

ANNUAL REPORT



2023



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FOREWORD



The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Namibia has continued to stand alongside the government and people, driven by our shared commitment to building a nation free from poverty, inequality, and vulnerability. Our journey in 2023 has been marked by meaningful progress in areas critical to Namibia's sustainable future.

Guided by the 5th National Development Plan and our Six Signature Solutions framework, UNDP focused on delivering impactful initiatives that address Namibia's most pressing needs. From strengthening environmental sustainability to fostering economic growth and improving governance, our efforts have been far-reaching and transformative.

Energy sustainability remained a focal point of our efforts, as we worked to reduce carbon emissions and promote renewable energy solutions. Our solar power projects and the retrofitting of diesel-powered boreholes with solar systems are just some examples of how we are helping to shape a greener future for Namibia.

In 2023, UNDP empowered over 100,000 public servants with the Pocket Guide 2.0, featuring an online Learning Management System of 12 modules focused on efficient and accountable public service. Additionally, 22 informal economy entrepreneurs received mentorship through the OMSEED program, and 24 individuals honed design skills via the Fabrica initiative, with top performers receiving seed funding and the chance to showcase at the Intra-Africa Trade Fair in Cairo.

UNDP collaborated with Government Offices, Ministries and Agencies such as the Ministry of Trade on studies to enhance trade, market access, and local production standards, supporting AfCFTA implementation. We supported digitalisation initiatives that empowered public servants, aligned national development with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), and introduced behavioural science to promote ethical leadership. These efforts are key to building a more transparent, inclusive, and effective government that can deliver for all Namibians.

Our mission centers on the belief that development requires gender equality and empowerment. In 2023, we advanced this by equipping young women with coding and robotics skills, fostering their participation in the innovation economy. We also backed national strategies promoting gender-responsive financing and digital inclusion, ensuring marginalized groups are part of Namibia's progress.

The CO was privileged and proud to host the 2023 Regional Bureau of Africa Cluster meeting. A fruitful discussion took place to reflect on progress to date and strategize on how best the bureau could reposition itself to attain the SDG goals and Strategic Plan moonshots in the coming years.

We closed the chapter on 2023, with a sense of accomplishment, but also with a deep awareness that much work remains. The challenges ahead are significant, but so too is our resolve. UNDP is committed to continuing our partnership with the Namibian people and government as we strive for a future that is inclusive, sustainable, and resilient.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our partners, stakeholders, and the dedicated UNDP team, whose unwavering commitment and hard work have made these achievements possible. Together, we will continue to build on this foundation and drive forward Namibia's sustainable development agenda.

UNDP NAMIBIA AT A GLANCE

About UNDP

UNDP works in 170 countries and territories, helping to eradicate poverty, reduce inequalities and exclusion.

UNDP in Namibia

UNDP's Country Programme Document (CPD) aligns with the National Development Plans (NDP's) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). As a partner of choice, we collaborate with partners and communities to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnership by 2030.

OUR STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK



Supporting countries towards
3 DIRECTIONS OF CHANGE
– structural transformation, leaving no-one behind, building resilience



through
6 SIGNATURE SOLUTIONS
– poverty and inequality, governance, resilience, environment, energy, gender equality



enhanced by
3 ENABLERS
– strategic innovation, digitalisation, development financing

WE CONTRIBUTE TO

Sustainable Inclusive Green Growth (SIGG)

By 2024, Namibia has a diversified, resilient, ECONOMY that champions sustainable decent jobs, livelihoods and reduces inequalities inclusive of young people and marginalised communities.

Governance Responsive Institution and Civil Engagement (GRICE)

By 2024 more young people and marginalised communities in Namibia actively participate in transparent gender-inclusive GOVERNANCE systems and institutions that prioritise accountability, transparency and human rights.

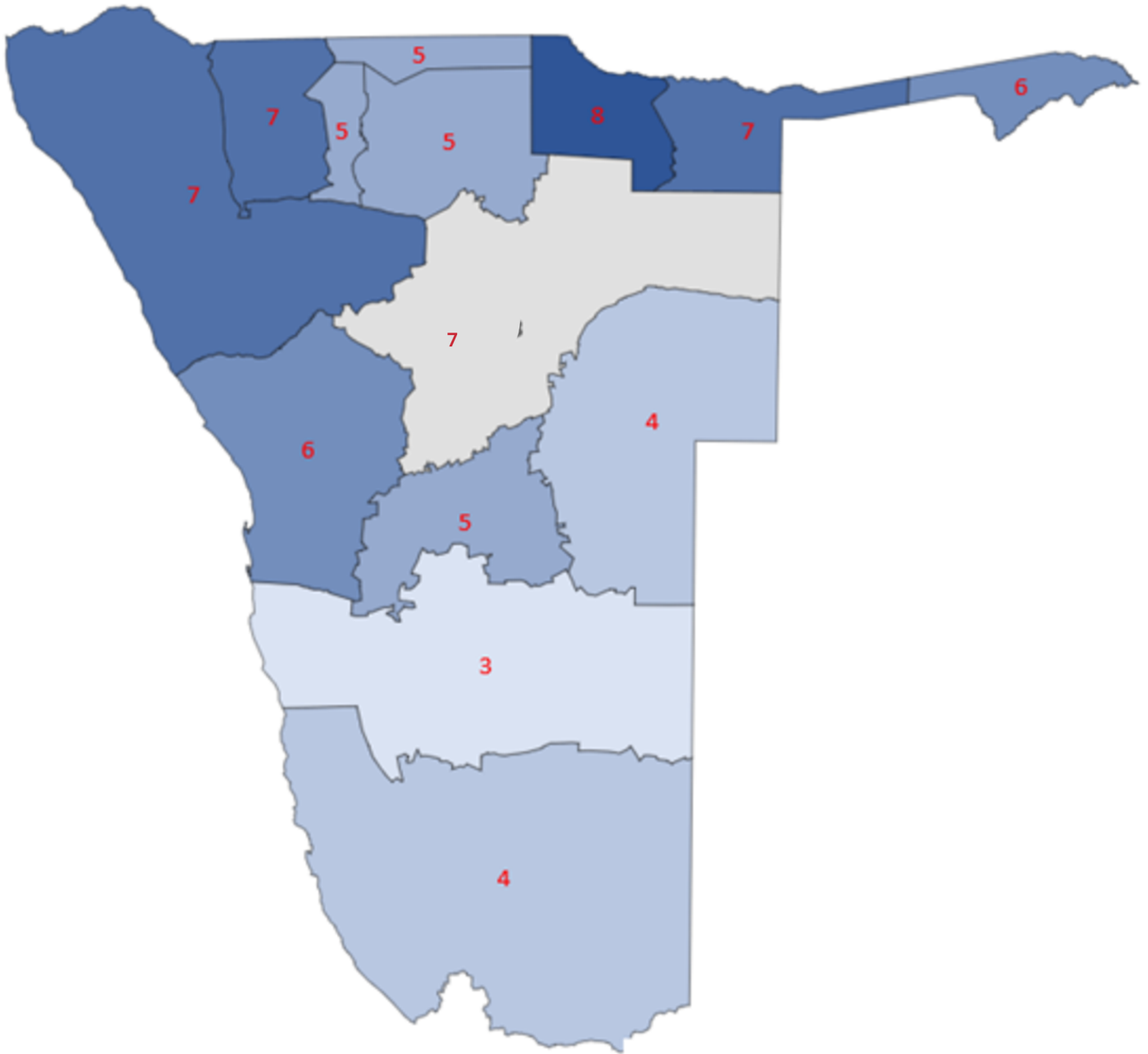
Sustainable Environment Management, Energy, and Resilience (SEMER)

By 2024 Namibia has integrated gender-inclusive systems for sustainable management of NATURAL RESOURCES; reduced climate change vulnerability and enhanced resilience of marginalised communities and young people.

Accelerator Lab (Acc-Lab)

The UNDP Strategic Plan and the Knowledge Management Strategy compels COs to include the importance of continuous learning, R&D and innovation, a part of the value proposition and offer of UNDP COs in the future.

UNDP'S PRESENCE



Region	Number of Projects per Region
IlKaras Region	4
Hardap Region	3
Khomas Region	5
Omaheke Region	4
Otjozondjupa Region	7
Omusati Region	7
Ohangwena Region	5
Oshikoto Region	5
Oshana	5
Erongo Region	6
Kunene Region	7
Zambezi Region	6
Kavango East	7
Kavango West	8

SIGNATURE SOLUTIONS



Drawing on the experience of the past four years, UNDP has:

1. Prioritized areas where country needs are most critical:

- *Fire Management, Water Resources, Conservancy Support, Human-Wildlife Conflict Management & Economic Empowerment.*

2. Focused on leveraging UNDP's core strengths and role within the UN system.

- Support for MSME development and digital strategies.
- Hosted Discover Namibia Expo to boost private sector involvement.
- Collaboration with the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology for the National Digital Strategy.
- Development of an Integrated National Financing Strategy for financial resilience.
- Joint SDG Audit with UNICEF to align national budgets with SDG goals.
- Digital Fitness Programme and Pocket Guide 2.0 with the Prime Minister's Office to digitalise public services.

3. Refined and enhanced signature solutions for greater impact and scalability.

- Supported small-scale farmers through livestock auctions generating N\$ 5.8 million.
- Supported 19 conservancies, generating N\$ 20 million annually.
- Solar-powered boreholes benefiting 2,535 people and 14,112 livestock.
- OMSEED mentorship benefiting 22 informal entrepreneurs.
- Empowered 40 young girls in coding and robotics.

4. Delivered integrated solutions through a systems-based approach:

- Established 114.8 km of fire cutlines to protect 14,564 hectares.
- Drilled 6 boreholes, benefiting 1,240 people and 9,134 livestock.
- Provided 10 handheld tractors and conservation agriculture training to 44 trainees.
- Installed a Grid-Tied PV Solution, generating 71 MWh of electricity.
- Developed 14 nurseries and 6 erosion gabions for land restoration.



IMPACT

N\$20,099,436.25

N\$ generated annually supporting **19** conservancies.

N\$5,861,952.76

N\$ generated from livestock and horticulture.

2,554,964
ha

Conservancies covering supported and protected.

120,000

Public servants empowered in efficient, accountable service delivery via Pocket Guide 2.0's online Learning Management System.

23,246

Livestock gained access to water.

114.8
km

Fire cutlines established.

3,775

People gained access to water.

928

Individuals and informal entrepreneurs received mentorship and enhanced design skills through OMSEED & Fabrica, while also being trained and engaged in veld fire management, conservation, agriculture, agrarian reform, and environmental law, with 70% identified as female Integrity Champions.

395

Jobs created in fire management & conservancy support.

40

Young Girls empowered in coding and robotics.

14

Nurseries restore land and support vegetation established.

6

Erosion restored to support vegetation established.

10

Diesel and solar boreholes drilled.

10

Handheld tractors provided.

11

Management plans to enhance community safety implemented.



1. POVERTY & INEQUALITY

Highlights and Achievements



Generated N\$6,461,992.76 from livestock auctions and horticulture

TOTAL FARMERS BENEFITED

274



Boosted income in conservancies

TOTAL INCOME GENERATED ANNUALLY

N\$20,099,436.25

TOTAL MEMBERS EMPLOYED

327



UNDP has driven innovation and gender-responsive, pro-poor strategies for poverty reduction, including the gender-responsive National Integrated Financing Strategy and digital finance strategy to create inclusive, gender-equal financing.

- o **Beneficiaries:** 255 individuals impacted (193 women, 62 men) in Erongo, Omusati, Oshana, and Kunene informed about their rights in agrarian reform, environmental law in mining, and education.
- o **Economic Empowerment:** The NILALEG project facilitated livestock auctions, generating **N\$ 5.8 million** and benefiting **262** small-scale farmers in Okongo, while **48** cattle valued at **N\$ 600,040** were distributed to farmers in the Zambezi Region.
- o Provided financial support-**\$15,000** to promote rural women's and peasants' rights.
- o **Horticultural Impact:** The Linaelao Horticultural Group earned **N\$ 13,732.76** from vegetable sales, supporting **102** community members and enhancing food security.
- o **Entrepreneurship Support:** The OMSEED mentorship program aided **22** informal entrepreneurs with access to networks, legal, financial, and marketing support.
- o **Conservation Jobs:** Sustainable wildlife management created employment for **327** conservancy members, highlighting biodiversity's role in livelihoods.
- o **Creative Industry & Trade:** Phase III of Fabrica and Makerthon Namibia saw four Namibian talents showcase their work at IATF2023 in Cairo.





2. GOVERNANCE



In 2023, UNDP Namibia Inclusive Governance Initiative (IGI), through the #WEBELONGAFRICA regional programme, made significant strides in promoting accountability, inclusivity, and human rights, focusing on sexual and gender minority group. The initiative aligned with SDG 16's focus on peace, justice, and strong institutions, supporting legal reforms and key court victories for LGBTQI+ rights. IGI also enhanced public sector capacity, including training two judges at the UNDP Annual Africa Regional Judges Forum (AARJF) on inclusive governance and human rights.

- **Training:** Trained **two** judges at the UNDP Annual Africa Regional Judges Forum on inclusive governance and human rights.
- **Awareness Workshop:** Partnered with the Office of the Ombudsman to conduct a five-day workshop, educating **24** staff members on the challenges faced by sexual and gender minorities.
- **HIV Stigma Reduction:** Launched the UNDP SCALE Initiative to combat stigma against people living with HIV, promoting equitable legal environments.
- **National Dialogue Meeting:** Facilitated a meeting with development partners and key populations to discuss inclusive policies in the fight against AIDS.
- **SDG Integration:** Conducted a joint SDG Audit of the National Budget with UNICEF to align Namibia's budget with SDG goals.



UNDP also fostered digital transformation and capacity building through the Accelerator Lab, including:

- **Digital Fitness Programme:** Enhanced digital skills for the UNDP Namibia team.
- **Pocket Guide 2.0:** Redesigned and digitalized a handbook for public servants, featuring interactive elements and a chatbot for quick queries.
- **Behavioural Insights Training:** Piloted a program for 50 Integrity Champions to promote ethical conduct among public servants.
- **National Digital Strategy:** Co-created a strategy for cohesive digital transformation across Namibia.

Highlights and Achievements



+100 000 public servants accessing the digital pocketguide 2.0

UNDP's culturally sensitive approach and community engagement fostered stakeholder buy-in. The Accelerator Lab implemented digital initiatives to enhance capabilities, including the Digital Fitness Programme and the redesign of the Pocket Guide for public servants, incorporating interactive elements and a chatbot for policy queries. These efforts aim to strengthen governance, support innovation, and facilitate digital transformation in Namibia.

3. RESILIENCE

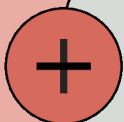


Highlights and Achievements



70%

Trained **116** community members (**70% female**)



44

44 trainees trained in Conservation Agriculture



UNDP Namibia partnered with key institutions to support sustainable development, focusing on renewable energy, water security, climate resilience, and conservation. Key achievements include:

- o **Partnerships:** Collaborated with the Namibia University of Science and Technology and the Namibian Energy Institute to strengthen Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the renewable energy sector.
- o **Fire Management Training:** Trained **116** community members in fire management, with **70%** being women. This training improved community safety and fire prevention strategies.
- o **Conservation Agriculture:** Through the NILALEG project, **44** trainees learned innovative agricultural methods, like using biochar to enhance soil fertility and increase crop yields, supporting agricultural resilience and food security.

4. ENERGY

Highlights and Achievements



Solar-Powered Boreholes: Retrofitted 4 diesel boreholes to solar



UNDP Namibia worked with the Ministry of Environment and Tourism to convert four diesel-powered boreholes into solar-powered water systems. This change has benefited:

- o **Community Impact:** 2,535 people and 14,112 livestock now have a reliable water supply.

These efforts demonstrate UNDP's commitment to renewable energy, protecting the environment, and improving rural livelihoods, all contributing to sustainable development goals in Namibia.



5. ENVIRONMENT



Highlights and Achievements

Established 14 nurseries

Constructed 6 erosion gabions to restore land and support vegetation.

Implemented 11 human-wildlife conflict HWC management plans to manage conflicts and enhance community safety



14.8 km of fire cutlines established

Protecting 14,564 (ha) from wildfires.

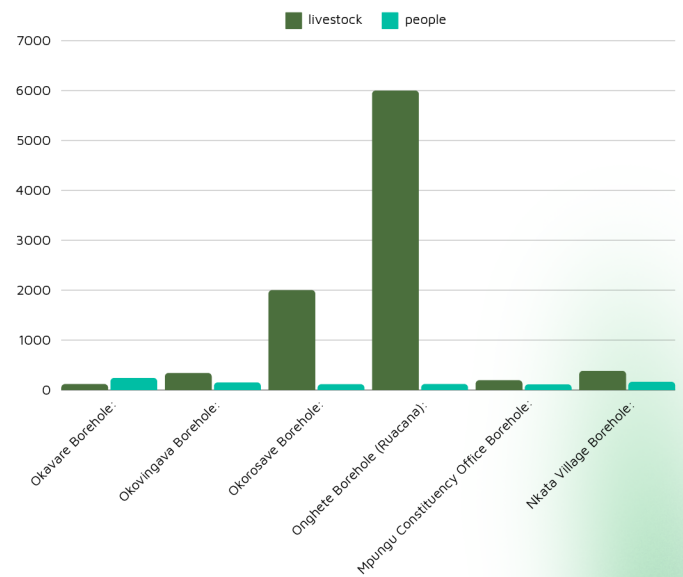
Created 68 jobs including 12 youths.



In partnership with the Directorate of Forestry, the NILALEG project helped local communities:

- o This included **84.4 km** of cutlines in the Okongo Conservancy, safeguarding **4,998 hectares** and supporting carbon capture.
- o **UNDP supported 19** conservancies covering **2,540,400** hectares, providing equipment and
- o Generated over **N\$20 million** from wildlife activities training.
- o Management scores improved to **67** for Etosha and **71** for Bwabwata National Parks, respectively.
- o To combat land degradation the project trained **44** people in conservation agriculture, introducing biochar for soil health, and provided **10** handheld tractors.
- o UNDP also supported Namibia's climate action goals and provided livestock to beneficiaries in Ruacana and Zambezi.

A total of 6 boreholes were drilled and installed, serving a total of 1240 people and 9134 livestock:



Additionally, **6** boreholes were drilled, benefiting **1,240** people and **9,134** livestock, highlighting UNDP's commitment to environmental sustainability and community welfare in Namibia.



6. GENDER EQUALITY

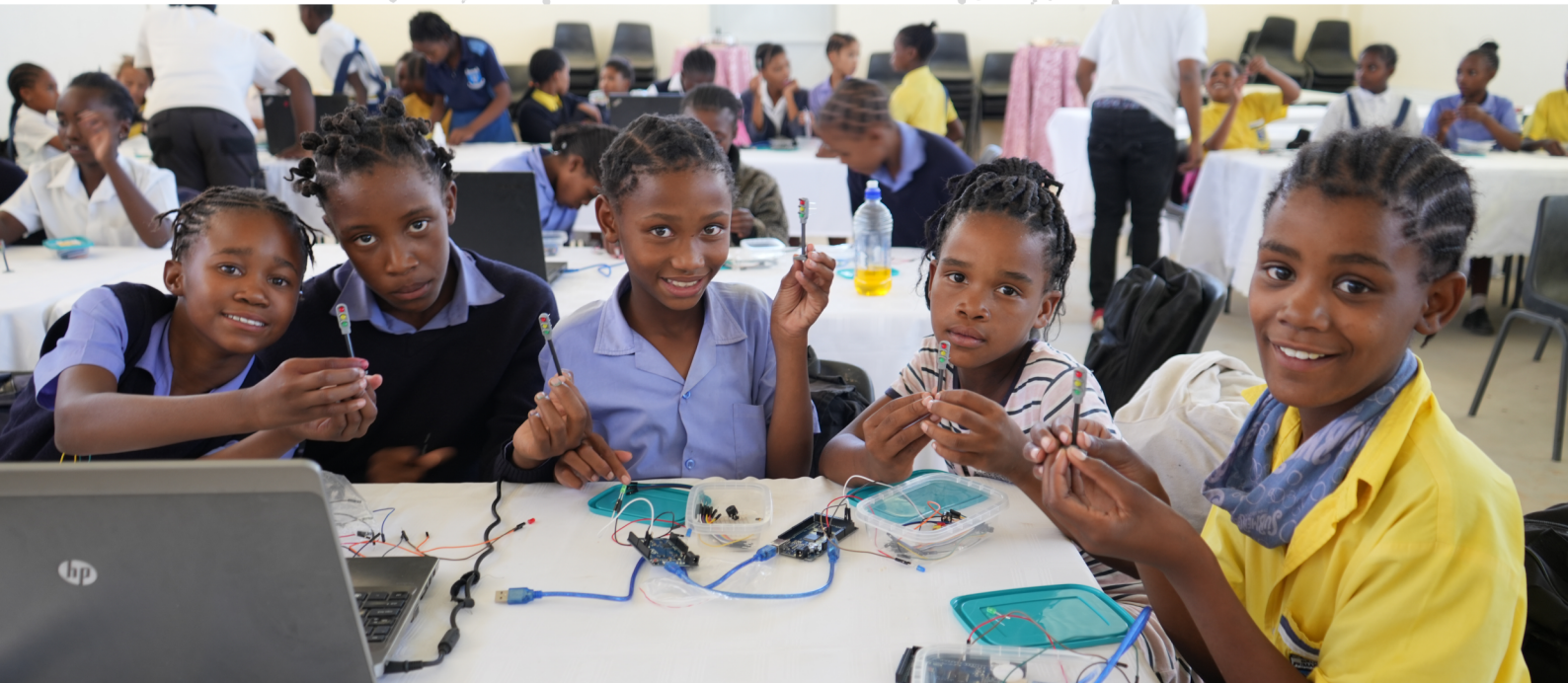
Highlights and Achievements

350

Integrity Champions Engaged: Including **190** women, in a workshop on behavioral nudges and ethical considerations, promoting ethical leadership and integrity.

40

Young girls empowered in coding and robotics.



- o UNDP Namibia empowered **40 young** girls in coding and robotics, showcased at the International Women's Day exhibition to inspire careers in tech and reduce the gender gap in STEM.



- o UNDP engaged **186 participants (52% women)** across seven regions for economic standards, and through the CBIT project, achieved over **50% female** participation in national environmental reporting.

- o The Acclab's Fabrica initiative featured **24 individuals (58% women)**, displaying design skills.

- o Collaborated with the Namibia Rural Women Assembly and support for **Indigenous Youth** at YouthConnekt uplifted grassroots voices internationally.

- o **Supported women farmers**, including those with disabilities, improved sustainable farming, income, and livelihoods, aligning with Namibia's Gender Policy.



KEY PARTNERS

Government Entities:

- Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Industrialization and Trade
- Ministry of Finance and Public Enterprises
- Ministry of Mines and Energy
- Ministry of Health and Social Services
- Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform
- Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism
- Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources
- Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA)
- Namibia Competition Commission
- Anti-Corruption Commission
- Namibia Standards Institute
- Environmental Investment Fund (EIF)

Civil Society Organizations and NGOs:

- Namibia Nature Foundation (NNF)
- Impact Tank
- Genius Robotics
- Fabrice

Private Sector and Academia:

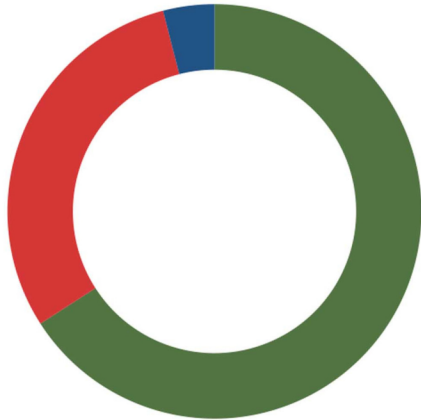
- Namibia Impact Investment Forum (NIIF)
- Namibia University of Science and Technology

International and UN Agencies:

- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- World Food Programme (WFP)
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF)
- Government of Germany
- Government of Japan
- Government of Sweden

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

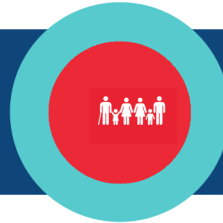
Impact



■ Promote nature-based solutions for a sustainable planet	65.9%
■ Keeping people out of poverty	30.1%
■ Strengthen effective, inclusive and accountable governance	4%



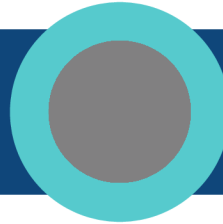
Promote nature-based solutions for a sustainable planet
58.5%
of the total budget allotted to this theme



Keeping people out of poverty
34.2%
of the total budget allotted to this theme

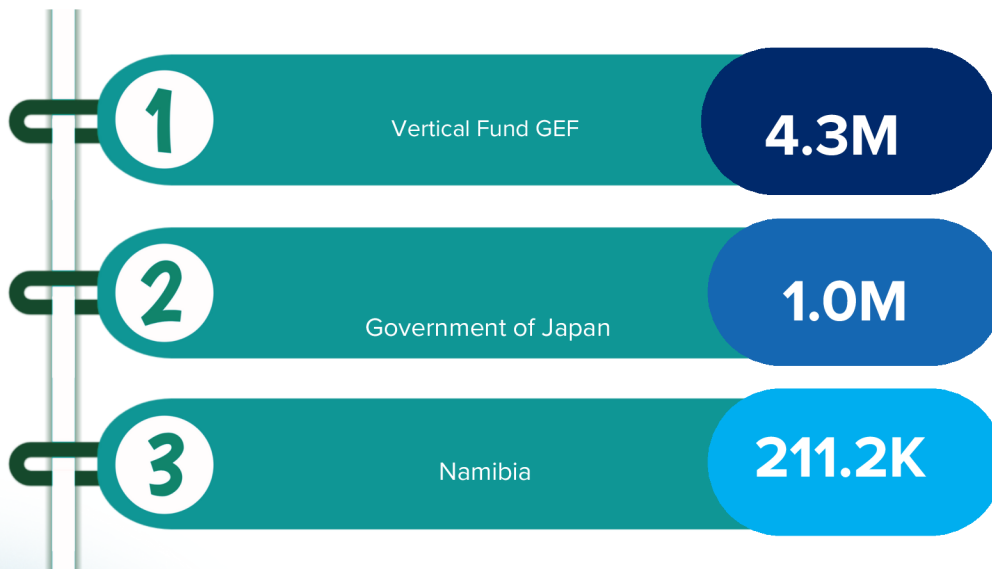


Strengthening effective, inclusive and accountable governance
3.5%
of the total budget allotted to this theme



Others
3.8%
of the total budget allotted to this theme

Top Donors of 2023



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