



UNITED NATIONS
NAMIBIA



Bi-Annual
NEWSLETTER
2023

UNITED NATIONS PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK (2019-2023)

The UNPAF, established by the United Nations (UN) and the Government of the Republic of Namibia (GRN), delineates collaborative assistance from UN agencies in achieving the objectives outlined in the country's National Development Plan (NDP 5) and Vision 2030. Cooperation focuses on specific pillars and outcomes aligned with NDP 5, emphasizing the principle of 'Leave No One Behind.'



ECONOMIC PROGRESSION

By 2023, institutions implement policies for inclusive development and poverty reduction for vulnerable groups.



SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

By 2030, vulnerable children and young people in Namibia have equitable access to inclusive quality education and life-long learning.



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

By 2023, vulnerable populations in disaster prone areas and biodiversity sensitive areas are resilient to shocks and climate change effects and benefits from natural resources management.



GOOD GOVERNANCE

By 2023, government institutions at national and regional level are accountable and transparent, engaging citizens in participatory decision-making processes.

There are development challenges that cut across these 4 pillars such as:

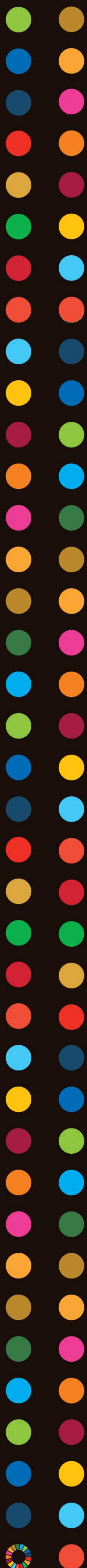


1. Youth
2. Disaster Risk Management (DRM)
3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
4. HIV & AIDS
5. Migration
6. Culture



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UNITED NATIONS NAMIBIA

HIGHLIGHTS 2023



@unnamibia

HIGHLIGHTS

Namibia Triumphs as Host and Champion at the UN Africa Games 2023

SWAKOPMUND, Namibia - The coastal town of **Swakopmund** was abuzz with excitement and camaraderie as the **UN Africa Games 2023** concluded in a spectacular fashion. **Namibia**, not only the gracious host but also a formidable competitor, emerged as the overall champion, clinching the coveted cup. **Zimbabwe** followed closely, securing second place, while **South Africa** rounded off the top three. The games, which saw participation from various **UN country offices**, were not just about sportsmanship and competition. They were a celebration of unity, collaboration, and shared harmony. Many participants expressed their joy at finally meeting colleagues in person, with whom they had previously only interacted via email. The event provided a unique platform for networking, fostering deeper connections, and strengthening inter-office relationships.



UN Namibia staff members in action at the UN Games 2023 in Swakopmund.

HIGHLIGHTS

UN Namibia celebrates the 78th Anniversary of the UN Day with Exhibition



UN Resident Coordinator, **Ms. Hopolang Phororo** and Director of Multilateral Affairs in the Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation, Ambassador **Mr. Jerobeam Shaanika**, World Health Organization Representative a.i, **Ms. Mary Brantuo** and other partners at the UN Day Exhibition.

WINDHOEK, Namibia - The **United Nations Day** celebration in Namibia marked a moment of reflection on the enduring partnership between **Namibia** and the **United Nations**, dating back to the early days of Namibia's quest for independence in the late 20th century. Held in the capital city of **Windhoek**, the event was graced by government officials, civil society organizations, and members of the Diplomatic Corps. It shed light on the substantial strides realized in collaboration with the **United Nations** since the onset of Namibia's journey towards independence, particularly emphasizing the pivotal role the UN played in supervising Namibia's transition to independence in 1990 following the adoption of **Resolution 435** by the **UN Security Council**.

United Nations Day, commemorated on **October 24**, marks the entry into force in **1945** of the **UN Charter**, symbolizing the organization's birth. This day not only celebrates the achievements of the **United Nations** but also emphasizes the enduring hope it symbolizes for a better world, particularly resonating with Namibia's historical journey with the UN. This year's celebration theme was **'Journey Through the SDGs'**, showcased through an exhibition, where all UN agencies participated, reflecting the collaborative spirit towards sustainable development while honoring the long-standing relationship between Namibia and the UN.

The UN Resident Coordinator, Ms. Hopolang Phororo, reminisced on the **Namibia-UN alliance** since 1946 when Namibians sought UN aid for independence, marking strides towards global peace and human rights. She highlighted the daunting challenge of meeting the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030**, with only **15%** of targets on track. Despite progress in poverty reduction and gender equality, more effort is needed. She mentioned the upcoming **Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2025-2029)** and the **2024 Summit of the Future**, co-hosted by **Namibia** and **Germany**, as steps towards addressing global inequalities and advancing the **SDGs**.

HIGHLIGHTS

Model United Nations (MUN) hosts the 11th MUNNAM High School Conference

WINDHOEK, Namibia - This year's conference, held from 1st to 2nd November, saw high school delegates from across Namibia engage in thought-provoking discussions centred on the theme of,

"The rising burden of chronic diseases and pandemics poses a challenge for public health systems and requires innovative approaches to improve population health, A new wave in public health."

The MUNNAM conference brought together 100 high school delegates from different schools who adeptly



Pictures from the **MUNNAM '23** Conference

assumed the roles of diplomats representing their respective countries. Over two days of intensive deliberations, these young diplomats showcased their skills in debate, lobbying, and diplomacy to address pressing global health challenges and their associated socio-economic and political implications. The conference culminated in the formulation of a comprehensive resolution that offers innovative approaches to tackling the critical issues discussed during the event. Delegates exhibited remarkable diplomatic acumen, cooperative spirit, and a deep commitment to addressing real-world challenges.

At the conclusion of the conference, outstanding delegates were recognized with prestigious accolades, including 'Best Delegate' awarded to **Kiran Wolf** of Windhoek International School, 'Best Speaker', awarded to **Stefan Becker** from Windhoek High School, 'Best Delegation', awarded to **Kazuki Sadamoto & Lucas Neuhaus** (Delegation of Russia) and 'Best School', awarded to **Osire Secondary School** in honour of their exceptional contributions to the discussions and their exemplary display of diplomacy. For over a decade, MUNNAM has been a catalyst for youth engagement and empowerment in Namibia, fostering a deep understanding of the role of the **United Nations, member states, civil society**, and other stakeholders in addressing complex global issues. This annual high school conference has equipped hundreds of **Namibian** youths with practical skills in research, public speaking, resolution writing, debate, negotiation, and diplomacy.

HIGHLIGHTS

Namport lights up in blue for every child - Call to Action delivered for World Children's Day

17 November 2023, Walvis Bay, Namibia - UNICEF lit up the port of Walvis Bay in blue on Friday, 17th November to mark World Children's Day. "Going Blue" for the children of the world was one of many highlights of the ceremony. The Namibian nation and President H.E Hage Geingob hosted the presidents of Botswana, H.E Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi, Zambia, H.E Hakainde Hichilima and Zimbabwe, H.E Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa accompanied by children from these countries, showing support for the future generations, leaving no-one behind. Over the past five months, the children from Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe have been consulting, digitally and in-person, on issues that affect their lives. These talks led to the UNICEF World Children's Day Call to Action document that four children presented to their national leaders at the ceremony. The Call to Action / Communiqué raised concerns, needs and solutions on issues that matter to children.

The attendance of these leaders highlights the commitment of their respective countries to the cause of children's well-being with over 200 children from the four countries converging at the venue from November 17 to 19 and thousands more set to join the occasion virtually.

Namibia's Anzel, 13, said of the Call to Action: "We are not asking for change, we are demanding what is rightfully ours." Zambia's Mwala Mutele, 17, opened in prayer, while Botswana's Lady Modiegi, 17, presented her poem, "We are the Architects of Change."



UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Yvonne Chaka Chaka soared in song and poured out love for the children of Africa at the Welcome Dinner.

UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Yvonne Chaka Chaka performed with the Sunshine Centre Choir of Walvis Bay. Namibian Paralympic gold medalist Johanna Benson passed on the World Children's Day Torch of Hope to her president, H.E. Dr Hage Geingob, and the other country's leaders. The Zimbabwean children's delegation were then passed the torch ahead of their country hosting the event in 2024.

World Children's Day (WCD) is commemorated globally on 20 November each year and marks the anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. It is a Global Day of Action by children, for children. This year's event builds on the successes of 2021 and 2022 regional celebrations which were hosted by Botswana and Zambia using an integrated content approach led by children – for children - from the four participating countries.

HIGHLIGHTS

Namibia and UN Forge New Partnership for Sustainable Development

6 October 2023, Windhoek, Namibia - During a critical review meeting of the **United Nations Partnership Framework 2019-2023** and **Common Country Analysis**, the **United Nations** and its partners engaged in a comprehensive reflection, assessing accomplishments, lessons learned, areas for growth, and strategies to incorporate into the new **Cooperation Framework, 2025-2029**. This introspective session, occurring at a pivotal juncture for **Namibia**, coincides with crucial national developments, notably the **2023 Population and Housing Census** and the formulation of the **National Development Plan 6 (NDP 6)**.



Ms. Hopolang Phororo (Left), UN Resident Coordinator to Namibia and Ms. Wilhencia Uiras (Right), Executive Director of the National Planning Commission, addressing the audience during the Joint 2019-2023 UNPAF & Draft CCA Review event.

(Images, ©UNIC Windhoek)

The review meeting served as a forum for profound introspection, emphasizing the **UN's** commitment to remaining responsive and adaptive to Namibia's evolving needs. As the nation prepares for transformative endeavors encapsulated in the **NDP 6** and other parallel initiatives, this collaborative effort between the **Government of Namibia, partners,** and the **UN** stands poised to catalyze positive change, fostering a future where sustainable development is not just an aspiration but a tangible reality.

Ms. Hopolang Phororo, UN Resident Coordinator, set the stage with a resounding message of evolving from a traditional development assistance approach to a dynamic cooperation framework.

"This pushes us towards strengthened joint planning and programming beyond sectoral approaches; this we cannot achieve alone,"

she emphasized, aligning the partnership with **Namibia's National Development Plan 6**. **Ms. Wilhencia Uiras, Executive Director of the National Planning Commission,** underscored the lasting impact they aim for, saying,

"I want my future generations to recognize the positive changes initiated in 2023."

Regarding **Economic Progression**, according to the **Namibia Statistics Agency**, **Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)** now play a pivotal role in the nation's economic landscape, accounting for **12% of Namibia's GDP** and providing livelihoods for over **200,000 individuals**. Moreover, the agriculture sector has witnessed significant advancements with **5,000 hectares of land** now under irrigation.

On **Social Transformation**, in the education sector, there's a commendable milestone with **72.7% of all learners across the nation** now enrolled in the primary phase. Additionally, The national budget allocated to non-contributory social protection has increased to **11.5%**, surpassing the target of **5%**. The number of identified potential victims of trafficking has increased to **23 per year**, surpassing the target of **18 per year**. Health system capacity was strengthened, and it was able to provide quality health and nutrition services and effective detection and control of outbreaks.

Read more at:

<https://namibia.un.org/en/248417-namibia-and-un-forge-new-partnership-sustainable-development>

HIGHLIGHTS

Charting Namibia's Path Forward: Insights and Commitments from the Strategic Planning Retreat and Cooperation Framework Training

27-30 November 2023, Windhoek, Namibia - UN Namibia recently hosted the **Strategic Planning Retreat (SPR)** and **Cooperation Framework Programming Principles** training from 27-30th of November 2023. The event is integral to the **United Nations** support to the journey towards sustainable development in Namibia for the period **2025-2029**. This **four-day event** identified consensus on results areas for the next **Cooperation Framework with Namibia** and built a common perspective on the partnership model between the **UN family** and **Namibia**. This process comes at a critical juncture, with **SDG** targets largely unmet and the need to accelerate the **SDGs** and implementation of **NDP6** and **Vision 2030**.

Government officials, civil society, trade unions, private sector representatives, and the UN team ensured alignment with the national development plan and global agenda. The dialogue touched on the six vital global transitions critical to achieving the SDGs: **food systems, energy, digital connectivity, education, jobs, and social protection, and the key challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution**. These areas represent both challenges and opportunities for **Namibia**, emphasizing the need for innovative and adaptive strategies.

Through the participatory use of foresight methodologies, participants were able to identify **drivers of change, risks, and scenarios**, which will help overcome the results agreed upon for the next **Cooperation Framework** to overcome key challenges,



Participants at the **SPR workshop** included **UNCT members, Programme Management Teams, Result-Based Management Group, Government officials, academia members** and members of the **civil society**.
(Image, @UNIC Windhoek)

such as **unemployment and non-inclusive growth, access to quality basic social services (health, education, social protection, and food security), gender inequality and violence, unsustainable natural resource management and vulnerability to climate change, and lack of timely statistics and citizen engagement for accountable institutions**.

Ms. Hopolang Phororo, UN Resident Coordinator, said,

"Namibia, like many nations, is navigating the complexities of economic growth and transformation. The slow pace of economic structural transformation is a significant factor influencing our productivity growth. Our efforts in various sectors are commendable, but the urgency demanded by the global economic landscape requires more diversified and resilient economic strategies. Aligning public spending with priorities that foster innovation, productivity, and long-term sustainability is imperative."

Sylvester Mbangi, the Chief National Development Advisor and Deputy Executive Director at the National Planning Commission (NPC), stated,





"...The outcome of this meeting will also inform our future cooperation. As Government, we pledge our continuous commitment and support to provide high-level strategic guidance and leadership throughout the formulation and implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework."

Read more at: <https://namibia.un.org/en/255789-charting-namibias-path-forward-insights-and-commitments-strategic-planning-retreat-and>



ECONOMIC PROGRESSION



    @unnamibia

Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions in Namibia



(Image / ©UNIC Windhoek)

UN NAMIBIA NEWS

Windhoek, Namibia - The Government of the Republic of Namibia, with the support of the United Nations System convened a two-day multistakeholders National Consultative and Prioritization Workshop on the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions. The workshop, held on 25-26 July 2023, gathered key stakeholders, including government officials, UN agencies, members of the diplomatic corps, captains of industries, workers representatives, civil society organizations, and media personnel.

Under the leadership of H.E President Dr. Hage G. Geingob, Namibia expressed its keen interest in becoming one of the official pathfinder countries of the Global Accelerator initiative; an ambitious and transformative effort spearheaded by the United Nations Secretary-General. The workshop aimed to explore innovative strategies to combat the pressing challenges of unemployment, poverty, and inequality in the country through the implementation of an integrated strategy of employment, social protection, and just transitions policies with strong and sustainable economic and social returns.

Addressing the attendees, Ms. Hopolang Phororo, the UN Resident Coordinator, expressed her sincere gratitude to all participants for their valuable presence and engagement. She underscored the urgency of addressing the financing gaps and the challenges posed by COVID-19 and geopolitical conflicts, such as the Ukraine war, which have hindered progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

"The Global Accelerator comes at a critical time, responding to multiple crises that demand swift and coordinated action," remarked Ms. Phororo. "Through strategic investments in sectors such as green, care, digital, and creative economies, we aim to create quality jobs with social protection and achieve just transitions for all."

During the workshop, participants delved into the three pillars of the Global Accelerator initiative - Financing, Policy Integration, and Multilateral Cooperation - seeking ways to strengthen coordination and coherence among development actors and streamline project implementation. The workshop emphasized the importance of aligning international financial resources with domestic resource mobilization efforts to establish universal and comprehensive social protection systems and increase the creation of decent work opportunities.

Ms. Wilhencia Uiras, Executive Director of the National Planning Commission, underscored the significance of the Global Accelerator in addressing Namibia's unique challenges. *"Our nation faces unprecedented levels of unemployment, particularly among youth, women, and vulnerable groups..."*

Read more at: <https://namibia.un.org/en/240763-global-accelerator-jobs-and-social-protection-just-transitions-namibia>



A courtesy meeting between the Resident Coordinator and the Private Sector

(Image, ©UNIC Windhoek)

UN NAMIBIA NEWS

18 August 2023, Windhoek, Namibia - The UN Resident Coordinator stressed that a mind shift for developing sustainable partnerships was needed, *“otherwise we will get business as usual”* results, and business leaders invited the UN to understand how their businesses operate, during the breakfast conversation to establish stronger engagement with the private sector to address development challenges and opportunities in Namibia.

The recently appointed UN Resident Coordinator, Ms. Hopolang Phororo, had a courtesy meeting with the private sector, as part of her introduction to key players in the development space. The UN recognizes that the private sector plays a critical role in development to realize the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It drives economic growth, innovation, and job creation. The existing partnership that the UN has with the SDGs Private Sector Alliance has been instrumental in implementing activities, hence the reason for this crucial engagement.

The courtesy meeting was well attended by key leaders from the private sector and the United Nations. The meeting was more than a courtesy meeting; it fostered an interactive discussion on the New UN Development System (UNDS) reform, the existing UN and Private sector partnerships through the SDGs Private Sector Alliance, and potential new collaboration opportunities to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

as we have less than seven years left to achieve vision 2030.

The conversation began with an earnest reflection on what it will take to craft successful collaboration between the UN and the private sector. Mr. Alonso Sebastiao from DHL gave a compelling story on the successful collaboration between DHL and the UN Accelerator Lab on e-commerce for SMEs to tap into the now available 1.3 billion African market through the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Business leaders expressed a desire for more than just surface-level partnerships with FirstRand Group CEO, Mr. Conrad Dempsey highlighting the need for a deeper understanding of the UN's role and requested that the private sector be involved from the onset in the strategic planning of the UN to ensure alignment and ownership from both parties. This is a timely suggestion as the UN system in Namibia is in the process of developing the next Cooperation Framework.

As the dialogue unfolded, the urgency of Namibia's youth unemployment rate, now surpassing 50%, became palpable. Leaders warned that peace and stability could be at risk without immediate action. *“You cannot have this level of youth unemployment and think a generation ahead, you're going to have peace,”* one speaker noted, setting the tone for a meeting that would grapple complex challenges.

The spotlight shifted to the Duares Green Hydrogen Village project, a beacon of hope and innovation. Mr. Lutz Heiner Otto, the business developer, passionately outlined the potential of green hydrogen in Namibia, from producing green ammonia for fertilizers to aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Read more about this at: <https://namibia.un.org/en/242658-courtesy-meeting-between-recently-appointed-un-namibia-resident-coordinator-and-private>



Namibia Takes a Bold Step Towards Formalizing the Informal Economy



(Image, ©UNIC Windhoek)

UN NAMIBIA NEWS

13 September 2023, Windhoek, Namibia - The Bank of Namibia, the Government, and the UN Namibia organized a Multi-Stakeholder Workshop on the **National Diagnostic of Informality**. The event was held at the Safari Hotel & Conference Centre in **Windhoek** and was attended by a varied group of stakeholders from **civil society, trade unions, government, private sector, research and academia, and development partners**.

Hon. Lucia lipumbu, Minister of Industrialisation and Trade, set the tone with a compelling statement. *"The presence of four key speakers today testifies to the value and appreciation we attach to Namibia's Informal Economy,"* she said. Her words were echoed by UN Resident Coordinator, Ms. Hopolang Phororo, who emphasized the importance of international cooperation in uplifting the informal sector.

lipumbu delved into the policy dimensions surrounding the informal economy, acknowledging challenges like wage disparities and tax evasion perceptions. Mr. Ebson Uanguta, Deputy Governor of the Bank of Namibia, added to this by emphasizing the role of financial institutions. *"Banks have a responsibility to be more inclusive, especially when it comes to providing access to credit for small businesses,"* he noted.

lipumbu cited global statistics to put the local scenario in perspective. Minister Utoni Nujoma, Minister of Labour, Industrial Relation and Employment Creation, further elaborated on the social protection aspects. *"An unguarded informal economy may not offer decent work, thus exacerbating poverty,"* he cautioned.

The workshop aims to focus on getting a better understanding of the **informal economy (extent, diversity, causes, and consequences)** and of the context and to build consensus about the situation to agree on priorities and responsibilities to contribute to defining an evidence-based strategy that will complement other ongoing initiatives. *"Our draft National Informal Economy, Startups and Entrepreneurship Policy (NIESEP) supports productive activities, not illegal or shadowy businesses,"* lipumbu clarified.

As the event unfolded, lipumbu concluded her remarks by assuring the participants of the government's unwavering commitment. *"This initiative aligns directly with the objectives of the Harambee Prosperity Plan II of 2021-2025,"* she said, leaving no room for doubt about the government's resolve.

The two-day workshop promises to be a milestone in **Namibia's** journey to formalize its informal economy. It offers a platform for collective discussions and aims to yield fruitful deliberations that could shape the nation's economic narrative for years to come.

For more in-depth coverage on this transformative workshop and the government's future initiatives, stay tuned to the UN Website.



SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION





The 1000 Days Campaign: Advocating for Improved Child Nutrition

(Image / ©WFP, WHO)



1000 DAYS CAMPAIGN

WFP/WHO/MOHSS NEWS

In a concerted effort to bolster child nutrition from conception to 2 years, the **Ministry of Health and Social Services**, in collaboration with the **World Health Organization (WHO)** and **World Food Programme (WFP)**, has launched the impactful "**1000 Days Campaign**." The campaign focused on critical periods of child development, emphasizing nutrition and health interventions during the first 1000 days – from pregnancy to a child's second birthday.

To kickstart the initiative, **37 Community Health Workers, 962 pregnant and lactating women, and 286 men** in the **Ohangwena** and **Otjozondjupa** regions underwent comprehensive training. The training covered essential topics such as **exclusive breastfeeding, complementary food introduction, food preservation techniques using solar dryers, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) practices, and food safety.**

In addition to the on-the-ground training, the campaign featured an extensive 8-month media plan in collaboration with the **Namibian Broadcasting Corporation (NBC).**

The media plan, concluded in October 2023, included targeted radio messages delivered in 9 local vernacular languages. Furthermore, engaging 15-second video clips and informative recipe cards were disseminated through various social media channels.

The official launch of the **1000 Days Campaign** took place on NBC, marking a significant step toward raising awareness about the crucial importance of nutrition during the early stages of a child's life. The campaign aimed to empower communities with knowledge and resources to ensure healthier starts for their children.

The **Ministry of Health and Social Services, WHO, and WFP** call on all stakeholders, communities, and media partners to join hands in advocating for improved child nutrition and building a healthier future for the nation.

Check out the videos of the 1000 days campaign here:

<https://namibia.un.org/en/227299-un-namibia-and-ministry-health-and-social-services-1000-days-campaign>





Namibia Hosts Breakfast Meeting to Strengthen Women Peace Centre

(Image, ©UNIC Windhoek)

12 July 2023, Windhoek, Namibia - In a significant step towards advancing gender equality and sustainable peace, Namibia hosted a breakfast meeting to shed light on the operationalization of the **Namibia International Women Peace Centre (NIWPC)**. The event was officiated by the **Hon. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah**, Namibia's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of International Relations and Cooperation.

The **NIWPC** was officially launched on **October 31, 2020**, coinciding with the **20th anniversary of the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325**, which recognizes the crucial role of women in peace and security. The breakfast meeting aimed to provide insights into the current status of the centre's operationalization and foster collaboration with similar institutions, organizations, and development partners.

During her speech, **Hon. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah** expressed her appreciation to the attendees for their positive response to the invitation and acknowledged the patience exhibited during the process. She highlighted the challenges faced by the **NIWPC** due to the global **COVID-19 crisis**, which resulted in a slower start of the centre. She emphasized the government's commitment to sustainable peace, as outlined in **Namibia's Vision 2030**, which aims to eliminate marginalization and ensure peace and equity between women and men.

The **NIWPC** strives to amplify efforts in addressing barriers to the full implementation of **UNSCR 1325** and the **Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Agenda**. Being the first centre in Southern Africa to focus on WPS, the **NIWPC** holds a strategic position to serve as both a hub and a coordination center for WPS activities in the region. It aims to become a centre of excellence, promoting innovation, intergenerational dialogues, male engagement, and collaboration with other centres to generate gender and age-disaggregated data on the **WPS Agenda**.

Hopolang Phororo, the **UN Resident Coordinator to Namibia** underscored the vital role women play as critical actors in achieving sustainable international peace and security. She called for concerted action to address the worsening situation of women in conflicts around the world, highlighting the devastating impacts of violence on women's lives, livelihoods, and safety.

The meeting drew attention to the importance of women's active participation in shaping peace and security policies and stressed the need for increased resources and funding to support the women, peace, and security agenda. Development partners and stakeholders were invited to collaborate with the **NIWPC**, offering technical assistance, funding, and capacity building to accelerate progress.

The high-level engagement provided an opportunity to present the **NIWPC's Strategic Plan** for the period **2023-2028**. This roadmap, developed with the support of various partners and stakeholders, outlines the centre's strategic direction and lays the foundation for its work in the coming years. Attendees expressed their appreciation for the plan and pledged ongoing support in its execution.

Read more at: <https://namibia.un.org/en/239418-namibia-hosts-breakfast-meeting-strengthen-women-peace-centre>.
(Image, ©UNIC Windhoek)

DEVELOPMENT

UN Team Visits Omaheke to Support Local Development in Namibia

PARTNERSHIP

COMMERCE



(Image, ©UNIC Windhoek)

UN NAMIBIA NEWS

Gobabis, Namibia - Ms. Hopolang Phororo, the UN's Resident Coordinator in Namibia, recently visited Omaheke. This trip, her first outside the capital since taking her role, aimed to see how the UN's help in health, nutrition, education, and against violence is making a difference. It's part of a bigger plan to make sure the UN's work meets Namibia's needs.

The team met with Governor Pijoo Nganate. They talked about Omaheke's efforts against malnutrition, like a new soup kitchen truck and a large farm project, showing the ongoing battle against hunger.

At Rakutuka Primary School, the UN is helping with programs that improve student health and education. The principal, Mr. Ford, shared how they need more community resources and support to keep improving things for students.

Then, they visited Epako Clinic, a crucial place for healthcare in Omaheke. The clinic is doing a lot with little, running health and food programs and helping victims of violence despite needing more staff and better equipment.

The visit also highlighted a program called **Upshift**, where local people are creating projects like eco-friendly charcoal, reusable sanitary pads, and sustainable houses. This initiative shows how local ideas can make a big difference.

Wrapping up, Ms. Phororo reflected on the UN's commitment to helping Omaheke grow and succeed. This visit gave a clear picture of the challenges and achievements in the region and set the stage for continued teamwork and practical solutions.

The learnings from this trip are crucial to planning how the UN will support Omaheke in the future, aiming to make lasting improvements in the community.



Ms. Hopolang Phororo, Resident Coordinator to Namibia and the UN team met with Governor Pijoo Nganate during the Omaheke visit. (Image, ©UNIC Windhoek)

@unnamibia



UNHCR/WFP releases Joint Assessment Mission & Minimum Expenditure Basket Report - Osire Refugees Settlement



(Image, ©UNHCR/Willem Vrey)

UNHCR/WFP NEWS

Windhoek, Namibia - WFP/UNHCR conducted a **Joint Assessment Mission (JAM)** between **November to December 2022** whose purpose was to assess the livelihoods of refugees in **Osire Refugee Settlement**, through reviewing the overall food security and nutrition situation and access to services contributing to food and nutrition security for refugees in **Namibia**. In addition, the assessment looked at opportunities for livelihood activities and synergies with other government and development partners.

Alongside the **JAM** assessment, a **minimum expenditure basket survey (MEB)** was undertaken between **February to March 2023** which collected data on what the cost of what households require to meet their essential needs on a regular and seasonal basis. The data collected through the **MEB** will inform planning for cash-based interventions by establishing transfer values for cash grants, analysis of the vulnerability of the population in **Osire** and access to markets and goods by the population.

Currently, the basic needs of the refugees are addressed through **in-kind assistance** (*food and non-food items*). From **2024**, **Cash-based interventions** will replace **in-kind assistance**. A shift to this kind of assistance will enable recipients to choose what they want to buy for their families from the market, which will, in turn, stimulate the local economy, strengthen links between refugees and host communities, and eliminate the transaction costs related to providing **in-kind assistance**.

This report documents the main findings of the **Joint Mission Assessment** and the **Minimum Expenditure Basket** exercise in **Osire Refugee settlement**.

Recommendations will inform planning and programming by **UNHCR** and **WFP** to improve food security for refugees.

Established in 1992, **Osire Refugee Settlement** is situated **200 km north of Windhoek** in a remote area of in **Otjozondjupa Region**, surrounded by private commercial cattle farms. The nearest town of **Otjiwarongo** is some 120 km away. Almost four in ten refugees in **Osire** have been living in the settlement between five and ten years.

At **Osire settlement**, **UNHCR** works with **Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security** to provide protection and basic essential services to residents, in partnership with two Non-Governmental Organisations: **Legal Assistance Centre (LAC)** and the **Society for Family Health (SFH)**, secondary education, health facilities, livelihoods and access to markets.

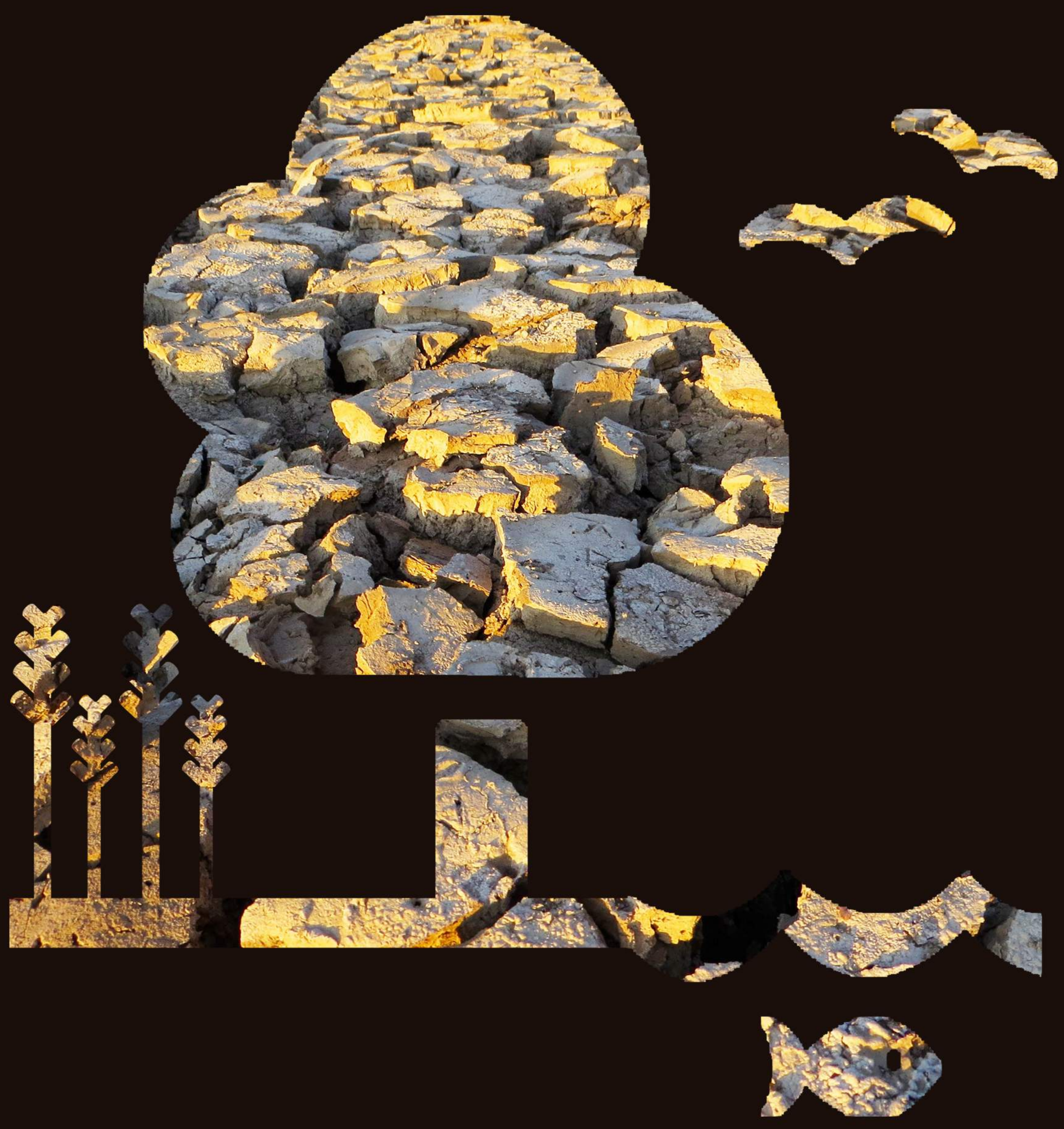
However, **91%** of refugees who reside in **Osire** are faced with extreme resource constraints as result of the encampment policy which restricts movement and opportunities for employment.

Continue reading the JAM report by WFP/UNHCR at: <https://www.unhcr.org/africa/media/food-security-refugees-namibia-joint-assessment-mission-minimum-expenditure-basket-report>





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ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



Combined Water-Saving and Nuclear Techniques Help Improve Farmers' Productivity and Income in Namibia

Farmers in Namibia have been trying out a nuclear-based approach to irrigating their fields, which has helped them substantially improve water use efficiency.

UN NAMIBIA NEWS

06 April 2023, Northern regions, Namibia - Approximately 92 per cent of the country is defined as **very arid, arid or semi-arid, and its rainfalls are rare and erratic**. In the last decade, **Namibia's** government declared national emergencies three times due to severe droughts that caused substantial harm to the country's agriculture and economy. The most recent drought in **2019** – the worst for the country in **90 years** – saw agricultural production hit an all-time low, leading to serious food shortages.

With support from the **IAEA** and the **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**, farmers in the northern regions of **Kavango East, Kavango West, Omusati, Oshikoto and Tsumeb** are now using a combination of **nuclear techniques** and a **water-saving irrigation technology**, known as **small-scale drip irrigation**, for watering their fields. Based on **cosmic ray neutron sensors**, which provide real-time data on soil moisture, it has allowed farmers to deliver small but

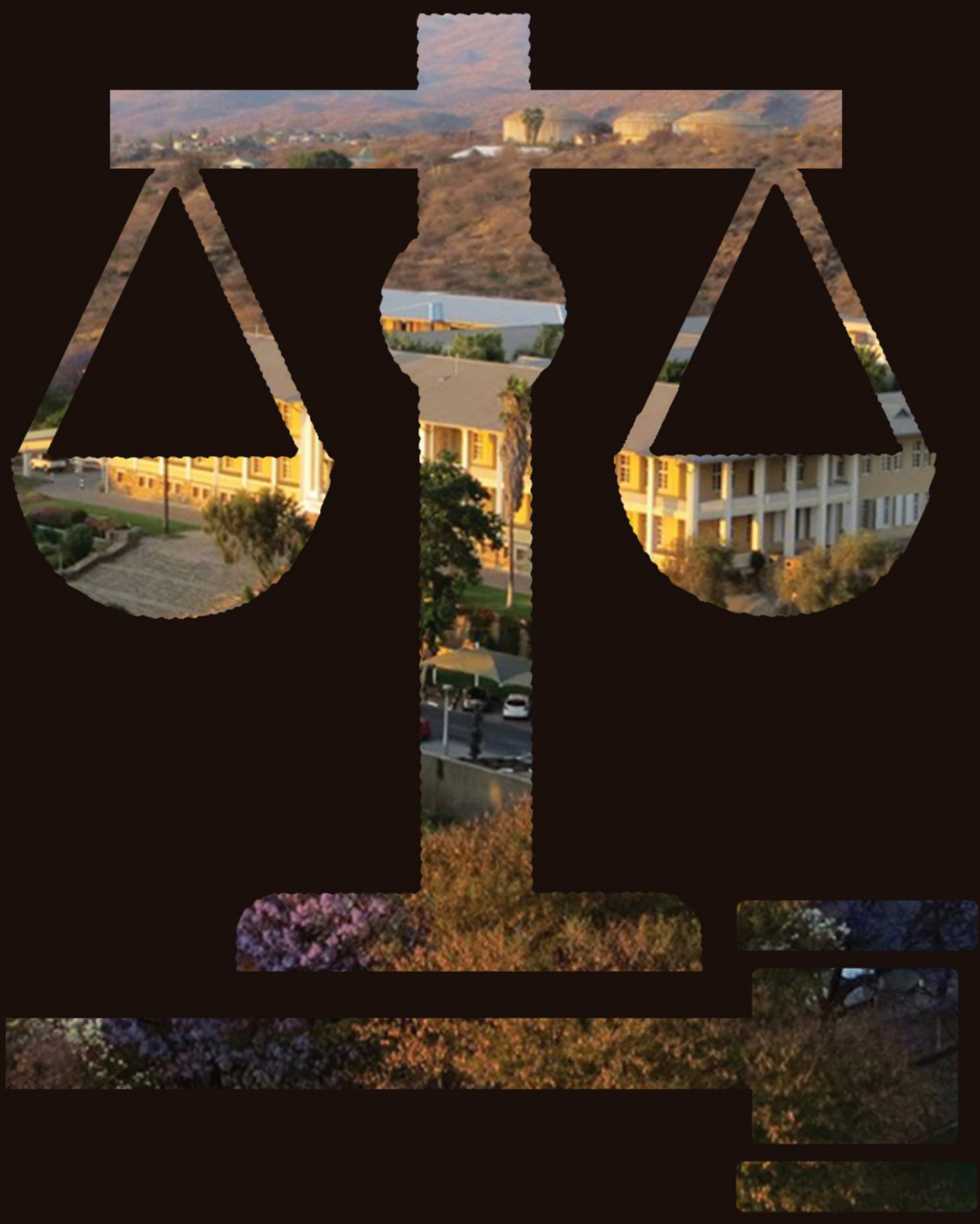
precise amounts of water directly to the plants. **Drip irrigation**, which is made possible with the help of **nuclear and isotopic techniques** that can measure moisture levels in both the soil and the plants, enables farmers to work out exactly how much water and nutrients to use and when. It allows water to be fed to the plants through a network of pipes or narrow tubes that deliver water directly to either the base or the root. The process helps to reduce water use.

Implemented as part of an **IAEA technical cooperation project**, which started in **2020**, this drip irrigation system has helped increase irrigation water use efficiency by over **80 per cent** compared to rainfed agriculture and has improved yields by up to **70 per cent** in the farmers' fields that were part of the project.

Read more at <https://namibia.un.org/en/238633-combined-water-saving-and-nuclear-techniques-help-improve-farmers-productivity-and-income>

(Photo: ©J. Adu-Gyamfi/IAEA)

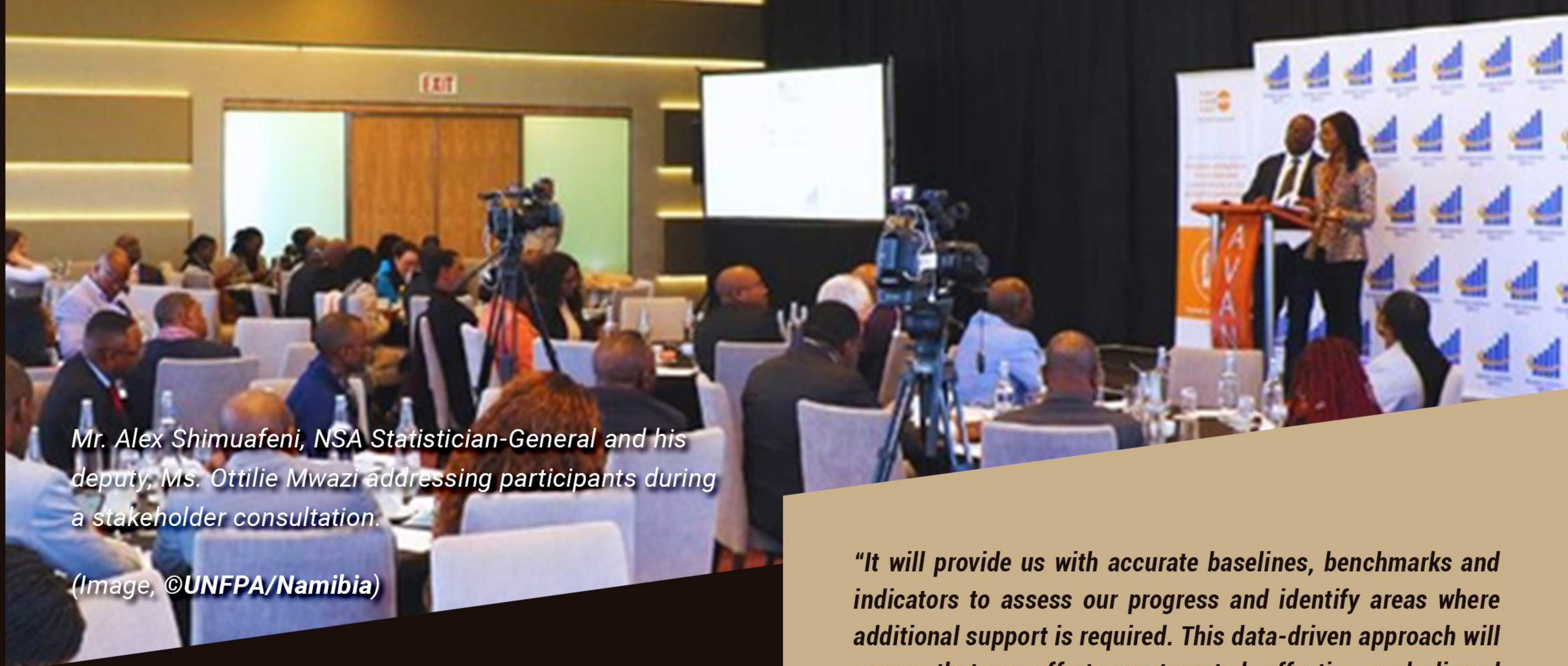




GOOD GOVERNANCE



Census engagement meeting with diplomatic corps and development partners



Mr. Alex Shimuafeni, NSA Statistician-General and his deputy, Ms. Otilie Mwazi addressing participants during a stakeholder consultation.

(Image, ©UNFPA/Namibia)

UN NAMIBIA NEWS

16 June 2023 Windhoek, Namibia - The Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA), in partnership with the Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), hosted a stakeholder engagement meeting with the diplomatic corps and development partners on the upcoming census on 14 June 2023. Namibia, as a member state of the United Nations (UN), recognises the importance of the Population and Housing Census for national planning and evidence-based decision-making and has mandated the NSA to conduct a PHC every 10 years.

The 2023 PHC is scheduled to take place from 25 September to October 2023, after two postponements due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The stakeholders' engagement meeting allowed participants to exchange ideas, share best practices, and brainstorm ways for partners to support the 2023 Population and Housing Census.

Achieving development goals

Speaking at the event, Salomo Hei, the Chairperson of the NSA, stated that the upcoming 2023 Census will significantly improve the ability to monitor progress towards the attainment of national development plans and the Sustainable Development Goals.

"The data collected will provide a solid foundation for businesses, organisations, researchers, and investors to make informed decisions that will contribute to the growth and prosperity of Namibia. It will enable us to identify emerging trends, leverage untapped opportunities, and foster innovation in various sectors, such as healthcare, education, infrastructure, and agriculture," he said.

"It will provide us with accurate baselines, benchmarks and indicators to assess our progress and identify areas where additional support is required. This data-driven approach will ensure that our efforts are targeted, effective, and aligned with the priorities of both Namibia and our esteemed partners," he said further.

Ensuring data quality and integrity

In his welcoming remarks, Alex Shimuafeni, the Statistician-General and CEO, reiterated that the NSA would persist in its effort to deliver accurate data. *"I am deeply committed to upholding the highest standards of statistical integrity, ensuring the confidentiality of data, and promoting transparency in the dissemination of census results."*

Pivotal time

Delivering remarks on behalf of the UN, Gift Malunga, the UNFPA Representative, said the census is taking place at a crucial moment when there is an increased demand for all countries to enhance their data and statistical capacities.

"As the world slowly emerges from the COVID-19 crisis, timely, open, disaggregated, and high-quality data are more important than ever. A growing number of countries have started modernising and enhancing their statistical systems," she stated, adding: *"I am excited to see the NSA embarking to conduct the first-ever digital census using Computer-Assisted Personal Interviews (CAPI)."*

Read more at:

<https://namibia.unfpa.org/en/news/census-engagement-meeting-diplomatic-corps-and-development-partners>

THE SOCIAL CORNER

What you might've missed on UN Namibia social media in 2023

Post

United Nations in Namibia @UNNamibia

24 January 2023 is dedicated to Education as a fundamental human right. The theme of this year's observance reminds us "to invest in people and to prioritize education." @UnicefNamibia @UNFPA_Namibia @UNDPNamibia @FAONamibia @UNESCOWindhoek @WHONAMIBIA @WFPNamibia @UnaidNamibia



10:35 AM · Jan 20, 2023 · 737 Views

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Post

United Nations in Namibia @UNNamibia

Applicable knowledge, skills, & attitudes is essential HR trades in working with #PeopleWithDisabilities. UN administrative staff this week underwent training in disability etiquette, organizing persons/online career fairs & how to set up/creating an inclusive work environment.



UNICEF Namibia and 8 others

1:36 PM · Feb 17, 2023 · 616 Views

View post engagements

Post

United Nations in Namibia @UNNamibia

This #WorldWaterDay, let's work on #LeavingNoOneBehind Sanitation in continues to be a problem. Thankfully, organizations like @UNDPNamibia, @UnicefNamibia, @UNESCOWindhoek, @FAONamibia, @WFPNamibia & @UNDPNamibia working with GRN & stakeholders to improve public living conditions



Hopolang Phororo and Carlos Fernandez

11:22 AM · Mar 23, 2023 · 330 Views

View post engagements

United Nations Namibia

Published by Anthea Basson · April 5

The UN is delighted to announce that the call for submissions for this year's PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival is now open. The deadline is 30 June 2023!

PLURAL+, a joint initiative of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), invites young creators and media makers aged up to 25 years old to submit original and creative videos. 5 minutes or less, addressing the themes of migration, diversity, social inclusion... See more



See insights and ads

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Post

United Nations in Namibia @UNNamibia

Eating well is always important, but during pregnancy it can support your health and the health of your baby. For the next 17 days UN Namibia will be sharing recipes in support of the @Government, @WFPNamibia and @WHONamibia 1000 days campaign.



9:00 AM · Apr 13, 2023 · 386 Views

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Instagram

unnamibia



unnamibia More women in @UNPeacekeeping = more effective mandate delivery meet Kornelia Shikukumwana, Nupoor Sanjiv IN, Anuujin AmarjagalMN #UNMISS Blue Helmets #ServingForPeace in #SouthSudan ss Full album https://bit.ly/3WuQxm1#PK75#PeaceBegins #PK75

View post on Instagram

Post

EU in Namibia @EU2Namibia

2023 International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBT)

United in Diversity

Celebration in Windhoek, Namibia

#IDAHOBT #IDAHOBT #EU4LGBTIQ #EUGoesRainbow



SisterNamibia and 3 others

1:13 PM · May 17, 2023 · 3,422 Views

3 10 11

Post your reply

EU in Namibia @EU2Namibia · May 17


2/2 The EU High Representative/ Vice Presidents

United Nations Namibia

Published by Anthea Basson · June 19

Hon. Janet Ramtoulie Sallah-Njie visit to Namibia

During her mission 12 to 16 June to Namibia, Hon. Janet Ramtoulie Sallah-Njie, Commissioner of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and Country Rapporteur for Namibia and Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa met with the UNCT. Views were exchanged and experiences shared on how to improve the promotion, protection, and fulfilment of human rights in Namibia. The Commissioner urged the UN, when follo... See more



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5

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unnamibia



#ISteppedUp to mark the International Day against Nuclear Tests

29 AUGUST

#StepUp4Disarmament Youth Campaign 2023

unnamibia Let's embrace a world free of nuclear weapons & #StepUp4Disarmament... more

View post on Instagram



@unnamibia

THE SOCIAL CORNER

What you might've missed on UN Namibia social media in 2023

United Nations in Namibia @UNNamibia

African indigenous people play a vital role in protecting critical ecosystems across the continent, essential in the fight against climate change. Yet, they face barriers accessing crucial funding. It's time to recognize their wisdom for a sustainable future!

"Despite the fact that we do play a critical role in protecting the ecosystems on which our lives entirely depend, indigenous people receive less than 1% of all climate financing globally"

ANNE SAMANTHE
National Indigenous Peoples Coordinating Committee on Climate Change
4 September 2023

9:32 AM · Sep 8, 2023 · 139 Views

United Nations Namibia Published by Anthea Basson · October 12

Are you a talented Namibian woman with a passion for cooking? Here's your chance to shine on a global stage!

The WFP Namibia is curating a special recipe book, and we want YOUR delicious recipes to be featured. Whether it's a traditional dish you love making, a family recipe that's close to your heart, or your own unique recipe, we invite you to share your culinary masterpiece. We're looking for:

- Your Full Name

EMPOWERING Namibian Women through COOKING

SCAN QR CODE TO SUBMIT YOUR RECIPE

STORIES AND RECIPES OF WOMEN

See insights and ads

United Nations in Namibia @UNNamibia

Six SADC countries are partnering with the Spotlight Initiative five-year Global Bias & Violence programme, focusing on human rights & national capacity. Hopolang Phororo, RC to Namibia, chaired the session on Showcasing Evidence & Impact with Spotlight Secretariat.

12:19 PM · Oct 10, 2023 · 240 Views

United Nations in Namibia @UNNamibia

As we embark on developing the Cooperation Framework, 2025-2029, we hear the voices of CSOs to strengthen our partnership for accelerated SDG progress.

#UNNamibia #SDGs

2:18 PM · Nov 1, 2023 · 270 Views

United Nations in Namibia @UNNamibia

In our shared responsibility to ensure no child goes hungry, regardless of nationality, the Association of Diplomatic Spouses has partnered with the UN to address the pressing food needs of refugees in Osire.

Hopolang Phororo and Carlos Fernandez

8:31 PM · Nov 22, 2023 · 346 Views

United Nations in Namibia @UNNamibia

The United Nations in Namibia joined the Government of the Republic of Namibia and various stakeholders to launch the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence in the Marietal, Hardap region. #16DaysOfActivism #Namibia

Hopolang Phororo and Carlos Fernandez

6:21 PM · Nov 26, 2023 · 755 Views

United Nations in Namibia @UNNami · Nov 26

The event was graced with participation by the Diplomatic Corps, Line Ministries, Civil Society Organizations, the media, youth activists, and community members. #GenderEquality #StopGBV

United Nations in Namibia @UNNamibia

Celebrating Hope & Generosity @UNNamibia House, our recent raffle wasn't just about winning prizes. It was a collective effort to support Osire Refugee Camp with Hilton Hotel, Soulstice Spa, Vivaldi Africa Consultants & Perseverance Farm Produce. #RaffleForACause #UNNamibia

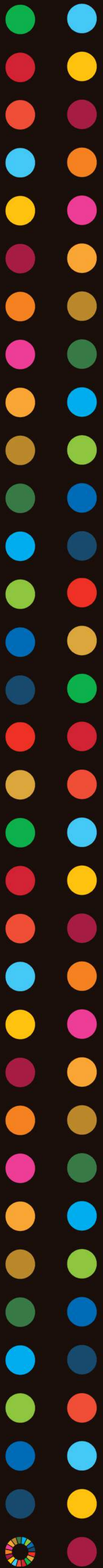
Carlos Fernandez and Hopolang Phororo





10:27 AM · Dec 3, 2023 · 459 Views

United Nations in Namibia @UNNami · Dec 3

"Also, by wearing orange, we stood in solidarity for the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence. A big shoutout to everyone who participated - your support is creating positive change! #TogetherForChange #EndGBV"

DECEMBER IS
— UNIVERSAL —
HUMAN
RIGHTS
— MONTH —



   
@unnamibia

— UNIVERSAL — HUMAN RIGHTS — MONTH —

HUMAN
RIGHTS

75

08 December 2023, Windhoek, Namibia - In an effort to promote and commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights under the HR75 Initiative, United Nations Information Centre Windhoek had a 2-day photo exhibition at Wernhill Mall in Windhoek on the 6th and 7th December. 30 canvas photos were setup displaying the journey of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights since the inception of the UN globally. The UNIC team engaged the public with a tour of the photo exhibition and quick quizzes on human rights. (Images, ©UNIC Windhoek)



— UNIVERSAL — HUMAN RIGHTS — MONTH —

HUMAN
RIGHTS

75

11 December 2023, Windhoek, Namibia - To continue the commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, UN Namibia assisted the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Regional Office for Southern Africa (OHCHR ROSA) in the Human Rights 75 Initiative campaign. This involved engaging influencers from Namibia as '*Human Rights Champions*,' who pledged their support in standing up for human rights. These influencers were actress, voice-over artist and singer, *Zenobia Kloppers* and Ms. Earth Namibia 2022, *Diana Andimba*.



“

WE ALL PLAY A ROLE
IN ENSURING THAT NO
ONE'S HUMAN RIGHTS
ARE DENIED THEM DUE
TO WHO OR WHAT
THEY ARE.

Zenobia Kloppers



“

SHELTER IS A
FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT
AND EVERYBODY
DESERVES TO CALL A
PLACE HOME.

Diana Andimba

Watch their pledge videos on social media: <https://twitter.com/UNNamibia/status/1733823897999438032>



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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1 NO POVERTY 	2 ZERO HUNGER 	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING 	4 QUALITY EDUCATION 	5 GENDER EQUALITY 	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES 	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
13 CLIMATE ACTION 	14 LIFE BELOW WATER 	15 LIFE ON LAND 	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS 	



SCAN THE QR CODE TO VISIT THE UN NAMIBIA WEBSITE.