previously worked in Namibia for nearly three years and on the Letlhakane uranium project in Botswana for nearly five years.

Star says Jones will be promoted to executive director with shareholder approval.

Cobra features some 297 square kilometres of uranium-rich radiometric anomalies.

EX Continues on page 7



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It was thrown up originally by a historic 50-hole drill program that intersected thick uranium mineralisation, including 60m at 333ppm uranium oxide with a 10m section grading as high as 732ppm uranium oxide.

Other promising intercepts to be followed up showcased a 9m chunk going 636ppm with a 5m section at 1037ppm and 14m coming in at 360ppm with 3m showing 836ppm.

Notably, the recorded mineralisation and resource at Cobra predominantly started within 12m of the surface and ran no deeper than 100m, indicating the potential open-pit nature at the project.

Under the three-stage earn in agreement, Star must pay a total of US\$1.9 million (AU\$2.97 million) in cash and shares, nearly 6.7 million in performance shares and spend US\$2.425 million (AU\$3.80 million) on exploration over the first 36 months of the agreement.

By 2027, Star will secure its 51 per cent stake in the project and then have the option to push forward to a final 85 per cent controlling stake.

Star says it intends to fund the expenditure by a toll treatment gold scenario at its Tumblegum South gold project, 40km south of Meekatharra in WA.

The plan is to cash-in on record gold prices and an existing 255,000t resource grading 2.16 grams per tonne gold at the project. Management says it will likely generate some \$19.6m through an open-pit mining scenario by a third-party toll treater.

Nuclear has recently earned political status a "green" energy as it creates massive amounts of energy for little-to-no emissions and a reliable strong supply of base-load power to heavy industry.

Star's entry into one of the world's premier uranium districts appears to be well timed given its existing management experience and a long-term focus on the growing demand for the sometimes controversial yellow metal.



SAFE ROADS TO PROSPERITY

The Roads Authority was established in terms of Section 2 of the Roads Authority Act, Act No. 17 of 1999. The Authority fully became operational on 01 April 2000. The Roads Authority is responsible for the management of the national road network to achieve a safe and efficient road sector.

Roads Authority as an Equal Opportunity Employer and invites competent & suitably qualified persons to apply for the following positions:

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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER: REVENUE CONTROL, STOCK AND PROCUREMENT:
 Paterson Job Grade: B5 | Duty Station: WINDHOEK

DIVISION: TRANSPORT REGULATORY SERVICES
PERMIT OFFICER:
 Paterson Job Grade: B5 X2 | Duty Station: WINDHOEK

DIVISION: TRANSPORT REGULATORY SERVICES
ADMINISTRATOR: REGISTRY AND FILLING:
 Paterson Job Grade: B4 | Duty Station: WINDHOEK

BUSINESS UNIT: ENGINEERING

DIVISION: NETWORK MAINTENANCE
ADMINISTRATOR:
 Paterson Job Grade: B5 | Duty Station: WINDHOEK

DIVISION: NETWORK PLANNING
PERMIT OFFICER: ROAD SAFETY AND ABNORMAL PERMITS:
 Paterson Job Grade: B4 | Duty Station: WINDHOEK

DIVISION: TECHNICAL SERVICES
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER: MATERIAL SUPPORT:
 Paterson Job Grade: B5 | Duty Station: WINDHOEK

DIVISION: NETWORK MAINTENANCE
ROAD INSPECTOR:
 Paterson Job Grade: C3 | Duty Station: OUTJO

DIVISION: NETWORK DEVELOPMENT
ENGINEERING MANAGER:
 Paterson Job Grade: D5 | Duty Station: WINDHOEK

DIVISION: NETWORK PLANNING
ENGINEER:
 Paterson Job Grade: D3 | Duty Station: WINDHOEK

Closing date for all applications is 20 December 2024 at 17:00.

Interested persons should please visit the Roads Authority website: www.ra.org.na for more details.



NAMPOWER GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION PROJECTS



GENERATION PROJECTS

NamPower is developing several projects as part of its Integrated Strategic Business Plan (ISBP) for the period 2020-2025 which are aligned with the objectives outlined in the Renewables Energy Policy to source at least 70% of energy from renewable energy source by 2030 and the National Integrated Resource Plan (NIRP) for the electricity sector which aims to achieve 80% self-sufficiency, in terms of energy, by 2028. Outlined, below are the projects, which are at different development stages:



OMBURU 20MW PV SOLAR PLANT:

The plant was commissioned in 2022

51MW / 51MWh OMBURU BESS PROJECT - The project entails a stand-alone grid connected 51MW / 51MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) which is currently being implemented at the Omburu Substation. The project will enable NamPower to cost effectively manage the energy demand and supply by performing energy arbitrage and supplying emergency energy. It will also provide various grid stability services enabling the grid to integrate additional intermittent renewable energy generation capacities, whilst ensuring security of supply. The Bid for the construction of the BESS Project was awarded to Shandong Electrical Engineering & Equipment Group Co., Ltd. And Zhejiang Narada Power Source Co., Ltd Joint Venture (SDEE & NARADA JV) and the Engineering Procurement Construction Contract Agreement was signed on 13 December 2023. The project is currently in the design and construction phase, with the Commercial Operation Date planned for Q4 2025.

40MW OTJIKOTO BIOMASS POWER PROJECT - The groundbreaking ceremony for the project took place in mid-November 2024 and construction has commenced. NamPower signed the Engineering, Procurement, Construction (EPC) Contract with Dongfang Electric International Corporation for the construction of the Biomass Power Station on 24 May 2024. Similarly, NamPower signed a Fuel Supply Agreement with four suppliers for a total of 180 000 tonnes on 24 May 2024. The EPC contractor and NamPower are currently working towards fulfilling the conditions to achieve contract effectiveness. Project completion date for the power station is planned for Q2 2027.

ROSH PINAH 100MW SOLAR PV PROJECT - The bid for the construction of the 100MW Rosh Pinah PV Power Station was awarded to the joint venture comprising of China Jiangxi International Economic and Technical Cooperation Co., Ltd. and China New Energy Development (Zhejiang) Co., Ltd. on 4 July 2024. The Bidder and NamPower are currently in Contract Clarification Meetings. NamPower increased the size of the project from 70MW to 100MW as per the ministerial approval obtained from MME. Project completion for the power plant is planned for Q2 2026.

54MW ANIXAS II POWER STATION - Project final commissioning is in progress and completion for the power plant is planned for Q4 2024 (the Anixas Power Station is not renewable, but it complements the integration of renewables to the grid because it is firm and dispatchable and may be operated to offset the intermittency associated with renewables).

TRANSMISSION PROJECTS

NamPower's Transmission Master Plan

NamPower's current Transmission Master Plan, covering the period from 2021 to 2025, outlines comprehensive expansion plans for the transmission network grid. It identifies development requirements for the next year, with annual updates to ensure alignment with the country's evolving electricity needs.

The plan involves the construction of new transmission lines, substations, and the upgrading of existing transmission infrastructure. These developments are essential to addressing internal supply limitations, accommodating future load growth, integrating new generation plants, and facilitating potential power transmission across the SAPP region.

400kV Auas-Gerus Transmission Line Project Estimated project cost: N\$868 million

The 290-kilometre Auas-Gerus 400kV transmission line was commissioned in April 2024. This line strengthens the Auas-Van Eck-Omburu 220kV network, providing improved network stability, reduced losses, and enhanced contingency support. It also reinforces the network to the Gerus substation near Otjiwarongo, enabling NamPower to accommodate increased electricity transfer and wheeling via the Gerus-Zambezi high-voltage direct current (HVDC) link.

The transmission line runs from the Auas Substation near Dordabis to the Gerus Substation near Otjiwarongo and forms part of NamPower's strategic investment in expanding its 400kV transmission infrastructure backbone. The construction of the line, along with the extension of both the Auas and Gerus substations, was completed in July 2023 and commissioned in April 2024.

400kV Auas-Kokerboom Transmission Line Project Estimated project cost: N\$2 billion

The Auas-Kokerboom project aims to enhance system reliability, improve network stability and redundancy, and increases electricity transfer capacity between the northern and southern regions.

Substation work at Auas, which overlaps with the Auas-Gerus project, has been completed to minimise costs associated with outages during commissioning. The Environmental Clearance Certificate for the line construction has been issued, and the line is currently under design by NamPower's internal design team, pending final resolution of routes and wayleaves in a number of positions. The bid for construction is expected to be advertised in the first quarter of 2025.

400kV Obib-Oranjemond Transmission Line Project Estimated project cost: N\$1.2 billion

The Obib-Oranjemond line, NamPower's second interconnector to Eskom, is crucial for enhancing grid stability. NamPower is responsible for designing and constructing the line from Rosh Pinah to the Orange River, while Eskom will be responsible for terminating the line at Oranjemond, completing their section and connecting it to NamPower's portion of the interconnector as part of their scope.

NamPower's design team has completed the design for the 92-kilometre line, and construction commenced in November



2024. Line construction is progressing well and is expected to be completed by 28 May 2025.

The contract for the extension of the substation was awarded in the third quarter of 2024, and work has commenced, with completion expected in 2027. **Expected commissioning date: May 2025.**

220kV Otjikoto-Masivi Transmission Line Project

This project has been deferred as part of financial prioritisation. The EIA process has been completed, and an Environmental Clearance Certificate issued. NamPower is currently considering financing options for the construction of the line.

132/66kV Sekelduin Substation Development Estimated project cost: N\$320 million Location: Outskirts of Swakopmund (next to B2 road)

The civil works contractor completed all required tasks in March 2023. The transformers and switchgear have been delivered to the site, with all transformers assembled, pending the installation of the fire protection system. The procurement process for high-voltage equipment has been finalised, and the contract for the mixed technology switchgear was awarded, with manufacturing and testing under way.

The NamPower design team has completed the design for the 132kV transmission lines from Kuiseb to Sekelduin. The construction contract for the construction of these lines was awarded to and completed. **Expected commissioning date: May 2025.**

220/66kV Khomas Substation Development Estimated project cost: N\$340 million Location: Otjomuise, Windhoek

NamPower has secured land for the Khomas Substation through a resolution with the City of Windhoek, marking a significant milestone. The design phase for the substation is complete, and the bid for construction has been awarded, with construction to start January 2025. NamPower has also procured and delivered power transformers to the Brakwater depot, where they will remain until the substation is completed. **Expected commissioning date: December 2026.**

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Strategic migration of data intelligence platform at Namibia Breweries

By Business Express Writer

Namibia Breweries (NBL), which positions itself as a proud cornerstone of Namibian industry, has always embraced the power of data to drive decision-making. Over the years, it has evolved its business intelligence (BI) ecosystem to meet the needs of a fast-changing market. From a bold leap into modern analytics with Tableau in 2021 to a recent migration to Power BI driven by a global strategy, NBL's journey has been defined by adaptability, agility, innovation and a trusted partnership with Keyrus.

Start of a journey to modern analytics

NBL's relationship with Keyrus began in 2021 when the brewery sought to transition from a legacy BI tool to a more modern and dynamic analytics platform. Tableau was chosen at the time for its intuitive interface and ability to deliver rich, impactful visualisations. The migration, led by Keyrus, was a transformative moment for NBL, allowing the brewery to modernise its analytical experience and empower users across the organisation.

"Keyrus played an instrumental role in helping us navigate this shift," recalls Andre Engelbrecht, Industrial Control Systems Manager at Namibia Breweries. "Their expertise and hands-on support ensured the transition was smooth, and their deep understanding of our needs set the foundation for a robust BI strategy."

Adoption of global strategy and processes



Fast forward to 2024, and NBL once again found itself at a crossroads. A global directive required the company to align with Microsoft Power BI as the standardised BI tool across the organisation.

The switch from Tableau presented a challenging prospect for the BI tool users.



Continues on page 11

EX Festive Notice

As we approach the end of 2024, we would like to inform you that this is our last edition of Business Express for this year. Our office will be closed for the holiday season starting December 16, 2024 and will resume operations on January 6, 2025. We are excited to announce that the first edition of 2025 is scheduled for January 13, 2025.

We want to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support throughout the year. Your partnership has been invaluable to us, and we look forward to strengthening our working relationship in the coming year.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May this festive season bring joy and prosperity to you and your loved ones.



Continues from page 10

Recognising the magnitude of the change, NBL turned to Keyrus to guide it through the transition. Leveraging their deep understanding of NBL's analytics journey, Keyrus worked to ensure the migration was seamless, while preserving the analytical capabilities the brewery had come to rely on.

Tailored support through a managed service agreement

Keyrus and NBL adapted their existing managed service agreement to address the dual-platform requirements during the migration. This bespoke arrangement allowed NBL to continue leveraging Tableau while ramping up its skills and capacity on Microsoft Power BI.

Central to the transition was Keyrus's 'consultative training' approach, which combines skill development with practical application. Through focused learning sessions, Keyrus provided NBL's teams with hands-on Power BI experience tailored to their unique operational context. This ensured the migration was not just about adopting a new tool, but about enabling users to thrive with it.

"Namibia Breweries has consistently prioritised empowering their teams with the best tools for the job," says Craig Andrew, Head of Data Analytics at Keyrus South Africa. "While the change from Tableau was initially daunting, our goal was to help them see the opportunities in Power BI and support them every step of the way."

A partnership built on trust and successful history

Keyrus' partnership with NBL has always extended beyond technical implementation. In early 2024, after four years of virtual collaboration, Keyrus made an in-person visit to NBL's Windhoek headquarters. The visit underscored its commitment to the relationship, strengthening the trust built over years of working together.

"We've always appreciated the unwavering support and expertise Keyrus provides," says Engelbrecht. "Whether it was the initial modernising of our analytics capability or guiding us through this recent migration to Power BI, their expertise guided us through it

all. Their ability to navigate technical challenges and deliver tailored solutions makes them a true strategic partner."

NBL's business intelligence rapid evolution and growth

NBL's BI journey has been a testament to its resilience and commitment to staying ahead of the curve. Through it all, Keyrus has been a constant – helping NBL not only adapt to change, but thrive within it. Today, NBL stands as a shining example of how the right partnerships can turn technical challenges into opportunities for growth. Keyrus is well equipped to guide you through your journey towards a data-driven future, irrespective of the technology you chose.

Keyrus



2025

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20 December 2024**



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Elevate Uranium's U-pgrade demonstration plant imminent



By Business Express Writer

Ongoing metallurgical beneficiation test work using ore from Elevate Uranium's Koppies project in Namibia will inform the design of the company's proposed U-pgrade demonstration plant.

Six tonnes of uranium samples excavated from bulk test pits at the Koppies resource have been sent to a laboratory in Perth for the test work.

Detailed mineralogical analysis of each sample is in progress, along with bench-scale testing of the primary composites.

Design components

Elevate expects the test results in the new year and anticipates the demonstration plant to be operational by late 2025.

The company is in the process of identifying suitable engineering, design and construction firms to build the plant and expects to award a contract before year end.

The plant will be constructed in Australia before being shipped to Namibia for operation on Koppies resource ore at scale and on a continuous basis. Namibian portfolio

Meanwhile, resource expansion and exploration is continuing at the Hirabeb, Namib IV, Capri and Marenica uranium projects within Elevate's Namibian portfolio.

Current drilling at Hirabeb is testing the extent of basement-hosted mineralisation north and north-



Continues on page 13



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west of an October maiden resource that totalled 10.2 million pounds uranium oxide equivalent (eU3O8).

The mineralisation is 25 kilometres from the southern portion of the Koppies resource within the Koppies project.

The company has so far reported mineralised intersections 1.2km north of the resource area with best results of 1.5 metres at 292 parts per million eU3O8 from 9m and 2m at 545ppm eU3O8 from 25.5m.

Namib IV find

Exploration has recommenced at Namib IV, where drilling has identified a large area of continuous mineralisation 20km from the southern portion of the Koppies resource.

Significant intersections have included 3.5m at 2,053ppm eU3O8 from 3.5m, 18m at 267ppm eU3O8 from 10m and 1.5m at 1,110ppm eU3O8 from 0.5m.

Future infill drilling will focus on confirming a mineralised polygon, with the aim of delineating and reporting a maiden resource during 2025.

Elevate said additional resources delineated at Hirabeb and Namib IV will add to the total Koppies resource base and may extend the life of mine or allow an increased production rate at any future mining operation. Capri drilling

The company has designed the drilling at the Capri tenement to "close-up" the distance between drill lines from between 800m and 2.5km apart to a nominal 200m.

Best intercepts to date include 4.5m at 942ppm eU3O8 from

7.5m, 7.5m at 270ppm eU3O8 from 3.5m and 3.5m at 438ppm eU3O8 from surface.

The program is aiming to better define the outline of the mineralisation and delineating a maiden resource in the new year.

Marenica resource

Work also commenced during the quarter at the Marenica project, situated 25km from Capri. The program will focus on areas outside of the resource boundary.

Drilling of an exploration target south of the main MA7 deposit has identified some encouraging intersections with grades of up to 439ppm uranium oxide.

www.debmarineamibia.com

EXPRESSION
OF INTEREST

First date of publication: 15 November 2024

DBMNE0518 - CONCEPT DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF A TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT AND STORAGE FACILITY

SCOPE OF WORK:

Debmarine Namibia is expanding its in-country capability to coordinate the repair and refurbishment of its equipment. This expansion will involve a comprehensive review of current practices, procedures, support services (engineering and logistics), physical infrastructure and equipment.

To this end, EPCM contractors with the necessary capabilities and capacity are invited to respond to this expression of interest. The general scope, be refined in collaboration with the appointed EPCM contractor, includes a study and assessment of organisational needs and capacity development to achieve the desired future state.

EPCM contractors wishing to respond to this expression of interest should have a proven track record of completing projects on time and within budget. The scope of capability should include the review and development of physical infrastructure, process design and adequacy, skills deployment, and operational readiness/implementation of solutions.

EPCM contractors interested in responding to this request are required to provide a comprehensive set of documents demonstrating their qualifications, experience, capabilities and approach to achieving the project's objectives.

DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED :

1. Company Profile and Overview
2. Relevant Project Experience
3. Technical Proposal
4. Capabilities and Capacity
5. Indicative Rates and Personnel Deployment Plan

CLOSING DATE: Registered businesses interested in providing these services are requested to submit their interest by sending the documentation reference number DBMNE0518 by 20 December 2024 at 12:00.

ENQUIRIES:
The Commercial Officer
Tel: +264 61 297 8450
Asite Marketplace: <https://za.marketplace.asite.com/>
Subject line: DBMNE0518 – CONCEPT DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF A TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT AND STORAGE FACILITY.

Bidders must register on our electronic platform to participate in this EOI.

DISCLAIMER:
Debmarine Namibia shall not be responsible for any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a response to this Expression of Interest and furthermore reserves the right not to extend this Expression of Interest into any future tenders, negotiations and/or engagements. Debmarine Namibia will not accept submissions rendered after the closing date and time.



88 Energy pin-points 10 big Namibian onshore oil and gas targets

By Business Express Writer

88 Energy has pinpointed no less than 10 independent hydrocarbon leads after doing the initial interpretation of newly acquired 2D seismic data across its petroleum exploration licence 93 (PEL93) in the Owambo Basin, in Namibia.

The findings, conducted by one of 88 Energy's partners in the project, Monitor Exploration, have reconfirmed the existence of substantial closed-in structures right across the southern area of the lease, picked up in geophysical surveys conducted in the past six years.

Some of the leads span almost 100 square kilometres and appear to show the potential for wide columns which, according to the company, could easily be charged with hydrocarbons judging by the source rocks beneath the leads and the downdip extension to the north.

Since picking up the licence in 2018, Monitor has used various geophysical and geochemical methods to assess its potential.

Initially, it identified the 10 possible structural traps using airborne geophysical surveys.

Soil sampling showed elevated ethane levels above the structures, suggesting the presence of an active petroleum system.

Additional passive seismic studies also matched closely with the structures and supported findings of alkane concentrations in the soil.

The latest interpreted 2D seismic data has now conclusively backed up all the previous fieldwork done by the operator and sufficiently excited 88 Energy and Monitor to immediately commission an independent review as a standard check and measure.

When verified, the operator intends to start the work of putting together a prospective resource estimate for PEL93 due for completion in the first half of next year.

PEL93 spans a vast 18,500 square kilometres and



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is managed under a joint venture (JV) agreement in which 88 Energy holds a 20 per cent working interest, with Monitor Exploration leading the charge with 55 per cent.

The residual balance of the JV is held by Legend Oil Namibia with 15 per cent and the National Petroleum Corporation of Namibia with 10 per cent.

Under the 2023 farm-in agreement, 88 Energy also has the option to increase its stake to 45 per cent by spending up to a further \$18.7 million in exploration costs.

Prior to the latest findings, some early work done by Canadian seismic specialist Earth Signal had picked up an extremely detailed image of a priority play within PEL93 called Damara.

Specifically, the initial analysis zeroed in on a substantial high-relief structure known as "Lead 9", covering almost 186 square kilometres.

Given the lead is interpreted to be close to the original source of the hydrocarbons, it is now a priority target.

Adding a thick layer of interest to the narrative, recent activity by Reconnaissance Energy Africa (Recon Africa) at the nearby PEL 73 licence - and particularly its Naingopo-1 well targeting the Damara play - appears to show striking similarities with Lead 9.

Notably, Recon Africa recently farmed out 20 per cent of its ground to BW Energy in July for \$24m.

That deal has stirred

a lot of industry interest, hinting at the potential value of ongoing exploration within the huge Owambo Basin. While pushing forward with its Namibian ventures, 88 Energy is also setting its sights on a colossal opportunity in Alaska called the Phoenix project, where it holds a commanding 63 per cent stake.

Warming up the icy frontier, independent consultant ERCE recently upgraded its 2C prospective resource estimate to a remarkable 378 million barrels of oil equivalent (MMboe) of which 239 MMboe is 88 Energy's share.

With numbers like that, Phoenix has the potential to be a game-changer.

With key oil and gas players in the region no doubt looking on closely, the JV's detailed interpretation and subsequent resource estimate at PEL93 will be of extreme interest as it may hold the key to unlocking the huge potential of the underexplored Owambo Basin and with it, Namibia's position in the global energy arena.

CONGRATULATIONS,

Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah!



We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah on her historic election as President of Namibia.

Your leadership and vision inspire hope for a brighter future for our nation.

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Congratulations once again on this remarkable achievement!



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PyroCCS and Atmosfair join forces to scale biochar CDR in Namibia

By Business Express Writer

PyroNam, a subsidiary of the German climate tech company PyroCCS, and the German non-profit organization atmosfair have teamed up in a partnership to scale biochar carbon dioxide removal (CDR) in Namibia.

As part of a long-term vision that entails the development of multiple new high-tech industrial biochar projects across the country, the two partners are already working on their first collaborative project on the Nog Verder Farm in the Otjozondjupa region of Namibia.

This location will host a production plant that will use sustainably obtained cuttings from encroaching bush species as feedstock for generating biochar.

With a production capacity of at least 1,000 tons per year, this facility will provide a biochar product that will be dispersed on local soils, where it is expected to durably store the equivalent of over 2,000 tons of CO₂ annually.

This initial project is already well underway, with the necessary infrastructure already constructed on site.

Currently, the partners are installing PyroCCS' low-emission SCB technology on the location, with the carbon credit certification process

slated to be completed by February 2025. As part of this collaboration, PyroNam will handle the building, maintenance, and operation of the project assets and sites. On their end, atmosfair will provide the financial means for the pyrolysis plants and operation, promoting environmental sustainability with the issuance of high-quality carbon credits with a 1,000-year durability.

This PyroCCS and atmosfair project will be tracked with PyroNam's digital monitoring, reporting, and verification (dMRV) system called Sarva Carbon. Additionally, PyroNam and atmosfair will co-register and refine the design of the project, keeping in line with the ICROA-endorsed Global Biochar C-Sink of Carbon Standards International.

Henrike Geldmacher, Managing Director of PyroNam, explained that the planned network of biochar projects holds great promise for revitalizing the sandy and degraded Namibian soils, an effort that over time would improve the overall food security in the country.

Beyond the environmental benefits, the biochar plants will also bring employment opportunities to unskilled youth in regions with high levels of unemployment.

Flo Oberhofer, Chief Operating Officer of PyroCCS GmbH, shared that by the end of the decade, they intend to scale operations in Namibia to over 400 plants.



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Namibia's 2024 elections a mirror of progress and peril



By Gerson Shikukumwa

Namibia's 2024 presidential and National Assembly elections encapsulated both remarkable strides and glaring inefficiencies. Although voter turnout was commendable, logistical inadequacies and allegations of irregularities raised questions about the state of Namibia's democracy. These elections were not just a routine exercise in governance — they represented a test of the country's institutional resilience, public confidence and commitment to democratic principles.

The elections stood out for the active involvement of citizens, reflecting a society invested in shaping its future. More than one million Namibians out of 1.3 million registered voters turned up at polling stations, reinforcing the importance of electoral participation in sustaining democracy. Voters in both urban and

rural areas braved long queues to exercise their right to vote. Their determination reinforced a collective desire for change and progress.

But this enthusiasm was overshadowed by logistical problems. The introduction of the “vote anywhere” policy, designed to improve accessibility, exposed operational weaknesses.

Integrated Mobile Voter Registration Systems malfunctioned, ballot papers ran out and some polling stations opened late, delaying the process for many voters. These issues were compounded by the failure of the Electoral Commission of Namibia (ECN) to adequately manage these complexities, raising doubts about its operational competence.

Moreover, outsourcing ballot production to South Africa, despite procuring the ballots well before the



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elections, showed Namibia's dependence on external suppliers. This reliance undermined public confidence in the process. Namibia, as a sovereign nation, must prioritise the development of local capacities to independently manage its electoral processes.

Such errors disproportionately affected rural and marginalised voters, many of whom already face systemic barriers to participation.

Beyond operational shortcomings, allegations of misconduct and breaches of the Electoral Act cast a shadow over the elections. Political parties accused each other of spreading misinformation and unfair practices, fuelling public discontent. These accusations exposed the fragility of Namibia's political maturity; campaigns often prioritised propaganda over substantive policy debates. Some political parties copied others' manifestos, undermining genuine political discourse and complicating the choices available to voters.

More than 15,000 votes — about 1.4% of the total — were rejected. Although this percentage may seem small, it represents thousands of citizens whose voices were effectively silenced. Many of these rejections were a result of voter errors, an indicator of inadequate civic education. The ECN's outreach efforts failed to address the knowledge gap, particularly in rural areas where understanding of electoral processes remains limited.

"Opposition parties" further questioned the fairness of the process, alleging irregularities in vote counting, ballot shortages at polling stations and the tabulation process. Although legal mechanisms exist to address these disputes, such as the electoral court, the electoral tribunal and the supreme court, the damage to public trust is far more difficult to repair. Transparent and efficient electoral systems are essential

to maintaining credibility, and Namibia must work toward rebuilding this foundation.

The election results reaffirmed the dominance of Swapo, which retained the presidency (with president-elect Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah securing 638,560 votes, or 57.31%) and a majority in the National Assembly (583,300 votes, or 54%, (51 seats from 63 seats in 2029). But the political landscape is shifting, as evidenced by the growing influence of opposition parties such as the Independent Patriots for Change (IPC) (20 seats) and Affirmative Repositioning (AR) (six seats). These parties capitalised on the dissatisfaction of younger and urban voters, signalling



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a desire for alternatives to Swapo's long-standing rule.

The persistence of a dominant-party system presents opportunities and risks. Swapo's experience in governance provides stability in uncertain times. But its overwhelming control risks fostering complacency and resistance to change.

Namibia's challenges — youth unemployment, inadequate housing (with a backlog of about 300,000 housing units only for those who have already applied), and corruption-demand innovative solutions that may not emerge within the constraints of one-party dominance unless strategic planning and management are enforced.

Parties with fewer seats, despite their electoral gains, may continue to struggle for meaningful representation, as witnessed in previous years. Namibia's proportional representation system, although designed to ensure inclusivity, has not translated into significant influence for these parties. Strengthening their roles through policy changes and enhanced parliamentary practices is needed to ensure a more balanced and representative democracy.

Amid these issues, Namibia's civil society emerged as a beacon of hope. Organisations such as the Namibia Institute for Democracy (NID) played a critical role in voter education, monitoring the electoral process and advocating for transparency. Its efforts complemented the work of local and international observers, who provided impartial assessments of the elections.

But civic education campaigns must be more widespread and targeted, particularly in remote areas where access to information is limited. Educational institutions can also play a role by incorporating lessons on democracy and governance into their curricula. Such initiatives will empower future generations to participate more effectively in the democratic process.

Additionally, responsible journalism is essential for countering misinformation and fostering informed debates. Namibia's media outlets must strive for greater impartiality and depth in their coverage, ensuring that voters are equipped with the knowledge needed to make informed decisions. The coverage of certain political parties, for instance, has often been disproportionate, providing evidence of the need for greater objectivity in reporting.

The 2024 elections highlighted the need for electoral reform. At the heart of this should be the modernisation of the ECN's operational capabilities. Investing in locally produced voting technologies will reduce reliance on external suppliers and enhance the system's integrity.

Training and capacity-building initiatives for electoral staff are equally important. Many of the logistical problems stemmed from a lack of preparedness among poll workers, who were often overwhelmed by technical issues and procedural complexities. A well-trained workforce will be better equipped to handle the demands of a modern electoral process.

Namibia also needs to strengthen its legal framework to address gaps in electoral governance. Stricter enforcement of the Electoral Act, coupled with independent oversight mechanisms, will deter misconduct and promote accountability. Civil society organisations and opposition parties can play a vital role in advocating for these reforms, ensuring that they reflect the needs and aspirations of the broader population.

For Namibia's democracy to thrive, political actors must embrace a culture of accountability and inclusivity. Campaigns should focus on substantive issues rather than personal attacks or inflammatory rhetoric. Political debates must prioritise policies that address the nation's problems, from poverty alleviation to environmental sustainability.

Inclusivity must extend to marginalised groups such as women, youth and people living in rural areas. These constituencies remain underrepresented in Namibia's political landscape, despite their contributions to society. Thanks to the first democratically elected woman president in Namibia, there is hope that such initiatives will continue to grow. Efforts to increase the participation of these groups, both as voters and candidates, will enrich the democratic process and ensure that all voices are heard.

Namibia has an opportunity to build on these lessons. Through investing in electoral reforms, strengthening civic involvement and fostering a culture of accountability, the nation can chart a path towards a more inclusive and resilient democracy. The resilience of its citizens deserves no less.

Gerson Ingashipola Shikukumwa is a Canon Collins Scholar pursuing a master's in political science at the University of the Free State. He holds a Bachelor of Public Management (Honours) from the University of Namibia. The opinions expressed here are his own.

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Fellow road users, the festive season is a time for celebrations, gatherings, and travel. As we embrace this special season, let's prioritise safety on our roads. Check that your tyres are properly inflated and in good condition, adhere to speed limits, and always wear your seatbelt whether the trip is short or long. Maintain a safe following distance, take frequent rests during long journeys to stay focused, and never drive when under the influence of alcohol and drugs, as this puts lives in danger.

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New red Arra varieties have Namibia talking



By Business Express Writer

The early promise of Arra's new red varieties was emphasised during recent field days in Namibia.

South African cultivar management company TopFruit reported on its first field day for Arra Fire Crunch, in the vineyards of the Namibian Grape Company at Aussenkehr.

Willie Vermeulen of Karsten Farms in Namibia said his company had a very positive experience with Arra varieties.

"Arra varieties have good qualities with high yields and low cost, which gives good farm income on the farm," he noted.

Launched under the strategy 'Arra, Red Factor', the field day in the test block at Namibian Grape Company focused in particular on Arra Fire Crunch and Arra Cherry Crush, which according to TopFruit, had sparked increased interest and plantings in both Namibia and South Africa.

TopFruit said the field day was well attended by the Namibian industry, which proved the early promise of the varieties.

"Growers are increasingly recognising the potential of these varieties not only for their resilience and ease of production but also for their ability to meet

the rigorous demands of global markets," the group outlined.

In recent times there has been a great focus on early white and red seedless varieties, which could fill gaps in the early Southern African season, both in Namibia and the Orange River region of South Africa.

AJ Jansen van Vuuren, table grape manager at TopFruit, had previously emphasised the significance of the new red varieties.

"The Arra-branded varieties bring greater peace of mind to growers facing climatic challenges and looking to maximise their market potential," he told Fruitnet.

Van Vuuren noted that industry orders for the varieties over the next few years were very positive.

"We are grateful to the growers partnering with us in this venture," he said. "A very promising variety under the Red Factor banner is Arra Fire Crunch." Growers who attended the field day said that the early experience with these varieties had been very positive.

Interest in Arra Fire Crunch and Arra Cherry Crush was also evident among South African and Namibian growers during the Arra field days in California earlier this year.

"It's clear that our engagement with growers, exporters, and nurseries continues to strengthen our position in the market," added Van Vuuren.



De Beers Group announces 2024 jewellery design competition winners

By Business Express Writer

Diamond miner De Beers Group has announced the winners of the 2024 Shining Light Awards, a jewellery design competition for designers from the countries where De Beers recovers diamonds, including South Africa, Namibia, Botswana and Canada.

Launched in 1995, the Shining Light Awards are part of the De Beers Group Designers Initiative, a youth beneficiation skills development initiative aimed at developing jewellery design and manufacturing skills within De Beers Group's host countries.

The competition runs every two years and is open to jewellery designers aged 18 to 35 who are in their final year of a jewellery design programme, have already graduated or who have relevant experience in jewellery design. This year's design theme *Luxury Redefined* invited entrants to present innovative, authentic and inclusive visions of luxury, while celebrating diversity.

Each entry included designs for a complete jewellery collection featuring a ring, necklace, earrings, bangles and bracelets. Twenty-two finalists were selected from the 104 entries submitted this year. The 2024 Shining Light Award prizes are designed to advance each winner's career by further developing their skills and equipping them with essential tools for success.

The prizes include business support, a structured skills development programme and tuition assistance, all aimed at empowering winners to build sustainable careers in the jewellery industry and contribute lasting value to their communities. In South Africa, Otlotleng Moshupa placed first, Eve Julia Schneeberger second and Lisa Henn third.

The three winners from Botswana are Legakwana Leo Makgekgenene, Tsholo Cater Mogoby and Tshegofatso Sheba Kenalemang.

The Namibian winners are Juliana Fransisko, Padja Kaitungwa and Luka Ndivaye. In Canada, Alisha Ansems placed first, Elinor Nelson-Hachey second and Samantha Yeung third.

"The Shining Light Awards are a testament to De Beers Group's commitment to beneficiation in the countries where we recover diamonds. "By creating accessible opportunities within the diamond sector, we are actively investing in local talent, with a particular focus on supporting youth in our host countries to benefit from the diamond industry," says De Beers Group managed operations CEO Moses Madondo.

"Through the Shining Light Awards, we provide a platform that not only nurtures and develops emerging designers but also highlights the value of skills transfer, entrepreneurship and creativity along the diamond value chain. We are truly inspired by the level of talent and innovation showcased by this year's finalists," he adds.

An international panel of judges representing the four countries, led by De Beers Jewellers CEO Céline Assimon evaluated and selected this year's winners. "The Shining Light Awards provide a platform to spotlight young talent and open doors within the diamond sector and global markets. This year's theme, *Luxury Redefined*, inspired a range of creative interpretations with designers exploring sustainability, natural elements and cultural heritage as sources of inspiration, reflecting how luxury is shaped and defined by individual lived experience.

"It was an honour to be part of this year's competition, and congratulations to our winners and all applicants for their exceptional submissions," Assimon says.

Fly Angola to commence flights to Namibia



By Business Express Writer

FlyAngola will launch its first international route from Benguela (Catumbela airport) to Windhoek, Namibia, from December 21, 2024.

This new connection will be operated three times a week, with direct and non-stop flights, providing a journey of just two hours between the two cities.

“These new flights will revolutionise mobility

throughout the region – whether for business, health, leisure or visiting friends and family – and will certainly bring tourists from the Namibian capital to the most beautiful warm water beaches in the province of Benguela”, said Belarnício Muangala, CEO of FlyAngola.

In addition to the direct connection to Windhoek, flights will also continue to Luanda, introducing a new air transport option between the Angolan capital and Namibia, expanding alternatives for passengers and boosting the market between the two capitals.



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