

## We're for Namibians

Scan the QR code to read Dr La-Toya 'Lioness' Hamutenya's uplifting journey and discover her resilience, determination, and pride.

By Namibians. For Namibia.

WE'RE  
FOR NAMIBIANS



Fly Namibia

www.flynam.com



# BUSINESS EXPRESS

www.nambusinessexpress.com

Your Business News Partner

Business Express @bizexpressNA business\_express\_nam Business Express

ISSUE 169 | Monday, 04 August 2025 - 10 August 2025

# A look inside Namibia's push for a green hydrogen revolution

## EX FINANCIAL MARKETS

### Exchange Rates

N\$ – US Dollar:	17.73
N\$ – British Pound:	23.06
N\$ – Euro:	20.29
N\$ – Aus dollar:	11.54
N\$ – Yen:	0.12

### Commodities

Gold:	3 357
Silver :	36.20
Palladium:	1310.74
Platinum:	1468.68
Brent crude:	69.09



ACHIEVE . LEAD . TRANSFORM - DISTANCE LEARNING

Second Semester Registration is Open:

Faculties: IT / Humanities / Education / Commerce / Policing / Management / Law



STADIO  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
NAMIBIA

Windhoek hellonam@stadio.ac.za  
+264 (0) 8333100 80 24 Wagner Street, Windhoek West

Website: www.stadio.ac.za

Ongwediva helloongwediva@stadio.ac.za  
+264 (0) 8333100 80 Makalani Glass Building, Marula Street

**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 business oriented individuals 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.



**FOR EDITORIAL  
AND ADVERTISING  
INQUIRIES**



**Contact Us**

**+264 85 749 9956**

**[editor@nambusinessexpress.com](mailto:editor@nambusinessexpress.com)**

**[sales@nambusinessexpress.com](mailto:sales@nambusinessexpress.com)**



**Business Insights**  
*Weekly...*

## **Namibia's Orange Basin beckons with growing confidence**

***The rhythmic thud of the drill bit penetrating the seabed off Namibia's coast this week signifies more than just another exploration well; it echoes a resounding vote of confidence in the Orange Basin's potential. Rhino Resources' spudding of the Volans-1X well in Petroleum Exploration Licence 85 (PEL 85) is a crucial next chapter in a basin rapidly capturing global attention.***

This latest probe, drilled by the Deepsea Mira, isn't happening in a vacuum. It follows Rhino's own significant successes with the Sagittarius-1X and, notably, the Capricornus-1X wells within the same licence. Capricornus wasn't just a discovery; its flow rates exceeding 11,000 barrels per day of light oil during testing sent a clear signal to the industry: the Orange Basin holds substantial, commercially viable hydrocarbons. Rhino isn't merely dipping a toe back in; they are diving deeper, committing significant resources to a third well.

The targeting of the Volans prospect is particularly telling. It represents a deliberate push to test a new geological play concept – one with a potentially distinct “sheet-like reservoir morphology.” This ambition underscores a maturing understanding of the basin's complexity and a strategic drive to unlock its full scope. Success here wouldn't just add another discovery; it could fundamentally reshape development options for Rhino and its partners (Azule Energy, Namcor, Korres Investments), revealing entirely new avenues for resource exploitation.

Rhino's persistent investment, especially as a successful private player, speaks volumes. International Oil Companies (IOCs) are inherently cautious, driven by data and potential returns. The decision to proceed with Volans-1X, following two prior successes, demonstrates a calculated belief that PEL 85, and the wider Orange Basin, offers more than isolated pockets of oil. It signals confidence in the basin's overall prospectivity and the potential for a larger, integrated hydrocarbon system.

For Namibia, this sustained activity is transformative. Each new well, particularly one testing a novel play like Volans, de-risks the basin further, attracting more investment and expertise. It validates the country's emergence as a serious oil province. The potential rewards – national revenue, job creation, technology transfer, and energy security – are immense.

>>>KEY INSIGHTS EMERGE IN MID-TERM REVIEW

# A look inside Namibia's push for a green hydrogen revolution

**Business Express Writer**

***Namibia's bold vision to transform itself from a raw material exporter into a continental green industrial powerhouse is rapidly gaining traction, propelled by strategic studies, significant funding inflows, and tangible early successes in its burgeoning green hydrogen sector.***

With over N\$2.08 billion already invested and key pilot projects coming online, the Namibia Green Hydrogen Programme (NGH2P) is leveraging critical research to unlock a future defined by high-value exports, mass employment, and global climate leadership.

The commissioning of the Hylron-Oshivela facility near Arandis in March 2025 marked a watershed moment, producing sub-Saharan Africa's first green hydrogen-powered iron. Its 12 MW electrolyser, the largest in the southern hemisphere, stands as a physical testament to progress.

"This project not only contributes to the global fight against climate change but also underscores Namibia's commitment to a carbon-free economy," declared President Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah. "By shifting from raw material exports to local value-added production, Namibia will generate six to eight times more economic value." This shift is being meticulously guided by a suite of foundational studies pinpointing optimal pathways for industrial development.

Crucial pre-feasibility studies, funded by NGH2P, are laying the groundwork for large-scale investment. The Neckartal Dam Fertiliser Green Scheme study confirmed the viability of local ammonia and fertiliser production, promising to slash imports and bolster national food security – a goal already advanced by the fully operational Daures Green Hydrogen Village pilot, set to supply one-third of Namibia's fertiliser needs. Simultaneously, the Gigawatt-Scale Green Hydrogen Plant study identified prime sites outside the Tsau //Khaeb National Park (TKNP) for massive production hubs targeting green steel, agriculture, mineral beneficiation, and regional power exports. Further unlocking potential, an offshore wind feasibility



study revealed an estimated 20-35 GW capacity near Lüderitz, paving the way for pilot projects to build local expertise. To ensure future projects are built on solid data, a N\$50 million wind measurement campaign within the TKNP is underway, collecting vital resource data over 12-24 months to de-risk major investments.

Understanding that world-class infrastructure is paramount, the NGH2P secured N\$3.6 million from Germany for a best-practice study on Common User Infrastructure (CUI) – pipelines, desalination plants, rail, ports, and energy corridors. Expected



Continues on page 4





*Continues from page 3*

by end-June 2025, this study will guide NamPower, NamWater, NamPort, and TransNamib in integrated planning. Complementing this, a landmark cross-border pre-feasibility study confirmed the feasibility of a hydrogen pipeline linking Lüderitz, Boegoebaai (South Africa), and Saldanha Bay, creating a resilient Southern African hydrogen backbone with a conceptual master plan slated for mid-2025. Port readiness is also accelerating, with NamPort signing strategic MoUs with Rotterdam and Antwerp-Bruges to develop Angra Point in Lüderitz and upgrade Walvis Bay's North Port, positioning Namibia as a key green ammonia export gateway. Funding from GIZ further supports developing a National Maritime Decarbonisation Action Plan.

This strategic foundation is attracting substantial capital. Beyond the N\$2.08 billion already invested in projects, Namibia achieved a major coup by ranking 3rd globally among 26 nations in the Climate Investment Funds' (CIF) competitive selection process. This grants access to the CIF Industry Decarbonization Programme (IDP), offering concessional finance up to USD 250 million at approximately 1% interest, capable of leveraging up to ten times that amount from multilateral banks.

"This underscores the maturity of the work undertaken since 2021 by Government in partnership with private sector stakeholders," stated James Mnyupe, Head of the NGH2P. An additional EUR 12 million, stemming from Hyphen Hydrogen Energy's land lease agreement under the Feasibility and Implementation Agreement (FIA), is expected to be allocated to the NGH2P to further sector development. Donor confidence remains strong, with close to USD 125 million secured since 2022 from Germany, the EU, the Netherlands, and others for programme operations, strategy development, scholarships, and the SDG Namibia One Fund.

The benefits are already materialising at the grassroots level. Over 800 Namibians have gained employment in pilot and early-stage green hydrogen projects. Approximately N\$170 million has flowed into local small and medium enterprises (SMEs), stimulating entrepreneurship and local value chain development. The Youth for Green Hydrogen Scholarship Programme, funded via a German partnership, has awarded 183 scholarships for green transition-related

studies at TVET and university levels, with a further EUR 1.3 million earmarked for regional TVET training initiatives in Hardap and Karas. Capacity building extends to research, with approximately EUR 2 million secured to fully operationalise the Namibia Green Hydrogen Research Institute (NGHRI) at UNAM, focusing on safety, sustainability, and local technological innovation.

Looking ahead, 2025 is poised to be a defining year. The draft National Policy on Green Hydrogen and Derivatives, finalised in April 2025 and currently under review by the Ministry of Mines and Energy, is the cornerstone for enabling legislation and a clear regulatory framework expected later this year.

The NGH2P, in partnership with Ninety-One, is developing a detailed investment plan aligned with the forthcoming National Development Plan 6 (NDP6) to channel the CIF-IDP funds effectively. Environmental and social safeguards are being rigorously addressed through Strategic Environmental and Social Assessments (SESA) for the Southern and Central Corridors, crucial for securing finance and managing cumulative impacts, especially in ecologically sensitive areas like the TKNP. An ESG policy is also under development for finalisation in Q3 2025 to ensure impeccable sustainability standards.

Major final investment decisions for projects like Hylron and Cleanergy are anticipated this year, signalling the potential shift from pilots to commercial scale. The government aims to complement private investment by mobilising catalytic concessional finance to reduce capital costs across the ecosystem and finalise a competitive fiscal regime.

"The year 2025 is the year the industry could lay the real foundation for attaining escape velocity, departing the realms of piloting and entering the era of commercial scale," the NGH2P report asserts. Domestically, the Global African Hydrogen Summit in Windhoek this September will showcase progress, while internationally, platforms like TICAD and COP30 offer stages for Namibia's green ambition.

Ultimately, the NGH2P envisions transitioning into a self-sufficient continental centre of excellence, sharing hard-won lessons and mobilising capital to champion Africa-wide green industrialisation, turning vulnerability to climate change into a powerhouse of sustainable opportunity.

# Namibia: Nuclear tech from South Africa to power oil refinery

By Business Express Writer

**Nuclear technology from South Africa has been selected to power an oil refinery to be built in Walvis Bay, Namibia. Directors of nuclear project management company, Stratek Global, visited Namibia last week where they were taken on a site visit to the proposed site. Namibian partners in the initiative are ISF Trading.**

The Walvis Bay Town Council has conditionally allocated Portion 46, a 305-hectare parcel of industrial land, for the project, pending environmental and statutory approvals.

"Namibian authorities, supporting the Dune 7 Special Purpose Vehicle for Walvis Bay, have selected the South African HTMR-100 small modular nuclear reactor as Green Energy, to power its planned oil refinery in Walvis Bay," said Stratek Global.

The company's emissions-free advanced modular nuclear reactor technology has been selected to supply thermal heat and electricity to the 300,000 barrels per stream day (BPSD) refinery to be built on the Namibian coast.

"The project is a game-changing progression towards energy sovereignty not only for Namibia but also for the Sub-Saharan African regions, where over 600 million people still have no access to electricity," the company said.

Stratek Global will also oversee the supply of interim power during the construction and initial stages, while all local and international nuclear regulatory requirements are complied with.

## Project could benefit SADC region

The refinery forms a critical component of a broader integrated Green Energy Complex planned for Walvis Bay. It will also have a 4,000m<sup>3</sup> per day desalination plant to support the water need of the complex.

"There is no reason why we cannot collaborate with Namibia to refine and beneficiate their resources to supply a region hungry for development.

"With a massive African market presenting



itself, we believe that Namibia is well positioned to supply into the SADC region," said Olivia Vaughan, Stratek Global Director of Commercial Affairs.

Kelvin Kemm, Stratek Global Chairman, said that currently worldwide a limitation of most nuclear power plants is that they need to use the ocean, or a very large lake, for reactor system cooling.

"In contrast, we can put our High Temperature Gas Cooled Reactor technology anywhere, we do not need large water. Another advantage of our small reactors is that up to ten of them can be placed on one site, and reactors can be added at any time as demand grows," said Kemm.

James Links, Executive Chairman of ISF Trading pointed out that Namibia is the only country in the world where women hold the three top government positions.

"Namibia is also the second most law abiding country in Africa. ISF Trading is at the forefront of spearheading reforms in the Housing, Energy, and Oil and Gas Sectors of Namibia, and is committed to successful cooperation with the Namibian Government leadership to bring this game-changing nuclear plant to fruition," he said.

South Africa is a pioneer in the development of Small Modular Reactor (SMR) technology, having started the development of the Pebble Bed Modular Reactor (PBMR) in 1993.



# Namibia's oil riches may finally start to flow



**By Javier Blas**

***The world's hottest postcode for oil exploration is Namibia, attracting a who's who of the petroleum industry. So far, the African nation has generated lots of promise, but little in barrels or dollars. That's beginning to change: The contours of its prize are now taking shape.***

To understand the excitement, let's start on the other side of the Atlantic. Back in 2015, the country attracting everyone's attention was Guyana. Within a few short years, the Latin American nation delivered a gusher for Exxon Mobil Corp. and its partners: Oil production climbed from almost zero in 2019 to 700,000 barrels a day this year. By 2027, Guyana is expected to surpass 1 million barrels a day, putting it on a par with OPEC+ member countries such as Libya.

With memories of the Guyanese riches fresh, Big Oil headed across the ocean and grabbed exploratory acreage off the Namibian coast, hoping for a similar jackpot. All the big players got involved: Chevron Corp., Shell Plc, TotalEnergies SE, plus many more medium-sized companies and fortune-seeking wildcatters.

But Namibia isn't Guyana, not even close. Its geology is poorer, with the rock offering what's known as low permeability — oil doesn't flow easily. Moreover, the gas-to-oil ratio was very high, forcing companies to re-inject huge amounts of natural gas back into the reservoirs, a complex and expensive option when operating offshore in ultradeep waters. Over the past

year, the setbacks piled up: Total declared "game over" on an exploration push, Chevron announced that a high-profile well was a dry hole and Shell took a \$400 million write-down, saying it couldn't commercialize an oil discovery.

In Windhoek, the country's capital, the mood soured. "I think the hype was too high, right, so, we need to lower our expectations," central bank Governor Johannes !Gawaxab said in February, neatly capturing the shifting outlook.

The pendulum has swung too far, however. While the initial optimism was excessive, so is today's pessimism. While there's less oil in Namibia than the country's cheerleaders had hoped, it's easy to see the African nation pumping something like 300,000-400,000 barrels by the middle of the 2030s. Measured against the Guyanese benchmark, the riches are smaller. But in a world where new oil-production basins are few and far between, it's still an important development. The next 12 months will provide investors with the first clear proof of the scale of the country's crude reserves.

Crucially, two companies are close to revealing whether their discoveries are commercially viable, with one of them expected to announce whether it's greenlighting a project — known as the final investment decision, which is very rarely reversed — in the coming year.



Continues from page 6

Galp Energia SGPS SA, the Portuguese oil-and-gas group, earlier this month announced that it's received several bids for a stake in its Mopane discovery, and had started bilateral talks with potential buyers with the aim of announcing a sale later this year. Galp remains tight-lipped about the project, in which it controls an 80% stake, but from the data released, it could involve two vessels called floating production storage and offloading units, or FPSOs — each pumping about 120,000 barrels a day.

"We are now in presence of several non-binding offers," Maria Joao Carioca, the co-head of Galp, told investors. "Fundamentally, we're very happy that we have credible players engaging with us," she added. The likely sale of around half of Galp's stake, plus the transfer of the oilfield's operatorship to the buyer, is important because it will put a dollar figure into the discovery and speed up the path toward commerciality.

Meantime, Total has said it hopes to announce its final investment decision on its Venus oilfield in early 2026 at the latest.

The project will involve a single FPSO pumping about 150,000 barrels a day. The French company reckons it can make the project work at a cost of \$20-per-

barrel despite very challenging geography, including drilling offshore in waters 3,000 meters (9,800 feet) deep. Total says it's discussing more favorable terms with the Namibian government after lowering the maximum production capacity of the project but also extending the expected life of the oilfield's output.

Total Chief Executive Officer Patrick Pouyanne told investors last week the Namibian government hoped to see the first oil from the project before the end of 2029. "So that means that we should take decisions this year before end of 2025, if we want to meet the target," he said.

Industry chatter is also speculating that Total may be interested in the Galp sale. If both Galp and Total make progress in the next six months, oil investors will be reassured about the prospects of Namibia.

By mid-2026, the industry should have a clearer view of what's at stake, incentivizing other companies to maintain their drilling campaigns despite unfavorable results so far. Guyana offers a lesson here: Many quit too early. Shell, for example, sold its stake in Exxon's drilling campaign in the Latin American country only months before oil was discovered. Perseverance typically pays off — regardless of the size of the prize.

**Javier Blas is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering energy and commodities. He is coauthor of "The World for Sale: Money, Power and the Traders Who Barter the Earth's Resources."**

## Chinese Firm Secures FEED and EPC Contracts for World's Largest 3GW Green Hydrogen-Ammonia Project in Namibia

**China National Chemical Engineering & Construction Corporation Seven (CC7), a subsidiary of state-owned China National Chemical Engineering Company, has signed FEED and EPC contracts with Hyphen Hydrogen Energy for what will be the world's largest green ammonia facility.**

The agreement, witnessed by China Chemical Chairman Mo Dingge and Hyphen CEO Marco Raffinetti, covers the 3GW renewable-powered project in Namibia designed to produce 2.4 million tonnes of ammonia per year.

Namibia's government has prioritized green hydrogen as a national development strategy, with Raffinetti calling the \$10bn [\$10bn USD] export-oriented project "of great importance" to its economic future.

Hyphen, a joint venture between Germany's Enertrag and UK-based Nicholas Holdings — with Namibia acquiring a 24% stake in late 2024 — plans to

leverage the country's abundant resources to create an African green energy hub.

CC7, known for petrochemical, natural gas, and renewable energy infrastructure, will lead design and construction.

"Together with Haifen Hydrogen, the two sides will deepen cooperation, give full play to their respective advantages, and promote the smooth implementation of the benchmark renewable energy project," said Longhai, Chairman of China Chemical Seven.

Hyphen emphasized that the project, costing nearly the equivalent of Namibia's GDP, will drive industrial growth and export revenues.

China Chemical framed its involvement as part of the Belt and Road Initiative, pledging to advance international energy cooperation and carbon neutrality goals through technological innovation and high-quality delivery.





# EU, Namibia launch feedlot to catalyse Northern livestock revolution

*By Business Express Writer*

***In a significant stride towards transforming Namibia's communal agriculture, the European Union (EU) and the Government of the Republic of Namibia last week broke ground on a state-of-the-art N\$78.9 million (approx. EUR 3.9 million) cattle feedlot at the Etunda Irrigation Scheme.***

The ceremony, attended by national and regional leaders, farmers, and development partners, marks a pivotal moment in a comprehensive N\$400 million EU-funded programme designed to empower farmers in the Northern Communal Areas (NCA).

The 1,000-standing-cattle capacity Etunda Feedlot is strategically positioned near Ruacana to drastically reduce costs and logistical hurdles faced by communal farmers in accessing abattoirs and essential livestock services. Beyond mere infrastructure, the facility is envisioned as a critical off-take point, enhancing cattle quality and market readiness, and connecting NCA herders to local, regional, and potentially international value chains through Commodity-Based Trade (CBT).

Speaking at the event, Ian Dupont, EU Chargé d'Affaires to Namibia, underscored the deep-rooted partnership between the EU and Namibia. "This site is a prime example of our joint efforts to grow the livestock sector in the Northern Communal Areas," Dupont stated. He highlighted the EU and its Member States as Namibia's largest trade and development partner, collaborating across diverse sectors including agriculture. "This represents sustainable and inclusive development, aimed at bringing real empowerment to livestock farmers... Together, we want to support the building of systems and infrastructure so that farmers in the NCA can benefit from regional and international

trade, such as through SACU or the AfCFTA."

Dr. Inge Zaamwani, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform, emphasized the project's alignment with core national objectives. She stressed that the Etunda Feedlot directly addresses Namibia's goals of enhancing food security, reducing poverty, and building climate-resilient livestock management systems. The Minister acknowledged the collaborative effort involving her Ministry, the National Planning Commission (NPC) as the contracting authority, the Ministry of Works and Transport, and the EU Delegation in bringing the project to fruition.

## **Part of a transformative N\$400 million package**

The Etunda Feedlot is the flagship project within a far-reaching N\$400 million EU support package targeting the NCA livestock sector. This ambitious programme encompasses six other major infrastructure projects currently under construction across four northern regions, following technical handovers facilitated by the NPC:

1. The modernization of the slaughterhouse in Opuwo (Kunene Region);
2. The renovation of quarantine facilities and a multi-purpose farm at Omutambo Maowe (Omusati Region);
3. The construction of an Artificial Insemination Centre at the Okapya Livestock Development Centre (Oshikoto Region);
4. The building of a new Agricultural Development Centre, Veterinary Office, and staff housing at Nkurenkuru (Kavango West Region);
5. The upgrading of the auction facility in Neaute (Kavango East Region); and



*Continues on page 9*





Continues from page 8

6. The enhancement of quarantine facilities and farm infrastructure in Katima Mulilo (Zambezi Region).

### Building resilience and market access

Beyond bricks and mortar, the programme integrates vital support mechanisms to ensure long-term sustainability and resilience. Dupont detailed complementary investments already underway, including the recent handover of five 30-ton 4x4 heavy-duty trucks to the Ministry of Agriculture, with a further nine vehicles due soon, significantly boosting transport and logistics capacity across the sector.

The programme also actively supports Namibia's existing investments in livestock traceability through the Integrated Animal Health Information System (IAHIS).

Furthermore, it funds crucial aspects like farmer capacity building and mentorship in improved animal husbandry practices, and initiatives for fodder production aimed specifically at strengthening the production system's resilience to the impacts of climate change.

A core objective, reiterated by both Dupont and Minister Zaamwani, is enabling NCA farmers to participate equitably in trade. This involves mitigating the risks posed by communicable diseases such as Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD), where the veterinary cordon fence remains a key management tool. The upgraded infrastructure, coupled with enhanced traceability and veterinary controls provided by the new facilities, is designed to keep these risks at bay while facilitating safe market access.

### A call for community ownership

Dupont extended sincere gratitude to the tireless staff of the NPC, the Ministries of Agriculture and Works, his EU Delegation colleagues, and the engineers who translated the infrastructure vision into reality. He concluded with a direct appeal to regional governors, councillors, and community leaders present: "Encourage your communities to fully utilize these infrastructures once completed. Their

proper use will uplift farmers in the Northern Communal Areas, create much-needed jobs, and contribute significantly to the growth and resilience of Namibia's economy."

The groundbreaking ceremony, witnessed by a broad coalition including traditional authorities, farmers' unions, and local community members, stood as a visible testament to the cross-sectoral support for this transformative initiative.

The shared belief, as articulated by Dupont, is that this partnership paves the way for "a stronger, more productive, and climate-resilient livestock sector and functional market" for the farmers of Namibia's north, fully aligned with the goals of the national development agenda, NDP6. The Etunda Feedlot is more than a facility; it symbolizes a concrete step towards unlocking the vast potential of communal livestock farming in Namibia.



www.debmarine.namibia.com

# TENDER



First date of publication: 07 July 2025

## TENDER NO: DBMNE0535 PROVISION OF SAP CONSULTANCY SERVICES MM

### DESCRIPTION:

Debmarmine Namibia invites proposals from experienced service providers to deliver SAP Consulting Service for the Materials Management (MM) Module of the SAP system. The primary role for the Service Provider is to ensure integrity, reliability and development of Materials Management section of the SAP S4 Hana and the related Supply Chain processes.

### SCOPE OF WORK:

The service provider must perform the following services:

1. Configuration and support of the MM module
2. Identifying trends and user needs
3. Conduct and compile training material
4. Engagement of stakeholder's education and awareness plan
5. Recommendation of SAP standard solutions
6. Identify areas of business process improvements
7. Identifying and introduce enhanced functionalities
8. Knowledge of all other modules in SAP
9. Project Management

**CLOSING DATE: 15 August 2025 at 12:00**

### REQUEST FOR ELECTRONIC TENDER DOCUMENT:

Registered businesses interested in providing such services are requested to register at **Asite Marketplace**: <https://za.marketplace.asite.com/> to obtain a tender document with reference number **DBMNE0535 PROVISION OF SAP CONSULTANCY SERVICES MM**

### ENQUIRIES:

The Commercial Officer

Tel: +264 61 297 8481

Email address: [e-tender@debmarine.com](mailto:e-tender@debmarine.com)

Subject line: DBMNE0535 PROVISION OF SAP CONSULTANCY SERVICES MM

**Bidders must register on our electronic platform Asite Marketplace: <https://za.marketplace.asite.com/> to participate in this tender.**

### DISCLAIMER:

Debmarmine Namibia shall not be responsible for any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a response to this tender and furthermore reserves the right not to extend this tender into any future tenders, negotiations and or engagements.

Debmarmine Namibia shall not accept submissions rendered after the closing date and time.



**DEBMARINE**  
NAMIBIA

# Namibia's Upstream Petroleum Unit announces regulatory review, eyes competitive restructuring

*By Business Express Writer*

**Namibia's newly formed Upstream Petroleum Unit is currently in the process of conducting a review of the country's existing regulatory framework with a view to propose policies for the governance of the rapidly evolving petroleum industry. Speaking during the second edition of the Youth in Oil and Gas Summit in Walvis Bay last week, Kornelia Shilunga, Special Advisor & Head of Upstream Petroleum Unit in the Office of the Namibian Presidency, explained that these reviews seek to establish an effective and efficient upstream petroleum sector, while paving the way for greater participation by Namibian youth.**

Representing the voice of the African energy sector, the African Energy Chamber (AEC) said it fully supports the Namibian government as it strives to position the petroleum industry as a driving force in economic development.

The AEC has long-advocated for the vital role the youth play in Africa's energy industry and commends the proactive approach by the Namibian Presidency to position youth at the forefront of the sector. Having endorsed the Youth in Oil and Gas Summit, the AEC also commends its Founder Justina Erastus for her commitment to empowering youth.

The review comes as Namibia pursues first oil production from its Orange Basin discoveries by 2029 and is geared towards strengthening the competitiveness of investing in the country's upstream petroleum sector. Major discoveries made by international companies such as TotalEnergies, Shell, Galp, Eni and more have positioned the country as one of the world's most promising frontiers, with ongoing drilling campaigns led by Rhino Resources, BW Energy, Chevron and more setting the country up for future upstream success. With TotalEnergies targeting a final investment decision for the Venus field in 2026 and Galp advancing its Mopane development, Namibia is on track to become a global oil producer by the end of the decade.

These developments offer strategic benefits for the country and the Upstream Petroleum Unit has committed to ensuring that Namibia's upstream potential provides several opportunities for its youth. As such, a strategic component of the ongoing reviews – as well as any proposed policies – is youth inclusivity



and empowerment. According to Shilunga, “under Namibia's 8th administration, youth empowerment is a national imperative, not a secondary concern.”

She explained: “By 2024, a total of 28 offshore oil



*Continues on page 11*



Continues from page 10

and gas exploration wells and 15 appraisal wells had been drilled, alongside 10 exploratory wells onshore. The country boasts an estimated 11 billion barrels of oil and approximately 2.2 trillion cubic feet of natural gas reserves, making Namibia a key emerging player in the global energy sector. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that these discoveries benefit our people, especially our youth."

The imminent production of offshore oil offers significant opportunities for youth in Namibia, ranging from petroleum engineering to geosciences to offshore operations, environmental and regulatory compliance and logistics and support services. As an industry largely in its infancy stage, Namibia's petroleum sector requires innovation, infrastructure and adaptive policies to ensure offshore resources are developed in both a productive and sustainable manner. Moreso, the country is uniquely positioned to establish an industry that is geared towards the local market from the get-go – and upcoming regulatory restructuring will play an instrumental part in achieving this goal.

Namibia's youth represent a large share of the country's population, with approximately 71% of the country's three million residents under the age of 35. This figure is expected to grow even further, with preliminary estimates showing Namibia's population exceeding six million by 2050. Therefore, it becomes imperative to ensure current policies reflect anticipated growth trends while positioning the petroleum sector as a driver of economic development and job creation. As such, Namibia's Upstream Petroleum Unit has challenged stakeholders across the country to collaborate and position youth at the forefront of the industry's development.

"I call for shared responsibility in this endeavor and challenge us all. I challenge industry players to invest in capacity building. I challenge the academia to align curricula with current and future energy needs. I challenge we, the government, to accelerate youth-focused reforms and policies. And I also challenge you, our youth, to proactively seek knowledge, ask questions and to build networks," Shilunga said.

Through collaboration, the Namibian petroleum industry stands to unlock long-term economic opportunities while leveraging petroleum as a catalyst for sustainable development.

"This oil and gas revolution must be powered by integrity, led with courage and anchored in inclusion. The youth are not only the future of this industry- but they are also its present momentum," she noted.

The AEC believes that youth are essential in Africa's petroleum industry and the Namibian government recognizes the instrumental role they will play in unlocking innovation, economic growth and inclusive development.

"By restructuring its regulations and implementing policies that support youth empowerment, Namibia is setting a strong standard for domestic oil and gas development in Africa," stated NJ Ayuk, Executive Chairman of the AEC.

www.debmarine.com

# EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

First date of publication: 02 July 2025

## DBMNE0530 – CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

**SCOPE OF WORK:** Debmarmine Namibia, a joint venture marine diamond prospecting and recovery Company, owned in equal shares by the Government of the Republic of Namibia and De Beers, operates in the offshore Atlantic 1 Mining License area off the southern coast of Namibia at shallow water depths ranging from 80 - 140m. As part of the Company's strategic objective to enhance its **Research and Technology Development** capabilities, Debmarmine Namibia invites expressions of interests from suitably qualified consultants and/or institutions to develop tailor-made technical and technological solutions across one or more defined research domains over the coming years, as follows:

- Sub-sea visualisation systems
- Sub-sea sampling systems
- Sub-sea diamond recovery systems
- Treatment plant systems for diamond recovery
- Ability to identify, investigate and propose mining rate and efficiency improvements concepts on current systems.
- On-going support through monitoring of sampling and production parameters to identify potential operational enhancements, causes of anomalous performances and improvement opportunities in current and future geology.

The consultants and/or institutions will be required to mature technology along part of and/or along the entire technology development path as described below:

- Basic Principle Investigation
- Conceptual Designs / Market Scans
- Experimental Scale Testing / Analytical Modelling
- Technology Demonstrations (Minimum Viable Product Demonstrations)
- Full Scale Mine Test Unit Development and Testing
- Industrialised Solution Development
- Commissioning and Operational Support

**DOCUMENTS TO SUBMIT:**

1. Company profile, displaying years of operation, highlighting in which key industries services were rendered, with a display of previous clients and company footprint.
2. Completed bidder categorisation matrix, highlighting skills in research domains and technology development.
3. Track record: comprehensive detail of **Research and Technology Development** capability to find solutions for technical challenges. Specifically displaying from what level of maturity the solution was developed and to what level of maturity the solution was progressed as highlighted in the bidder categorisation matrix. With timelines of contract period(s); reference people and contact numbers (where applicable).
4. A demonstration of competencies and years of experience (via appropriate CV's) for the overall provision of services. Highlighting skills in part or all of the research and technology development domains namely geophysical systems and interpretation, sub-sea visualisation, mining, mineral processing, mechanical engineering, structural engineering, automation / control and instrumentation, data science, geophysical systems, exploration and mining geology and project management capability. Including organogram of proposed project team showing responsibilities at all levels thereof.
5. Display of integrative linkages with other research institutions and industrial partners and how these augment the consultant(s) / research institutions capabilities.
6. Evidence of consistent use of rigorous R&D/technology development process and project management systems (new product development process, scheduling, estimating, cost control, risk management etc.)
7. Proof of relevant accreditation (associated with plant design and build) with ISO 14001, ISO 9001 & ISO 45001, Professional Engineers and/or another recognised institute.
8. Display through appropriate projects the company's capability for simulations (CFD, DEM, FEM etc.) and modelling of designs.
9. Display company's infrastructure for scaled testing of concepts.
10. Display through project examples the company's capability for full scale solution development and operational support.

Registered businesses interested in providing such services must register on our electronic platform Asite Marketplace: <https://za.marketplace.asite.com/> in order to participate in the EOI as outlined in this documentation by: **29 August 2025.**

**ENQUIRIES:**  
 The Commercial Officer  
 Tel: +264 61 297 8481  
 Email: [e-tender@debmarine.com](mailto:e-tender@debmarine.com)  
 Asite Marketplace: <https://za.marketplace.asite.com/>  
 Subject line: **DBMNE0530 – CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT**

**DISCLAIMER:**  
 Debmarmine 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.  
 Debmarmine Namibia will not accept submissions rendered after the closing date and time.



# Namibia bets big on education to fuel economic future

*By Business Express Writer*

***In a landmark address delivered last week, President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah launched Namibia's national campaign under the African Union's "End Learning Poverty for All in Africa" initiative, placing a massive economic wager on foundational education as the cornerstone of the nation's future prosperity.***

The launch, backed by a record N\$24.8 billion education budget, framed the fight against illiteracy and innumeracy not merely as a social imperative, but as the critical infrastructure investment needed to unlock Namibia's – and Africa's – economic potential.

President Nandi-Ndaitwah delivered a stark economic assessment intertwined with the learning crisis. Highlighting Africa's vast mineral wealth juxtaposed with persistent underdevelopment, she argued that the continent's high illiteracy rates directly undermine its ability to translate resources into broad-based prosperity.

"Our challenges... are compounded by our inability to ensure that every African benefits from the mineral resources of our vast land," she stated. "The fact that millions of African children cannot read or comprehend a simple text by age 10... compromises our ability to build productive, innovative, and empowered citizens capable of shaping Africa's future."

The President positioned Namibia's selection as one of 25 priority Phase One countries for the AU initiative as both an honour and a significant economic responsibility. She emphasized that foundational literacy and numeracy are the "bedrock" upon which "knowledge societies, competitive economies, and resilient democracies" are built.

"We cannot prepare our children for the jobs of tomorrow, or for effective citizenship, without ensuring that they first master the essential skills," she declared, directly linking classroom outcomes to future workforce readiness and national competitiveness.

Central to Namibia's economic strategy is the unprecedented financial commitment to education. President Nandi-Ndaitwah proudly detailed the Ministry of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture's (MEIYSAC) allocation of N\$24.827 billion for the current fiscal year. This represents a substantial 23.4% of the national budget and 8.9% of GDP, significantly exceeding the international benchmarks of 20% of the national budget and 6%



of GDP set by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG4).

The breakdown of this massive investment underscores the government's human capital focus: 59% (approximately N\$14.65 billion) is allocated to personnel expenditure, primarily teacher salaries. A further 37% (N\$9.19 billion) funds operational costs, with 4% (N\$993 million) dedicated to capital expenditures. Crucially, over N\$12 billion annually



*Continues on page 13*



Continues from page 12

within the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework is specifically earmarked for pre-primary and primary education – the foundational phases targeted by the anti-learning poverty campaign. This funding aims to continuously build teacher capacity to strengthen literacy and numeracy as the “backbone” of the system.

“The Government recognizes that there is no greater infrastructure than the human mind,” the President asserted, addressing concerns that visible infrastructure projects might overshadow educational needs. She pledged that the newly launched National Development Plan 6 (NDP6) would ensure foundational learning is treated as a “national urgency,” firmly placing education at the heart of the nation’s socio-economic agenda. “Long-term growth depends on an educated and empowered population,” she stated, framing NDP6 implementation as intrinsically linked to human capital development.

Achieving this economic transformation, President Nandi-Ndaitwah stressed, demands a “multi-sectoral political will.” She called for coordinated action across ministries – including Education, Finance, and ICT – to prioritize learning outcomes in every budget, plan, and policy discussion. “Investing in early learning yields the highest returns,” she argued, positioning early childhood development (ECD) as an economic prerequisite. The plan includes strengthening ECD through qualified educators, improved learning environments, decent classrooms, and community support systems, ensuring no child learns in dilapidated structures without basic amenities like water and sanitation.

The President also issued a direct appeal to the private sector, development partners, and civil society. She urged them to collaborate in developing innovative learning tools, supporting teacher development, and creating alternative pathways, particularly in underserved communities. This call to action emphasized empowering teachers to nurture children’s natural curiosity and creativity, seen as vital for fostering the confident, innovative minds needed for a dynamic future economy.

“Ending learning poverty is possible, but only if everyone commits to it,” President Nandi-Ndaitwah concluded, listing political leaders, parents, teachers, communities, and children themselves as essential partners. Framing the campaign as a catalyst for “economic transformation, national stability, and human rights,” she declared the initiative officially launched, envisioning Namibia as a “beacon of hope” for foundational learning across Africa.

With the substantial budget commitment as its engine and a clear economic rationale as its compass, Namibia’s ambitious campaign signals a profound shift: viewing every child mastering reading and math not just as an educational success, but as a vital investment in the nation’s economic resilience and its position within a competitive continent. The success of this investment will be measured not only in literacy rates but in future GDP growth, innovation capacity, and the realization of “The Africa We Want.”



## 2025/26 NAMIBIA HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SURVEY (NHIES)

**28 April 2025 - 22 April 2026**

**A Daily Record Book (DRB)** will be provided to selected households for recording their frequent consumption and spending habits. During the 14-day period, after the NHIES interview.

Namibia Statistics Agency  
P.O. Box 2133,  
FGI House, Post Street Mall,  
Windhoek, Namibia

Tel: +264 61 431 3200  
Fax: +264 61 431 3253  
Email: [info@nsa.org.na](mailto:info@nsa.org.na)  
[www.nsa.org.na](http://www.nsa.org.na)







DISCOUNT  
**20%**  
ORDER NOW!

# ELEVATE *Your Brand*

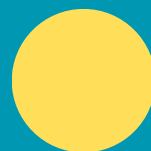
*Get in touch with us for all your professionally done corporate gifts, outdoor display branding and corporate wear*



**Outdoor  
Branding**



**Corporate  
Gifts**



**Corporate  
Regalia**



Contact Us  
**0817911981**  
[bjac@jaremedia.com.na](mailto:bjac@jaremedia.com.na)



[www.jaremedia.com.na](http://www.jaremedia.com.na)





# Swipe for free with your FNB Business card

Manage purchases smoothly  
at no extra charge from  
anywhere in Namibia.

[fnbnamibia.com.na](https://fnbnamibia.com.na)



New pricing effective 1 July 2025.  
Visit [www.fnbnamibia.com.na](https://www.fnbnamibia.com.na) to view pricing guide.  
Terms & Conditions apply.

**First National Bank of Namibia Limited.** Reg. No. 2002/0180. A subsidiary of FirstRand Namibia Limited.

# AEC advocates for Namibia's youth-led energy future

By Business Express Writer

**Namibia's emerging oil and gas sector is set to become a cornerstone of national economic development, with youth empowerment, skills training, infrastructure readiness and policy reform forming key pillars of its long-term strategy. Speaking at the second edition of the Youth in Oil and Gas Summit held in Walvis Bay, NJ Ayuk, Executive Chairman of the African Energy Chamber (AEC), discussed the importance of inclusive participation in the energy sector, calling for stronger public-private collaboration to ensure Namibia's resources deliver impact for local communities.**

As Namibia prepares for first oil from major offshore discoveries in the Orange Basin – led by global energy players such as TotalEnergies, Shell, Galp and Chevron – the summit spotlighted the need for foundational capacity building, including STEM education, vocational training and investment in youth entrepreneurship. The event, spearheaded by Justina Erastus, and supported by key national institutions such as Petrofund, emphasized local ownership and workforce integration as the industry scales up.

"A future that speaks to the hearts and minds of all Namibians is a future that speaks to the hearts of every Africa," Ayuk stated, adding, "When we see what you are building for your country, we know the future is bright."

According to the AEC, Namibia's anticipated offshore production will require robust support infrastructure ranging from marine services and logistics hubs to data centers and grid-connected baseload power. Ayuk highlighted that energy demand linked to digital infrastructure – including AI, cloud computing and data storage – would require consistent, large-scale electricity generation. This positions Namibia's oil and natural gas sector as a potential anchor for industrial development.

While acknowledging global climate priorities, the AEC emphasized that Namibia and other African nations must have the right to leverage their natural resources to combat energy poverty. With Africa contributing less than 3% to global greenhouse gas emissions, the Chamber maintained that international climate policies must account for the continent's development needs.



"There are forces around the globe telling us that climate change is the problem. But how do you think Europe became what it is? How do you think America became what it is? How do you think Asia became



Continues on page 17



*Continues from page 16*

what it is? They use oil. They use coal. They make billions for themselves. And right now, they tell you in this country, you don't deserve the right to use your oil. We don't agree with that," Ayuk stated.

Institutional partners such as Petrofund were recognized for their role in providing scholarships and technical training for Namibians, especially women and youth. Petrofund's investment in vocational education and postgraduate studies has directly supported the country's efforts to create a skilled workforce ready to meet industry demand.

Ayuk also called on industry players, government and academia to create synergy around youth capacity building. He urged energy companies operating in Namibia to commit to meaningful local content policies and to make space for young professionals in both technical and leadership roles.

"We've got to figure out how to make industries more

accommodating to young women. Globally, we've seen less than 70% women in the oil and gas industry. That's not enough," Ayuk added.

The summit also underscored the importance of regulatory and policy coherence to support industrial growth. The AEC reaffirmed its support for ongoing efforts by Namibia's Upstream Petroleum Unit to align national frameworks with global best practices, while tailoring them to the country's unique socioeconomic landscape.

Namibia's growing energy ecosystem, including downstream infrastructure, local fabrication capacity and training institutions, stands to benefit from strategic investments aligned with long-term goals. The AEC maintains that a balanced, pragmatic approach to energy – one that includes both hydrocarbons and renewables – will allow Namibia to transition sustainably while building wealth and creating jobs.

"It starts with you. It starts with what role you want to play. And the role you have to play that shaped the future. You represent that," Ayuk concluded.



**106.6FM**  
WINDHOEK | OKAHANDJA | REHOBOTH



# An Appraisal of the role of the regulator, Telecoms and consumers in fostering telecommunications connectivity in Namibia for development

By Prof Marvin Awarab

***The Communications Act which is the enabling legislation, establishes the Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN). CRAN is mandated in terms of section 5 of the Act is to regulate the communications industry. It is one thing to enact a law or create a policy or regulation, but a completely different ball game to have workable approaches to implement the laws and policies or regulations. The disparity between a legal framework and its real application is what separates a legislative provision for connectivity from the actual supply of connectivity in telecommunications.***

While the actual provision of connectivity refers to the services and physical infrastructure that give people access to the internet, a legislative provision is a rule or regulation that requires or permits connectivity. The two cannot exist in isolation. There's a need for the law or regulation to guide the process, and the process thus depends on the empowering law or regulation to be effectively and meticulously followed or implemented.

## What is the role of telecommunication law?

The main goals of telecommunications law is to safeguard consumer interests, maintain fair competition, and regulate the industry's infrastructure, services, and access. These regulations seek to strike a balance between encouraging innovation and effective market operations and the requirement for easily available and reasonably priced communication. In order to ensure that network operators and service providers fulfil certain technical and financial standards, telecommunications laws frequently demand licensing. Additionally, in order to promote competition and avoid monopolies, they set guidelines for accessing already-existing infrastructure, like poles and ducts.

Furthermore, to ensure that the network operators and service providers fulfil certain technical and financial standards, telecommunications laws frequently demand licensing. In order to promote competition and avoid monopolies, they also set guidelines for accessing already-existing infrastructure, like poles and ducts. The installation of telecommunications



infrastructure, such as fibre optic cables and mobile phone towers, is governed by regulations that address matters like aesthetics, public safety, and the environment.

Moreover, the laws pertaining to telecommunications forbid anti-competitive practices such as predatory pricing, price-fixing, and abusing market power. Interconnection agreements between several network providers are frequently required by law, allowing subscribers on different networks to communicate with ease.

In order to avoid the formation of monopolies or dominant players that could undermine competition, telecommunications laws may contain rules for examining and controlling mergers and acquisitions. Telecommunications regulations promote innovation



Continues on page 19

## EX Continues from page 18

and investment in new technologies and services by creating a competitive environment. By offering suitable regulatory frameworks, laws can be created to encourage the development and implementation of new technologies, such as fibre optics and 5G. Telecommunications regulations essentially aim to achieve a balance between protecting the interests of consumers and society at large and promoting a competitive and innovative market while guaranteeing that necessary communication services are available and reasonably priced.

### The Role of the (telecoms) regulator

The role of CRAN is to enact rules, including “ex-ante” rules which are aimed at regulating the relevant sectors, both the telecommunications and broadcasting. CRAN therefore has the power to control the radio spectrum, postal, broadcasting, and telecommunications sectors. By creating proactive policies also referred to as the ex-ante rules, CRAN can effectively stop anti-competitive behaviour rather than only responding to. According to section 2 of the Communications Act 8 of 2009 as amended, CRAN has an objective to ensure fair competition and consumer protection in the telecommunications sector. Hence, if there is a need CRAN to continuously make regulations regarding the competitive behaviour in the telecoms sector.

Promoting telecom connectivity is greatly aided by telecommunications regulators such as CRAN in the Namibian context. Market competitiveness, infrastructure growth, and service availability are all impacted by the rules and regulations that the regulator sets for the telecom sector. Through policy directives from policy-makers, legislative enactments by parliament and regulations and guidelines passed by the regulator, the regulator can directly influence and facilitate the ease with which consumers can connect to networks and services to be economically and socially active. Aspects such as spectrum management and licensing are key aspects to consider when passing regulations and enactment of laws are concerned.

### The Role of Telcos to foster connectivity

According to the teTelecommunications Regulation Handbook, competition maximizes the benefits to society by: “Ensuring that resources, products, and services are allocated to the person or persons who value them the most (allocative efficiency; Forcing market participants to use scarce resources as productively as possible (productive efficiency); Encouraging market participants to innovate, and to invest in new technologies at the best time (dynamic efficiency).”

Currently in Namibia we have predominantly two major Telcos, namely Telecom Namibia (TN) and Mobile Telecommunications Company. The question has always been where this does not result in a monopolistic situation. Having limited Telcos in a country may deny clients from the affordable and effective telecommunications services due to the fact

## EX Continues on page 20



**ZAMBEZI SUMMIT & BUSINESS EXPO**

**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS & SECRETARIES CONFERENCE RETREAT**

*Theme: “Own Your Title, There is no such thing as just a Secretary”*

**SPEAKERS**



**Ms. Meke Namindo**  
Founder and CEO  
MEKENIFICENT



**Ms. Tuyenikelao Shipoke**  
Executive Secretary  
NUST



**Mr. Jonas Heke**  
Strategic HR LEADER



**Ms. Beatrice Schultz**  
Founder and CEO  
LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION



**04 - 05 SEP 2025**



**SEASIDE HOTEL & SPA,  
SWAKOPMUND,  
ERONGO REGION**



**SCAN ME TO REGISTER**

**REGISTRATION FEE**

**N\$4,790**  
PER PERSON

\*Price includes: Conference Material, Wellness packages, All meals and refreshments.

**N\$3,999** Early Bird

✉ proxyboardservices@gmail.com  
☎ 081 692 9792



POWERED BY





Continues from page 19

that there is no variety in such services. The country view however is that given Namibia's population the entry of more Telcos may cut on the business and revenue of the existing Telcos. A proper study and analysis of this hypothesis is essential.

Competition between Telcos (service providers) thus contribute to the consumers quest to quality services at affordable rates. Telcos are forced by competition to create innovative services and technology in order to stand out from their competitors. More features and alternatives for customers, as well as quicker internet speeds and more dependable connections, may result from this. For instance the 5G technologies, Cloud computing, Internet of Things (IoT) are some examples of innovative technologies and solutions which provide higher data rates and more capacity, have been rapidly deployed as a result of rivalry in mobile networks.

Furthermore, in order to draw subscribers, Telcos vying for clients frequently cut their costs or provide more alluring packages. More people, even those with lower means, may be able to utilise telecommunications services due to their increasing affordability. Price reductions can also increase demand for services, which will spur more growth and innovation.

Telcos may expand their networks to previously unreached regions, such as rural and isolated villages, as a result of competition. This can guarantee that more individuals have access to the advantages of connectivity and aid in closing the digital gap. Additionally, competition may spur the creation of novel approaches to providing connectivity to hard-to-reach locations.

### Consumers role in connectivity

Customers may access the digital world from any location thanks to mobile technology, which makes it harder to distinguish between online and offline interactions. Because of this connectivity, customers may easily integrate both channels by researching things online and then buying them in physical stores (a practice known as "web-rooming"), or the other way around. Additionally, customers can utilise mobile devices to improve their in-store experiences by comparing pricing, obtaining product information, and even completing purchases. The demand for network expansion and improvements is driven by consumers' adoption of new digital services and technologies, such as 5G.

### The way forward

It is evident from the discussion in article, that both the regulator, telcos and consumers play a role in fostering connectivity in the telecommunications sector. It is not sufficient to have laws and policies that govern the operations in the telecoms sector. Telecommunications regulations on connectivity should result in tangible, measurable improvements for consumers and the broader economy. Regulations should aim to foster competition, improve service quality, and expand access, ultimately leading to more affordable and reliable connectivity. It is futile if the laws and regulations provide for affordable connectivity services, yet the ordinary man on the streets are unable to afford such services. Once the ordinary man on the streets and those in rural areas have substantial and adequate access to connectivity, then only can we speak about affordable and adequate connectivity.

It is irrefragable that CRAN has made substantial strides in effectively regulating the telecommunications sector for the benefit of the society. This is evident from the number of regulations it has created and its role in continuously dealing with consumer complaints particularly emanating from connectivity issues. This however does not mean that there is no further developments required. The regulator must continuously study the market and intervene through regulations and advising the Minister of ICT for further actioning if need be for the effective operations in the telecoms sector, both for the Telcos and their clients.

The licensees should continuously strive to provide affordable, cutting-edge technology and services to their clients. Telcos should thus uphold the principles of fair competition, effective service delivery and provide on the demands of their clients. Providing affordable and cutting-edge services should be a priority for the Telcos, without negating the fact that their business operations and profitability is adversely affected.

The effective functioning of the telecommunications sector will lead towards socio-economical development for all Namibians and enable Namibia to be among the African leaders, if not globally, when it comes to connectivity in the telecoms sector. If carefully administered the telecommunications sector can massively contribute to economic development in Namibia.

***Prof Marvin Awarab is the Acting Dean of the Faculty of Law at Welwithia University and a researcher in Employment Law and Telecommunications Law and Policy issues. He writes this article in his personal capacity.***





## SMART Partnership lands Miss Namibia a house



From Crown to Keys: Mr. Gisbertus Mukulu, the CEO of NHE, hands over the key to a brand-new house to Miss Namibia 2025, Johanna Swartbooi.

The National Housing Enterprise (NHE) has cemented its Smart Partnership with the Namibian Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) and Miss Namibia, demonstrating the high potential and tangible value that strategic collaborations can yield.

By sponsoring a brand-new house worth N\$750,000 to Miss Namibia 2025 winner, Johanna Swartbooi, NHE not only showcased its commitment to its Corporate Social Responsibility and youth and women empowerment, but also elevated its brand visibility, reinforced its national presence, and demonstrated the transformative value of strategic partnerships.

These three-years Smart Partnership signed in June 2025, will also sponsor a second house valued at N\$ 900,000 through the "Win a House" game show which is set to enhance national culture and social value of providing affordable quality housing to Namibians.

By leveraging on partnerships, NHE expands its brand reputation, technical expertise, land servicing capacities, innovation capacity, client outreach, boost credibility and provide opportunities for joint-mandates that meet national housing needs.

## NHE Fosters Unity and Wellness at the 2025 SOE Games

The National Housing Enterprise (NHE) participated in the just ended 2025 .

State-Owned Enterprises (SOE) Games held from 24-26 July in Swakopmund, Erongo Region. This annual event brought together employees from various public enterprises across Namibia in a spirited celebration of unity, teamwork, wellness, and sportsmanship.

The 10th SOE Games served as a strategic platform to strengthen organizational culture and promote wellness amongst employees. NHE

employees participated in a range of sports code, including athletics, darts, netball, soccer, pool, tug of war and a 10km marathon.

NHE's participation in the games aligns with its internal people strategy, bringing together its employees from different regions and departments to nurture a shared sense of identity, recognizing that people are its most valuable asset.

As the NHE teams return from Swakopmund, the energy and unity they experienced at the Games will carry into their daily work, toward its mission of delivering affordable, quality housing for all Namibians.



Team NHE United in Spirit: NHE team participates in the SOE Games, Swakopmund, 24-26 July 2025.

## NHE and Usakos Town Council Strengthen Local Housing Development



Leaders in Partnership: NHE CEO Mr. Gisbertus Mukulu and Usakos Town Council CEO Mr. Lesley Goreseb seal a joint commitment to affordable housing through an MoU signing.

The National Housing Enterprise (NHE) has placed partnerships at the core of its strategic direction, recognising stakeholders as key enablers for business growth, operational efficiency, and enhanced customer centricity. The Chief Executive Officer of NHE, Mr Gisbertus Mukulu and Mr Lesley Goreseb of Usakos Town Council formalized the partnership through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

The signing ceremony that was held on the 22nd of July 2025, is set to enhance cooperation in land servicing, infrastructure development, and fast-tracking delivery in the provision of affordable quality housing units for Usakos.

The MoU focusses on the formalisation of informal settlements through the National Informal Settlement Upgrading Project. Through this MoU, NHE aims to construct over 2000 decent housing units for low-income earners.

Corporate Communication & Marketing | [bittlerd@nhe.com.na](mailto:bittlerd@nhe.com.na)  
General Inquiries | [info@nhe.com.na](mailto:info@nhe.com.na)  
WhatsApp Number | 081 129 0710  
Customer Care | [customercare@nhe.com.na](mailto:customercare@nhe.com.na)

Human Resource | [recruitment@nhe.com.na](mailto:recruitment@nhe.com.na)  
Finance | [finance@nhe.com.na](mailto:finance@nhe.com.na)  
Procurement | [procurement@nhe.com.na](mailto:procurement@nhe.com.na)





# BoN celebrates 35 years amid economic triumphs and persistent investment challenges



**By Business Express Writer**

***The Bank of Namibia (BoN) marked a significant milestone last week, celebrating 35 years of steering the nation's monetary policy and safeguarding financial stability. A high-profile event in the capital, officiated by President Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah and hosted by Governor Johannes !Gawaxab, served not only as a tribute to the institution's legacy but also as a platform to confront Namibia's enduring economic hurdles, particularly the stubbornly low levels of domestic investment.***

The celebratory event on 23 July 2025 witnessed the grand launch of Namibia's upgraded banknotes and new coinage, the country's third currency upgrade since independence. This tangible symbol of progress underscored the central bank's journey. Governor !Gawaxab, reflecting on the BoN's evolution since its establishment in 1990, acknowledged substantial achievements but delivered a sobering economic assessment that resonated deeply with attendees from government, the private sector, civil society, and the diplomatic corps.

## **Stability achieved, investment lagging**

Governor !Gawaxab highlighted the Bank's core success in maintaining price stability, a cornerstone mandate. He noted that while average inflation hovered around 7.0% since independence, it now stands at a commendable low of 3.7% as of June 2025. This achievement, he stressed, demonstrates the BoN's effective navigation through diverse and often challenging economic climates over three and a half decades. Furthermore, the expansion of the banking sector itself – growing from just five commercial banks in 1990 to seven today – was presented as evidence of a maturing financial landscape offering greater choice for consumers.

However, the Governor's tone shifted markedly when addressing the critical issue of gross fixed capital formation. He sounded a strong cautionary note, revealing that this key indicator of domestic investment remains "stubbornly below 10 percent of GDP." This figure, he emphasized, places Namibia significantly behind comparable emerging markets and developing economies.

"This insufficient investment level signals deep-rooted structural weaknesses within our economy," Governor !Gawaxab stated. He warned that this chronic underinvestment fundamentally hampers Namibia's capacity to expand productive sectors, upgrade vital national infrastructure, and ignite the innovation essential for achieving sustainable, long-term economic growth and job creation. The persistent low investment-to-GDP ratio represents a major brake on the nation's development aspirations.

## **President calls for inclusive finance and sectoral focus**

Echoing the Governor's sentiments on stability, President Nandi-Ndaitwah commended the Bank of Namibia for its pivotal role in maintaining macroeconomic stability and protecting the integrity of the national financial system. "For 35 years, the Bank has been our anchor," she remarked. However, the President swiftly pivoted to challenge the broader financial sector, urging institutions to become far more proactive partners in advancing the government's agenda for inclusive growth. She pinpointed critical areas demanding urgent attention: persistent financial exclusion, high costs of financial services that burden ordinary Namibians and businesses, and the alarming rise in fraudulent schemes eroding public trust. "The sector must be agile and responsive, attuned to the realities of the Namibian people," President Nandi-



**Continues on page 23**



Continues from page 22

Ndaitwah declared. “Our MSMEs, our youth, and our creative industries cannot thrive without access to affordable, appropriate finance.” Moving beyond access, the President issued a clear call for strategic investment direction. She advocated for significantly increased investment flows into value addition (processing raw materials domestically), revitalizing the agricultural sector, and emerging growth frontiers like the blue economy (ocean resources) and critical minerals development. Concluding her address, the President paid tribute to current and former BoN Governors and staff, describing them as “economic soldiers,” and implored them to remain unwavering in their defence of Namibia’s economic sovereignty.

Anchored in stability, advancing with transformation  
The launch of the new currency series forms part of a broader 35th-anniversary programme encapsulated by the theme “Anchored in Stability, Advancing with Transformation.” This theme reflects the BoN’s dual commitment to its foundational mandate while actively pursuing modernisation and broader engagement. A series of initiatives planned over the coming weeks underscores this commitment:

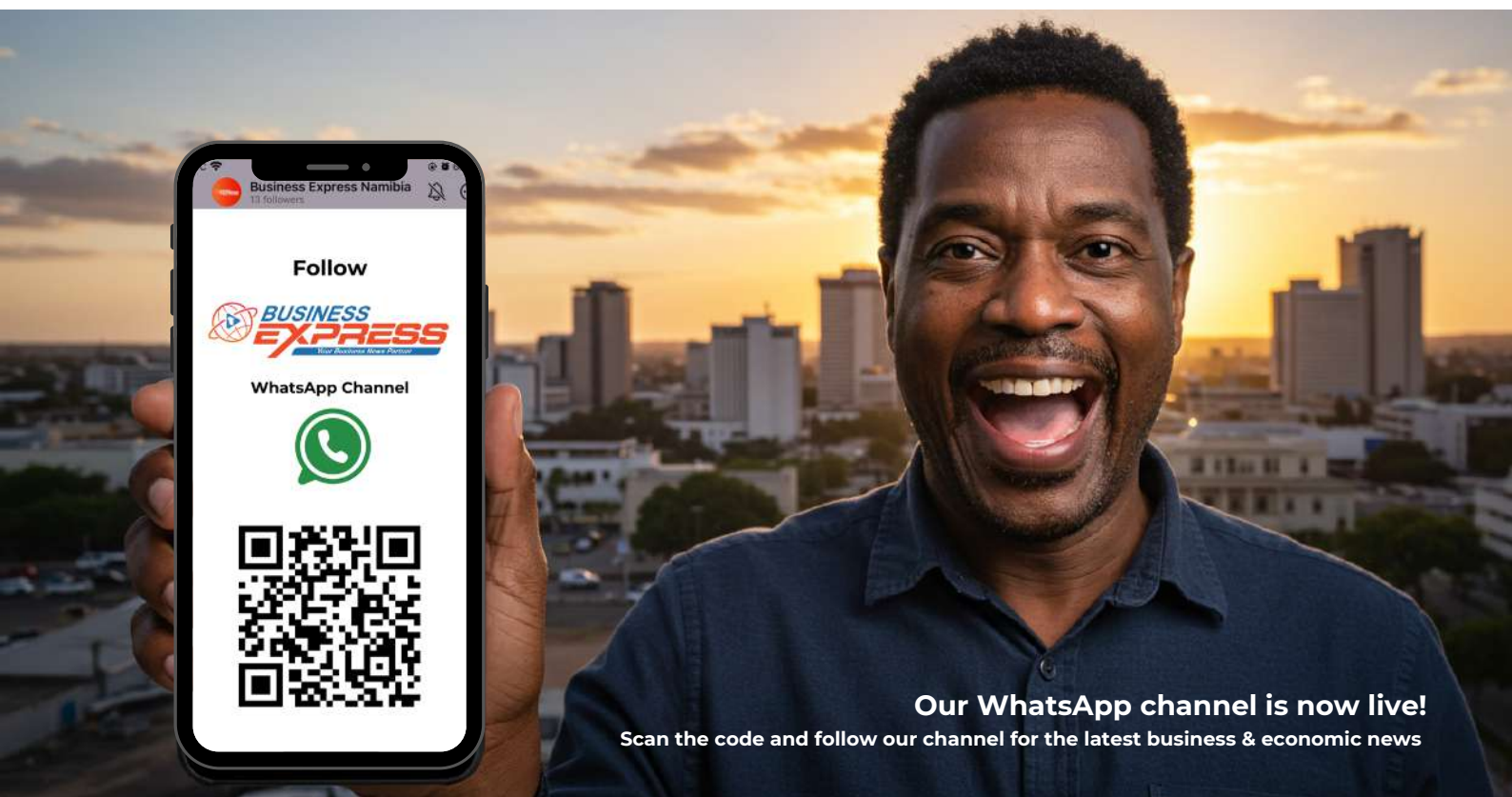
The public is invited to participate in a nationwide currency artwork competition, creatively reimagining the symbolic and functional role of money in Namibian society. The winning design will be preserved for posterity in a time capsule alongside other anniversary memorabilia.

Later in August, Governor !Gawaxab will engage in a unique intergenerational dialogue at a staff townhall with his predecessors, former Governors Tom Alweendo and lipumbu Shiimi. This session will delve into institutional leadership, the evolution of monetary policy over decades, and the crucial task of preserving institutional memory, followed by an open Q&A with staff.

Recognizing the vital importance of youth engagement, the BoN is advancing two flagship initiatives: the Tertiary Institutions Debate Challenge and the Youth Central Banking Simulation. These platforms aim to demystify central banking, build economic literacy among young Namibians, foster dialogue on monetary policy and national economic issues, and expose participants to real-world policy challenges. Furthermore, the Bank will host a monetary policy dialogue with market participants, financial analysts, and key stakeholders. This event is designed to deepen understanding and stimulate robust discussion around current monetary policy stances, Namibia’s economic trajectory, and future policy priorities.

### Navigating the next 35 years

Collectively, these anniversary initiatives signal the Bank of Namibia’s reinforced commitment to transparency, inclusion, and fostering long-term economic impact. As it celebrates 35 years of service, the institution stands at a crossroads, firmly rooted in its indispensable mandate of ensuring price and financial stability – the bedrock upon which all economic activity depends.



**Our WhatsApp channel is now live!**

Scan the code and follow our channel for the latest business & economic news





# Windhoek pensioners urged to adopt prepaid meters as City rejects debt write-off

*By Business Express Writer*

***The City of Windhoek has formally responded to a petition from the Khomas Ratepayers and Residents, rejecting a key demand for the unconditional write-off of pensioner debts while strongly encouraging pensioners to transition to prepaid utility meters. This stance headlines the City's detailed reply addressing concerns over municipal services, housing, infrastructure, and financial management.***

The City stated it “regrets” it cannot approve an unconditional write-off of debts owed by pensioners. It argued such a move would compromise the Council’s financial sustainability and its ability to maintain essential services for all residents. Officials highlighted that despite past targeted debt relief measures for pensioners, many fall back into arrears, creating an unsustainable cycle that strains City resources and its obligations to bulk service providers like NamPower and NamWater.

As an alternative solution, the City is “strongly encouraging” pensioners to switch to prepaid electricity and water systems. This approach, it stated, enables better consumption control and helps prevent future debt accumulation. The City also acknowledged unique challenges faced by pensioners living in Built Together Groups, where shared property ownership complicates accounts, and confirmed ongoing consultations to find fair solutions for these residents.

## **Addressing housing model concerns**

The response also tackled issues surrounding Built Together Groups and the Savings Group Model. These groups, some affiliated with the Shack

Dwellers Federation of Namibia (SDFN) and others independent, often acquired land in bulk and subdivided it informally. The City recognised this model, while aiding low-income land access, created challenges with ownership, service delivery, and legality.

For groups seeking individual land titles, especially for plots under 300m<sup>2</sup>, the City outlined two legal pathways: utilising the Flexible Land Tenure System designed for small or informal plots, or applying for an exemption from the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development to register land despite size constraints. Groups are urged to contact the City’s Human Settlement Office in Katutura for guidance.

The City clarified that the original Built Together Program is no longer the primary housing framework, largely replaced by the national government-funded Informal Settlement Upgrading Program. Under this new program, financial support for land servicing or construction is no longer provided via Built Together; instead, residents receive assistance based on affordable housing and tenure security aligned with their income. For Built Together groups wishing to transfer land to individuals, the City stipulated two mandatory conditions: full repayment of the group loan and all municipal debts, and the formal dissolution of the group.

## **Other petition points addressed**

On the proposal for better coordination between the Electricity and Debt Management Divisions, the City confirmed internal consultations are underway to explore establishing a formal link. It reiterated,

**EX** *Continues on page 23*



Continues from page 22

however, that illegal connections and meter tampering remain criminal offenses subject to prosecution.

Regarding the Farm 508 relocation site for flood-affected households from Otjomuise and 8ste Laan (now home to over 300 families), the City detailed infrastructure progress. Land has been allocated for essential national government services like a police station, health centre, and school, and residents are encouraged to lobby relevant ministries for timely delivery. Temporary road access is in place while permanent infrastructure awaits design and budget finalisation. High-mast lighting is planned under the

Electricity Universal Access Program, dependent on funding. While a dedicated token shop isn't feasible yet, residents can recharge prepaid meters at the nearest City cash hall. The City acknowledged overcrowding on 200m<sup>2</sup> sites and advised affected individuals to consult the Human Settlements Division about relocation options. It assured that Farm 508 was formally planned for systematic service delivery, with temporary sanitation and water provided, and full infrastructure to follow as resources allow.

The City of Windhoek emphasised its commitment to "transparent dialogue and collaboration" to address community needs sustainably and equitably. It thanked residents for the petition feedback, assuring all concerns are being taken seriously in pursuit of inclusive urban development and efficient service delivery.

## NamWater champions SME growth through strategic Oshakati forum

***The Namibia Water Corporation Ltd (NamWater) convened a pivotal Procurement Stakeholder Engagement Workshop in Oshakati today, uniting suppliers, contractors, SMEs, regulators, and government representatives. Hosted at the Oshakati Town Council Auditorium, the forum aimed to foster transparency, strengthen partnerships, and catalyse sustainable development within the water sector by empowering local enterprises.***

NamWater CEO Abraham Nehemia declared procurement a "powerful enabler of service delivery, institutional trust, and national progress" beyond mere transactions. The workshop aligned NamWater's procurement ecosystem with the Public Procurement Act and national socio-economic objectives, emphasising SME development, job creation, and infrastructure advancement.

### Core mandate and SME commitment

As Namibia's bulk water utility, NamWater reiterated its critical role in supplying municipalities, industries, and rural communities; maintaining dams, pipelines, and treatment plants; ensuring water quality; and responding to droughts. Nehemia underscored SMEs as "drivers of innovation and inclusive growth," outlining reserved procurement categories, subcontracting quotas, capacity building, and accelerated payments to bolster their participation.

The corporation is actively refining its procurement policy to enhance opportunities for SMEs. Key sectors highlighted include small civil works like

pipelines and reservoirs, mechanical and electrical maintenance, supply of materials and equipment, construction of access roads and fencing, and non-consultancy services such as cleaning and logistics.

### Policy insights and collaborative dialogue

Presentations featured insights from NamWater's Acting Head of Business Unit North-West, Simeon Kamati, on regional operational needs, and Supply Chain Management Head Puje Katjivena, who detailed the Annual Procurement Plan and bidding processes. Phineas M. Nsundano from the Ministry of Finance addressed government policies promoting SMEs, updates to procurement legislation, and capacity-building initiatives.

During open discussions, suppliers urged improved access to tender information, mentorship, and financial support. NamWater pledged to address challenges like financing constraints through proactive partnerships and regular engagement forums.

### Strategic regional impact

Holding the workshop in Oshakati ensures northern suppliers are primed for upcoming projects, bridging regional gaps. Nehemia affirmed this as part of a "broader journey toward a resilient, inclusive water sector," with NamWater encouraging SMEs to monitor its website and social media for tender updates and support programmes.

# Namibia freezes fuel prices for August 2025 despite global fluctuations

By Business Express Writer

**The Namibian Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy (MIME) has announced that fuel prices will remain unchanged throughout August 2025. This decision comes despite contrasting trends in international oil markets and significant underlying cost pressures, particularly for diesel.**

The Ministry's review for August revealed a complex global picture during July 2025. Increased oil production, notably from OPEC+ members like Saudi Arabia, coupled with persistent economic uncertainties dampening demand, led to a decline in the international cost of Unleaded Petrol 95 (ULP95). The average price per barrel dropped by 2.27% to USD 82.03 compared to June.

Conversely, diesel prices rose internationally due to constrained global distillate supplies and steady industrial demand. Diesel 50ppm averaged USD 90.21 per barrel (a 5.31% increase), while Diesel 10ppm averaged USD 90.49 per barrel (a 5.23% increase). Reduced shipping costs, including lower demurrage charges and freight rates, offered some offset, as did easing Middle East tensions and trade progress, but couldn't reverse the diesel trend.

A key factor mitigating the impact for Namibia was the appreciation of the Namibian Dollar against the US Dollar. The average exchange rate strengthened to N\$17.72 per USD in July, a 0.65% improvement from June's N\$17.84. This currency gain lessened the local currency cost of the rising international diesel prices.

The fuel pricing mechanism calculations resulted in an over-recovery of 0.46 cents per litre for ULP95. However, significant under-recoveries were recorded: 90.62 cents per litre for Diesel 50ppm and 83.86 cents per litre for Diesel 10ppm.

Consequently, the Ministry confirmed the following prices will remain in effect for August: Petrol 95 (ULP95): N\$20.37 per litre; Diesel 50ppm: N\$19.92 per litre and Diesel 10ppm: N\$20.02 per litre.



The National Energy Fund will absorb the estimated cumulative under-recovery costs, projected at approximately N\$24.7 million based on June 2025 consumption volumes. This intervention effectively shields consumers from price increases this month.

"The Ministry remains committed to ensuring fuel price stability while balancing market realities and protecting consumer interests," stated Executive Director Moses Pakote in the announcement. He added that MIME will continue to closely monitor international and local market developments and adjust pricing as necessary to promote a sustainable and reliable fuel supply for Namibia.



# Partner hunt for prime Orange basin block to start within weeks



---

**By Business Express Writer**

---

***UK-listed junior Eco Atlantic is set to fire-up a farm-out process within weeks on a prospective block in South Africa's Orange basin waters.***

A year ago, the company struck a deal with local player Tosaco Energy to take a 75% stake in Block 1, located immediately south of the maritime boundary with Namibia, leaving Tosaco on 25%.

Since then, it has been making preparations to open a data room based on a solid understanding of the asset's oil and gas promise from 2D and 3D seismic and well logs.

Eco's chief executive Gil Holzman said on Wednesday: "We have already received early informal interest from a number of parties and we plan to launch a formal farm out process towards the end of August.

"We have acquired all existing 3D and 2D seismic surveys previously shot on the block and we are busy with the initial interpretation, including the mapping of all oil and gas targets and leads."

Eco is also a minority partner in Block 3B/4B in South Africa's Orange basin, where TotalEnergies aims to begin an exploration drilling campaign in 2026.

Commenting on this asset, Holzman said the partners "are currently awaiting the final environmental permits from the South African government agencies".

Block 1 covers more than 19,900 square kilometres and runs from the coastline out to water depths of about 1000 metres.

The block includes the legacy AF-1 gas discovery which tested at 32.4 million cubic feet per day, and AE-1, which had oil and gas shows. Upstream

# Reconnaissance Energy Africa spuds Kavango West 1X exploration well in Namibia

*By Business Express Writer*

**Reconnaissance Energy Africa Ltd announced that drilling has commenced at the Kavango West 1X exploration well in Namibia.**

The Kavango West 1X exploration well, also referred to as Prospect I, was spud on July 31.

The well is expected to reach a total depth of approximately 3,800 metres (12,500 feet) by the end of November 2025.

It is designed to penetrate over 1,500 metres of Otavi carbonate reservoir, which is the primary target within the Damara Fold Belt play.

According to the company, the prospect is a large structural fold identified on modern 2D seismic data, extending about 22 kilometers in length and 3 kilometers in width.

"We are pleased to announce that we have started drilling the Kavango West 1X well," ReconAfrica CEO Brian Reinsborough said.

"This is an exciting time for everyone at the company, our partners and stakeholders in Namibia and, of course, shareholders alike."

Reinsborough noted that the originally, the Kavango West 1X location was not scheduled to be the next well, but the location was reprioritized following the results from its last well Naingopo.

"While this reprioritizing resulted in a slightly longer lead time to spud this location, the company prioritizes rigorous technical appraisal with respect to location selection to ensure we have the best possible chance for commercial success," he said.



"We think that the Kavango West 1X prospect represents our best opportunity in the Damara Fold Belt to unlock the potential of this play and we look forward to reporting results expected before year-end 2025."

ReconAfrica also reported that its 3D seismic program, originally scheduled for the second half of 2025, has been rescheduled to 2026 due to ongoing drilling operations.

The company said it continues to assess investment opportunities, which may include acquisitions of further exploration acreage, development and producing properties, as well as joint ventures. These efforts are aimed at accelerating production and enhancing free cash flow, with consideration given to the company's concentrated asset risk profile.

Further, in connection with its annual compensation review, ReconAfrica has granted a total of 6.96 million incentive stock options to certain directors, officers, employees, and consultants. The options are exercisable at a price of \$0.60 per share and have a five-year term expiring in July 2030.



**Consistent | Reliable | Innovative**



**For editorial and advertising inquiries:**  
+264 85 749 9956  
editor@nambusinessexpress.com  
sales@nambusinessexpress.com

