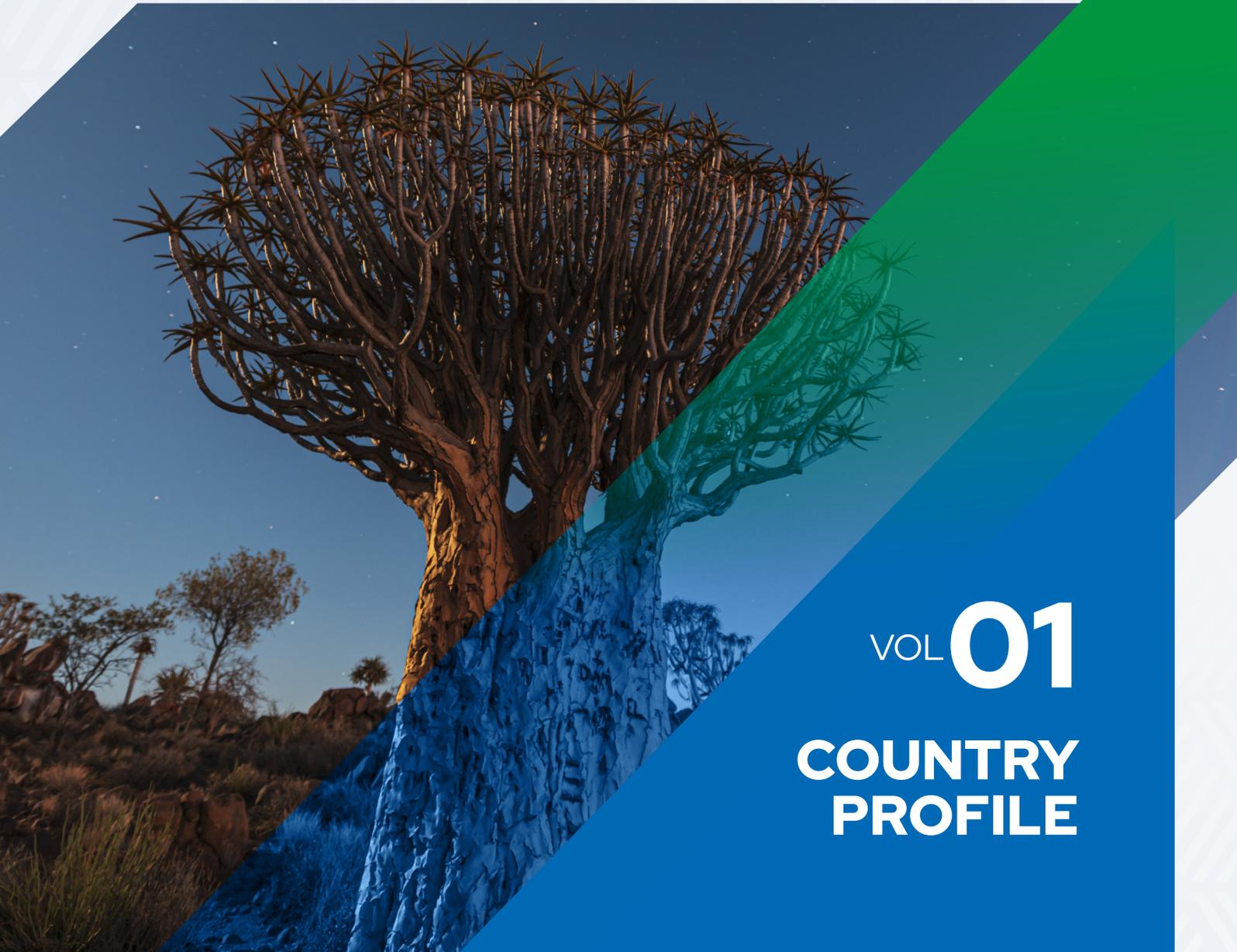


# NAMIBIA INVESTMENT GUIDE



VOL **01**

**COUNTRY  
PROFILE**

[www.nipdb.com](http://www.nipdb.com)



**NIPDB**  
Namibia Investment Promotion  
& Development Board



## Publisher

### Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board

Investment House, Cnr Garten street and Dr. A. B. May street  
Private Bag 12039, Windhoek, Namibia  
Phone: +264 (0)83 333 8680  
Website: [www.nipdb.com](http://www.nipdb.com)

## Disclaimer

Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board ©

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, modified, copied, or distributed in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording and storing, without the express copyright acknowledgement of 'Namibia Investment Guide 2025' published by the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board as the source. The contents of this publication are intended for information purposes only and are not intended to serve as financial, legal, investment or any other advice.

This publication is compiled from information obtained from third parties and the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board does not endorse, guarantee accuracy, reliability or completeness of the information provided by the third parties and expressly disclaims any responsibility or liability for any action or decision taken based on the information contained in this publication. The Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board is not affiliated with the third parties and the opinions and views expressed by the third parties in the publication do not represent the opinions and views of the Namibia Investment Development Board.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Namibia Investment Guide is a comprehensive resource designed to streamline and simplify the investor journey. Structured into multiple volumes, the Guide explores all facets of doing business in Namibia - ensuring the process is informed, seamless and full of opportunities.

Volume 1 presents Namibia's Country Profile, highlighting key aspects of the nation's demographics, governance, and economic landscape. This volume has been developed through a collaboration between the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB) and HEI Investments, ensuring that the information provided is both authoritative and grounded in the realities of business and investment in Namibia.

The NIPDB therefore acknowledges and expresses its gratitude to HEI Investments and its team of experts for their significant contribution to the development of this Volume - particularly in providing the necessary content that comprehensively sheds light to Namibia's investment process. Gratitude also goes to the Sector Research and Development Team of the NIPDB for spearheading this project, as well as all internal and external parties that supported the fulfilment of this significant work.

## About the NIPDB



The Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB) is mandated to promote and facilitate investment by foreign and Namibian investors, and coordinate MSME activities across all levers of the economy, with the aim of contributing to economic development and job creation.

## About HEI



HEI Investments is an independent research and intelligence firm specializing in economic and financial intelligence, applied research, and strategic advisory services. Our purpose is to support informed decision-making in Namibia and the broader region through data-driven insights, advanced analytics, and proven expertise. We deliver high-quality intelligence that strengthens strategic planning, investment decisions, and policy formulation across Namibia and Africa.



## WHAT WE DO?

- Economic Research & Analysis
- Economic indices & Feasibility studies
- Macroeconomic forecasting & modeling
- Sector-specific research
- NSX Sponsorship
- Financial Intelligence
- Market intelligence
- Investment research
- Risk assessment
- Policy & Strategy Advisory
- Policy evaluation & impact assessment
- Strategic planning for government & private sector
- Programme monitoring & evaluation
- Data Analytics & Technology Solutions
- Data visualization
- Digital transformation support
- Capacity Building & Skills Transfer
- Workshops, training, and technical assistance
- Partnerships for knowledge exchange

## WHO WE ARE?

HEI Investments is an independent research and intelligence firm specializing in economic and financial intelligence, applied research, and strategic advisory services. Our purpose is to support informed decision-making in Namibia and the broader region through data-driven insights, advanced analytics, and proven expertise. We deliver high-quality intelligence that strengthens strategic planning, investment decisions, and policy formulation across Namibia and Africa.

## WHY CHOOSE US?

- Evidence-based research
- Advanced analytical tools
- Experienced team with national & international exposure
- Proven track record across diverse sectors
- Strong National and international partnerships
- Results-focused and solution-oriented
- Commitment to Namibia's economic transformation

## OUR APPROACH / METHODOLOGY

- Data-driven and analytical
- Transparent and consultative
- Evidence-based recommendations
- Modern tools and technologies
- Local insight with global standards

## WORKDONE

- Economic Research & Indices
- Policy Development & Evaluation.
- Impact assessment
- Feasibility studies
- International & Continental Assignments

+264-61-307-728  
info@hei.com.na

www.hei.com.na  
4<sup>th</sup> Stauch Street, Klein Windhoek

@EconomicIntel  
@High Economic Intelligence

Capital City		<b>Windhoek</b>	Official Language		<b>English</b>
Area		<b>824,292 km<sup>2</sup></b>	National Languages		<b>Afrikaans, German, Khoekhoegowab, Oshiwambo, Otjiherero, Rukwangali, Rumanyo, San languages, Setswana, Silozi, Thimbukushu and many other relatively smaller languages.</b>
Currency		<b>Namibian Dollar (NAD or N\$) pegged 1:1 to the South African Rand (ZAR)</b>	Date of Independence		<b>21 March 1990</b>
GDP		<b>NAD 157.9 billion (2024)</b>	Population		<b>3.02 million</b>
GDP per Capita		<b>USD 4,413 (2024)</b>	USD/ N\$		<b>17.49 (05 Nov 2025)</b>
FDI Attracted		<b>NAD 35.5 billion (2024)</b>	GDP Growth		<b>+3.7% (2024)</b>
Main Economic Sectors		<b>Mining, Agriculture, Tourism and Retail Trade</b>	HDI		<b>NAD 0.665 (2025)</b>
Total Imports		<b>N\$10.8 billion (September 2025)</b>	Total Exports		<b>N\$7.4 billion (September 2025)</b>

On the western edge of the country, the landscape is defined by the convergence of the Atlantic Ocean and the world's oldest desert. The region experiences constant interaction between these natural forces. Intense sunlight dominates the desert, limiting vegetation to only the most resilient species, plants capable of withstanding extreme heat during the day and cold temperatures at night. This is Namibia, recognized as the third least densely populated country in the world.

In addition to its mystical features, Namibia presents strong investment opportunity across various sectors supported by its political stability, robust infrastructure, and a government committed to attracting foreign direct investment (FDI). The country was ranked first in Africa and second globally for greenfield FDI performance in 2025.



# Quick Facts About Namibia

# Table Of Contents

Quick Facts About Namibia	5
Acronyms	7
<b>1. NAMIBIA: HISTORY &amp; GOVERNANCE</b>	8
<b>2. WHY INVEST IN NAMIBIA</b>	9
<b>3. MAJOR TOWNS &amp; CITIES</b>	11
<b>4. POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS</b>	12
<b>5. POPULATION DISTRIBUTION</b>	13
<b>6. GEOGRAPHIC PROFILE</b>	15
<b>7. ECONOMIC PROFILE</b>	17
<b>8. SOCIAL PROFILE</b>	23
<b>9. GENDER EQUALITY PROFILE</b>	24
<b>10. NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK</b>	25
<b>11. CURRENCY &amp; EXCHANGE RATE INFORMATION</b>	25
<b>12. TIME ZONE AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS</b>	26
Compelling Reasons to Invest in Namibia	27

# Acronyms

Acronyms	Definitons	Acronyms	Definitons
<b>ACP</b>	African, Caribbean and Pacific	<b>MICE</b>	Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions
<b>AfCFTA</b>	African Continental Free Trade Area	<b>MURD</b>	Ministry of Urban and Rural Development
<b>AGOA</b>	African Growth and Opportunity Act	<b>NAD</b>	Namibian Dollar
<b>CAT</b>	Central Africa Time	<b>NDP6</b>	6th National Development Plan
<b>CC</b>	Close Corporation	<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>CMA</b>	Common Monetary Area	<b>OMFIF</b>	Official Monetary and Financial Institutions Forum
<b>CR</b>	Customary Land Rights	<b>PTY</b>	Proprietary
<b>EU-EPA</b>	Economic Partnership Agreement with the EU	<b>SACU</b>	Southern African Customs Union
<b>FDI</b>	Foreign Direct Investment	<b>SADC</b>	Southern African Development Community
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product	<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>GMT/UTC</b>	Greenwich Mean Time/ Universal Time Coordinated	<b>SMIP</b>	SWAPO Manifesto Implementation Plan
<b>GRN</b>	Government	<b>TFTA</b>	Tripartite Free Trade Area
<b>HDI</b>	Human Development Index	<b>USD</b>	United States Dollar
<b>ILO</b>	International Labour Organisation	<b>ZAR</b>	South African Rand

# 1. Namibia: History & Governance

Namibia's story is one of resilience and progress. It is home to rich and distinct cultures spread across the country's varied landscapes. In 1878, the United Kingdom annexed Walvis Bay. Five years later, German trader Adolf Lüderitz claimed part of the coast, leading to German colonial administration from 1884. German influence remains visible in Namibia's architecture, towns, and traditions. After World War I, South Africa governed the territory under a League of Nations mandate until the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) led the struggle for independence, culminating in Namibia's sovereignty on 21 March 1990 and the reintegration of Walvis Bay in 1994.

Namibia is a peaceful and stable democracy, with a diversifying economy supported mainly by mining, tourism, agriculture, and fishing. The country's development is guided by long-term policy frameworks centred around by Vision 2030 as the overarching policy document. Vision 2030 is a long-term national plan to transform the country into a prosperous, industrialized, and peaceful nation by the year 2030. Successive 5-year National Development Plans (NDPs) are the medium-term strategies that guide the country's progress towards Vision 2030. Development planning is coordinated through the National Planning Commission. Political stability, good governance, and widespread English proficiency, make Namibia particularly accessible to international investors and businesses.



The country upholds a multi-party democratic system grounded in freedom of expression, association, and participation. Robust institutions, active civil society and an independent media keeps the political leadership under close scrutiny which fosters peace, transparency, and social cohesion. Namibia's regional and international memberships further enhance its standing as a reliable and predictable investment destination.

The Namibian Constitution establishes three independent branches of government: the Executive, led by the President and Cabinet; the Legislature, represented by Parliament; and the Judiciary, comprising the courts. This separation of powers ensures accountability and protection of citizens' rights. Civil society, media, and traditional authorities also play vital roles in promoting transparency and public participation.

The legal system is anchored in the Constitution as the supreme law. Namibia's laws derive from four main sources: statutes enacted by Parliament, common law developed through court decisions, customary law from traditional communities, and international law incorporated through treaties. Courts interpret and apply these laws to ensure justice and constitutional compliance. The country's legal practitioners and paralegals provide reliable advisory and representational services, ensuring predictability and fairness in both personal and business matters.

## 2. Why Invest in Namibia?

Namibia is one of Sub-Saharan Africa’s premier investment destinations. The country combines political stability, good governance, resilient economy and sustainability to create a secure and profitable environment for investors, supported by a consistent national development framework.

 <p><b>Good governance, peace and stability</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multi-party democracy since 1990 under a strong Constitution.</li> <li>• 4 smooth power transitions demonstrating Namibia’s political maturity and reliability.</li> <li>• Recognised for rule of law, transparency, and good governance.</li> <li>• Consistently ranked among Africa’s top performers in governance and press freedom.<sup>1</sup></li> </ul>
 <p><b>Strong macroeconomic framework</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stable economy with policies that support diversification and sustained growth.</li> <li>• Member of the Common Monetary Area with a pegged currency ensuring monetary stability.</li> <li>• Strong institutions managing fiscal and financial stability.</li> <li>• This stability aligns with the objectives of successive National Development Plans, including the current NDP6.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Investment Opportunities in Sectors of Priority</b></p>	<p><b>Oil and Gas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Onshore discoveries in Kavango East and offshore finds in the Orange and Walvis Basins.</li> <li>• Namibia is emerging as a global exploration hotspot.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Renewable Energy and Green Hydrogen</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World-class solar and wind potential.</li> <li>• Ambition to become Africa’s renewable energy hub and a global green hydrogen exporter.</li> <li>• Flagship projects such as Hyphen, Daures Green Hydrogen Village and Cleanergy.</li> <li>• These ambitions are embedded in Namibia’s broader transition strategies outlined in the development framework.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Metals, Mining and Adjacent Industries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uranium rebound driving renewed exploration.</li> <li>• Opportunities in lithium, rare earths, transition metals, gold, copper and many other valuable minerals.</li> <li>• Reopening of mothballed mines and launch of new ventures.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Tourism and Sport</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ranked amongst top 25 Tourism Experiences of 2026.</li> <li>• Unique assets: Etosha National Park, Fish River Canyon, Sossusvlei, Kunene, NamibRand Dark Sky Reserve, Sandwich Harbour dunes, diverse culture and wildlife.</li> <li>• Growth areas: luxury lodges, adventure tourism, cruise tourism, film tourism, eco-tourism &amp; business tourism.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Globally competitive Infrastructure</b></p>	<p><b>Agriculture</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Livelihood source for over half of the population.</li> <li>• Opportunities in livestock, feedlots, meat processing, tanning, canning, horticulture exports.</li> <li>• Agriculture remains a recurring focus across Namibia’s development plans, particularly in food security.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Globally competitive Infrastructure</b></p>	<p><b>Emerging Sectors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growing strategic importance of digital and global business services, cultural and creative economy, communication and technology, machinery and electronics, chemicals and basic materials as well as transport and logistics. In addition, government places a strong priority on agriculture, sports, education, health, youth empowerment, land, housing and sanitation.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic location with modern roads, rail, ports, power, and water systems.</li> <li>• The Walvis Bay Corridor connects investors to 15 SADC countries and 280 million consumers.</li> </ul>

 <p><b>Wider Market Access</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duty- and quota-free entry to major regional and global markets through SACU (Southern African Customs Union), AfCFTA (African Continental Free Trade Area), TFTA (Tripartite Free Trade Area), EU-EPA (Economic Partnership Agreement with the EU), AGOA<sup>3</sup>(African Growth and Opportunity Act with the US), and ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific) trade frameworks. These agreements expand export opportunities and market access, enabling Namibia to overcome its limited economies of scale stemming from a small population base.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Enabling Investment Environment</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support of an Investment Promotion Agency - the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB), mandated to create a conducive business environment in which investors can have a seamless experience in the country, supports them across all stages to establish thriving businesses alignment with national priorities.</li> <li>• The government actively promotes FDI with enabling legislation and attractive tax incentives through the new investment promotion and facilitation law that is currently undergoing public consultation.</li> <li>• Investor guarantees include:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection against expropriation with compensation</li> <li>• Full profit repatriation</li> <li>• International arbitration rights</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
 <p><b>Sound Financial System</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sophisticated banking sector with international links.</li> <li>• Financing available through commercial banks, government instruments, and syndicated sources.</li> <li>• Corporate governance guided by NamCode, aligned with global best practice.</li> <li>• A large domestic funding base, including significant insurance and pension funds that invest locally, helps mitigate government liquidity risk.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Namibia's Rankings</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corruption Perceptions Index (2024): #59/180 globally, #6/49 in Sub-Saharan Africa (Transparency International)</li> <li>• Startup Ecosystem Index (2025): #85 globally, #8 in Africa</li> <li>• Mo Ibrahim SDG Score on Education (2023): #3 in Africa</li> <li>• Road Quality Infrastructure (2024): #1 in Africa (Statista)</li> <li>• Press Freedom Index (2025): #2/48 in Africa (Reporters Without Borders RSF/RWB)</li> <li>• Mining Investment Attractiveness Index (2024): #30/82 globally, #4/20 in Africa (Fraser Institute)</li> <li>• Global Gender Gap Report (2025): #1 in Africa, #8 globally (World Economic Forum)</li> <li>• African Financial Markets Index (2024): #5/29 in Africa (Absa &amp; OMFIF)</li> <li>• Ibrahim Index of African Governance (2024): #6/54 in Africa</li> <li>• Sub-Saharan Africa Hydrogen Index (2025): #3/18 (Fitch Solutions)</li> <li>• Labour Productivity (ILO, 2025): #10 in Africa</li> <li>• Greenfield FDI Performance Index(2024): #2/185 globally, #1 in Africa</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup>Lonely Planet

<sup>3</sup>AGOA (African Growth and Opportunity Act) lapsed in September 2025; however, discussions on its renewal or extension remain ongoing among U.S. policymakers and eligible African states.



**THE CASE FOR NAMIBIA**

A stable democracy. A resilient economy. A gateway to Africa. Namibia offers one of the most secure and profitable investment environments on the continent. Its transparent governance, policy continuity, and resource endowment create a foundation for sustainable, long-term returns. Anchored by Vision 2030 and successive development plans, Namibia provides clarity, predictability, and opportunity for investors seeking both growth and impact..

### 3. Major Towns & Cities / Major Regions

<b>Windhoek</b>	<p>Windhoek, the capital and largest city in Namibia, serves as the country's political, administrative, and economic center. It is home to government institutions, major corporations, international organizations, and a modern banking and financial system. The city also has a growing retail and real estate market, supported by steady urbanization and a young, expanding workforce.</p> <p> Population: ~ 486,169 as of 2023.</p>	<p><b>Investment opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➔ Finance and Banking services</li> <li>➔ ICT and corporate services</li> <li>➔ Real estate and construction</li> <li>➔ Hospitality and retail trade</li> <li>➔ Logistics and professional services</li> </ul>
<b>Swakopmund</b>	<p>Swakopmund is Namibia's premier tourism destination, blending German colonial architecture with a thriving leisure and adventure industry. Its coastal location and proximity to the Namib Desert make it a popular holiday town. The town has also been recognized nationally and internationally: the Strand Hotel Swakopmund was named Namibia's Leading Beach Hotel 2024 at the World Travel Awards, while the Municipality has received Diamond and Golden Arrow Awards for its excellence in social upliftment, infrastructure, tourism, and foreign investment attraction. The City also has a growing industrial base.</p> <p> Population: ~ 75,921 as of 2023.</p>	<p><b>Investment opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➔ Hotels, resorts, and leisure facilities</li> <li>➔ Food and beverage industry</li> <li>➔ Real estate development</li> <li>➔ Tourism services and adventure activities</li> <li>➔ Renewable energy (solar and wind)</li> </ul>
<b>Walvis Bay</b>	<p>Walvis Bay is Namibia's main port city and the backbone of the country's trade logistics. Its deep-water harbor serves as the gateway for imports and exports to and from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region. The town is also a hub for fishing, aquaculture, salt production, and emerging large-scale industrial projects, including green hydrogen. Walvis Bay has received accolades such as the Outstanding Municipality Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture Community Impact Award 2024, and in 2025 was further recognized when Walvis Bay and Swakopmund together grabbed top honours at the national LASRAC Awards. Economically, Walvis Bay continues to gain international recognition, with MSC's 25-year concession at the new container terminal positioning the port as a regional transshipment hub.</p> <p> Population: ~ 102,704 as of 2023.</p>	<p><b>Investment opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➔ Port and logistics services</li> <li>➔ Warehousing and distribution</li> <li>➔ Fisheries and aquaculture</li> <li>➔ Manufacturing and processing industries</li> <li>➔ Renewable energy and green hydrogen</li> </ul>
<b>Rundu</b>	<p>Rundu, located along the Okavango River in northern Namibia, is the regional capital of the Kavango East Region. It serves as a cross-border trade center with Angola and has fertile land supporting agriculture and small-scale agro-industries. The town is also a cultural hub, with a strong crafts sector and growing tourism potential linked to river-based activities.</p> <p> Population: ~ 118,632 as of the 2023.</p>	<p><b>Investment opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➔ Agribusiness and agro-processing</li> <li>➔ Irrigation farming and livestock</li> <li>➔ Cross-border trade and logistics</li> <li>➔ Retail and services</li> <li>➔ Crafts and cultural tourism</li> </ul>

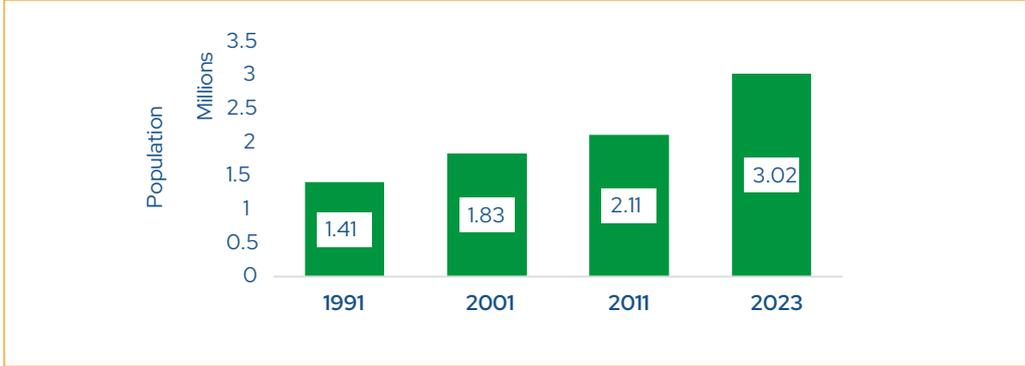
<p><b>Oshakati</b></p>	<p>Located in the Oshana Region, Oshakati is one of the largest towns in northern Namibia and considered as the regional commercial hub for the north. Nationally, Oshakati is recognised as a key town in northern logistics and commerce where it plays a significant role.</p> <p> Population: ~ 58,700 as of 2023.</p>	<p><b>Investment opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➔ Retail and wholesale distribution for northern Namibia and cross-border trade</li> <li>➔ Industrial parks for manufacturing or component production serving the north</li> <li>➔ Housing and urban services growth as population expands</li> </ul>
<p><b>Oshikango</b></p>	<p>Located in Ohangwena region, Oshikango is one of the busiest towns in the region. Its location at the Namibia-Angola borders makes it a hub for cross-border trade. Its business rhythm is highly linked to the status of the Angolan economy.</p> <p> Population: ~ 29,119 as of 2023</p>	<p><b>Investment opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➔ Wholesale and retail trade</li> <li>➔ Cross-border transport and logistics services</li> <li>➔ Hospitality services to cater for visitors to town</li> <li>➔ Urban infrastructure development</li> </ul>
<p><b>Luderitz</b></p>	<p>A coastal town located in //Kharas region, Luderitz depends heavily on the fishing industry. However, through the Southern Corridor Development Initiative (SCDI), the town's economic prospects are improving to include new industries such as renewable energy, green hydrogen, aquaculture, manufacturing and logistics.</p> <p> Population: ~ 16,125 as of 2023</p>	<p><b>Investment opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➔ Infrastructure development (housing, renewable energy plants, rail and port infrastructure, warehouses, etc)</li> <li>➔ Transport and logistic services</li> <li>➔ Aquaculture</li> </ul>

Namibia's key cities form a complementary network of economic and cultural hubs. Windhoek anchors national governance and finance, Swakopmund attracts tourism and lifestyle investment, Walvis Bay drives trade and industrial activity, and Rundu offers cross-border commerce and agricultural potential. Beyond these centres, rural areas also play a vital role through sectors such as trade, agriculture, fishing, forestry, and accommodation services, which together make a notable contribution to GDP. Strengthening investment in these regions can accelerate growth, reduce informality and promote inclusive development. Supported by infrastructure, strategic location, and a growing workforce, Namibia offers investors a diverse landscape of opportunity across both urban and rural areas, making it an attractive destination for investment.

## 4. Population Demographics

**Population Size and Growth**

Population Size and Growth 1991 to 2023



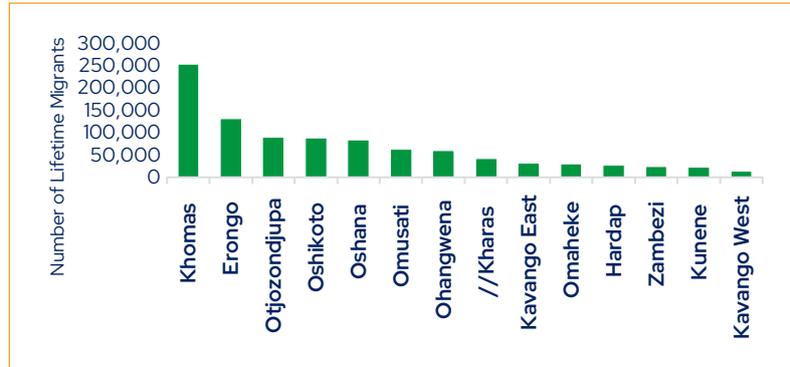
Year	Population (Millions)
1991	1.41
2001	1.83
2011	2.11
2023	3.02

Source: Namibia Statistics Agency

Namibia's population has expanded steadily since independence, reflecting both demographic resilience and a growing domestic market. The population increased from just 1.4 million people in 1990 to over 3 million people in 2023, with a 43 percent increase recorded over the last decade. This continued growth points to rising urbanization, youthful labour force and higher consumer demand. These conditions augurs well for investment opportunities in sectors such as housing, retail, education, healthcare, and financial services.

Urbanization

**Namibian Regions by the Number of Lifetime Migrants 2023**



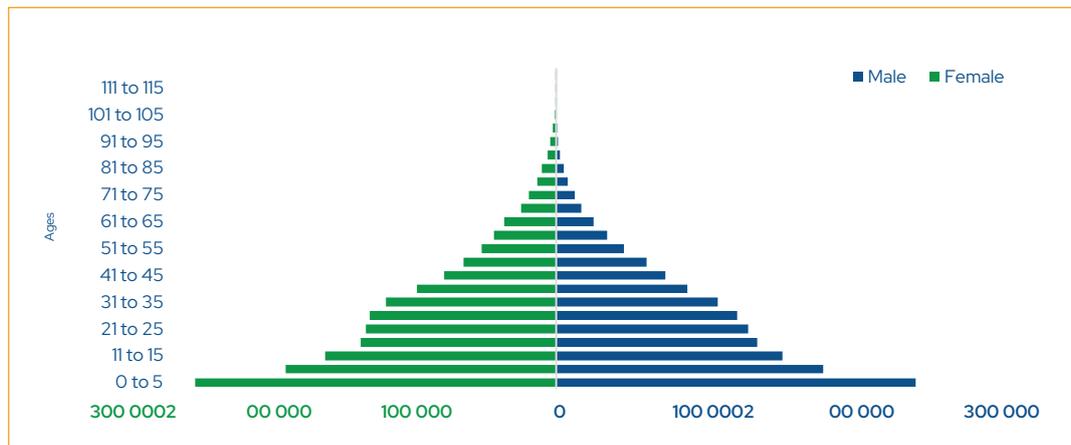
Source: Namibia Statistics Agency & HEI Research

The Khomas and Erongo regions attract the largest share of internal migration, recording 253,170 and 130,870 lifetime in-migrants respectively. This steady movement reflects Namibia’s ongoing urbanization trend, driven by the concentration of economic activity, employment opportunities, and improved infrastructure in these regions.

## 5. Population Distribution

Proportion of Population by Age

**Namibia Population Pyramid 2023**



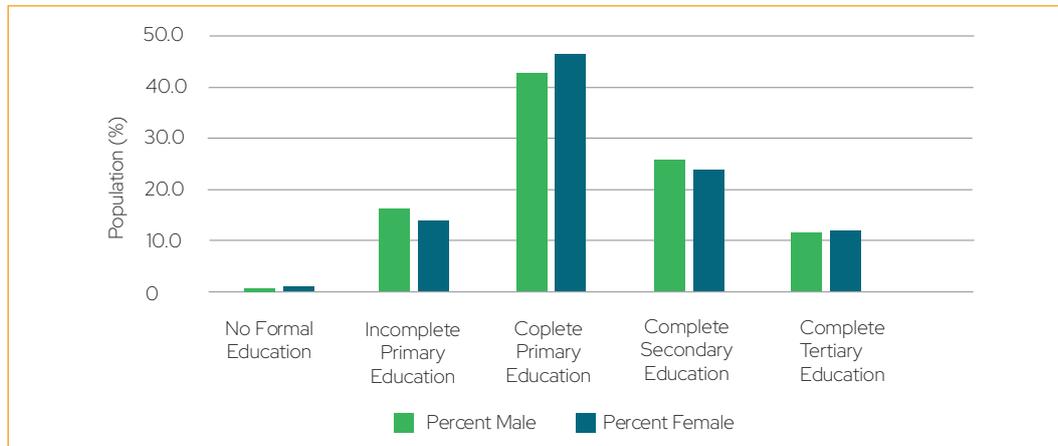
Source: Namibia Statistics Agency & HEI Research

The figure illustrates Namibia’s national population pyramid, characterized by a broad base that reflects a large proportion of young people and a narrow apex representing a small elderly population. This structure is typical of developing countries, where high fertility rates and high mortality levels shape the demographic profile.

Improvements in the population behaviours can be seen from the age of 16 to 35 where the population seems to be constant amongst both genders, which explains a gradual demographic transition as fertility rates decline, and survival rates improve. The stability in this age group suggests progress in areas such as education, health care, and employment opportunities, particularly among the youth and the working class, indicating that Namibia is moving toward a more balanced age structure compared to earlier decades. This shift has important implications for the labour force, economic growth, and the country’s potential to benefit from a demographic dividend if the working-age population is effectively engaged in productive activities.

**Proportion of Population by Educational Attainment**

**Distribution by Highest Level of Education Attained**



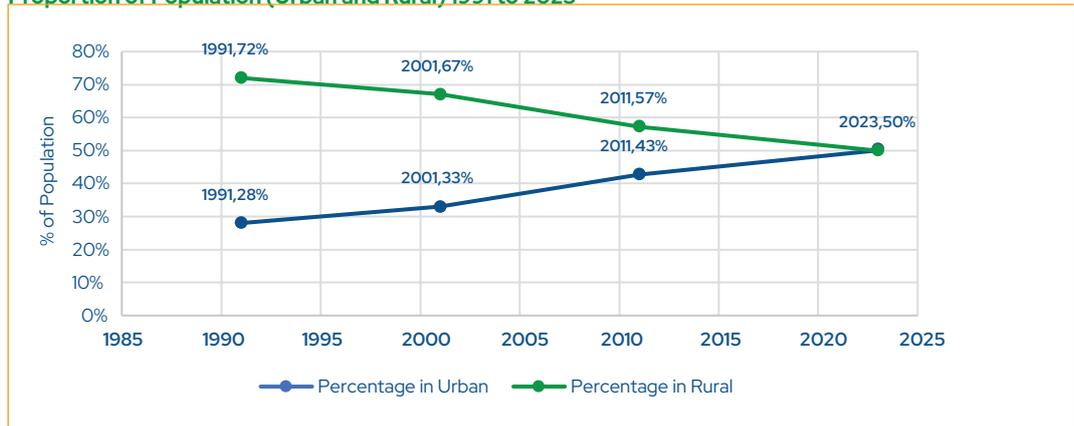
Source: Namibia Statistics Agency (Census Report 2023)

The figure above shows the distribution of the population aged 15 years and above who left school by the highest level of education completed. A bell-shaped distribution is observed across both male and female groups, hence proving that the majority of the Namibian population (about 70%) have only completed primary and secondary education. Broadly these statistics imply a need to improve the quality of education and to increase progression to higher levels of education, both academic as well as technical and vocational training in order to improve the country's capacity to produce complex products and ultimately its ability to create decent jobs.

When read together with the prevailing high rate of unemployment (36.9%), the statistics hints at the need to address the mismatch between education outcomes and the needs of the labor market. Investors will find an abundant supply of labour for job categories that are aligned to the skills profile of the Namibian population. Therefore, projects requiring unskilled to semi-skilled labourers are highly encouraged to address the scourge of unemployment, particularly amongst the youth.

**Proportion of Population (Urban and Rural)**

**Proportion of Population (Urban and Rural) 1991 to 2023**



Source: Namibia Statistics Agency & HEI Research

Namibia's urban and rural population has shown changes over the years. In 1991, just after independence, 28% of the population lived in urban areas compared to 72% in rural areas. By 2001, the urban population increased to 33% while the rural population declined to 67%. In 2011, the urban share rose further to 43% with the rural share at 57%. By 2023, the population was evenly split, with 50% in urban areas and 50% in rural areas. This shows that an increasing number of Namibians are flocking to urban areas in search of better living conditions. The trend therefore signals an increased need for investments in urban infrastructure to cater for the burgeoning urban population as well as for more economic opportunities to be created in rural areas.

## 6. Geographic Profile

**Land area  
(Ownership and  
Control)**

### Land area (Ownership and Control) 2020

	Hectares
Government	349,278
State Owned Enterprises	35,388
Communal Land (incl Customary Land Rights and Lease)	30,673,565
Customary rights and leaseholds	5,200,496
Protected Areas	13,747,578
Resettlement	3,306,701
Urban	1,375,940
Other	1,169,932
Business	10,459,508
Private	21,551,243
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>87,869,638</b>

Source: Namibia Atlas

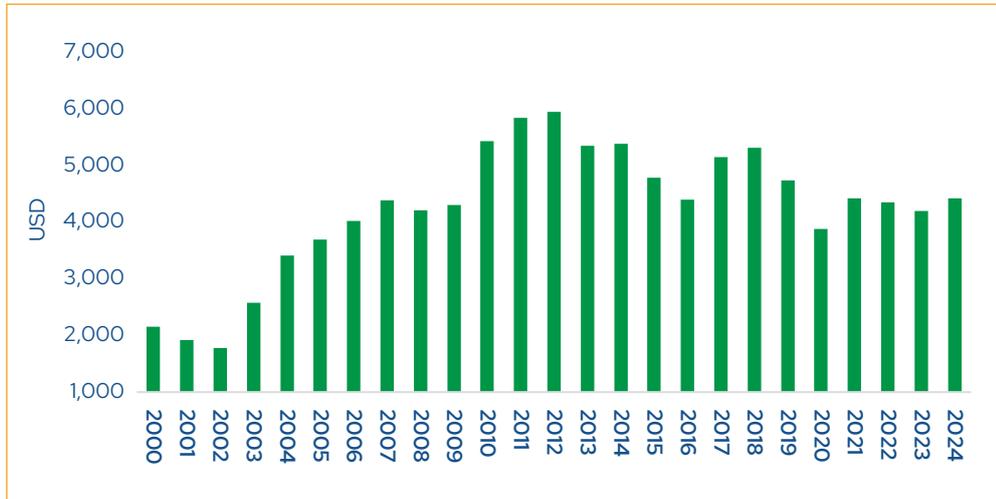
Namibia's total land area of about 87.9 million hectares is distributed mainly across communal (30.7 million ha), private (21.6 million ha), and business (10.5 million ha) holdings. Communal land, administered through Traditional Authorities, remains central to rural livelihoods and local governance, while private land supports commercial agriculture, conservation, and tourism. Business-designated areas accommodate industrial, logistics, and commercial activities.

Protected Areas cover approximately 13.7 million hectares, reflecting Namibia's strong commitment to environmental management. Resettlement land accounts for 3.3 million hectares, while urban areas total about 1.4 million hectares, expanding in line with population growth and infrastructure development. Overall, the land distribution reflects a balance between social development, environmental conservation, and productive land use.

### Land area (Ownership and Control) 2020

Source: Namibia Atlas

GDP per capita



Source: World Bank & HEI Research

Namibia's GDP per capita has averaged around USD 4,237 since 2000, reflecting steady economic development. It peaked at USD 5,943 in 2012 during strong GDP growth of approximately 5 percent, driven largely by mining and exports.

This level of per capita income points to a moderate domestic consumer base with purchasing power, supporting growth in retail, services, and other sectors serving local demand. At the same time, Namibia's resource-driven economy underscores its export capacity and potential for investment in both primary industries and value-added sectors.



Namibia's  
GDP per Capita  
2024

≈ US \$4,413.

## 7. Economic Profile

<p><b>Labour Force Participation Rate</b></p>	<h3>Labour Force Participation Rate 1991-2023</h3> <table border="1"> <caption>Labour Force Participation Rate 1991-2023 Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Unemployment Rate (%)</th> <th>Labour Force (Number of People)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1997</td><td>19.3</td><td>450,000</td></tr> <tr><td>1998</td><td>19.25</td><td>500,000</td></tr> <tr><td>1999</td><td>19.5</td><td>550,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2000</td><td>20.0</td><td>600,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2001</td><td>20.3</td><td>650,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2002</td><td>20.5</td><td>700,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2003</td><td>21.0</td><td>750,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2004</td><td>21.9</td><td>800,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2005</td><td>23.0</td><td>850,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2006</td><td>25.0</td><td>900,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2007</td><td>27.0</td><td>950,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2008</td><td>37.6</td><td>950,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2009</td><td>35.0</td><td>950,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2010</td><td>32.0</td><td>950,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2011</td><td>28.0</td><td>950,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2012</td><td>16.7</td><td>950,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2013</td><td>17.0</td><td>950,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2014</td><td>20.5</td><td>950,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2015</td><td>20.0</td><td>950,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2016</td><td>20.2</td><td>950,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2017</td><td>23.4</td><td>950,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2018</td><td>23.4</td><td>950,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2019</td><td>23.0</td><td>950,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2020</td><td>19.8</td><td>950,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2021</td><td>20.0</td><td>950,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2022</td><td>20.0</td><td>950,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2023</td><td>36.9</td><td>900,000</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source: Namibia Statistics Agency &amp; HEI Research</p> <p>Namibia has conducted Labour Force Surveys regularly since 1997, providing valuable insights into employment trends. Over this period, unemployment has fluctuated in line with broader economic cycles. The rate was 19.3% in 1997, rose sharply to 37.6% in 2008, and then declined to a low of 16.7% in 2012, before stabilising between 16.7% and 23.4% until 2018. The latest survey in 2023 records unemployment at 36.9%, reflecting both persistent structural challenges in job creation and the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>What it means for investors</b></p> <p>The Namibian economy is in dire need of strong investments into labour-intensive sectors such as primary agriculture, manufacturing, services, agro processing, creative industries, sport and tourism. The government is therefore strongly inclined towards supporting investment projects that are intensive in terms of creating decent employment opportunities for the most affected segments - women and the youth.</p> </div>	Year	Unemployment Rate (%)	Labour Force (Number of People)	1997	19.3	450,000	1998	19.25	500,000	1999	19.5	550,000	2000	20.0	600,000	2001	20.3	650,000	2002	20.5	700,000	2003	21.0	750,000	2004	21.9	800,000	2005	23.0	850,000	2006	25.0	900,000	2007	27.0	950,000	2008	37.6	950,000	2009	35.0	950,000	2010	32.0	950,000	2011	28.0	950,000	2012	16.7	950,000	2013	17.0	950,000	2014	20.5	950,000	2015	20.0	950,000	2016	20.2	950,000	2017	23.4	950,000	2018	23.4	950,000	2019	23.0	950,000	2020	19.8	950,000	2021	20.0	950,000	2022	20.0	950,000	2023	36.9	900,000
Year	Unemployment Rate (%)	Labour Force (Number of People)																																																																																			
1997	19.3	450,000																																																																																			
1998	19.25	500,000																																																																																			
1999	19.5	550,000																																																																																			
2000	20.0	600,000																																																																																			
2001	20.3	650,000																																																																																			
2002	20.5	700,000																																																																																			
2003	21.0	750,000																																																																																			
2004	21.9	800,000																																																																																			
2005	23.0	850,000																																																																																			
2006	25.0	900,000																																																																																			
2007	27.0	950,000																																																																																			
2008	37.6	950,000																																																																																			
2009	35.0	950,000																																																																																			
2010	32.0	950,000																																																																																			
2011	28.0	950,000																																																																																			
2012	16.7	950,000																																																																																			
2013	17.0	950,000																																																																																			
2014	20.5	950,000																																																																																			
2015	20.0	950,000																																																																																			
2016	20.2	950,000																																																																																			
2017	23.4	950,000																																																																																			
2018	23.4	950,000																																																																																			
2019	23.0	950,000																																																																																			
2020	19.8	950,000																																																																																			
2021	20.0	950,000																																																																																			
2022	20.0	950,000																																																																																			
2023	36.9	900,000																																																																																			
<p><b>Unemployment Rate by Sex</b></p>	<h3>Namibia Unemployment Rate by Sex 2023</h3> <table border="1"> <caption>Namibia Unemployment Rate by Sex 2023 Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Male (%)</th> <th>Female (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Namibia</td><td>34.6</td><td>39.6</td></tr> <tr><td>Urban</td><td>35.8</td><td>37.1</td></tr> <tr><td>Rural</td><td>32.5</td><td>45.8</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source: Namibia Statistics Agency</p> <p>Namibia's labour market presents a mix of opportunities and challenges. The national unemployment rate is 36.9%, but outcomes differ by gender, location, and region. Rural women are most affected, with unemployment at 45.8%, compared to 37.1% for urban women. Men generally experience lower unemployment, at 32.5% in rural areas and 35.8% in urban centres, revealing a persistent gender gap in employment access.</p>	Category	Male (%)	Female (%)	Namibia	34.6	39.6	Urban	35.8	37.1	Rural	32.5	45.8																																																																								
Category	Male (%)	Female (%)																																																																																			
Namibia	34.6	39.6																																																																																			
Urban	35.8	37.1																																																																																			
Rural	32.5	45.8																																																																																			

### Unemployment by Region

#### Unemployment by Region



Source: Namibia Statistics Agency

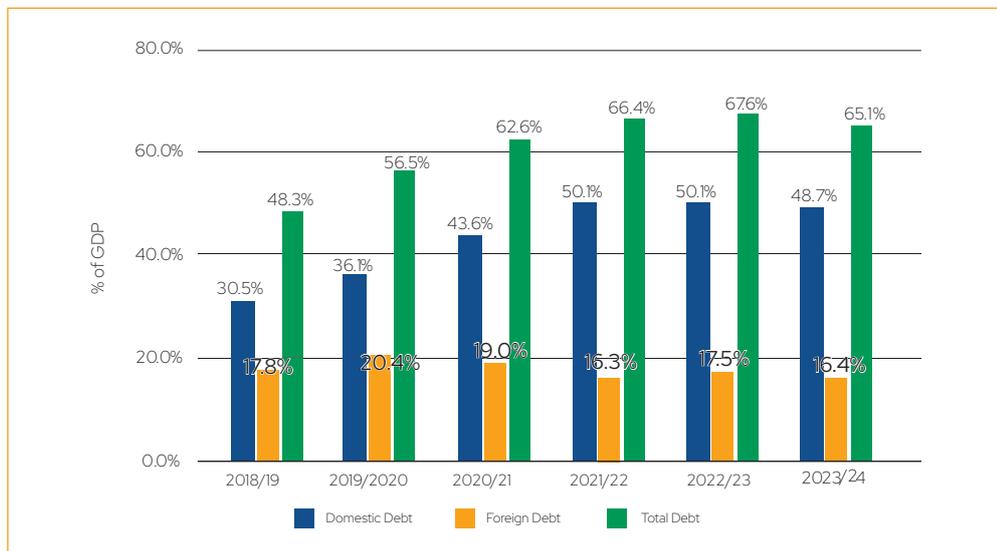
Regional disparities are also notable. The highest unemployment rates are in Kavango West (52.8%), Kavango East (52%), and Ohangwena (47.2%), reflecting structural economic vulnerabilities in the north-eastern regions. In contrast, //Kharas Region records the lowest unemployment at 29.7%, illustrating stronger local economic activity and greater job creation potential.

#### What it means for investors

These patterns highlight the sectors and regions where targeted interventions could improve workforce participation and support economic growth. The data also highlights the skewness in terms of employment opportunities and development across the country. Investors are therefore encouraged to consider setting up in underdeveloped parts of the country in order to counterbalance the current trend.

### National Debt (% of GDP)

#### National Debt (% of GDP)



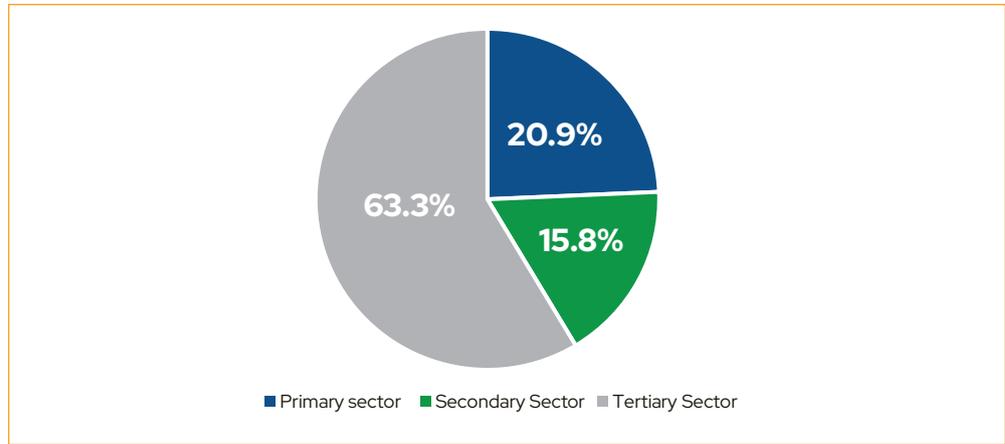
Source: World Bank & HEI Research

Namibia has pursued a deliberate strategy to maintain most of its public debt domestically. Over the past five years, domestic debt rose from 30.5% in 2018/19 to a peak of 50.1% in 2021/22 and 2022/23, before moderating slightly to 48.7% in 2023/24. Foreign debt has remained stable, ranging between 16.3% and 20.4% over the same period.

This approach limits exposure to exchange rate fluctuations and external shocks while supporting the development of local capital markets. It demonstrates the government's focus on financial stability and sustainable debt management, ensuring that funding needs are met without compromising macroeconomic resilience.

**Sectoral Contribution to GDP**

**Sectoral Contribution to GDP**



Source: World Bank & HEI Research

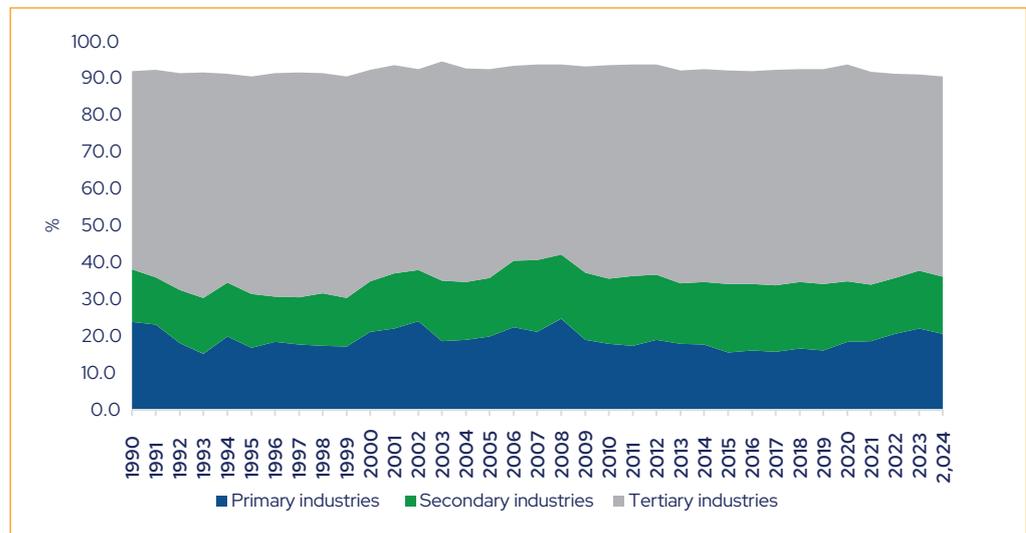
Namibia's economy is anchored by the services sector, which contributed 63.3% of GDP in 2024, reflecting strong performance in trade, finance, tourism, and public services. The primary sector, driven by mining, agriculture, and fisheries, remains a vital foundation, accounting for 20.9% of GDP and offering natural-resource-based investment opportunities.

The secondary sector, representing 15.8% of GDP, holds significant potential for growth through industrialization and value addition. Namibia's national development strategies emphasize opportunities in processing, manufacturing, and agro-industries, making this sector a key target for investors seeking to diversify the economy and leverage local resources.

**What it means for investors**

Namibia presents a robust investment environment supported by a stable macroeconomic framework, abundant natural resources, and a diversifying economic structure. The combination of well-established services, a strong primary sector, and a growing secondary sector provides investors with clear avenues for commercial engagement and value creation, while benefiting from the country's policy frameworks and resource endowments.

**Sectoral Contribution to GDP**



	Industry	Number	%
<b>Employment by Industry</b>	Agriculture, forestry, and fishing	88,277	16.10%
	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	54,618	10.00%
	Manufacturing	53,491	9.80%
	Administrative and support service activities	50,884	9.30%
	Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	43,149	7.90%
	Education	38,209	7.00%
	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	36,012	6.60%
	Accommodation and food service activities	29,324	5.40%
	Construction	28,661	5.20%
	Other service activities	24,064	4.40%
	Human health and social work activities	18,448	3.40%
	Transportation and storage	18,137	3.30%
	Financial and insurance activities	16,691	3.10%
	Professional, scientific, and technical activities	15,736	2.90%
	Mining and quarrying	14,337	2.60%
	Information and communication	8,164	1.50%
	Arts, entertainment, and recreation	3,175	0.60%
	Water supply; sewerage, waste management, and remediation activities	2,379	0.40%
	Electricity, gas, steam, and air conditioning supply	1,601	0.30%
	Real estate activities	1,011	0.20%
Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	401	0.10%	
Not elsewhere classified	36	0.00%	
<p><b>What it means for investors</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Namibia's labour market presents a unique blend of established sectors and high-growth potential, underpinned by a young and available workforce. While Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing currently lead in employment (16.1%), providing vital rural livelihoods, its low-productivity nature and vulnerability to climate shocks underscore significant investment opportunities in modernisation and high-value agro-processing. This transformation is key to boosting rural incomes and securing food supply.</li> </ol>			

<p><b>Employment by Industry</b></p>	<p><b>What it means for investors</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complementing this, the urban economy is driven by Wholesale and Retail Trade (10%) and the Manufacturing sector (9.8%). These areas offer immediate potential for value-added production and increasing formal employment. Furthermore, while sectors like Administrative Support (9.3%) and Household/Domestic Work (7.9%) absorb many workers, they are often characterised by lower wages and informality. This signals a national focus and, consequently, an investment opportunity in skills development, formalisation, and introducing technology to elevate service delivery standards. Strategic investment in high-impact areas such as agro-processing, advanced manufacturing, logistics, and tourism is actively encouraged to generate productive employment and support robust economic diversification.</li> <li>The relatively small employment footprint in sectors like real estate (0.2%) and extraterritorial organisations (0.1%) suggests that much of Namibia’s recent growth has been capital-intensive, rather than labour-intensive. This reinforces the need for targeted investment that leverages the country’s young talent pool and shifts employment towards higher-skill, higher-wage, and export-oriented sectors.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Inflation Trends</b></p>	<p><b>Figure: Annual Inflation Rate (1990–2024)</b></p> <p>Source: NSA</p> <p>Namibia’s inflation trajectory has demonstrated resilience and adaptability in the face of shifting global and regional economic conditions, an important indicator for investors assessing market stability and return potential.</p> <p>After a moderate inflation cycle between 2016 and 2018 driven by drought-related food pressures and exchange-rate volatility, the country entered a period of exceptionally low inflation through 2019–2021. This trend reflected a disciplined monetary environment, subdued domestic demand, and effective policy alignment with the South African Reserve Bank through the Common Monetary Area. The slowdown in economic activity during the COVID-19 pandemic further reinforced disinflationary conditions, limiting price pressures across key sectors. For investors, these years illustrated Namibia’s ability to sustain price stability even amid external shocks and broader economic slowdowns.</p> <p>The post-pandemic period saw a temporary uptick in inflation, in line with global trends. Higher fuel and logistics costs pushed inflation upward in 2022–2023, with transport and food categories leading increases. Importantly, inflation remained contained within manageable and well-monitored levels, supported by proactive central bank policy responses.</p> <p>Today, Namibia’s inflation path is once again on a moderating trajectory. Improved supply conditions, declining global commodity volatility, and a more stable NAD/ZAR exchange rate are reinforcing predictable price growth. This supports a more favourable environment for capital planning, debt cost management, and long-term investment horizons.</p>

**Health Budget and Educational Budget**

**Namibia Health and Education Budget 2024/25**

Ministry/Vote Name	Budget 2024/25 (N\$ Billion)	Percentage
Education, Arts and Culture	18.4	21.1%
Higher Education, Technology and Innovation	5.0	5.4%
Health and Social Services	10.9	12.5%
<b>GRAND TOTAL of BUDGET</b>	<b>34.3</b>	

Source: Ministry of Finance

For the 2024/25 fiscal year, Namibia’s total government budget was N\$34.3 billion. The Ministry of Health and Social Services received N\$10.9 billion (12.5%), supporting the efficient delivery of healthcare services and broader initiatives to improve population well-being and productivity.

Education remains the top priority, with a combined allocation of N\$23.4 billion. Of this, N\$18.4 billion (21.06%) is dedicated to Education, Arts, and Culture, strengthening primary and secondary education and promoting cultural development. Higher Education, Technology, and Innovation received N\$5.0 billion (5.44%), aimed at enhancing tertiary education, innovation, and technological capacity.

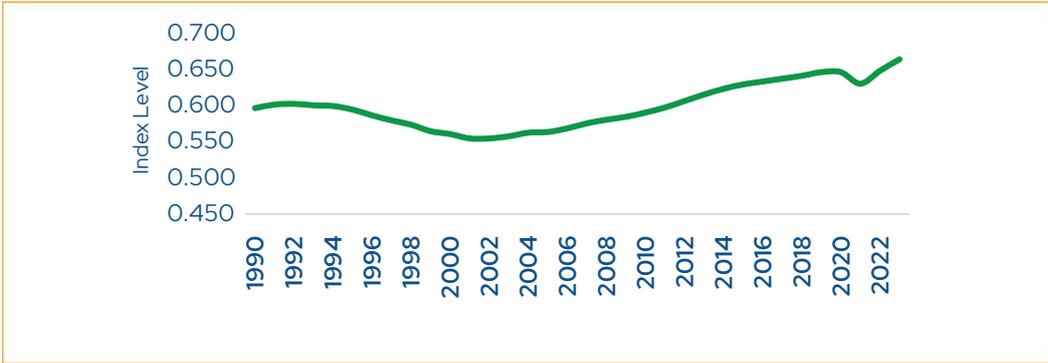
This investment emphasis reflects Namibia’s commitment to building human capital, fostering a skilled and healthy workforce, and supporting long-term socio-economic growth, providing a stable foundation for business and investment.



**Namibia Health and Education Budget 2024/25**

**N\$34.3 BILLION**

## 8. Social Profile

<p><b>Human Development Index (HDI)</b></p>	<p><b>Namibia Human Development Index (HDI) 1990–2022</b></p>  <p>Source: United Nations Development Programme</p> <p>The Human Development Index (HDI) measures long-term progress in health, education, and living standards. In 2023, Namibia's HDI was 0.665, placing it in the Medium Human Development category and ranking 136th out of 193 countries and territories.</p> <p>Since 1990, Namibia's HDI has improved by 11.4%, rising from 0.597 to 0.665. Over the same period, life expectancy increased by 6 years, mean years of schooling grew by 1.6 years, expected years of schooling increased slightly, and gross national income (GNI) per capita rose by 47.1 percent.</p> <p>These gains reflect steady improvements in human capital and socio-economic conditions, supporting a healthier, more educated, and productive workforce and enhancing the potential for sustainable investment and economic growth.</p>
<p><b>Adult Literacy</b></p>	<p><b>Namibia Adult Literacy 1991-2023</b></p>  <p>Source: Namibia Statistics Agency</p> <p>Namibia's literacy rate has steadily improved over the past three decades. In 1991, just after independence, the rate was 76%, rising to 81% in 2001 and 85.3% in 2011. By 2023, literacy reached 87.3%.</p> <p>The most significant gains occurred between 1991 and 2001, with growth in later years remaining consistent but more moderate. These trends demonstrate measurable progress in education and the expansion of learning facilities, contributing to a more skilled workforce and supporting long-term socio-economic development.</p>



## 9. Gender Equality Profile

### Population Size and Growth

		Evolution of Global Gender Gap Index Top 10, (2017-2025)							
Rank	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
1	ISL	ISL	ISL	ISL	ISL	ISL	ISL	ISL	
2	NOR	NOR	NOR	FIN	FIN	NOR	FIN	FIN	
3	FIN	SWE	FIN	NOR	NOR	FIN	NOR	NOR	
4	RWA	FIN	SWE	NZL	NZL	NZL	NZL	GBR	
5	SWE	NIC	NIC	SWE	SWE	SWE	SWE	NZL	
6	NIC	RWA	NZL	NAM	RWA	DEU	NIC	SWE	
7	SVN	NZL	IRL	RWA	NIC	NIC	DEU	MDA	
8	IRL	PHL	ESP	LTU	NAM	NAM	NAM	NAM	
9	NZL	IRL	RWA	IRL	IRL	LTU	IRL	DEU	
10	PHL	NAM	DEU	CHE	DEU	BEL	ESP	IRL	

Source: World Economic Forum

BEL = Belgium; DEU = Germany; DNK = Denmark; ESP = Spain; FIN = Finland; IRL = Ireland; LTU = Lithuania; **NAM = Namibia**; NLD = Netherlands; NOR = Norway; NZL = New Zealand; **RWA = Rwanda**; SVN = Slovenia; SWE = Sweden

Namibia is a global leader in gender equality, ranking eighth in the 2025 World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Report and closing 81.1% of its gender gap, the highest in Africa. The country has held this position since 2022.

The report evaluates gender parity across four areas: Economic Participation and Opportunity, Educational Attainment, Health and Survival, and Political Empowerment. Namibia excels in economic participation, ranking fifth globally, reflecting strong progress in integrating women into the workforce and leadership positions. This performance demonstrates Namibia’s commitment to inclusive growth and social equity, creating a skilled and diverse talent pool that supports sustainable economic development and strengthens investor confidence.

Global Gender Gap Index

## 10. National Development Framework

Namibia’s development strategy integrates Vision 2030, the Sixth National Development Plan (NDP6), and the SWAPO Party Manifesto Implementation Plan (SMIP 2025–2030) into a coherent framework guiding the country toward sustainable, inclusive, and diversified growth. The framework provides clarity and continuity for medium- and long-term planning, creating a predictable environment for investors.

**Vision 2030** defines the long-term trajectory, focusing on economic diversification, industrialization, human capital development, and infrastructure expansion. It emphasizes equitable access to productive resources, social cohesion, environmental sustainability, and technological advancement. The vision links economic, social, and environmental objectives, highlighting the interdependencies between industrial growth, human development, and governance. This establishes a strategic foundation for policy predictability and reduces uncertainty for investors.

**NDP6 covers 2025/26 to 2029/30**, operationalizes Vision 2030 through medium-term priorities. It aligns national goals with global and regional frameworks including Agenda 2030, Agenda 2063, and SADC Vision 2050. Guided by sustainability, integration, people-centered planning, and partnerships, NDP6 focuses on three high-level goals: wealth creation, improved equality, and employment generation. The plan is structured around four pillars. The first pillar is Economic Growth, Transformation and Resilience, which targets industrialization, economic diversification, green growth, and job creation. The second pillar is Human Development and Community Resilience, which focuses on education, health, human capital productivity, and social welfare. The third pillar is Environmental Sustainability, which promotes natural resource management, renewable energy, and sustainable growth. The fourth pillar is Effective Governance and Public Service Delivery, which emphasizes transparency, accountability, and private sector participation. NDP6 incorporates measurable targets, financing frameworks, and monitoring mechanisms to ensure execution and alignment with national priorities.

**SWAPO Manifesto Implementation Plan 2025–2030** translates the strategic objectives of Vision 2030 and NDP6 into actionable projects. It targets critical economic sectors including mining, energy, oil and gas, tourism, agriculture, fisheries, and logistics, while also addressing social priorities such as food security, affordable housing, education, and youth empowerment. The plan includes 18 priority projects with a total budget of N\$85.7 billion and leverages both public funding and public-private partnerships. Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms ensure that interventions are tracked against performance indicators and adjusted as needed.

Together, these three frameworks provide a structured, integrated, and predictable approach to development. They link long-term objectives with medium-term plans and operational projects, creating a stable environment where policy continuity, institutional capacity, and strategic priorities are transparent and reliable. For investors, this framework offers confidence in the long-term trajectory of Namibia’s economy, clarity on sectoral priorities, and insight into the government’s mechanisms for execution and accountability.

## 11. Currency & Exchange Rate Information

The Namibian Dollar (NAD) is the official currency and is fully pegged to the South African Rand, ensuring exchange rate stability and predictability for investors and businesses. The South African Rand is also legal tender in Namibia, providing additional flexibility for trade and investment.

The NAD is issued in six banknote denominations (N\$10, N\$20, N\$30, N\$50, N\$100, N\$200) and six-coin denominations (5c, 10c, 50c, N\$1, N\$5, N\$10). Its design reflects Namibia’s heritage, national heroes, wildlife, and landscapes, reinforcing domestic confidence in the currency.

Table: Average Exchange Rate N\$ vs Major Currencies

Currency	Rate (As at October 2025)
N\$/ \$	17.25
N\$/ £	23.09
N\$/ €	20.03

Source: Bank of Namibia

## 12. Time Zone And Public Holidays

Namibia operates on Central Africa Time (CAT), which is GMT/UTC +2 hours throughout the year. This time zone aligns Namibia closely with major Southern African markets, facilitating real-time business communication, regional trade, and investment coordination.

The country observes several public holidays throughout the year, including Independence Day, Workers Day, and national remembrance days. Investors and businesses can plan operations and logistics around these dates, ensuring smooth interaction with government services, financial institutions, and local partners.

### Public Holidays Observed in Namibia

1 January	New Year's Day
21 March	Independence Day
3 May (Variable)	Good Friday
6 May (Variable)	Easter Monday
1 May	Workers Day
4 May	Cassinga Day
14 May (Variable)	Ascension Day
25 May	Africa Day
28 May	Genocide Remembrance Day
26 August	Heroes' Day
10 December	Day of the Namibian Women / International Human Rights Day
25 December	Christmas Day
26 December	Family Day

### Important Notes

- When a public holiday falls on a Sunday, the following Monday is observed as a public holiday unless that Monday is already one.
- Some dates are variable each year (e.g. Good Friday, Easter Monday, Ascension Day) as they depend on the religious calendar.
- A new holiday, Genocide Remembrance Day (28 May), has been formalised for future observance starting from 2025.
- **BusinessHours**  
08h00 - 17h00 (with lunch break between 13h00 and 14h00)
- **Business off-peak season**  
15 December - 15 January



**Namibia's time zone is Central Africa Time (CAT, UTC +2) year-round.**

# Compelling Reasons to Invest in Namibia

## Why Namibia?

<b>Political Stability</b> 35 years of stable democracy and peace	<b>Human Rights</b> Unamendable rights enshrined in the constitution, including the right to private property	<b>Liberty</b> Free Market Economy, Freedom of Press	<b>Rule of Law</b> Established and functioning laws & regulations (including the Foreign Investment Act)
<b>Financial Sophistication</b> Well developed financial & banking sectors & the 3rd largest Pension Fund industry in Africa	<b>Advanced Infrastructure</b> Stable telecommunications, electricity & water supply and sanitation	<b>Accessible Workforce</b> An educated, job seeking, English speaking population that can be upskilled using a national training fund	<b>Quality of Life</b> Comfortable weather, short commutes, quality schools, hospitality and entertainment
<b>Established FDI Destination</b> Multiple long established & successful foreign investments & companies	<b>Logistics Hub</b> High quality logistical infrastructure and competence (including regional & international land, air & sea connections)	<b>Natural Resources</b> Local and regional abundance of solar, wind, oil, gas, metal, mineral and agricultural resources	<b>Market Access</b> Several preferential trade agreements, including the AFCFTA, EPA, AGOA & Mercosur
<b>Investor Protection</b> Freedom from nationalisation	<b>Investment Repatriation</b> Freedom to remit capital and profits	<b>Currency Convertibility</b> Protected currency convertibility & pegged to the South African Rand.	<b>Dispute Protection</b> Equitable dispute settlement mechanisms

### Economy

GDP (2024) US\$ 13.39 billion	GDP per capita (2024) US\$ 4,241	Exports (2024) US\$ 6.5 billion	Imports (2024) US\$ 8.8 billion
----------------------------------	-------------------------------------	------------------------------------	------------------------------------

### Priority Sectors

Tourism & Sport	Food Industry	Chemicals & Basic Materials	Transport & Logistics	Machinery & Electronics
Metals, Mining & Adjacent Industries	Services (Digital and Global Business)	Communication & Technology	Energy (Renewable, GH2, O&G etc.)	Culture and Creative Industry



**NIPDB**  
 Namibia Investment Promotion & Development Board







[www.nipdb.com](http://www.nipdb.com)



**NIPDB**  
Namibia Investment Promotion  
& Development Board