2018 was a busy and successful year. Through agencies, funds and programmes, the United Nations (UN) Namibia ‘Delivered as One’ and dedicated its efforts towards supporting policy implementation, capacity-building as well as advocacy work, solidifying its position as the ‘Partner of Choice’ for the Government of the Republic on Namibia (GRN).

Through hard work and dedication, we achieved milestones in the priority areas set out in our partnership framework with GRN, the United Nations Partnership Framework (UNPAF) 2014-2018. As this was the last year of implementation of this framework, we jointly finalised and launched the UNPAF 2019-2023 and are preparing for roll out starting January 2019.

This framework aims to eradicate poverty and inequality and is fully aligned with national and international development agendas. This includes the Fifth National Development Plan (NDPS), the Harambee Prosperity Plan (HPP), Namibia’s Vision 2030, the Blue Print on Wealth Redistribution and Poverty Eradication, the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Through seven outcomes within four Pillars – Economic Progression, Social Transformation, Economic Sustainability and Good Governance – the UN will execute strategic interventions to support the GRN in addressing Namibia’s development challenges.

Namibia has fully committed to achieving sustainable development and has integrated the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into its national development plans. UN Namibia continued to play an important role this year in supporting local mainstreaming and achievement of the SDGs. This included supporting a baseline report to monitor implementation locally as well as providing technical and financial support to the GRN to ensure timely preparation of its Voluntary National Review (VNR), which is part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development’s follow-up and review mechanism.

Namibia was one of the first African countries to present its VNR in July at Headquarters. The partnership between the GRN and the UN is crucial to ensure that Namibia conducts regular and inclusive reviews of progress towards the Agenda 2030 at the national and sub-national levels.

UN Namibia also continued to focus on strengthening coordination of development partners. Alongside the Government, we provided platforms for partners to discuss and take action towards streamlining development efforts.

Heading into 2019, UN Namibia will focus on improving efficiency, coordination and data collection and analysis to address Namibia’s ‘last mile challenges’. We are ready to begin implementation of UNPAF 2019-2023 and further support the GRN in ensuring that no one is left behind.

Some key activities and innovations to look forward to include the Joint Area-based Programme, an integrated approach to rural development, and the implementation of a resource mobilisation strategy. The Upper Middle-Income Country Strategy for Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland (BLNSS) will be a priority for 2019.

As we close off 2018, the UN System in Namibia wishes you a happy holiday season and good health for the new year. We encourage everyone to continue focusing on eradicating poverty, protecting the environment and standing up for human rights. Together, we can bring about the world we want to see and ensure that future generations are able to prosper.
January: Hepatitis E Outbreak

Starting off the year, the UN System stood as a reliable partner in addressing the Hepatitis E outbreak, providing technical and material support to ensure that the outbreak was controlled and that steps for future prevention were put in place. This fight has continued throughout 2018, and preparedness and preventative measures have been rolled out to other regions.

February: MICs Experience Sharing Forum

In February, representatives from UN agencies and Governments from across Southern Africa converged in Swakopmund to share their experiences in addressing the challenges that middle-income countries face in terms of keeping up the momentum of development and reducing inequality, known as the Middle-Income Trap. This platform allowed the opportunity for partnership development as well as south-south cooperation.

March: Promotion of Gender Equality

Throughout the month of March and in support of Namibia’s efforts, UN Namibia dedicated time to promoting gender equality and women’s empowerment, in line with the global call that the #TimeisNow to address and end gender inequalities and disparities as well as to address challenges that leave women behind. This included advocacy through joint events and initiatives.

April: UNPAF 2019-2023

UN Namibia finalised its next partnership framework with the Government, UNPAF 2019-2023, and officially launched it at the Development Partnership Forum (DPF). Development partners coordination mechanisms, including the DPF as well as the Development Partners’ Dialogue (DPD), were held twice each this year. April was the last month of former Resident Coordinator, Kiki Gbeho’s tenure in Namibia. She is serving as the Deputy Joint Special Representative for UNAMID.
NAM’s emergency preparedness and response strengthened

UNESCO signs MoU with CRAN

WANTED: Leaders for a TB Free Namibia

Water delivery brings relief to thirsty learners

UNFPA hands over N$7.4m of contraceptives to Health Ministry

National Commemoration of International Women’s Day

SCORE supports farmers in northern Namibia

Protecting Namibia’s biodiversity and environment

Kangaroo Mother Care

Other Beginning of the Year Highlights

Click on the caption to read the full story
May: National Workshop on Disability

Ensuring that ‘no one is left behind’ was in the spotlight in May. UN Namibia supported the National Workshop on Disability, which provided a platform for stakeholders, including persons with disabilities (PwDs), to discuss effective strategies for disability mainstreaming in Namibia.

31 May, Windhoek: Participants highlighting the importance of promoting and facilitating the inclusion of PwDs in development agendas. UN Namibia

June: Beating Plastic Pollution

UN Namibia advocated for ‘Beating Plastic Pollution: If you can’t reuse it, refuse it’ through the commemoration of World Environment Day. The event provided a platform for discussion about policy actions, investment opportunities, and behaviour changes that individuals and institutions can pursue to address plastic pollution. This was also in line with the National Clean-up Campaign, which UN Staff Members came out in full force to support on 25 May.

25 May, Windhoek: UN Staff members ‘Beating Plastic Pollution’ to protect the environment as part of the National Clean-up campaign. UN Namibia

July: Good Health

Health was at the forefront in July. UN Namibia stood by the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS) in launching its Strategic Plan for 2017/18 - 2021/22. The plan outlines activities towards making Namibia a healthy nation, in line with national and international development agendas. Namibia participated in and was also recognised at the 22nd International AIDS Conference for its progress and achievements towards the Fast Track targets and the ultimate goal to End AIDS by 2030.

16 July, Windhoek: WHO Namibia Representative, Dr Charles Sagoe-Moses, Hon. Minister of Health, Dr Bernard Haufiku, UN Resident Coordinator a.i., Rachel Odede and Bertha Katjivena (MoHSS) launching the Strategic Plan. UN Namibia

August: #BeFree

UN Namibia supported the First Lady of the Republic of Namibia, H.E. Madame Monica Geingos’ #BeFree initiative throughout the year. Leaders and role models from across the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and UN Namibia engaged with the youth as part of the #BeFree SADC Youth Dialogue in August. The dialogue took place on the sidelines of the 38th SADC Summit. The platform provided a safe space for the youth to have conversations about sexual and reproductive health and rights.

17 Aug, Windhoek: UN Resident Coordinator a.i., Rachel Odede greets the First Lady of the Republic of Namibia (FLON) as she arrives at the #BeFree SADC Youth Dialogue. UNFPA
Other Middle of the Year Highlights

Click on the caption to read the full story

International Yoga Day at the UN House

UNDP visits Family of Hope Services for Mandela Day

Living Together in Peace

ILO country programme to ensure decent work for Namibians

Combatting Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing

IOM Refugee Resettlement Program

Storybook about the Global Goals launched

Launch of The Condomize Campaign in Namibia

White Paper Validation Workshop

MENSTRUAL HEALTH & HYGIENE DAY - 28 MAY

#NoMoreLimits for women and girls
September: 73rd UNGA

Youth was also a large topic of discussion at the seventy-third session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), held at Headquarters in New York City in September. Addressing the UNGA, H.E. the President, Dr. Hage Geingob noted the importance of empowering young people and utilising their potential for the good of the global community, amongst other priorities.

October: UN Day

#UnitedwithUNNamibia

UN Namibia celebrated UN Day with the local community at an early childhood development (ECD) centre, an old age home, a hospital, and a local university. Under the theme, ‘#UnitedwithUNNamibia’, the day called on partners, stakeholders, staff members and the public to promote sustainable development in their lives. Over 70 staff members went to the four sites on the day.

November: Building Resilience and Ending GBV

Namibia’s Disaster Risk Reduction (DDR) Country Level Workshop, which finished in the beginning of November, increased knowledge and understanding of DDR and resilience-building among stakeholders. Later in November, UN Namibia supported the Government in launching and commemorating 16 Days of Activism, urging the world to end violence against women and girls in all spheres of life, including in the workplace.

December: World AIDS Day

UN Namibia celebrated World AIDS Day (WAD), commemorated annually on 1 December. This included supporting the national event held in Okongo, under the leadership of Dr Bernard Haufiku, the Minister of Health and Social Services, and Dr Tharcisse Barihuta, UNAIDS Namibia Country Director, with the teen club that raised awareness of HIV/AIDS through cultural performances. UNAIDS

30 Nov, Okongo: Dr Bernard Haufiku, the Hon. Minister of Health and Social Services, and Dr Tharcisse Barihuta, UNAIDS Namibia Country Director, with the teen club that raised awareness of HIV/AIDS through cultural performances. UNAIDS
Launch of Demographic Dividend Study Report

Health and Hygiene Promotion Month kick off

#BeFreeBreakFree Fun Walk

World Food Day

UNESCO integrates ICTs in teaching and learning

Food Bank Programme goes digital with SCOPE

Development Partnership Forum

Model United Nations Namibia (MUNNAM) Conference 2018

Launch of NAMPHIA results

Greening the Blue

Other End of the Year Highlights

Click on the caption to read the full story

December 2018 - Page 7
Social Media of the Month

Follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram: @UNNamibia

Stand united with UN Namibia and post using our hashtag: #UnitedwithUNNamibia
Snapshots of the Month

The first harvest of WFP’s hydroponic pilot at the UN House was recently distributed to UN Staff Members. The project, a low cost initiative, will soon be rolled out in the National School Feeding Programme and will provide fresh vegetables locally produced to the learners. WFP/UN Namibia

At the End of Year Safety Briefing held on 30 November, Sidney Bools from the Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA), showed UN Staff Members how to check the wear on their tyres so that they can remain safe on the roads. UN Namibia

UN Volunteers (UNVs) are building resilient communities in Namibia. For International Volunteers Day (5 December), UNVs shared their experiences with one another and recommitted to ensuring that no one is left behind. UNDP

Stay updated with UN Namibia!

Website:
un.org.na

Social Media:
@UNNamibia

Hashtag:
#UnitedwithUNNamibia

Visit us:
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Klein Windhoek,
Windhoek, Namibia

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11 ‘Sustainable Cities and Communities’ is the SDG of the Month!

The world’s population is constantly increasing. To accommodate everyone, we need to build modern, sustainable cities. For all of us to survive and prosper, we need new, intelligent urban planning that creates safe, affordable and resilient cities with green and culturally inspiring living conditions.

To make cities and communities sustainable, we all have to take action. Get inspired here: https://www.globalgoals.org/11-sustainable-cities-and-communities

December 2018 - Page 9