

MAY-JUNE 2025





WINDWISE NAMIBIA AIMS
TO BE AFRICA'S FIRST WIND
TURBINE MANUFACTURER



ELECTRICITY CONTROL
BOARD KEEPS NAMPOWER
TARIFF HIKES IN CHECK



NAMDEB, NAMPOWER SEAL AGREEMENT TO COLLABORATE ON WIND ENERGY



Namibia's First IPP developed **Solar Plant Turns 10!**

A decade ago, InnoSun successfully commissioned the first utility-scale Solar Plant in Namibia. Officially inaugurated on the **13th of May 2015**, the **4.5 MW Omburu PV Plant** has since delivered **over 125 GWh of clean energy** to the national grid. This is equivalent to powering over **4000 households per year.**

Together with our financial partners Old Mutual, GIPF, and IJG, we continue to celebrate this pioneering milestone in sustainable energy development!

Today, the InnoVent Group operates 25 MW of Renewable Energy divided among 4 solar plants, and Namibia's first Wind Farm. In addition, it is currently constructing the 44 MW Diaz Wind Farm and the 49 MW Sorexa PV Plant.

We remain committed to contributing to the realization of Namibia's Renewable Energy Goals.







Photo Credit: Etango Magazine

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Local Value Addition in Energy is Non-Negotiable

resident Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah's recent remarks at the Namibia International Energy Conference (NIEC) resonate with a powerful vision for the nation: one where Namibia is not merely a beneficiary of its energy resources, but a driving force in its own energy-led transformation.

The emphasis on local value addition, particularly in the context of a burgeoning renewable energy sector and an emerging oil and gas sector, is not just a policy directive; it's a strategic blueprint for sustainable prosperity and true energy independence.

For too long, African nations have seen their vast natural resources extracted and exported, with much of the value chain and its associated benefits accruing elsewhere.

Agenda 2063, rightly asserts that Africa's substantial oil, gas, and renewable energy reserves are key to achieving "the Africa We Want" – a global powerhouse. For Namibia, this translates into a deliberate shift from being a raw material exporter to a nation that processes, innovates, and leads within its own borders.

Local value addition is more than just employing Namibians; it's about empowering

them with the expertise, knowledge, and confidence to design, manage, and innovate across the entire energy value chain. From engineers and technicians to project managers and researchers, a skilled local workforce ensures that the economic benefits of energy development circulate within the Namibian economy, creating a virtuous cycle of growth and opportunity.

Furthermore, local value addition extends beyond human capital to tangible infrastructure and enterprise. The President's call for developing downstream capacity, such as refineries, and promoting meaningful participation of local companies, is critical. Imagine the economic ripple effect of refining Namibia's own energy resources within the country, creating jobs, stimulating related industries, and securing energy supply. This is not just about ownership, it's about building a robust domestic industrial base that can compete globally.

In the context of renewable energy, the advantages of local value addition are particularly profound. Namibia's abundant solar and wind resources present an unparalleled opportunity to build a green

economy from the ground up. Localising the manufacturing of solar panels, wind turbine components, or even the development of green hydrogen technologies, would not only create a new industrial sector but also drastically reduce reliance on foreign supply chains. This enhances energy security and positions Namibia as a leader in the global transition to sustainable energy.

Creating an enabling environment for investment, characterised by streamlined regulatory processes and policy clarity, is thus crucial.

Local value addition in Namibia's energy sector, particularly in renewable energy, is a multi-faceted imperative. It's about empowering Namibians, diversifying the economy, building a resilient industrial base, and securing a sustainable future. This is not just a vision; it's the pathway to a truly prosperous and energy-independent Namibia.

Happy Reading!
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Cover picture:

OMBURU MILESTONE: Namibia's First Grid-Connected Solar Plant developed by an Independent Power Producer, InnoSun, celebrated its 10th anniversary in May. The 4.5MW Omburu PV Plant, outside Omaruru, was inaugurated by the late Founding President Dr Sam Nujoma on 13 May 2015 and has since delivered over 125 GWh of clean energy to the national grid, equivalent to powering over 4 000 households per year. **Photo: InnoSun**

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FIRST: Since its inauguration on 13 May 2015, the Omburu Solar PV Plant has delivered over 125 GWh of clean energy to the national grid.

Omburu Milestone: Namibia's First IPP Developed, Grid-Connected Solar Plant Turns 10

TABBY MOYO

he 4.5MW Omburu PV Plant, outside Omaruru, was inaugurated by the late Founding President Dr Sam Nujoma on 13 May 2015 and became the country's first multi-million dollar solar power plant developed by an Independent Power Producer (IPP), InnoSun.

The inauguration of the Omburu solar power plant marked a historic milestone, not only for InnoSun but for the Namibian energy landscape. This was InnoSun's first major project in the country, and it enabled the positioning of the company as a pioneer in the field of large-scale renewable energies.

InnoSun is the Namibian holding of InnoVent, the French renewable energy developer created in 2001 by Grégoire Verhaeghe. Verhaeghe was initially drawn to Namibia's significant wind energy potential, which mirrors his experience in France where InnoVent built hundreds of MW of wind capacity. However, once in Namibia, he recognised the country's exceptional solar irradiance among the highest in the world. That discovery led to a strategic shift toward solar energy.

Prior to the establishment of Omburu, renewable energy projects in Namibia had been limited to small-scale rooftop installations. Omburu demonstrated that it was technically and economically feasible to generate green power at a larger scale within the country, setting the stage for subsequent renewable investments.

The Omburu project was financed through a combination

of local and international support. The Development Bank of Namibia (DBN) provided project financing, reflecting confidence in InnoSun's business model and the project's long-term sustainability. InnoVent contributed significant equity investment. This blend of local institutional backing and international technical expertise was instrumental in bringing the project to life.

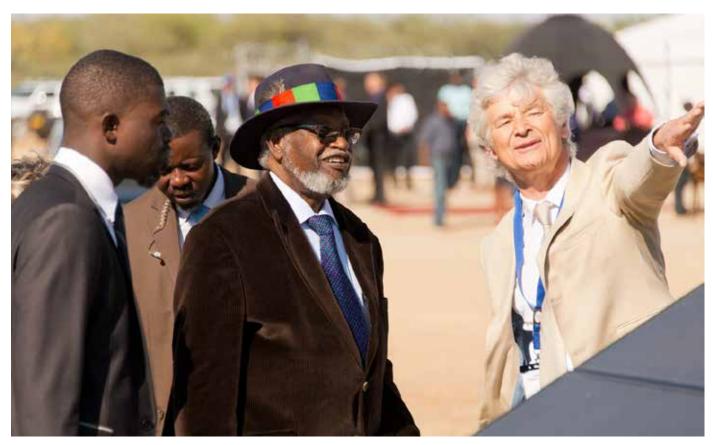
FIRST NAMPOWER PPA WITH IPP

With the Omburu solar plant, InnoSun became the first local IPP to sign a power purchase agreement (PPA) with NamPower.

Usuta Imbili, Director of Omburu Sun Energy, a subsidiary of InnoSun, told *Etango* that the partnership with NamPower has developed considerably since the Omburu project.

"The trust established by this first PPA has created a solid foundation for future collaboration. Today, the InnoVent group of companies manages several PPAs with NamPower, including the Osona, Alcon and Camelthorn solar farms, as well as the Ombepo and Diaz wind farms. InnoSun will operate a total of 70 MW by the end of the year, with the commissioning of Sorexa and Diaz," she said.

InnoSun has also been able to expand under the Modified Single-Buyer (MSB) model, with the upcoming commissioning of phase 1 (9.8 MW) of the Sorexa photovoltaic power plant, a 50 MW project designed to serve large energy consumers and export markets through the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP), in close collaboration with NamPower.



ENERGY FOR ALL: Founding Father the late Dr Sam Nujoma with InnoSun CEO Grégoire Verhaeghe during the Omburu inauguration.

KEY PLAYERS

Several other partners were key in facilitating the Omburu project. IJG and Old Mutual Namibia were instrumental as financial investors: both have joined the Omburu shareholding post commissioning via different Government Institutions Pension Fund (GIPF) vehicles for a total stake of 40%, creating the ideal combination of national and international resources to optimise the plant.

"The Namibian Energy Regulatory Authority (ECB), NamPower, and the then Ministry of Mines and Energy also played crucial roles in enabling the licensing and regulatory approvals. Their collaboration and responsiveness were critical to the project's timely execution," said Imbili.

Since the launch of Omburu, InnoSun has gone to develop several renewable energy projects across Namibia, including solar and wind power installations.

"The upcoming commissioning of the Diaz (44 MW) and Sorexa (50 MW) power plants will take the company to the next level in terms of scale. It is important to note that InnoSun has created a joint venture with Black Diamond Investment (Pty) Ltd, a Namibian company run by women, which holds a 30% stake in InnoSun Energy Holdings. This partnership reflects InnoSun's commitment to local empowerment, the inclusion of women and long-term collaboration to build a resilient green economy," said Imbili.

At the inauguration of Omburu the then NamPower Managing Director Paulinus Shilamba said the solar power plant was a clear testimony that IPPs can work in Namibia. Since then, Namibia has seen substantial growth in IPP participation, and InnoSun is proud to have been part of that transformation.

Imbili said the work done with Omburu, in particular, inspired the interim Renewable Energy Feed In Tariff (REFIT) regime, which was a significant success and milestone for the sector. "It validated efforts and demonstrated that publicprivate partnerships are essential to achieving national energy security and reducing dependence on imported electricity," she said.

CHALLENGES FACED

Imbili acknowledged the challenges that InnoSun faced in developing the pioneering Omburu solar plant.

"At the start of the project, Namibia's regulatory framework for renewable energies was still in its infancy. The National Integrated Resource Plan (NIRP) and Renewable Energy Policy were not yet finalised. Navigating land access, environmental compliance, and licensing was complex and required continuous engagement with regulators and stakeholders. Grégoire Verhaeghe's experience in developing over 600MW of renewable energy projects in France and South Africa was a great help in guiding the strategy. One of the key lessons has been the importance of persistence, building trust with institutions, and aligning project goals with national development priorities," said the Omburu Sun Energy Director.

The Omburu solar plant remains fully operational and continues to generate clean energy reliably. Since its inauguration on 13 May 2015, the plant has since delivered over 125 GWh of clean energy to the national grid. This is equivalent to powering over 4000 households per year. It has performed consistently over the past decade, delivering on all technical and contractual expectations.

The plant is under a 25-year PPA with NamPower, which means it still has approximately 15 years of active contribution to the national grid ahead, with

regular maintenance ensuring optimal performance.

With rising electricity tariffs in Namibia, Imbili said renewable energy presents one of the most viable paths to long-term electricity price stability in Namibia.

"As technology costs continue to decline and scale increases, the cost of solar and wind generation is becoming increasingly competitive with imported electricity. InnoSun is committed to projects that offer predictable and affordable tariffs over time.

FLEXIBLE ENERGY TRADING

The introduction of the MSB framework is also enabling more flexible energy trading, which could ultimately benefit end-users (via Regional Electricity Distributors – REDs – for instance)," she said.

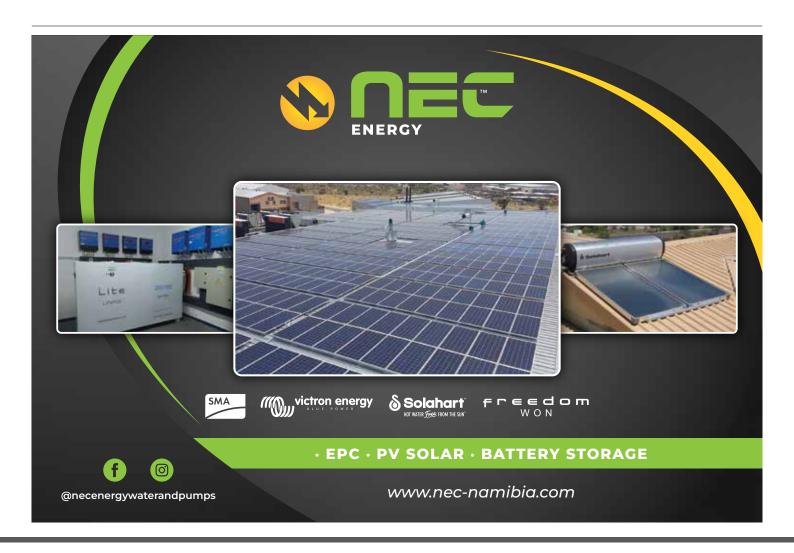
"While transmission and distribution costs remain a challenge, we believe that through continued investment and policy innovation, more Namibians—especially in rural areas—will gain access to affordable, clean energy in the coming years," Imbili said.

A critical component in achieving



FIRST FOR NAMIBIA: Grégoire Verhaeghe with Founding Father the late Dr Sam Nujoma and Namibian politician and former Trade Minister Ben Amathila during the inauguration. **Photos: Tabby Moyo**

this goal, she said, is the continued effort in achieving cost-reflective tariffs. The ECB has emphasized the importance of setting tariffs that accurately reflect the true cost of electricity provision, including generation, transmission, and distribution expenses.



Namdeb, NamPower Seal Agreement to Power Operations With Wind Energy

amdeb, the 50-50 diamond mining joint venture between the De Beers Group and the Namibian Government, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with power utility NamPower, to facilitate collaboration on the development and integration of renewable electricity projects into Namdeb's mining operations and the Namibian national grid.

The MoU was signed by Namdeb Chief Executive Officer Riaan Burger and NamPower Managing Director Kahenge Simson Haulofu in Windhoek.

The proposed development site is located in Kerbehuk, approximately 45km north of Oranjemund, where Namdeb is developing a 34MW Wind Power Plant, with Namdeb being the sole off-taker of the electricity generated. Building on the capacity of both parties, an opportunity has been identified to potentially upscale the project and connect it to the NamPower grid.

Riaan Burger, CEO of Namdeb, said the MoU with NamPower signifies more than a partnership.

"It is a statement of intent to power progress – responsibly and sustainably. Our focus on climate is backed by tangible actions. We introduced Namibia's first battery-electric bus in 2023 to start electrifying our vehicle fleet. Ultimately, we intend to electrify as much of our mobile equipment as possible so that our fleet operates on renewable energy," he said.

Burger said the Kerbehuk Wind Facility is a key milestone in this journey with the potential to enable the use of renewable energy for nearly half of our electricity needs. He said Namdeb was proud that the collaboration with NamPower not only supports its operational goals but also strengthens Namibia's energy independence and climate resilience.

Al Cook, CEO of the De Beers Group, said: "Today's consumers want to know that the diamonds they wear are sustainable. This MoU with NamPower is a major step towards our 'Building Forever' ambition to become carbon neutral. Namibia is already at the forefront of Africa's energy transition, and I am delighted that the new wind farm would bring clean power not just to our own operations but to communities across the country."

NamPower MD Haulofu said the utility's objective to source at least 70% of energy from renewable energy by 2030 aligns well with Namdeb's goal of becoming carbonneutral within the same timeframe.

"Furthermore, collaboration with other partners and entities is a key pillar



GREEN ENERGY PARTNERSHIP: NamPower MD Kahenge Haulofu and Riaan Burger, CEO of Namdeb, signed the groundbreaking MoU.



PIONEER: In 2023 Namdeb introduced Namibia's first battery-electric bus as a start to electrifying its vehicle fleet. **Photos: Namdeb**

in NamPower's strategy. This project fulfils the utilities' aspirations of collaboration with partners in the energy sector. Namdeb has demonstrated innovation and transformational leadership in progressing towards a more sustainable future. We are proud to forward this national vision. This agreement will indeed pave the way for more partnerships," said the NamPower MD.

The heart of Namdeb's operations currently take place along the southwest coast of Namibia with land-based operations in Oranjemund and satellite mines near Lüderitz and along the Orange River.

Namdeb employs several types of innovative mining techniques to extract diamonds from alluvial deposits of ore bodies.

MEDIA RELEASE





PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

ECB APPROVES 3.8% NAMPOWER BULK ELECTRICITY TARIFF FOR THE 2025/2026 FINANCIAL PERIOD

BULK TARIFF APPLICATION

In accordance with the existing legal provisions, NamPower submitted a tariff application for an effective bulk tariff increase of 17.44%, for both generation and transmission tariff. NamPower submitted their bulk tariff application on 17 February 2025. The requested adjustment would have resulted in a bulk tariff increase from N\$ 1.9856 per kilowatt-hour (kWh) to N\$ 2.3319 per kWh for the financial period 2025/2026.

The Board of Directors of the Electricity Control Board (ECB) met on 16 April 2025 and 12 May 2025, to deliberate on ver bulk tariff application submitted, which will be effective 01 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

ECB BULK TARIFF REVIEW PROCESS

In accordance with the tariff regulatory tools, the ECB conducted a comprehensive review process that included:

- Detailed analysis of the submitted tariff application Financial impact analysis on NamPower;
- Economic impact analysis of the application; and
- Optimal dispatch of the local generation versus contracted imports of electricity.

ed on the detailed analysis, NamPower's revenue requirement was adjusted from N\$8.8 billion to N\$8.1 billion.

2.2. Bulk Tariff Review Process Stakeholder Consultations

As part of the bulk tariff review process, the ECB facilitated stakeholder consultation meetings where NamPower presented its tariff application to various stakeholders. These stakeholders included members of the public, ratepayers' associations, business and employer federations and associations, agricultural unions, Independent Power Producers (IPPs), the renewable energy association, Government Ministries and agencies, and electricity distributors. Stakeholders were invited to engage and interrogate NamPower's application and to provide verbal and/or written comments and inputs for ECB's consideration. The ECB indeed considered the comments and inputs provided, in determining the final tariff.

BULK TARIFF REVIEW OUTCOME

er due consideration, especially the impact on affordability of electricity, and in accordance with the ECB tariff ew methodology, the ECB Board resolved to approve a 3.8% for NamPower instead of the 17.44% initially uested by NamPower. However, the 3.8% will be supported with a financial support of N\$283 million by the reholder (Namibian Government), equivalent to 3.8%. This adjustment changes the average tariff from the current roved rate of N\$1.9856 per kWh to N\$ 2.0611 per kWh for the financial period 2025/2026. After due consideration

Regarding the impact of the approved bulk tariff on the economy, with the tariff increasing at 3.8%, below the current inflation rate of 4.2% (March 2025), it is expected that the tariff adjustment will have minimal impact on future inflation as well as on prices of goods and services. But it will slightly negatively impact the GDP growth as electricity cost is a component of the inflation calculation.

PRIMARY FACTORS CONSIDERED IN THE BULK TARIFF ADJUSTMENT

- he primary factors influencing the tariff adjustment include:

 i. An increase in the return on assets and depreciation due to the revaluation of the transmission regulatory asset base, which rose from N\$14.55 billion to N\$21.4 billion.

 i. The cost of electricity generation, particularly the expenses associated with imported electricity. Approximately 29% of the generation cost is denominated in US dollar, making it susceptible to currency explanate furthering the product of the control of the co

Further, NamPower's revenue is based on the approved budgeted costs, volumes (energy and capacity), and tariffs. The 2023/2024 period saw an over-recovery of N\$983 million, attributed to higher-than-projected generation from the Ruacana Hydropower Plant. This over-recovery was considered, to reduce the revenue requirement, and therefore

le wish to highlight that the ECB assessed the various factors of the financial impact of the tariff increase of 3.8% and Government financial support of N\$283 million on NamPower's financial sustainability, and we confirm that amPower will remain financially sustainable.

AVERAGE GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION TARIFF PER SOURCE

The following Table indicates the average generation and transmission tariffs per source, to give an indication of the ent tariff and projected tariff path

Table 1: Average Generation and Transmission Tariffs per source

Generation Source	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27*	2027/28*	2028/29*	2029/30*		
NamPower	0.5051	0.5645	0.4070	0.4083	0.4106	0.4135		
IPPs	1.4338	1.3685	1.2974	1.3518	1.4086	1.4678		
Imports	1.7507	2.1210	2.2101	2.3029	2.3996	2.5004		
Average Generation Tariff	1.3356	1.1526	1.3750	1.3340	1.1889	1.2483		
Transmission Tariff	0.5228	0.6075	0.7202	0.7562	0.7941	0.8338		
Reliability Tariff	0.1258	0.1429	0.1688	0.1772	0.1861	0.1954		
Losses	0.1349	0.1582	0.1514	0.1590	0.1669	0.1753		
Total bulk tariff	1.9856	2.0611	2.2855	2.4454	2.5188	2.5944		
Tariff Increases	0%	3.8%	11%	7%	3%	3%		

*Italics: Forecasted (the asterisk serves to provide clarity in the event a photocopy isn't clear or some persons can't distinguish between plain and italized text)

DISTRIBUTION UTILITIES TARIFF APPLICATION PROCESS

ed bulk electricity tariff will be applicable to NamPower bulk customers such as Regional Electricity Distributors (REDs), Local Authorities, Regional Councils and large industrial transmission customers (e.g. mines). All distribution licensees will individually apply to the ECB for a review of their distribution tariffs, which, when applied timely, will be applicable to end consumers effective from 01 July 2025.

To enhance end-consumers' involvement in the determination of end-consumer tariff, all major distribution utilities will

continue to present their tariff applications directly to end-consumers in their designated areas. These engagem will be facilitated by the ECB, and we believe it will give licensees the opportunity to clarify and explain their applications to their customers. The engagements have been scheduled to take place as follows:

Table 2: Licensee - End Consumer Consultative Engagement

Date	Licensee	Town	Venue	Starting Time
2 June	Keetmanshoop Municipality	Keetmanshoop	Westdene Moth Hall	14:00 – 16:00
4 June	ERONGO RED	Walvis Bay	Municipality Hall	10:00 – 12:00
6 June	City of Windhoek	Windhoek	Khomas Regional Council Hall	14:00 – 16:00
9 June	CENORED	Tsumeb	Nomtsoub Community Hall	17:00 – 19:00
11 June	Oshakati Premier Electric (OPE)	Oshakati	Oshandira Lodge	09:00 – 11:00
	NORED	Ongwediva	Ongwediva Trade Fair Centre Conference Hall	17:00 – 19:00
12 June	NORED	Rundu	Regional Council Auditorium	17:00 – 19:00

NB: Please note that the presentation dates will be published in the local media outlets and on social media platforms of the ECB and the distribution utilities.

In addition, all distribution utilities are urged to apply for their annual tariff reviews before the end of May 2025. Utilities In addition, all distribution utilities are urged to apply for their annual tariff reviews before the end of May 2025. Utilities that do not apply for tariff adjustments in time to coincide with the implementation of the bulk tariffs, which is effective 01 July 2025, will lose revenue because they will be selling electricity based on outdated tariffs while purchasing on new tariffs, especially pre-paid revenue that is collected through pre-paid sales. We wish to reiterate that this non-constructive practice by some distribution utilities is not financially sustainable, and it affects their financial ability to honour NamPower's bills, and it further affects service delivery. This causes insecurity or instability in electricity

OVERALL ELECTRICITY SUPPLY SITUATION

For the 2025/2026 period, it is projected that 53% of the national demand will be supplied by local generation, with For the 2025/2026 period, it is projected that 53% of the national demand will be supplied by local generation, with the remaining 47% to be met with regional imports. The Ruacana Hydropower Plant remains the primary source of local generation, with performance dependent on the water flow of the Kunene River. Compared to other generation sources, electricity is generated relatively cheaply at the Ruacana Hydropower Plant. Therefore, less generation at Ruacana results in increased generation of power from expensive alternatives or imports at higher costs. Hydropower is generally considered a low-cost source of electricity.

It is important to note that during the period 2023/2024, Ruacana generation achieved one of its best productions in years, generating 2,067 GWh (Gigawatt-hour or one billion watt-hour) due to favourable water management and water flow conditions.

Notably, there has been an increase in local generation from renewable energy plants over the period. To complement local generation, two plants have been added to the national grid in the 2024/2025 period.

i. Anixas II – 58MW (Megawatt or one million watts) (Heavy Fuel Oil)

Khan Solar PV - 20MW

The two abovementioned plants are part of the 79 electricity generation licenses (excluding standby generators) that the ECB has issued, out of which 41 are operational and 38 are still under development. We hope that those licensees that have not yet commissioned their plants will do so soon; this will have a positive impact on end-consumer prices.

To further improve the electricity supply situation, Government introduced the Modified Single Buyer (MSB) Market model, a unique Namibian market platform which allows private generators and contestable oustomers to transactielectricity directly. There are seven (7) operational solar PV plants with a combined installed capacity of 28MW established under the MSB Model. It is anticipated that about 93MW will be commissioned during 2025/2026 financial period, meaning that more electricity will be generated locally, hence reducing imports and overall cost of electricity.

ELECTRICITY CONTROL BOARD'S POSITION ON FUTURE SECURITY OF SUPPLY THROUGH A BASELOAD POWER PLANT OPTION

The Electricity Control Board is concerned about the country's reliance on imports and supports efforts to address security of supply. Namibia thus needs to urgently develop a Base Load Power Plant that will stabilize and enhance security of supply and result in cheaper locally generated electricity than imports. Baseload power is reliable minimum amount of electricity supplied, or consistently required, to meet demand over a long period, typically 24 hours.

Government's financial support towards capital investments, for such a plant, as opposed to funding operational activities of licensees, will thus be a sustainable way of addressing reliability and affordability in the long run. Investments towards a baseload plant must be accompanied by other investments in strengthening transmission infrastructure, to unlock local generation capacity, and export potential.

Overall, a modern economy cannot function properly without secure and stable electricity supply. Much less without electricity. The stable supply of electricity is critical for economic growth and development. Electricity generation, transmission and distribution comes at variable costs, which must be reviewed regularly in order to provide

transmission and distribution comes at variable costs, which must be reviewed regularly in order to provide predictability, availability and stability in the market. While we are cognizant of the impact of any tariff increase on the end consumers, a zero tariff increase has unintended consequences: deterioration of infrastructure without the necessary and continual refurbishment and enewal, which will lead to an unstable grid, damage to equipment and blackouts. These, in turn, will lead to financial and economic losses, and poor economic performance, thus an unfavourable investment environment for citizens and other interested parties.

onsequently, we wish to assure the public that the ECB takes a measured judgement in every step of the electricity affordability, reliability and security of supply, and sustained conomic industry performance.

Issued by:

HOL Robert N. Kahimis



ECB Keeps NamPower Tariff Hikes in Check

he Electricity Control Board (ECB) has approved a 3.8% increase for NamPower's bulk tariff for 2025-2026 as opposed to the 17.44% initially requested by the power utility.

ECB Chief Executive Officer Robert Kahimise said the ECB Board considered the impact on affordability of electricity that a higher increase would have had on consumers.

"The 3.8% increase will be supported with a financial support of N\$283 million by the shareholder (Namibian Government), equivalent to 3.8%. This adjustment changes the average tariff from the current approved rate of N\$1.9856 per kWh to N\$ 2.0611 per kWh for the financial period 2025/2026," said Kahimise.

The ECB Board of Directors met on 16 April and 12 May 2025, to deliberate on the NamPower bulk tariff application submitted on 17 February 2025, for the financial period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

The bulk tariff (generation & transmission) application is a process undertaken annually by NamPower, to justify their Revenue Requirement, which is the total amount of money it needs to collect from its customers annually to cover all its costs, including bulk purchases, operating and maintenance, staff salaries, overheads, customer service, asset related and return and depreciation.

As a regulator, the ECB exercises its mandate by reviewing the bulk tariff application for approval or revision before granting final approval, taking into consideration electricity affordability and security of supply, and stability and efficient functioning of the electricity industry.

As part of the bulk tariff review process, the ECB facilitated stakeholder consultation meetings where NamPower presented its tariff application to various stakeholders. These stakeholders included members of the public, ratepayers' associations, business and employer federations and associations, agricultural unions, Independent Power Producers (IPPs), the Renewable Energy Industry Association of Namibia (REIAON), Government Ministries and agencies, and electricity distributors. Stakeholders were invited to engage and interrogate NamPower's application and to provide verbal and/or written comments and inputs for ECB's consideration.

The ECB indeed considered the comments and inputs provided, in determining the final tariff.

"Based on the detailed analysis, NamPower's revenue requirement was adjusted from N\$8.8 billion to N\$8.1 billion," said Kahimise.

With the tariff increasing with 3.8%, below the current inflation rate of 4.2% (March 2025), it is expected that the approved tariff adjustment will have minimal impact on future inflation as well as on prices of goods and services.

The approved bulk electricity tariff will be applicable to NamPower bulk customers such as Regional Electricity Distributors (REDs), Local Authorities, Regional Councils and large industrial transmission customers (such as mines). All distribution licensees



ECB CEO Robert Kahimise



The 3.8% increase will be supported with a financial support of N\$283 million by the shareholder (Namibian Government), equivalent to 3.8%. This adjustment changes the average tariff from the current approved rate of N\$1.9856 per kWh to N\$ 2.0611 per kWh for the financial period 2025/2026 - Robert Kahimise

will individually apply to the ECB for a review of their distribution tariffs, which, when applied timely, will be applicable to end consumers effective from 1 July 2025.

In addition, all distribution utilities are urged to apply for their annual tariff reviews before the end of May 2025. Utilities that do not apply for tariff adjustments in time to coincide with the implementation of the bulk tariffs, which is effective 1 July 2025, will lose revenue because they will be selling electricity based on outdated tariffs while purchasing on new tariffs, especially pre-paid revenue that is collected through pre-paid sales.

"We wish to reiterate that this non-constructive practice by some distribution utilities is not financially sustainable, and it affects their financial ability to honour NamPower's bills, and it further affects service delivery. This causes insecurity or instability in electricity supply to end consumers," said Kahimise.



TURBINE PLANT: Visualisation of the envisaged turbine production facility in Namibia.

Windwise Namibia Aims to be Africa's First Wind Turbine Manufacturer

indwise Namibia, an independent private company that will have over 50% Namibian shareholding, has set an ambitious target of becoming Africa' first wind turbine manufacturer.

Florian Schubert, the Managing Director of Windwise Namibia, told **Etango** that the company will aim to use local material with technology being the only component to be imported.

"The hardware will be manufactured in Namibia by Namibians for Namibians. The location of the first wind turbine production plant is not yet defined, but will be probably be close to the two industrial centres of Namibia: Windhoek and Walvis," said Schubert.

He said Windwise Namibia will not only aim to create one or two plants in Namibia, but a real industry.

"The more turbines we make, the more suppliers we are going to ask to come to Namibia. This is will create an industrial area with dozens of plants for turbine assembly, turbine maintenance, component suppliers, transportation/cranage companies, civil engineering, power



MADE IN NAMIBIA: Rendering of a turbine made in Namibia.

line construction etc. This means creating thousands of sustainable jobs not only for university graduates but also for the less qualified," said the Windwise MD.

So far the company has hired its first five young Namibian employees, all with a Bachelor or a Master's degree in engineering. The employees, all of whom are under the age of 35, are currently undergoing training in South Africa.

"We will aim for 95% Namibian personnel, including managers, engineers, accountants, logistic specialists etc. Our own training centre will train our personnel in Namibia.

"We want to show that Namibians are able to manufacture high tech and highquality turbines on their own in their country. As an example and starting point for whole Africa," said Schubert.

He acknowledged that the task ahead is not an easy one as Namibia did not currently have the human skills or materials needed to manufacture wind turbines.

"Everything needs to be created from scratch. The workforce needs to be trained and components for wind turbines are not available in Namibia right now. But, the workforce can be trained if we start now and build up a workforce gradually.

"Components are not available in Namibia, but once a critical manufacturing volume is reached (>200 turbines) Windwise Namibia will ask suppliers to come to Namibia, creating a lot of more sustainable jobs for Namibian engineers and technicians," he said.

Schubert said although the Namibian market was considered small, the country still remains a good market for wind turbines because wind turbines can be used in different areas such as power generation, desalination, rural electrification and in green hydrogen production.

"Namibia imports electricity from neighbouring countries. This imported power could be produced with locally manufactured turbines. Moreover, power produced from wind turbines is far cheaper than solar panels combined with batteries if you want power not only from 8am to 4pm but 24/7. And, cheap electricity can enable a lot of industries. Also, data centres need a lot of energy and Namibia would be a perfect location for these," said Schubert.

In addition, Namibia faces water challenges, especially in coastal areas and in the north of the country. Wind turbines can be combined with desalination

units, even off grid. One turbine can produce up to 15,000 cubic meters of water per day. Water availability can also boost large scale farming at the coast and in interior areas creating more jobs and food security for Namibia.

As an enabler for rural electrification, wind turbines have off-grid capabilities and can be clustered to small local mid-voltage grids to supply off-grid settlements, Schubert said.

Windwise Namibia will also aim to export wind turbines to neighbouring countries like South Africa, Angola and Botswana and in the SADC region.

"Despite being a small country population wise, green energy is a tremendous opportunity for Namibia to



BEYOND 2030: An industrial city powered by green energy.



READY FOR INSTALLATION: Material awaiting transport and installation. All images are for illustration purposes only

become industrialised. But Namibia should seize the opportunity. If all the equipment is imported in the future, this opportunity will be gone," said Schubert.

CHALLENGES

However, the journey towards realising the Windwise Namibia dream has not been an easy one. The company has lamented limited support for the manufacturing project from Namibia's political leadership.

"Interest in job creation is only real if the upcoming industries get support from the government. Currently, we face long and unclear permitting processes for wind projects. We need help from the government, especially for the first small wind turbine projects," said Schubert.

The situation was exacerbated by the fact that Namibia currently has no laws on local content.

"If there are no requirements for local content, equipment will be rather imported than manufactured locally. That is also what banks prefer - rather finance equipment from well-established large international players than from a Namibian newcomer," he said.

Visit the Windwise Namibia website for more information: windwisenamibia.com



PPA AGREEMENT: NamPower MD Kahenge Haulofu with the CERIM Lüderitz Energy team after signing a power purchase agreement (PPA) and a transmission connection agreement (TCA) in 2023. **Photo: File**

ANIREP to Pay N\$60 million for 45% Stake in CERIM Wind Energy Project

Ipha Namibia Industries Renewable Power Limited (ANIREP) has announced its intention to acquire a 45% equity stake in Independent Power Producer (IPP) CERIM Lüderitz Energy.

ANIREP will purchase 30% from Allied Worldwide Trading Limited and 15% from Riminii Investment for a combined sum of N\$60 million. The acquisition will be subject to fulfillment of several conditions including approval from the Electricity Control Board (ECB) and the Namibia Power Corporation (NamPower).

In addition, ANIREP will conduct its due diligence, including the execution of definitive agreements.

The wind power plant is located 17km south of Lüderitz in the $\|$ Karas Region.

"With the CERIM project, ANIREP's renewable energy portfolio will exceed 90 MWp by the project's commercial operation date, addressing Namibia's energy challenges and contributing to national renewable energy targets," says Managing Director Iyaloo Ya Nangolo.

"With a projected annual wind availability of 4,300 hours—well above the industry average of 2,500–3,000 hours—it presents a compelling investment in clean, reliable energy. It aligns with the goals of the Namibia Integrated Resource Plan and the Fifth National Development Plan (NDP5) to expand installed capacity to 755 MW by 2022/23 and source at least 70% of energy from renewable energy sources by 2030," he said.

The acquisition of a stake in the N\$1.4 billion wind project will cause ANIREP's expansion in the wind energy sector and help complete existing solar initiatives.

It will also contribute immensely towards local economic employment creation as semi-skilled and unskilled labour during the construction period will be sourced from within the ||Karas Region.

The CERIM Lüderitz Energy project includes the development of 743 hectares of land into a power-generating facility and



With the CERIM project, ANIREP's renewable energy portfolio will exceed 90 MWp by the project's commercial operation date, addressing Namibia's energy challenges and contributing to national renewable energy targets. -Iyaloo Ya Nangolo

the construction of a 40km, 132kV transmission line to evacuate power to the Namib substation.

The project is supported by a 25-year power purchase agreement (PPA) with NamPower, environmental clearance certificate, and a transmission connection agreement.

The IPP power project forms part of NamPower's planned generation projects under its Integrated Strategy and Business Plan (ISBP) for the period 2020 - 2025. The ISBP outlines the company's strategic focus, which includes the prioritisation of local renewable resources over the five years (2020-2025) in line with the Ministry of Mines and Energy's determination on the development of generation capacities.

"Considering the power supply situation in the Southern African Power Pool, the commissioning of this project, come July 2025, will displace 50MW of imports which is a step in the right direction. This project will contribute significantly to our supply portfolio when combined with other generation projects that forms part of the ISBP," said NamPower Managing Director Kahenge Simson Haulofu during the commissioning of the project.

Bank Windhoek Cements Commitment to Sustainable Financing

In September 2024, Bank Windhoek published its third Sustainability Bond Impact Report, highlighting the impact of its financing initiatives during the 2023-2024 financial year.

The N\$407 million raised from the inaugural issuance enabled the Bank to advance sustainable finance in Namibia by supporting small-scale projects and reinforcing its commitment to responsible business practices and environmental sustainability.

Bank Windhoek's Chief Treasurer, Claire Hobbs, noted that the bond allocation process has provided valuable insights into Namibia's need for dedicated financial solutions that drive meaningful economic, environmental, and social impact.

"In response to this need, Bank Windhoek introduced the Sustainability Loan, ensuring that we continue to use our financial mandate to drive positive change.

This offering, developed through funding from the Sustainability Bond, is designed to support individuals, businesses, and communities committed to sustainability," Hobbs said.

The Sustainability Loan offers competitive interest rates, flexible repayment terms, and tailored financing solutions for projects that



Bank Windhoek Chief Treasurer Claire Hobbs

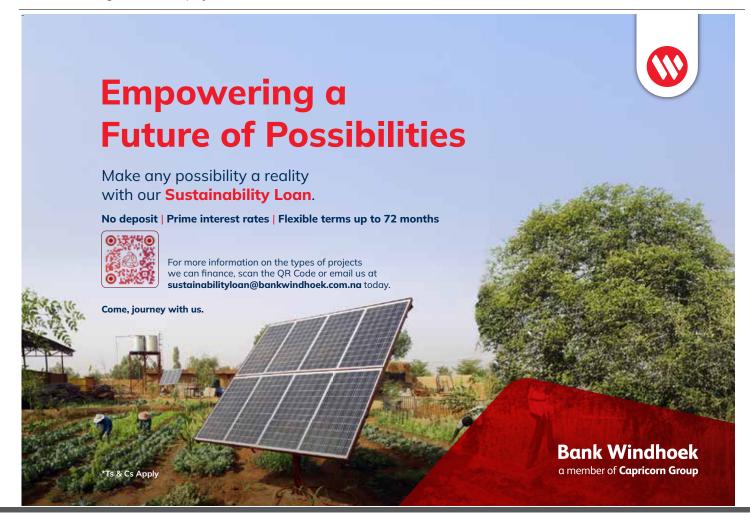
promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and other environmentally responsible initiatives. The Bank believes that by making sustainable finance accessible, it aims to support customers looking to contribute to a greener future.

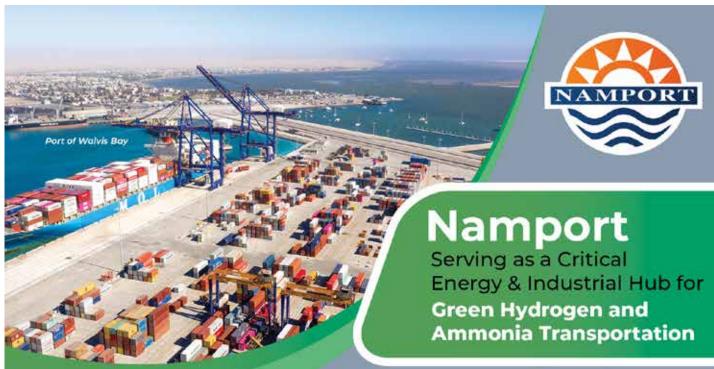
Based on various case-by-case financing needs, eligible applicants are those looking to implement sustainable solutions in areas such as Sustainable water and waste management, Renewable energy (solar, wind, hydro), Green building and energy efficiency upgrades, Sustainable agriculture and eco-friendly farming and Electric vehicle adoption and green transportation.

"This campaign empowers our clients who are committed to environmental and social responsibility.

By integrating sustainability into our everyday banking solutions, Bank Windhoek plays a pivotal role in fostering economic transformation," Hobbs said. She emphasized that the Sustainability Loan stimulates innovation in green technology, supports job creation, and contributes to long-term economic growth.

"As more businesses and individuals embrace Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) measures, we create a more resilient economy. Sustainable finance not only benefits the environment but also strengthens market stability by mitigating risks associated with climate change and unsustainable practices," she concluded.







Strategic Positioning

Namiblan Ports Authority (Namport) is strategically positioned as an important contributor to the growth of Namibia's green hydrogen industry. As the main conduit for the country's imports and exports, Namport is positioned to play a crucial role in enabling the transport of green hydrogen and its derivatives, including green ammonia.





Infrastructure and Investments

Namport is poised to become a major logistical hub, with significant infrastructure upgrades already in progress. Upgrades focus on expanding facilities for specialized cargo linked to green hydrogen projects. Over the next ten years, investments in advanced technologies and green logistics are expected to total hundreds of millions of Namibian dollars, reflecting growth and demand in the sector.

Both the Port of Walvis Bay and Port of Lüderitz will undergo major enhancements to accommodate increased cargo from the green hydrogen industry. Planned improvements include specialized terminals for hydrogen and ammonia, upgraded cargo handling facilities, and the implementation of smart port technologies to boost operational efficiency.





Strategic Partnerships

Namport has proactively established strategic partnerships with local and international leaders in green hydrogen technology. These collaborations with global ports and logistics companies, enable Namport to align with international standards and adopt best practices in green fuel logistics and port modernization.

Namport is exploring the use of green hydrogen to fuel its port equipment, aligning with its broader sustainability goals to reduce carbon emissions and promote cleaner energy. Efforts are underway to retrofit equipment to accommodate hydrogen, demonstrating Namport's commitment to embracing advanced, sustainable technologies.





Training and Workforce Development

To support the green hydrogen industry effectively, Namport is investing heavily in workforce training and upskilling, in collaboration with training institutions and industry experts. Specialized programs focused on green hydrogen logistics and handling will ensure that staff are well-prepared to manage and support the industry's growth.



Community and Environmental Responsibility

Namport is mindful of the heritage sites near its ports, such as Shark island at the Port of Lüderitz and therefore is committed to engaging with local communities and stakeholders to ensure that development plans respect and preserve cultural and historical legacies.



Future Developments

The Port of Lüderitz is set to expand its capacity in response to the expected increase in cargo volumes from green hydrogen projects. Planned upgrades include specialized terminals, improved berthing facilities, and advanced logistics technologies, transforming it into a key regional trade hub and a vital node for exporting green hydrogen derivatives.

At the Port of Walvis Bay, a master planning exercise in 2022 outlined a 50year phased development plan. Initial efforts focus on enhancing liquid bulk handling and establishing a tank farm. Future phases involve land reclamation for multi-purpose dry bulk terminals, ship repair zones, and coal terminals, ultimately positioning the North Port as a hub for long-term port development.

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IT'S DOABLE: Namibia's President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah is at the forefront of exploring nuclear energy possibilities. Photo: Al generated

Namibia Weighs Nuclear Power Options

SILVY DIERGAARDT

he Swapo Government, under President Netumbo Netumbo-Nandi Ndaitwah, is pushing for Namibia to add value to its uranium locally and a nuclear power plant could be one such way to do so.

During a recent visit to the Rössing Uranium Mine, President Nandi-Ndaitwah said: "Nuclear energy is essential and the government will put in effort to make sure the environment is conducive for the mining sector to flourish."

Under the Swapo Manifesto Implementation Plan, and within the Key Economic Enablers for Energy, a need has been identified to conduct a feasibility study to explore the development of a nuclear energy plant. A timeline of June 2026 has been attached to this development.

The Swapo manifesto stipulates the need to: "Train and develop professionals in the nuclear field as the foundation for Nuclear power generation to realise the production of medical isotopes, food production, and energy supply."

During the NamPower tariff announcement by the Electricity Control Board, the CEO Robert Kahimise said the ECB was looking into the feasibility of creating a nuclear power plant to supply baseload energy of Namibia.

"From where we are, it (nuclear) does qualify to be dispatched as a baseload power plant. We can only advise the government on the advantages of nuclear power as we seek a sustainable supply of electricity," said Kahimise.

Expert Opinions

Experts have weighed in on the possibility of nuclear production in Namibia.

Dr Gabi Schneider, the Executive Director of the Namibian Uranium Institute (NUI), said Namibia lacks skills needed to launch the production of nuclear energy.

Furthermore, she said the country's current electricity grid network will have to be updated to suit the size of the nuclear plant to be built.

Namibia will also need to have the necessary agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in place.

"Namibia's uranium, which is currently exported as uranium oxide, needs to be manufactured into a fuel format that can be loaded into a nuclear reactor and therefore, agreements with converters, enrichers and fuel manufacturers need to be in place," said Dr Schneider.

South African energy expert, Chris Yelland, also weighed in on the possibility of Namibia developing a nuclear power plant.

"The demand for electricity in Namibia is really too low to justify a major investment in a large scale nuclear power.

There are no immediate opportunities available for Namibia," he said.

However, Yelland said there is a possibility for small scale modular reactors in the country, albeit a long way to be commercially available yet.

Namibia is also exploring forming partnerships with countries that have pioneered nuclear power plants. The Russian government recently sent a high-level delegation to Namibia led by Deputy Prime Minister, Yuri Trutnev. Namibia has called upon Russia to collaborate on the local processing of Uranium.

Namibia Undertakes Green

Hydrogen Skills Study Tour to the Netherlands

In May, a Namibian delegation comprising senior representatives from the education, research, and energy sectors undertook a four-day skills exchange study tour to the Netherlands, aimed at accelerating the country's green hydrogen ambitions through knowledge-sharing and institutional collaboration.

The study tour, coordinated by the Namibia Green Hydrogen Programme (NGH2P) in partnership with the Netherlands Embassy and the Dutch Consulate in South Africa, follows the release of a 2024 report commissioned by the Netherlands on Namibia's green hydrogen skills landscape. The report recommended targeted engagements to support capacity building for a just and inclusive energy transition.

The Namibian delegation comprised of participants from:

- The Ministry of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts & Culture (MEIYSAC)
- The Namibia Green Hydrogen Programme (NGH2P)
- The Namibia Commission on Research, Science and Technology (NCRST)
- The National Council for Higher Education (NCHE)
- The University of Namibia (UNAM)
- The Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST)
- The Namibia Green Hydrogen Research Institute (NGHRI)
- · The Namibia Qualifications Authority (NQA); and
- Vocational Training Centres coordinated by the Namibia Training Authority (NTA).



HYDROGEN CAPACITY BUILDING: Members of the Namibian delegation during their recent skills study tour of the Netherlands. **Photo: NGHP**

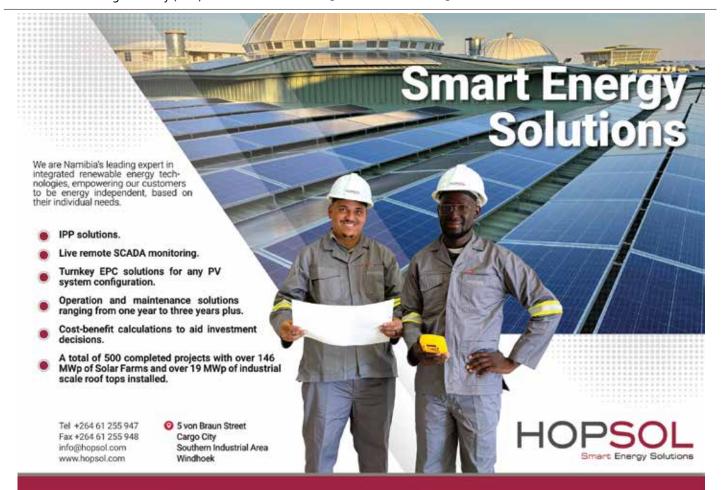
The tour began with engagements at YES!Delft, one of Europe's leading tech incubators, and TU Delft's Green Village, where delegates explored how Dutch institutions integrate research, industry, and local governments to advance green hydrogen innovation.

In Rotterdam, the delegation toured the Port of Rotterdam and RDM innovation hub to understand the infrastructure and workforce planning behind Europe's largest hydrogen development initiatives.

A key highlight was the Human Capital Agenda dialogue led by Erasmus Centre for Entrepreneurship, which focused on human capital development and entrepreneurship.

The tour is expected to inform a national strategy for green hydrogen education and training, including curriculum development, research partnerships, private sector linkages, and infrastructure requirements. It was further aimed to establish long-term collaboration frameworks between Namibian and Dutch institutions.

As Namibia positions itself as a global player in clean energy, this exchange marks a vital step in ensuring local institutions are equipped to deliver the skills, innovation, and research needed to support the country's green industrialisation goals.



Paving the Way for Namibia's Low-Carbon Trade Future

n 13 May 2025, Namibia marked a significant step toward climate-smart trade with the European Union (EU) by hosting an important workshop on the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM).

Organised by GIZ Namibia's H2Uppp Project, in partnership with the Namibia Green Hydrogen Association (NamGHA), and with the technical expertise of Antonio Adolfo Fernández Rodríguez from the International PtX Hub, the workshop brought together diverse public and private stakeholders to prepare Namibia for the carbon-conscious global economy.

With the EU CBAM transitioning from its reporting phase (2023–2025) to the compliance phase in 2026, understanding its implications is crucial for future exporters of green hydrogen, ammonia, and low-carbon fertilisers. CBAM is the EU's mechanism to price carbon in imported goods to prevent carbon leakage, the offshoring of emissions-intensive industries to countries with weaker climate policies, and to ensure fair competition in the EU market.

Demystifying CBAM for Namibia

Participants from public and private sectors learned about the CBAM's underlying logic, which is tied to the EU Emissions Trading System (EU-ETS). The mechanism applies to carbon-intensive goods such as hydrogen, aluminium, iron and steel, cement, fertilisers, and electricity. It aims to drive global decarbonisation by encouraging cleaner production in non-EU countries.

The workshop delved into: the economic rationale for CBAM and its climate alignment goals; the phased implementation timeline, with 2026 marking the start of financial obligations; calculation of embedded emissions, using practical examples from hydrogen and fertiliser production; data reporting, emissions monitoring, and the role of default values in the transitional phase.

Participants received training on how to quantify direct and indirect emissions from production processes, including understanding Scope 1 (direct emissions) and Scope 2 (indirect emissions from electricity use). Tools and methods outlined included mass balance approaches, continuous monitoring systems, and the role of default emissions values provided by the EU for the transitional period.

Positioning Namibia as a Climate-Smart Trade Partner

For Namibia, a country rapidly developing its green hydrogen sector, CBAM readiness is more than a regulatory formality, it's a strategic advantage. The nation aspires to become a hub for clean derivative exports to the EU and beyond. Aligning early with EU standards means Namibian producers can ensure zero or near-zero CBAM obligations by proving low embedded emissions—especially when using certified Renewable Fuels of Non-Biological Origin (RFNBOs).

The workshop emphasised that certified renewable hydrogen—produced with renewable electricity and complying with EU Delegated Acts—would carry an emission factor of zero, exempting it from CBAM's financial adjustments. This presents Namibia with a clear pathway to competitive advantage in EU green markets.

Building Capacity, Fostering Dialogue

The workshop was a milestone in a broader process of capacity-building and regulatory preparedness. The training sessions provided a practical introduction to CBAM's methodologies, preparing stakeholders to: develop emissions monitoring systems; engage with EU-recognized verification bodies; report through the CBAM Transitional Registry; integrate CBAM into national policy and export planning.

The session offered not only technical insights but also shared global best practices for emerging economies preparing for CBAM. Discussions also explored the role of national competent authorities (NCAs), the structure of carbon pricing in third countries, and the



KEEN INTEREST: The workshop was attended by participants from the private and public sectors.



ATTENTIVE: Participants from NIPDB and NGH2P. Photos: H2Uppp Project

potential for bilateral recognition of carbon taxes or ETS systems.

Namibia's Next Steps

With the transitional phase offering a critical window to prepare, Namibia is now better positioned to: support its industries in quantifying and reducing emissions; establish mrv (monitoring, reporting, verification) systems compatible with eu standards; encourage investment in clean technologies and renewable inputs; strengthen cross-sector coordination through various entities.

The CBAM workshop in Windhoek reflects Namibia's proactive stance toward climate-aligned economic development. As trade increasingly intersects with carbon accountability, Namibia's early investment in knowledge-sharing and policy alignment sets a precedent for African economies navigating the global green transition.



FACILITATORS: Twapandula Nghifindaka (GIZ H2Uppp) and Antonio Rodriguez Fernandez (Trainer International PtX Hub)



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Momentum Metropolitan Unveils Rooftop Solar Facility at Windhoek Headquarters

eading insurer, Momentum Metropolitan Namibia, has unveiled a rooftop solar power facility at its head office in Windhoek, marking a significant step towards renewable energy adoption and corporate sustainability.

The 107.67 kWp grid-tied solar photovoltaic (PV) system is expected to generate more than 200,000 kWh of electricity annually. The project was developed through a collaboration between Momentum Metropolitan's Properties Department and local solar energy experts.

"The sun on our national flag is more than a symbol – it is a reminder of the hope, warmth and promise that binds us as Namibians. By drawing energy from that very source, we are not only powering our buildings, but also fuelling a vision of a brighter, more sustainable future for all. This moment is a proud reflection of who we are and what we stand for," said Sakaria Nghikembua, Momentum Metropolitan Namibia Chief Executive Officer, during the launch

Momentum Metropolitan says its new solar system will reduce its reliance on grid electricity and cut its carbon footprint, aligning with broader efforts to improve energy efficiency and environmental responsibility.

Theo van Rooyen, Momentum Metropolitan Namibia Properties Manager, said the project was a result of the entity's strategic planning and long-term thinking.

"This project is the result of careful planning, collaboration, and a shared vision for a greener tomorrow. By investing in solar infrastructure, we are not only improving energy efficiency but also contributing to a future-proof and environmentally responsible business. It's a proud moment for our team to see this vision come to life," said Van Rooyen.

Momentum Metropolitan Namibia said its solar system features high-efficiency panels and inverters designed to maximise output while requiring minimal maintenance, offering protection against future energy cost increases.



CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY: Momentum Metropolitan Namibia's head office in Windhoek is now partially solar powered. Photo: Momentum Metropolitan Namibia



The sun on our national flag is more than a symbol – it is a reminder of the hope, warmth and promise that binds us as Namibians. By drawing energy from that very source, we are not only powering our buildings, but also fuelling a vision of a brighter, more sustainable future for all. -Sakaria Nghikembua

Namibia receives over 3,000 hours of sunshine annually and is recognised for having some of the highest levels of solar radiation in the world, with Momentum Metropolitan tapping into what the International Energy Agency has called the world's fastest-growing source of power.

This abundant sunlight, Momentum Metropolitan said, represents an untapped energy source that can drive both economic development and environmental responsibility.

By leveraging this local and limitless resource, the insurer said it has joined a global movement while championing a distinctly Namibian solution.

Innovative Engineering Meets Sustainability

The solar system incorporates cutting-edge panels and high-efficiency inverters designed for maximum durability and energy output. With robust warranties and minimal maintenance requirements, this clean energy asset represents a long-term investment in sustainability.

From an operational perspective, the installation supports environmental goals and business resilience by lowering energy costs and protecting against future fluctuations in power prices.

Leading by Example, Powering National Purpose

Momentum Metropolitan Namibia said its solar project signifies more than just an infrastructure investment; it embodies corporate leadership and national pride. The organisation's decision to adopt renewable energy reflects its core values of innovation, accountability, and a commitment to future generations.



ENERGY MATTERS: A panel discussion during the Namibian International Energy Conference (NIEC) held in Windhoek from 23 to 25 April. **Photo: NIEC**

President Nandi-Ndaitwah Urges Local Value Addition in Energy Sector

President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah says Namibia's energy sector is not only a catalyst for economic growth, but also as a pillar of the country's broader vision to position Namibia as a sustainable and forward-looking energy

In remarks made on her behalf by Prime Minister Elijah Ngurare at the Namibian International Energy Conference (NIEC), Nandi-Ndaitwah said Namibia's journey towards becoming an energy hub has been shaped by foresight and deliberate action.

"Long before the recent discoveries, the government actively promoted the country's potential in oil, gas, and renewable energy, laying a strong foundation for long-term growth. The establishment of Petrofund as a state-owned enterprise is one that exemplifies such vision: of a strategic investment in human capital to ensure that Namibians would be equipped to lead when opportunity arrives," said the President.

"Today, those early efforts are bearing fruit, as the sector evolves and momentum builds toward a new chapter of energy-led transformation for Namibia and the continent. As most of us know, Africa is home to substantial oil, gas and renewable energy reserves. This potential is key in attaining the aspirations of our Agenda 2063 and achieving 'the Africa We Want' – A global powerhouse of the future. This transformation of Africa's economies will be done through tapping into and developing our natural resources, sustainably and responsibly," Nandi-Ndaitwah said.

The President said Namibia welcomes investment, not just capital, but partnerships that align with the country's values and vision.

"We seek partners who invest in skills, infrastructure, and knowledge transfer, and who remain committed to Namibia's longterm development goals. Local content and beneficiation remain central to our strategy for inclusive growth," said Nandi-Ndaitwah.

She said her government's goal was to enable meaningful Namibian involvement by building skills, supporting local businesses, and fostering an environment where talent and enterprise can thrive.

The head of state said just as important, local content also includes value addition such as developing downstream capacity and infrastructure like a refinery, and promoting ownership and meaningful participation of local companies in the sector.

"At the centre of our energy vision is human capital development. Building Namibia's future means investing in our people, equipping them with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to lead in a dynamic global sector.

We are strengthening partnerships between government, academia, and industry to ensure that our education and training systems respond to the needs of a modern energy economy," said Nandi-Ndaitwah.

She underlined the need to prioritise skills development, technology transfer, and knowledge sharing across the energy value chain.

"Namibia's energy future must be led by Namibians, capable, empowered, and globally competitive," said the head of state.

Nandi-Ndaitwah said Namibia was committed to creating an enabling environment where energy investment can prosper.

"We are streamlining regulatory processes, strengthening institutional coordination, and ensuring policy clarity to support timely and transparent decisions across the energy value chain. We aim to position Namibia as one of Africa's most attractive and reliable destinations for energy investment, where partnerships are built on trust, accountability, and shared long-term value," the Namibian leader said.

ECB Notes Increase in Local Generation From Renewable Energy Plants

here has been an increase in local generation from renewable energy plants over the past year, the Electricity Control Board (ECB) has noted.

To complement local generation, two plants have been added to the national grid in the 2024/2025 period, namely the Anixas II (58MW) and the Khan Solar PV (20MW).

"The two abovementioned plants are part of the 79 electricity generation licenses (excluding standby generators) that the ECB has issued, out of which 41 are operational and 38 are still under development. We hope that those licensees that have not yet commissioned their plants will do so soon; this will have a positive impact on end-consumer prices," said ECB Chief Executive Officer Robert Kahimise.

To further improve the electricity supply situation, Government introduced the Modified Single Buyer (MSB) Market model, a unique Namibian market platform which allows private generators and contestable customers to transact electricity directly. There are seven (7) operational solar PV plants with a combined installed capacity of 28MW established under the MSB Model.

Kahimise said it is anticipated that about 93MW will be commissioned during 2025/2026 financial period, meaning that more electricity will be generated locally, hence reducing imports and overall cost of electricity.

"For the 2025/2026 period, it is projected that 53% of the national demand will be supplied by local generation, with the remaining 47% to be met with regional imports. The Ruacana Hydropower Plant remains the primary source of local generation, with performance dependent on the water flow of the Kunene River. Compared to other generation sources, electricity is



RENEWABLE POWER: The recently-inaugurated 20MW Khan Solar PV plant near Usakos.

generated relatively cheaply at the Ruacana Hydropower Plant. Therefore, less generation at Ruacana results in increased generation of power from expensive alternatives or imports at higher costs. Hydropower is generally considered a low-cost source of electricity," said the ECB CEO.

During the period 2023/2024, Ruacana generation achieved one of its best productions in years, generating 2,067 GWh (Gigawatt-hour or one billion watt-hour) due to favourable water management and water flow conditions.

The ECB has, however, expressed concern over the country's continued reliance on imports and supports efforts to address security of supply.

Kahimise said Namibia thus needs to urgently develop a Base Load Power Plant that will stabilise and enhance security of supply and result in cheaper locally generated electricity than imports.

"Baseload power is reliable minimum amount of electricity supplied, or consistently required, to meet demand over a long period, typically 24 hours. Government's financial support towards capital investments, for such a plant, as opposed to funding operational activities of licensees, will thus be a sustainable way of addressing reliability and affordability in the long run. Investments towards a baseload plant must be accompanied by other investments in strengthening transmission infrastructure, to unlock local generation capacity, and export potential," said Kahimise.

The ECB noted that the stable supply of electricity is critical for economic growth and development. Electricity generation, transmission and distribution comes at variable costs, which must be reviewed regularly in order to provide predictability, availability and stability in the market.

"While we are cognizant of the impact of any tariff increase on the end consumers, a zero tariff increase has unintended consequences: deterioration of infrastructure without the necessary and continual refurbishment and renewal, which will lead to an unstable grid, damage to equipment and blackouts. These, in turn, will lead to financial and economic losses, and poor economic performance, thus an unfavourable investment environment for citizens and other interested parties," said the ECB chief.

Namibia Partakes in World Hydrogen 2025 Summit

amibia actively participated in the World Hydrogen 2025 Summit & Exhibition which took place in Rotterdam, Netherlands, from May 20-22.

This event is the largest global hydrogen event and featured a C-level summit, a large hydrogen exhibition, the Africa Hydrogen Forum, H2 Tech Series stages, and the World Hydrogen Awards.

The event brought together global industry experts, government representatives, and other stakeholders to discuss hydrogen technologies, projects, and policies.

The summit aimed to facilitate partnerships, investments, and financing for green energy projects, and to drive the hydrogen economy forward.

The Namibian delegation to the World Hydrogen Summit was led by the Deputy Minister of Industries, Mines and Energy, Gaudentia Kröhne.



GLOBAL PLATFORM: The Namibian delegation to the World Hydrogen 2025 Summit led by Deputy Minister of Industries, Mines and Energy Gaudentia Kröhne.

The Dutch Deputy Director General for International Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Steven Collet, expressed his country's gratitude for the close cooperation with Namibia, and the two parties discussed how Green Hydrogen can benefit both countries' economies, local communities, as well as the planet.

Development Bank of Namibia Continues to Recognise Good Business and Innovation

he Development Bank of Namibia (DBN) has once again honoured enterprises that have demonstrated excellence in innovation, sustainability, and contributed to Namibia's socio-economic development.

DBN hosted the 2025 Good Business and Innovation Awards on 19 May, under the theme "Celebrating Innovation and Impact".

The Good Business and Innovation Awards continue to serve as a platform to promote and celebrate the enterprises that are essential to Namibia's national development. With this year's theme, DBN reaffirmed its commitment to promoting innovation as a cornerstone of economic resilience and social impact.

Delivering the keynote address on behalf of Vice President Lucia Witbooi, Finance Minister Ericah Shafudah, underscored the government's commitment to enterprise-led growth and industrial innovation.

She also acknowledged the DBN's pivotal role in fostering inclusive economic empowerment and nurturing a culture of innovation.

"As we embark on a renewed journey of nation-building under the leadership of President Nandi-Ndaitwah, we are reminded that inclusive growth and innovation are not just aspirations, they are imperatives," said Shafudah.

"The Development Bank of Namibia's Good Business and Innovation Awards reflect this national vision by honouring enterprises that build sustainable industries, create lasting jobs, and drive transformative impact across communities," she continued.

Also speaking at the awards ceremony, DBN Deputy Board Chairperson, Willy Mertens, reflected on the development bank's two-decade journey in advancing Namibia's development agenda.

"For two decades, the Development Bank of Namibia has been a steadfast partner in building a resilient and inclusive economy," he said. "Today, we celebrate enterprises that mirror the Bank's commitment to sustainable development, those that are not only creating jobs and enhancing productivity but also pioneering innovative solutions in sectors vital to Namibia's future."



SMALL BUSINESS LEADER: (from left) Willy Mertens (DBN's Deputy Board Chairperson), Jacobs Derek Marcel (SME Category Winner) and Finance Minister Erica Shafudah.

Award Categories and Winners

The awards recognised outstanding achievements in three categories:

Good Business Awards – SME Category

- Winner: Blue Crane Safaris Namibia CC
- First Runner-up: Ongula Homestead Group Good Business Awards – Large Enterprise Category
- Winner: OLC Arandis Solar Energy Corporation
- First Runner-up: Quanta Holdings (Pty) Ltd Innovation Award Category
- Winner: Lizwise Investment for its groundbreaking Mahangu Pasta innovation
- First Runner-up: Wapa-Nawa Recycling Centre
- Second Runner-up: AUDAX Coatings

DBN's Acting Chief Executive Officer, John Mbango, congratulated all winners and finalists, saying the "awards honour the ingenuity, resilience, and determination of Namibian enterprises that are not only creating jobs and value, but also redefining what's possible through innovation and enterprise development".

Winners received cash prizes of N\$150,000 (SME category), N\$250,000 (Large Enterprise category), and N\$400,000 (Innovation Award), underscoring DBN's ongoing commitment to incentivising sustainable growth and entrepreneurial excellence.



Australia on Course to 100% Renewables Target

PROFESSOR ANDREW BLAKERS

massive increase in solar power generation capacity is already putting Australia on the fast track to a 100% renewable energy future. Solar energy is also causing the fastest energy change in history. Along with support from wind energy, it offers unlimited, cheap, clean and reliable energy forever.

With energy storage effectively a problem solved, the required raw materials impossible to exhaust – despite some misconceptions in the community – and an Australian transition gathering pace, solar and wind are becoming a superhighway to a future of 100% renewable energy.

While the technological arguments for solar and wind power are compelling, it's clear renewables have to overcome obstacles.

One is division over the impact of the rollout of renewable energy infrastructure. It has divided affected communities across the country and needs to be addressed. Generous compensation and effective education about large regional economic opportunities are good ways forward.

Political Debate

There is also the political debate about what form Australia's energy transition even takes.

Yet, beyond those issues, solar offers unlimited energy for billions of years and provides the cheapest energy in history with zero greenhouse gases, zero smog and zero water consumption.

That explains why solar energy generation is growing tenfold each decade and, with support from wind, dominates global power station construction markets, while global nuclear electricity generation has been static for 30 years and is largely irrelevant.

In 2024, twice as much new solar generation capacity – about 560 GW – was added compared with all other systems put together. Wind, hydro, coal, gas and nuclear added up to about 280 GW.

There will be more global solar generation capacity in 2030 than everything else combined, assuming current growth rates continue.

Solar generation will pass wind and nuclear generation this year and should catch coal generation

around 2031.

About 37% of Australia's electricity already comes from solar and wind, with an additional 6% from hydroelectric power stations that were built decades ago.

Leading Solar Generator

More solar energy is generated per person in Australia than in any other country.

Solar is by far the best method of removing fossil fuels – which cause three-quarters of global greenhouse emissions – from the economy.

In Australia, 99% of new generation capacity installed since 2015 has been solar and wind and it is all private money.

The energy market is saying very clearly that solar and wind have won the energy race and energy policies are consistent with reaching the government target of 82% renewable electricity by 2030.

Solar on the roof coupled with energy storage in a hot water tank, an EV battery and a home battery allows a family to ride through interruptions to gas, petrol and electricity supply and that energy resilience can apply at domestic, city, state and national levels.

Managing the Balance

Balancing high levels of solar and wind energy to avoid supply interruptions is straightforward at low cost using off-the-shelf technology available from vast production lines.

New transmission brings new solar and wind power into the cities and also smooths out the vagaries of local weather by transmitting solar and wind electricity to where it is needed.

For example, if it is raining in Victoria and sunny in New South Wales, then electricity can be transmitted south.

Storage comprises batteries for short-term storage of a few hours and pumped hydro energy storage for hours to days. Together, batteries and pumped hydro solve the energy storage issues.

Pumped hydro energy storage provides about 95% of global energy storage. It typically comprises two reservoirs located a few km apart and with an altitude difference of between 500 and 1,000 meters.

On sunny or windy days renewable sources like solar or wind power are used to pump water into the uphill reservoir and during the night the water flows back downhill through the turbine to recover the stored energy.

The same water can go up and down between the reservoirs for 100 years. Global potential pumped hydro energy storage is equivalent to two trillion electric vehicle batteries.

Australia has about 300 times more pumped hydro energy storage potential than needed to

support 100% renewable electricity. It already has three pumped hydro systems, with two more under construction.

Globally, the world has more than 820,000 potential pumped hydro sites, which is about 200 times more than we need to support a 100% renewable energy system.

Myths and Misconceptions

There are those – often vested interests – who throw up arguments against solar energy, regardless of what the facts say about its merits

Here are a few:

It takes up valuable farmland.

Most of the area in solar and wind farms remains in use for agriculture. The area withdrawn from agriculture to generate all our energy from solar and wind is very small, equating to about the size of a large living room per person.

The rural landscape can't fit in any more solar and wind farms.

Heat maps developed by researchers at the Australian National University show the vast number of good locations for solar and wind farms.

Renewable infrastructure is a blight on the landscape.

Hosts of solar and wind farms (and their neighbours) are generously compensated, while hosts of transmission lines are paid more than US\$200,000 per km.

All the solar farms, wind farms, transmission and pumped hydro are in regional areas which means that vast amounts of money and employment are flowing into regional areas.

Solar farms are usually invisible from other properties. Open cut roads, buildings, open cut coal mines and gas fields are also visible in the landscape. People in cities have a far more cluttered view from their windows than rural people.

We will drown in solar panel waste.

The amount of solar panel waste generated when all energy (not just electricity) comes from solar amounts to about 16 kg per person per year (mostly glass). Panel waste is a small and solvable problem.

* Professor Andrew Blakers is a professor of engineering at the Australian National University. His primary research interests are in advanced silicon solar cells – increasing efficiency and reducing costs – and detailed analysis of energy systems based on 50 to 100% wind and solar photovoltaics supported by storage.



South Africa's Eskom Tenders for Green Hydrogen Pilot

outh African utility Eskom is searching for a developer to engineer, procure and construct a renewable green hydrogen facility (RHF) at its research unit in Johannesburg. The deadline for applications is June 27.

In a media release, Eskom said renewable green hydrogen production is a key priority to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 in South Africa.

"This pilot will directly contribute to informing Eskom's decarbonisation strategy and potentially enable renewable energy deployment as it presents an excellent medium to long-term energy storage solution.

"Developing a pilot Renewable Hydrogen Facility (RHF) will present Eskom with an informed pathway to plan for the potential adoption of green hydrogen, as well as provide an opportunity to understand the legislative requirements and regulations related to renewable hydrogen, and provide internal skills development," the utility said.

Eskom Group Chief Executive, Dan Marokane, said the utility was following a differentiated approach and multiple pathways to move from a high-carbon to low-carbon economy, "and we are aggressively seeking creative, technology-led solutions to achieve this".

"This is about harnessing clean energy for inclusive economic growth. The pilot facility will help our research teams understand hydrogen's full value chain, from production to use, and ensure we're ready to play a leading role in the transition responsibly and inclusively," said Marokane.

Extending Decarbonisation Research

Eskom said the pilot serves as an extension of RT&D's decarbonisation research at its existing 400kW solar photovoltaic (PV) research pilot facility, which includes battery test plants that have provided valuable research across the utility's value chain. Recently, Eskom signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Exxaro Resources that focuses on collaboration on strategic initiatives,

research, and projects in the areas of Carbon Emissions Reduction, Air Quality and Just Transition.

Eskom is also accelerating the establishment of a separate Renewable Energy Business, having recently issued an Invitation To Tender (ITT) for firms with a proven track record in establishing renewable energy businesses to assist Eskom in accelerating the deployment of renewable energy solutions.

Eskom recognised the potential of green hydrogen technology as far back as 2020 and contributed to the development of South Africa's foremost Hydrogen Society Roadmap strategy in 2021, as well as subsequent national initiatives such as the South African Hydrogen Society Roadmap.

Eskom said it continues to pursue a balanced energy mix to ensure long-term energy security. While continuing to operate existing coal and nuclear assets, the organisation is introducing cleaner technologies such as gas, renewables, battery storage, and hydrogen to meet growing electricity demand in a sustainable way.

The Eskom Research, Testing & Development (RT&D) business unit is dedicated to finding technology solutions that can be applied primarily within the company to embrace innovation, namely enhance efficiency and improve operations, improvements related to emissions management, Greenhouse Gas (GHG) abatement, and beyond. One of the key areas of focus for RT&D is assisting the business in a differentiated approach with multiple pathways to move from high-carbon to low-carbon energy sources through identifying technology and processes that enable the economy to be competitive and sustainable while enabling Eskom to be as efficient as possible.

Eskom currently has an executable pipeline of 2GW of clean energy projects by 2026 and over 20GW in development, demonstrating its intent to diversify the energy system, attract investment, and create long-term value.







Who:

- Installers
- Suppliers
- Consultants
- Contractors
- IPPs
- Financiers
- Trainers
- Students

What:

- Solar PV
- Wind
- Biomass
- Electric Mobility
- Green Hydrogen



Mission: To provide a forum for Namibian businesses in the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency sector to set technical and ethical standards and to be a voice of the Renewable Energy private sector at large.

Vision: To assist Namibia in becoming an Energy sufficient hub, with an adequate supply of green energy from trustworthy and reliable







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