



MINISTRY OF GENDER EQUALITY, POVERTY ERADICATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE

NEWSLETTER

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16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



**“ORANGE THE WORLD:
END VIOLENCE AGAINST
WOMEN NOW!”**

VISION

A caring and inclusive society where all Namibians enjoy a dignified life.

MISSION

To create, promote an enabling environment and equal opportunities for sustainable socio-economic development for the wellbeing of targeted groups.

MANDATE

To ensure gender equality, poverty eradication and socio-economic development of targeted groups.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Ensure gender equality, equity and the empowerment of women, girls, boys, marginalized communities and people with disabilities
2. Advocate and promote the related human rights for women, girls, boys, marginalized communities and people with disabilities
3. Strengthen and expand social protection
4. Mobilise communities towards socio-economic empowerment
5. Improve care and protection for children's well-being
6. Ensure stakeholders communication and coordination
7. Develop Integrated Management Information Systems
8. Enhance effective policy and legislative frameworks
9. Ensure effective Policy and Legislative frameworks

PILLARS

1. Gender Equality and Related Human Rights Advocacy
2. Accelerate Socio-Economic Development and Integration of women, girls and boys, marginalized communities and persons with disabilities
3. Stakeholder Coordination
4. Institutional Excellence

CORE VALUES

INTEGRITY

Being honest and ensuring systems and procedures are rules compliant

TEAMWORK

Working together for the common good

EMPATHY

Bringing humanity to our work

INCLUSIVITY

We strive for excellence and understand that our diversity strengthens us

PROFESSIONALISM

To achieve high quality performance that exceeds standards

ACCOUNTABILITY

Taking responsibility for our actions

ACCESSIBILITY

Always making ourselves available to meet customers expectations

SENIOR MANAGEMENT



Hon. DOREEN SIOKA
Minister



Hon. BERNADETTE MARIA JAGGER
Deputy Minister



Hon. ALEXIA MANOMBE-NCUBE
Deputy Minister
Disability Affairs



Hon. ROYAL /Ui/o/oo
Deputy Minister
Marginalised Communities



Ms. ESTHER LUSEPANI
Executive Director



Ms. MARTHA MBOMBO
Deputy Executive Director

CHILD CARE AND
PROTECTION
SERVICES



Ms HELENA ANDJAMBA
Director
Child Welfare Services



Ms RAHIMISA KAMUINGONA
Deputy Director
Child Care Services

POLICY, PLANNING
AND RESEARCH



Mr WILBARD NASHANDI
Director
Policy, Planning and Research



Mr FILIMON SHIIMI
Deputy Director
Policy and Planning

GENDER EQUALITY
AND WOMEN'S
EMPOWERMENT



Ms PENOSHINGE SHILILIFA
Deputy Director
Research & Legislation

SOCIAL PROTECTION
SERVICES



Ms VALENTINA
MULONGENI
Director
Social Protection Services



Ms LOURENCIA TJIHO
Deputy Director
Grant Reconciliation



Mr ALBERT BIWA
Deputy Director
Social Assistance

DISABILITY AFFAIRS
AND MARGINALISED
COMMUNITIES



Ms NIITA IIPINGE
Director
Disability affairs and
marginalised communities



Ms MERCY KUFUNA
Deputy Director
Disability Affairs

COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
AND POVERTY
ERADICATION



Ms ROSINA MUBONENWA
Director
Community Development and
Poverty Eradication



Ms LOIDE VELISHAVO
Deputy Director
Early Childhood Development

ADMINISTRATION
AND GENERAL
SERVICES



Mr NICHLAS MBINGENEEKO
Director - Admin & General Services



Ms ALISA KANUTUS
Deputy Director - Finance



Mr SACKARIA SHEEHAMA
Deputy Director - HR Management



Mr JOHANNES K. EMBULA
Deputy Director - General Services

FOREWORD

As we stated in the second quarter of our newsletter, the year 2021 will be remembered as both memorable and unforgettable.

Despite the changes in our personal and professional lives, we are optimistic about the year 2022, as our previous experiences have motivated us to hope for better times and new opportunities.

Our vision is to create a caring and inclusive society where all Namibians enjoy a dignified life.

This includes raising disability awareness and eliminating all forms of social exclusion aimed at people with disabilities, integrating marginalized communities, and empowering the vulnerable (elders, children, and those at risk of being trafficked), as we move forward in this era envisaged for prosperous Namibia.

In reflecting back on 2021, it's worth noting that the year ended with a number of significant events, including the 3 December observance of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

It is worth reporting that the Ministry in collaboration with its stakeholders have successfully facilitated the enrollment of students with hearing impairment whom will be assisted by Sign Language Interpreters.

Through the Ministry's education support programme for the persons with disability, 51 students were approved for funding, ensuring that they are given an equal opportunity to reach their full potential in improving their skills and Namibia's human capital.

AWOME

The Ministry continues to train women micro entrepreneurs through the Acceleration of Women-Owned Micro Enterprises (AWOME), a cooperation between the Ministry, the United Nations Women (UN Women), and the De Beers Group of Companies.

This initiative aims to capacitate women micro-entrepreneurs through business and life skills training as well as strengthening the capacity of women business associations in Namibia.

The programme has been operating in the Khomas and Erongo regions since 2018. To date, 666 women entrepreneurs have been trained. The programme provides training based on the customized version of the Improve Your Business (IYB) package developed by the International Labour Organization (ILO).

The IYB training package consist of six (6) sets of manuals cover topics such as Planning for your business, costing, buying, stock control, record keeping, marketing as well as people and productivity.

NATIONAL GENDER POLICY

Finally, the National Gender Policy 2010-2020 has come to an end, and the Ministry has begun work on the new National Gender Policy 2021-2031.

The previous policy was outstanding and aided the Ministry and the Namibian people in achieving numerous goals; nevertheless, some areas of implementation were more successful than others.

Several factors hindered the full implementation of the Policy such as inadequate knowledge of gender mainstreaming, skills in gender analysis and insufficient stakeholders coordination, among others.

Furthermore, there are new and growing challenges at the national, regional, and global levels that could affect gender equality. Among these are the spreading of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, issues of economic development, globalization, climate change and human trafficking.

All of these variables have- a disproportionately negative and direct influence on the livelihood of women and girls. While these concerns provide challenges, they also present opportunities to address issues of gender equality.

Let me offer my sincere gratitude to each of you for your dedication to improving gender equality and people's overall well-being. This is a critical undertaking that is becoming more important with each passing day as the task grows more complex, particularly in the transition to a resilient and sustainable post COVID-19 world.

As a result, I'm wishing for the best in both our personal and professional life in the year 2022.

Esther Lusepani
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CONGRATULATIONS

The Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare staff and senior management extend our warmest congratulations and good wishes on your Award of the Most Brilliant Order of the Sun, First Class.



AWARD OF THE MOST BRILLIANT ORDER OF THE SUN, FIRST CLASS.

Ms. Doreen Nampiyi Sioka

Attributes

Distinguished service above the call of duty

Pioneers of the Liberation Struggle in Africa

Volunteerism and activism

Significantly excelled in a specific act of service

Displayed a high level of integrity and exemplary leadership

Wordly recognised innovation and creativity

AwardType



The Most Brilliant Order of the Sun, First Class

Citation

Ms. Doreen Sioka was born at Kasheshe village in Zambezi Region and is a veteran of the Namibian Liberation Struggle. She joined SWAPO in 1975 in Zambia where she was trained as a nurse and infantry soldier. Ms. Doreen Sioka survived the 1976 attack on Oshatowa in Zambia by the South African colonial forces. She joined the ranks of PLAN, becoming the first woman from the in Zambezi Region to participate in armed battles such as at Wenela Border Post and Katima Mulilo Military Base between 1977 and 1978. She successfully carried out reconnaissance on Kamenga in Singalamwe.

Ms. Doreen Sioka treated injured PLAN fighters from the battle fields and escorted them to Senanga and Mongu hospitals in Zambia. She also worked for SWAPO's Voice of Namibia radio station in Lusaka, Zambia. She obtained a qualification in Journalism and Library information in Ndola, Zambia. Ms. Doreen Sioka worked as a teacher at

the Namibian Health and Education Centre in Kwanza-Sul in Angola from 1983 until shortly before Namibia's independence.

After independence, Ms. Doreen Sioka became an ardent for Gender Equality in Namibia, SADC and worldwide. She advocated for the amendment of the SWAPO Party Constitution to ensure 50/50 gender representation in all Party structures. She is a former Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly and Minister of Labour and Social Welfare. As Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare, she was recognized with many national, regional and international awards for Namibia's effort and achievements in gender equality issues.

Today, we honour Ms. Doreen Sioka as we invite her to join the revered Alumni of the Namibian National Honours System as **Grand Commander of the Most Brilliant Order of the Sun, First Class.**

PRESIDENTIAL VISIT



His Excellency, Dr. Hage Geingob, The President, hands over the donations to Mrs. Helen Siamwanda, Chief Children's Home Superintendent.

His Excellency, Dr. Hage Geingob, the President of the Republic of Namibia visited the Namibia Children's Home where the Dr, Hage Geigob Cup was inaugurated on 27 October 2021.

On 27 October 2021, His Excellency the President of the Republic of Namibia, Dr. Hage Geingob and the First Lady Mrs. Geingos visited the Namibia Children's Home (NCH), which was selected as the first beneficiary of the Dr. Hage Geingob Cup 2021.

The President donated a Samsung Crystal UHD television set and various food packages to the value of N\$100,000 which brought joy unimaginable to the children.

WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY

Namibian Children's delegation at the World Children Day, 20 November, Kazungula, Botswana.

PRESIDENT Hage G. Geingob joined his regional counterparts Botswana President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi, Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa and Zambian President Hakainde Hichilema.

This year's annual World Children's Day was held under the theme "Reimagining the Future", a new initiative that seeks to give children and young people the space to engage in defining the vision they want for their future and future generations.



DONATIONS GALORE



From left to right: Ms Esther Lusepani, Executive Director, with Hon. Doreen Sioka, Ms Rachel Odede, UNICEF Resident Coordinator, Namibia and Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Namibia Hideaki Harada handing over education supplies and supplementary food to learners with disabilities and special needs in education.

The Ministry handed over education supplies and supplementary food to learners with disabilities and special needs in education, as well as ECD learners from marginalized communities, on November 29, 2021.

When accepting the donation, Hon. Doreen Sioka, Minister, expressed her gratitude and stated that COVID-19 has had a severe influence on communities, and that the situation for marginalized people has undoubtedly worsened.

"The Ministry's mandate is to improve children's care, protection, and well-being by giving child grants to children in need, as well as early learning stimulation through ECD centers.

Despite these measures, child poverty remains prevalent in Namibia. Furthermore, wasting and stunting are prevalent among children in Marginalized Communities," she stated.

“Therefore, Government requires concerted effort by all stakeholders to ensure that no child is left behind

According to statistics, the percentage of San children who are wasted, i.e. too thin for their height at 12.5% is more than twice higher than any other group; and the percentage of San children who are stunted, i.e. too short for their age at 72.9% is among the highest in the world – and nearly three times higher than any other group in Namibia.

Therefore, Government requires concerted effort by all stakeholders to ensure that no child is left behind, she stated.

Nutrition is a vital aspect of a child's holistic development, and ECD provides a critical window of opportunity for this development. The N\$1,995,920.00 financial support will ensure the provision of fortified maize blend

to children in 31 identified ECD centers in marginalized communities across the Omaheke, Kavango East, Kavango West, and Zambezi regions, as well as the training of about 64 educarers in play-based learning.

Starting in January 2022, around 1900 children are expected to benefit from this feeding program for at least 7-10 months. The assistance will help to provide the foundation for a healthier, happier, and more innovative child, as well as improve the child's capacity to learn, develop social skills, and strengthen immune system defences.

The Ministry will also monitor the impact of the feeding on enrolment levels at the various ECD centres, and the lessons learned will be used to future programming.

HELPING HAND



The Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare received donation from Namib Mills for Early Childhood Development Centres intended to the Marginalized and Vulnerable in marginalized communities. Fortified instant porridge that have vitamins and minerals is for children under five years old.

The purpose of this fortified food, it will prevent malnutrition among children under five years. The food was received by Hon. Saara Kuugongelwa Amadhila-Prime Minister and witnessed by Hon. Doreen Sioka, on 12 November 2021.

Upon receiving the donation, Prime Minister promise Mr. Jan Conrade CEO Namib Mills that the Government will make sure to distribute the food to the beneficiaries.

Hon. Doreen Sioka extended her appreciation on the food received and assured the Hon. Prime Minister that the Ministry will deliver the food to the intended group and monitor the impact that the feeding will have in the identified ECD centres.

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY// NAMIBIA WOMEN'S DAY

"Unless rights have value in our homes, they have little meaning anywhere else," said Hon. Bernadette Maria Jagger in her keynote address on December 10. "Without coordinated citizen action to protect such rights at home, we shall hope in vain for progress."

Namibia joined the international community in commemorating International Human Rights Day, which is celebrated in conjunction with Namibia Women's Day. The event also marked the end of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV), which commenced on the 25 November.

In her keynote address, Hon. Bernadette Maria Jagger noted that the day (10 December) is a significant historical day in Namibia, as it recalls the forcible removal of Namibian inhabitants from the Old Location to what is now known as Katutura in 1959.

"Madam Anna Kakurukaze Mungunda was one of the fearless Namibian women who, together with other brave Namibian women, were killed on this day for fighting the South African apartheid regime's forced relocation of inhabitants from the Old Location to Katutura," she continued.

"Orange the world: End violence against women now!" was the theme of the day's commemoration. The colour orange represents a brighter future free of violence. It also serves as a sign of unity in the fight against GBV and VAC in all forms.

She emphasized the importance of strengthening national and regional initiatives focused at raising awareness, advocating for change, and sharing knowledge and information about prevention and response in Namibia.

In addition, the theme is a call to double the impact for survivors of GBV and Human Trafficking. Furthermore, the subject is consistent with governmental instruments such as the 5th National Development Plan and the Harambee Prosperity Plan II, all of which are part of the pillar 3 on Social Progression.

The Pillar's desired outcome is to provide the basic amenities for dignified life, social mobility and human development. It adopts a people-centered development approach with the goal of improving the quality of life for all Namibians, particularly the most vulnerable of our society. The theme further amplifies the call for National and regional



Hon. Bernadette Maria Jagger delivers her keynote speech.

“The colour orange represents a brighter future free of violence. It also serves as a sign of unity in the fight against GBV and VAC in all forms.

actions to end the pandemic of GBV, which was worsened by COVID-19.

"Namibia has over the years made great strides in ensuring gender equality, poverty eradications and sustainable socio-economic development of all the people. Various measures were put in place to address GBV in our society", she mentioned.

Some of these measure include among other, the existence of legislation meant to restrain Gender-Based Violence, including Chapter three of the Namibian Constitution, the Combating of the Domestic Violence Act 4 of 2003 (under review), Combating of Rape Act 8 of 2000 (under review), Trafficking in Person Act No. 1 of 2018, Child Care and Protection Act 3 of 2015, Maintenance Act (No. 9 of 2003) (under review), Married Persons Equality Act (No. 1 of 1996).

This includes, Namibia's commitment at international, regional and national levels to ensure that people are protected from most if not all forms of GBV and VAC.

These instruments include among others:

- The United Nations Convention on elimination of all forms of discrimination against women
- The UN protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children, supplementing the united nations convention against transnational organized crime protocol to the african charter on human and peoples' rights on the rights of women in Africa (Maputo protocol)
- SADC Protocol On Gender and Development, signed on 17 august 2008, ratified on 07 October 2009
- implementation of the Solemn declaration on gender equality in Africa (SDGEA)
- implementation of the Beijing declaration and platform of action (Bdpfa) african women's decade (AWD).

ENGAGING TRADITIONAL LEADERS



Hon. Bernadette Maria Jagger with workshop participants.

"Taking into account the government's efforts in the fight against GBV and Violence Against Children (VAC), we still need to work together to do more for our country. GBV and VAC statistics are not where we would like them to be, and we desire zero tolerance," Hon. Bernadette Maria Jagger as she opened a Consultative workshop to develop a Strategy/Guideline for Engagement of Traditional Leaders in Addressing Gender Based Violence (GBV), which will take place from 12-15 October 2021.

Given the complexity of new emergent threats, such as the Corona Virus, all stakeholders must be proactive in preventing and responding to gender-based violence and violence against children, she said.

The initiative is one of the strategies in A Call to Action! A Prioritised National Plan of Action on Gender Based Violence 2019 – 2023.

According to the Ministry's 2016/17 baseline study on GBV and the study on Violence Against Children, gender inequalities, harmful cultural and traditional practices and norms, and violence against children are all contributing factors fueling gender based violence and violence against children in communities.

According to Namibian police data, over 5 427 GBV-related cases were reported in the 2019/20 financial year, compared to around 2 643 (2643) in the 2020/2021 financial year.

"While there has been a considerable decline in GBV cases, the number remains alarming. As a country, we are working towards zero incidences of GBV, as a result, we are revamping the GBV zero tolerance program in order to reduce this atrocity," she stated.

According to statistics, alcohol consumption and substance abuse have been identified as contributory factors in some cases of GBV and rape committed in domestic settings.

“Pregnancy causes young girls to drop out of school; some of these girls are impregnated by older men, even their biological fathers, which deter their future by who commit unthinkable acts of violence

The number of reported cases of domestic violence increased to 1309 in 2019/2020, with a slight decline of 300 cases in the 2020/2021 financial year.

Furthermore, the number of rape cases involving alcohol increased from 51 in the 2019/2020 financial year to 60 in the 2020/2021 financial year.

In addition to other efforts and in ensuring zero tolerance against GBV, the Ministry in collaboration with SADC Secretariat and other stakeholders agreed to develop a strategy to engage traditional leaders.

Workshop's objectives

- For the participants to share their practices on engaging with traditional leaders in addressing gender issues and specifically gender based violence
- To identify key strategic areas for engaging traditional leaders in addressing GBV in in Namibia.
- To produce a report that can be used by the consultant in developing the strategy

She stated that the government had implemented various initiatives, policies and programmes to address GBV. These include:

- Two national GBV conferences held in 2014 and 2017 respectively,
- Development of A Call to Action! A Prioritised National Plan of Action on Gender Based Violence 2019 – 2023, that replaced the first GBV Plan of action 2010 - 2019
- Coordination mechanism at all levels, for the implementation of the National Gender Policy, and the
- Implementation of Male engagement programme to mention a few.

She went on to warn that teenage pregnancy is another worrying factor that jeopardizes girls' education. "Pregnancy causes young girls to drop out of school; some of these girls are impregnated by older men, even their biological fathers, which deter their future by who commit unthinkable acts of violence".

As a result, she urged community leaders and traditional authorities to join forces with the government to put an end to the phenomenon.

Laws under review

She further added that the government is making efforts to review some laws, which include:

- The Criminal Procedure Act 51 of 1977: reviewing in tightening bail requirements for accused persons of GBV related crimes and encourage survivors to actively participate in bail applications.
- The Correctional Service Act 9 of 2012: reviewing in tightening Parole and rehabilitation.
- Combating of Domestic Violence Act 4 of 2003: being reviewed in terms of witnesses, withdrawal of cases due to intimidation, as the witness protection Act is still not operationalized.
- Maintenance Act 9 of 2003: amending the Act specifically section 33, for those who are behind with maintenance to pay.

She urged traditional leaders to identify and build on positive cultural practices and norms, while phasing out harmful practices and norms that are no longer relevant or in conflict with the country's policies and laws, stressing that cultures and traditions change with time.

GIBEON COMMUNITY ECD CENTRE

The Ministry continues to make significant investments in early childhood development, the most recent of which being the opening of the Gibeon Community ECD Centre on 14 December 2021.

Hon. Bernadette Maria Jagger, speaking during the inauguration, equated education to the celebration of the human spirit, and the people's tenacity for a future for the Motherland.

She noted that, despite the global devastation caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, Anglo-America Foundation Namibia remains committed to investing in education to ensure a brighter future for Namibian children.

She thanked the government and asked the commercial sector and other organizations to invest in the communities where they operate. She also praised the church for being a powerful ally of the government in the delivery of ECD services across the country.

"ECD provides a very critical window of opportunity for the holistic development of a child, which is between conception and the age of eight years," she said, urging parents to foster their children's cognitive development from birth because it provides the foundation for success in school and later in life.

Furthermore, because the brain of a child grows rapidly during this time, interventions that address children's needs should begin as soon as feasible if children are to attain



Richard Cook, country coordinator, Anglo-America Foundation Namibia, with Hon. Bernadette Maria Jagger unveiling the plaque at the inauguration of the ECD Centre.

“ Let us also do our little part in ensuring that our children are comfortable and learn in a favourable environment

their full potential, and these services should be delivered in a coordinated manner.

In this regard, key stakeholders such as the Ministries of Health and Social Services, Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare, Education, Arts and Culture, and Home Affairs are responsible for ensuring the provision of integrated ECD services such as antenatal, immunization, early stimulation, pre-primary up to grade 3, and birth registration, respectively.

She commended Anglo American Foundation Namibia for its unwavering commitment to the Hardap region's communities by investing in ECD programs and services. In recent years, the organization has built ECD centers in Uibes, Maltahohe, and Hochanas. She also expressed gratitude to the Gibeon Village Council for giving a plot for the ECD center's construction.

"Let us also do our little part in ensuring that our children are comfortable and learn in a favourable environment," she said, calling on Regional and Local Government representatives, Traditional Authorities, and the entire community to work together to ensure the safekeeping and maintenance of this beautiful infrastructure, so that it serves today's children and generations to come.

RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD

Namibia hosted delegations of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERCW), that is mandated to monitor the implementation of the African Charter of the Rights and Welfare of the Child as well as review the State Party Report submitted by African countries.

The objective was to review the status of the implementation of the concluding observations and recommendations of the ACERCW to Namibia on its initial report on the rights and welfare of the children of Namibia, which is submitted every five years.



Hon. Doreen Sioka with the local and visiting delegates.

"Today's deliberations will provide an opportunity for serious introspection for all stakeholders on our commitment to realising children's rights in this country", said Ms Esther Lusepani, Executive Director of the Ministry. Namibia continue to be ranked among the top 10 Africa countries that are child friendly by the African Child Policy Forum (ACPF).

This ranking is a right-based statistical methodology that ACPF developed and recently revised to measure, monitor and promote government performance in realising the rights and wellbeing of children. Key indicators include questions on whether government are meeting their obligations under the CRC and the ACRWC.

“Though we have celebrated these achievements as a country, we still have a long way to go. Today we will hear where we are falling short as a country in meeting this obligation”, she added.

Namibia being a member of African Union signed the African Charter on the Right and Welfare of the Children in 1999, and ratified it in 2004.

The country submitted and defended its first combined reports in 2004-2012 in 2014 The State Party submitted. It contained the initial report and the second period report which highlighted the progress made towards the promotion, care and protection of children’s rights in Namibia.

Namibia is expected to provide its combined third and fourth periodic reports. Thus, the report covers the period from 2013-2021, in accordance with State Party’s obligation under Article 43 of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC).

Key major achievements within the child protection sector in the country include:

- The Child Care and Protection Act, 2015 (Act No 3 of 2015) was passed into law in 2015 and the Regulations were gazetted on 30th January 2019 and it is in force.
- The State party has developed a new National Agenda for Children (NAC)

for 2018-2022. The NAC priorities are Child Protection and Social Protection; Child Education; Child and Adolescent Health; Child disability and Child Participation. Further; the payment of the compulsory school development fund that was abolished in 2014 and expanded to cover secondary education.

- The State Party commemorates the Day of African Child every year. The commemoration of the Day of African Child and the Day of the Namibian Child are led by children, who are engaged from planning process. Just to mention few of the successful meanwhile the report covers all the information.

INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES



Hon. Bernadette Maria Jagger handing over IGA materials and equipment.

The Ministry officially handed over Income Generating Activities (IGA) materials and equipment to beneficiaries in Kalkrand, Hardap Region on 15 December 2021.

Hon. Bernadette Jagger, Deputy Minister, stated during the ceremony that the Ministry has been supporting micro enterprises with materials and equipment and it is evident that through this programme, many women and men who received this support improved their earnings and created employment opportunities for others.

“This is one of the platforms at which the Ministry substantiates how allocated resources have been utilized for socio-economic development”, she added. “This is one of the platforms at which the Ministry substantiates how allocated resources have been utilized for socio-economic development”, she added.

The Ministry funds viable IGAs that have potential to flourish and create employment opportunities. She mentioned that “Today is yet another milestone, as we witness the official handing over of IGAs materials and equipment to six (6) IGAs, translating to a total of 12 direct beneficiaries for the 2021/22 financial year.

The IGAs benefiting today ranges from tailoring/needle work, catering, hair salon and welding. The value of the materials and equipment to be handed over amounts to N\$ 86 125.97”

She urged beneficiaries to make the best

use of the materials and equipment in order to increase their income and create jobs, reminding them that the materials and equipment remain the Ministry’s property, and it reserves the right to repossess them as specified in the Operating Guidelines for Income Generating Activities: 2017-2022. As a result, they should only be utilized for their intended purposes.

She noted that COVID-19 and other economic factors has disrupted many businesses, but beneficiaries should work fervently to register and market their businesses and produce quality products so they remain feasible.

IGAs Support Programme is complemented by three (3) other interventions, these includes:

1. The Women in Business Associations (WIBAs): The Ministry provides technical support for women to form WIBA committees in the regions. This serves as platforms for women entrepreneurs to mentor each other, mobilize resources, to network and collectively market their products and services through market linkages. I am reliable informed that Hardap Region has six (6) functional constituency WIBA committees.
2. The Production and Technical Skills Training: The programme builds the capacity of IGA beneficiaries in various production skills through the Ministry’s Community Empowerment Centres (CECs). Hardap is one of the regions with a CEC and it needs to be fully utilized for capacity building. We have recently conducted a bead work training for ten (women) from different constituencies at the Kalkrand Community Empowerment Centre.
3. The Advanced Business Training on ILO packages: The Ministry also provides advanced business skills training by using the ILO training packages, which includes the Generate Your Business

Idea (GYB), Start Your Business (SYB) and Improve Your Business (IYB). Our intention is to train IGAs beneficiaries in these packages and also provide after training support and coaching.

It is important to note that Hardap Region has trained in October 2021 fifteen (15) WOMEN IN BUSINESS from Aranos on the Improve Your Business (IYB) Package. The training covered 4 manuals namely: Marketing, Record-keeping, Costing and Planning for your Business.

Hon. Bernadette Maria Jagger handing over IGA materials and equipment at various places.



TSINTSABIS



OMUTHIYA



ONGWEDIVA



OPUWO

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

"Leadership and participation of persons with disabilities toward an inclusive, accessible and sustainable post COVID-19 world" was the theme for the International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2021.

Hon. Alexia Manombe-Ncube addressed the crowd on 3 December 2021 at the Disability Resource Centre, expressing her gratitude that the day could be commemorated despite the danger of COVID-19, which was harmful to most persons with disabilities. She stated that the purpose of the day is to raise awareness about disability issues and mobilize support for people with disabilities' dignity, rights, and well-being.

"Despite the effects of Covid-19 that led to Persons with Disabilities being more affected in terms of service delivery, limited transport, restricted movement, lack of available necessities, lack of contact with others at school, church and social functions, limited access to health facilities and information," she remarked.

She stated that the post COVID 19 era advocates for the participation and Leadership of persons with disability, "We need to not only ensure inclusion but rather full inclusion where participation begins at the planning phase.

Participation is the only way that will enable Persons with Disabilities to influence our own development, and that of the overall society." She urged People with Disabilities to actively pursue leadership positions, including businesses to actively participate in the Namibian economy.



Hon. Alexia Manombe-Ncube handing over supplies and supplementary food.

Adding that it is estimated that, there are one billion People with Disabilities worldwide who face many barriers to inclusion in some key aspects of society. As a result, they do not enjoy access on an equal basis as others which includes areas such as transportation employment and social participation.

"We should not perish because of a lack of information and knowledge," she said, urging Organizations of Persons with Disabilities to make special efforts to offer training sessions to their members on all relevant policies and laws.

She stated that the National Disability Council Act, Act No. 26 of 2004, is crucial in ensuring that people with disabilities enjoy their rightful place in society. This includes the improvement their education, employment, particularly in terms service in the labour market and their social well-being.

In addition, on 30 November 2021, the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was approved for ratification.

The purpose of this Protocol is to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human and people's rights by all persons with disabilities, and to ensure respect for their inherent dignity.

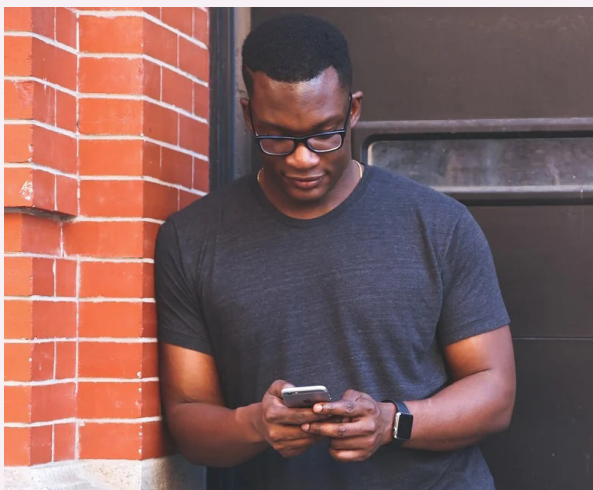
This is in addition to the National Disability Mainstreaming Plan for Namibia, which is the blueprint outlining how all Ministries, Offices and Agencies, Organisations should address issues of disabilities within their own programmes, particularly in their budgets. Through outreach programs, the Directorate of Disability Affairs is responsible for raising awareness of the rights of people with disabilities.

Another initiative is our Individual Support Program, which provides nappies, milk, portable toilets and showers, as well as ointment for bedsores, to children and adults with severe disabilities, notably those with cerebral palsy. This program is in addition to the government's disability grants.

In addition, the Ministry has a program targeted at assuring access to tertiary institutions for students with disabilities, which is implemented in partnership with NSFAF.

She urged all stakeholders to educate the public about topics such as epilepsy and mental illness. Saying that persons affected by these conditions are often ignored and excluded and have difficulties to access some benefits, such as at hospitals, financial institutions.

NAMPOWER, CONNECT AFRICA



Simplifying life...

Despite its obligation to generate and transmit energy, NAMPOWER made special efforts by handing over equipment to CONNECT AFRICA on November 12, 2021, to ensure that persons with disabilities are recognised and have access to information.

Connect-Africa has created a mobile and web application (app) to assist people with disabilities with some of the ICT issues they experience.

The app helps the visually challenged by recognizing and interpreting the denominations of Namibian banknotes,

newspaper articles, television programs, medical labels, and bank statements, as well as translating these into speech. It can also translate material from English into local dialects.

For the hearing impaired, the app translates spoken word into text and Sign Language, and vice versa, allowing the hearing-impaired people to attend school, university or any other meeting without the aid of a Sign Language interpreter.

At the handing over ceremony, Hon. Alexia Manombe-Ncube said, "It is indeed a wonderful occasion because we are witnessing how the creation of partnerships can ensure that no one is left behind."

She stated that the Directorate of Disability Affairs is responsible for strengthening and coordinating the implementation of national and international legal frameworks on disability, as well as increasing access to services for people with disabilities in health, education, employment, and other services.

"It is also our responsibility to create and promote an enabling environment and equal opportunities for sustainable socio-economic development for the well-being of all".

Article 9 of the UNRPD which specifically refer to the accessibility to information, with specific reference to the following sub-sections:

(f) Promote other appropriate forms of assistance and support to persons with disabilities to ensure their access to information;

(g) Promote access for persons with disabilities to new information and communications technologies and systems, including the Internet;

(h) Promote the design, development, production and distribution of accessible information and communications technologies and systems at an early stage, so that these technologies and systems become accessible at minimum cost.

She commended NAMPOWER for assisting the government in achieving its short and long-term objectives, including VISION 2030, The 2nd Harambee Prosperity Plan, the SDGs, and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which Namibia ratified in 2007.

2010-2020 NATIONAL GENDER POLICY

The Ministry is in the process of reviewing the 2010-2020 National Gender Policy. The first National Gender Policy (NGP) of 1997 was revised in 2009 with the view to accommodate new developments and this gave rise to the 2010-2020 NGP.

Since then a lot has happened that necessitates the review of the NGP (2010-2020), such as the adoption of the global Sustainable Development goals, the Africa Agenda 2063, the Revised SADC Protocol on Gender and Development, the Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Strategy of the African Union, the continued commitment towards the implementation of Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA).

The overall objective of the review is to assess the status and extent to which the NGP goals and strategies have been achieved, identify barriers, gaps and recommend strategies for improvement; and develop the new NGP and its Plan of Action.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Namibia has made key achievements. These include among others:

Governance and Decision-Making

Namibia has realized significant achievement in women in politics and decision-making positions notably the improvement of women representation in the National Assembly from 25.6% in 2014 to the current 41.7%; 48% of local councillors; 47% of Deputy ministers etc. The Namibia National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2019-2024 was approved by Cabinet in February 2019.

Education and training inclusive of the girl child

Namibia made progress through the introduction of the Universal Primary and Secondary Education in 2013 and 2016, respectively, which removed the payment of the school development fund, resulted in a drastic increase in the number of learners attending primary school from 443 249 in 2015 to 545 075 in 2018. Additionally, Secondary enrolment has also been on the rise since 2015;

Health, Reproductive Health and HIV and AIDS

Namibia has made significant progress in eliminating mother to child transmission of HIV and AIDS. The 2013 Mid Term Review (MTR) suggests that mother to child transmission rates in Namibia are as low as 4%, putting the country on course to achieving the UN 2011 HLM Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS by the end of 2015 – an aspirational goal to substantially reduce maternal deaths.

The Prevention of Mother To Child Transmission (PMTCT) roll out prior to and during the NSF is impressive, with over 95% of health facilities providing HIV testing and ART for PMTCT. Over 95% of eligible women received ART for PMTCT. Namibia has reached its UNAIDS 90-90-90 targets amongst women by attaining 86-96-91 through the strategic expansion of HIV prevention and treatment services.

Poverty and Rural Development

The wellbeing of vulnerable Namibians was improved, through the country's mission to effectively eradicate poverty and inequality, as well as coordinating social safety nets.

Gender Based Violence, Namibia developed a framework for action to address and tackle online sexual exploitation and abuse of children. A study on Child marriage was conducted and recommendations of the study are being implemented by all stakeholders.

The second National Conference on GBV was held and stakeholders are implementing the recommendations of the conference. Efforts were made to address negative cultural practices such as the national formative study on child marriage as well as awareness raising for key service providers such as traditional leaders, Faith-Based Organisations, Civil Society.

In addition, Community members (youth, adults, men and boys, women, men, traditional leaders and Gender Focal Persons) are being trained and sensitised in basic legal literacy on gender related issues including GBV and HIV/AIDS. In addition, the 2009 National Zero Tolerance Campaign, was revamped in July 2015 under the theme "Love Is."

The campaign focuses on three main issues: Domestic Violence; Male engagement programme has been strengthened with the aim of the male engagement programme in Namibia is to promote greater involvement of men in prevention of HIV and GBV, safe motherhood, fatherhood initiatives, family planning, reaching boys and young men and promote positive gender norms and positive change as well as covering men's issues of Sexual and Reproductive Health.

Peace-Building and Conflict Resolution, and Natural Disaster-Management

The overall goal of the National Action Plan is a safe and peaceful Namibia where all women, men, girls and boys have equal rights without fear, want and live in dignity (GRN, 2021); Establishment of International Women's Peace Centre in Namibia as the regional and continental centre of excellence;

CHALLENGES

Despite these achievements, the policy was faced with challenges, these include among other things:

- Absence of specific measures to ensure that women have access to credit specifically for acquiring land.
- Inadequate sympathy, support, and advisory services for victims of rape and gender-based violence despite the existence of a Gender-based Violence Investigation Unit.
- There is a high level of gender-based violence in the country;
- Low participation of women in formal economic activities;
- Unemployment and poverty rate among women still high especially among the youth;
- Women still have limited access to productive resources especially land;
- Limited coverage of most of the social protection schemes.
- Poor male engagement on the HIV conversation: addressing stigma, misconceptions, and ideas of masculinity. Men are less likely to make use of facilities and get tested;
- Concerns that the boy child is being "left behind" due to a strong developmental agenda focused on the girl child;

The review identified the following recommendations and priority policy objectives that would form part of the revised NGP 2021-2031:

1. Implement equitable agricultural expansion & accessibility of land & natural resources
2. Increase awareness on GBV and TIP at all levels
3. Subsidize child daycare facilities
4. Establish national coordinated open access database for effective communication and decision making by 2023
5. Advocate for the complete elimination of mother to child transmission of HIV/AIDS
6. Eliminate harmful cultural practices and patriarchal norms
7. Enhance equal participation in natural resource stewardship and sustainability by 2029
8. Capacitate 20% of women in the informal sector in the use of technology, marketing & quality control

9. Review and update policies that currently disempower women
10. Promote gender equality and provide greater protection for women in all spheres of family life, including marriage, divorce, maintenance, and inheritance.
11. Strengthen women establishments in communities, developing comprehensive engagement strategies and exploit linkages.
12. There is need to strengthen the education of service providers, changing cultural perceptions on GBV, educating parents on the sexual and reproductive health of girls,



DREAMS

During the ACHIEVE/DREAMS implementation and procurement planning conference in Swakopmund, 12 October 2021, the Deputy Minister of Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare Namibia Bernadette Maria Jagger, paid a visit to the ACHIEVE / DREAMS Namibia team.

During her visit, the Deputy Minister emphasized the importance of ACHIEVE/

DREAMS working with government ministries to carry out its activities.

She praised the American people for their sustained support in enhancing Namibia's health systems through the USAID - US Agency for International Development - US Agency for International Development and the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. She also underlined the significance of community mobilization in terms of helping the people comprehend the situation.

STATE-OWNED SHELTERS

Eight state-owned shelters, under the management of the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare (MGEPSW) opened their doors on the 01st November 2021.

The shelters are situated in the Zambezi, Kavango East, Ohangwena, Omusati, Kunene, Khomas, Hardap and /Kharas regions. Survivors and victims of violence against children; gender-based violence, and trafficking in persons may be placed in the shelter.

A maximum stay of 21 days is accorded to victims or survivors in the shelters pending

investigations into their cases by either the Social Workers or NAMPOL members. Currently, it is only Social Workers in the employ of the MGEPSW, Ministry of Health and Social Services and members from NAMPOL stationed at the Gender Based Violence Protection Units that can place survivors or victims at the shelters.

A strict case management process is in place from admission, until when the survivor or victim is discharged.

The Ministry conducted meetings with Police officers from the NAMPOL, Social Workers from Ministry of Health and Social

Services (MOHSS) and of the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare (MGEPSW).

These meetings informed stakeholders about placement procedures to ensure compliance with shelter rules and provided services that are based on a multi-sectoral/ multidisciplinary approach that ultimately benefits the survivor while in the shelter. , Thirty two (32) Survivors were accommodated at the shelters during November and December 2021.

SOCIAL WORKERS TRAINING

Social Workers in the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare is an integral part in providing response services to violence victims of violence against children (VAC), and survivors of trafficking in persons (TIP) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV).

In order for effective service delivery to be realised, Social Workers need to be knowledgeable about the legal and practice processes involved in rendering services to the survivors and victims.

A five day workshop was held in Okahandja from 08 to 12 November 2021. The workshop was facilitated by the MGEPSW, CCPD National level staff members; Advocate Nyoni from Office of the Prosecutor General, and Mrs. Florence Situmbeko from the



International Organisation for Migrants. Forty Social Workers attended the workshop. The objectives of the workshop were; to introduce the basic concepts, definitions and characteristics of trafficking in persons to the participants and to understand and use the

standard operating procedures for GBV and VAC cases. Also, orient the participants on the legal framework and case management pertaining to GBV, VAC and TIP.

ACCELERATION OF WOMEN-OWNED MICRO ENTERPRISES



Handing over achievement certificates to over 55 women micro entrepreneurs' by Ms Esther Lusepani, Executive Director on 10 November 2021.

The Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare (MGEPSW) partnered with United Nations Women (UN Women) and De Beers Group of Companies to implement the Acceleration of Women-Owned Micro Enterprises (AWOME) Programme since 2018.

The AWOME Programme is being implemented in Khomas and Erongo regions. The programme provides comprehensive support to women micro entrepreneurs which entails training on Improve Your Business (IYB) package as well as coaching aimed at improving their businesses.

The programme utilizes the customized version of the Improve Your Business (IYB) package developed by the International Labour Organization (ILO). The IYB training package consist of six (6) sets of manuals, this includes: Planning for your business, costing, buying, stock control, record keeping, marketing as well as people and productivity.

This program is designed to provide women micro entrepreneurs with the ability to grow their businesses through different aspects of business and life skills training, as well as to increase the capacity of Namibian women's business associations.

The programme is on course with the delivery of training to women micro entrepreneurs. To date, 666 women entrepreneurs have been trained since 2018 of whom 408 are in Khomas Region and 258 in Erongo Region.

Despite the impact of COVID-19 on programme implementation, 117 women entrepreneurs were trained in 2020 while 125 were trained in 2021.

The programme also encourages women entrepreneurs to register their businesses with Business and Intellectual Property Authority (BIPA), Social Security, Ministry of Finance and relevant Local Authorities. The formal registration of businesses enables women to participate in the public procurement process.

Furthermore, it is important to note that, the AWOME Namibia Programme is expanding in terms of training packages. Trainers have been capacitated to deliver training in other modules, this includes, the Generate Your Business Idea (GYB) and Start Your Business (SYB) packages.

Based on this, the programme will be in a position to deliver training and after training support to entrepreneurs whose businesses are at various stages in 2022. Thus, in order for the programme to train more women micro entrepreneurs.



Children from the After School Center (front) pose for a picture.

The Directorate of Child Care and Protection is in the process of operationalizing programmes for children living and working on the streets and in conflict with the law at Farm Kaukurus.

A Three (3) day workshop for all relevant stakeholders was conducted on 23 – 25 November 202, with the aim to coordinate roles and responsibilities to ensure a collective response with regard to the implementation of pre vocational and rehabilitation programs for the children.

BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD

Objectives

- To sensitize stakeholders on programmes for children working and living on the streets and children in conflict with the law.
- To identify skills and rehabilitative programs that will be implemented at Farm Kaukurus.
- To develop a draft implementation plan

Expected outcomes

- Stakeholders sensitized
- Program identified
- Draft detailed plan available

The workshop was officially opened by the Deputy Minister of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare Hon. Bernadette Jagger, who reiterated that the ministry plan to establish a technical working group to coordinate prevocational and rehabilitation programmes for the children and that the ministry's continuous efforts aim to ensure the "best interest of the child" in terms of Section 3 of the Child Care Protection Act (Act No. 3 of 2015).

Overall the meeting drafted a program plan on rehabilitation, agriculture, vocational, arts & design, education and health that can be implemented at farm Kaukurus.

Agri4Women



The Executive Director, Ms. Ester Lusepani, spoke at the Agri4Women Week Panel Discussion on 5 November 2021.

The conversation, which was organized by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, focused on assisting women farmers in raising agricultural production while also identifying ways to raise their visibility in the agri-food sector. It furthermore focused on increasing women's capacity and empowering them in trade (agreements) promotes socio-economic development, which is critical for employment creation.

Women-focused panel talks in agriculture promote dialogues between female specialists in the industry and women who play various jobs at all levels of the value chain.

Women's Participation

"Women's Participation in the Agri-Food Sector: A Prerequisite for Sustainable Development" and "Opportunities and Challenges for Women in the Agri-Food Trade and Policy Sector" were the themes of the Agri4Women panel talks.

The panel talks' overall goal is to provide a forum for women farmers and other industry stakeholders to share their perspectives, experiences, and professional advice.

Ms. Lusepani stated that gender disparities affect food and nutrition security at both the household and national levels, and that women face numerous challenges, including

limited access to productive resources, a lack of collateral and land, production resources, limited participation in decision-making, and persistent cultural beliefs.

She emphasized the importance of women participating in the agri-food business from a gender viewpoint saying it is necessary to connect female farmers to existing global markets, boost women's access to land, funding, and production inputs, and close the productivity gap between men and women.

"Women can benefit from crop and horticulture production with the help of incentives, subsidies, and infrastructure, as well as from participating in the procurement process for agro-processing facilities and other capital projects, as well as from investment and trade promotion of locally produced, value-added agricultural products", she added.

She stressed that in order to enhance food production and reduce post-harvest losses, women's access to advanced and appropriate agricultural technologies, training, and information must be strengthened.

Programmes

The Ministry directly and indirectly supports women in agriculture through three main interventions: the Income Generating Activities (IGA) Support Programme, the Women in Business Associations (WBA) and the Acceleration of Women-Owned Micro Enterprises (AWOME) Programme.

The IGA support programme, in particular, contributes to employment creation and poverty eradication by supporting

communities, primarily women with materials and equipment to establish or expand IGAs, she added.

The Ministry supports IGAs across all sectors, these includes (i) Small Scale Manufacturing, (ii) Food Processing, Preservation and Storage, (iii) Small Stock Farming and Poultry, (iv) Agriculture, (v) Aquaculture and (vi) Service Oriented. The study conducted in 2019 shows that 16.4% of the supported IGAs are venturing in agribusiness.

On the other hand, the WBA assists in the formation of Women in Business Associations Committees in each of the 14 regions.

The committee enables women entrepreneurs to mobilize resources, gain access to capital, and promote their products and services efficiently through market connections and value addition.

Furthermore, it provides a forum for business-to-business coaching and mentoring.

The Acceleration of Women-Owned Micro Enterprises (AWOME) project is a collaboration between the Ministry, the United Nations Women (UN Women), and the De Beers Group of Companies that aims to help women micro entrepreneurs grow their businesses by providing business and life skills training, as well as building the capacity of Namibian women's business associations.

TAKING A STAND



Members of the United Nations Namibia country team alongside esteemed guests planted some fruit trees at Katutura After School Centre in celebration of UN Day. Photos: © United Nation.

● Contributed

UN Namibia celebrates the 76th anniversary of UN Day at the Katutura After School Centre in Windhoek.

Community gardens have become a popular and sustainable tool to address hunger in Namibia. Drawing inspiration from similar initiatives, the United Nations (UN) Namibia celebrated the 76th anniversary of UN Day by supporting a garden project at the Katutura After School Centre in Windhoek.

The Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare administers the Centre and the shelter often houses around 500 street children at a time. Along with gardening, the centre also offers programs such as drama classes, psychosocial support, school and family integration.

Food insecurity is a harsh reality in Namibia exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change – leaving the most vulnerable

populations in perilous predicaments. A sustainable and productive gardening project brings an impressive array of benefits in this time of economic precariousness.

Sen Pang, the UN Resident Coordinator to Namibia expressed that it is a privilege to commemorate UN Day with the After School Centre family and underscored the importance of being in the heart of the community.

“It is here where we live the values enshrined in the UN Charter, where we work for the people, doing the work by the people”.

In addition to setting up sustainable gardens to support food security and sustainable food production by planting fruit trees, UNCT also donated gardening tools, children’s literature, sport equipment and educational games and providing minor improvements at the centre.



Ms Maggy Katimba, Chief Superintendent welcomed the gesture admonishing that it will indeed have a positive impact on the environment.



Children were happy to receive educational games which will aid them in their education.



The centre also received sport equipment that would assist the athletes in conditioning their bodies.



Donated gardening tools.



SESSION IN PROGRESS: U-Report advocacy session, Zambezi Regional

Unicef in conjunction with the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare and the Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture (MSYNS) held advocacy session in preparation for the launch of the U-Report.

To date, advocacy events were held in Khomas, Zambezi and Kavango East regions. The first session was held at the Katutura Youth Centre, and it gathered 50 young people who all expressed interest in the

launch, claiming that it is simple to use and that users may anonymously submit information about issues that impact them and their communities.

Katima Mulilo led two seminars, reaching out to more than 150 young people ranging in age from 14 to 35.

U-Report is a tool to share information, raise awareness, and collect quantifiable data on specific areas that impact children, including the most vulnerable.

The received responses are analysed in real-time, mapped, and displayed on a public dashboard, ensuring the young people’s feedback can be actioned by local and national decision-makers.

DR. LIBERTINE AMATHILA SPORT TOURNAMENT



Proud Champions...

On the 13-17 December 2021, the Ministry hosted the enthralling Dr. Libertine Amathila Tournament (Dr. LAST), which was held in the Ohangwena region and comprised ten regions.

Kavango East - Likwaterera, Kavango East - Omega, Kavango West, Kunene South, Ohangwena A, Ohangwena B, Omaheke, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto, Otjozondjupa East, Otjozondjupa West and Zambezi and the defending champions - Kunene North were all represented.

The competition, which was held in the sweltering sun, started like a wildfire on dry grass and lived up to the hype until the final whistle.

Every team put up a fight to make it to the finals as the games progressed, but in the end, the Zambezi region proved to be the

strongest, outwitting their opponents at every turn and winning the event by defeating the host region's B team 4 - 0.

Classen Silimwe of the Zambezi Region was named Men of the Tournament for his outstanding performance and sportsmanship.

Rio Aroab of the Otjikoto Region pounced on practically every ball with a goal making him the tournament's top goal scorer and winning the Golden Boot.

Then there was Zambezi Region's Mike Mbango Robert, who was keen to see his team through to the end and was awarded the best goalkeeper.

NORED sponsored N\$ 20,000 and is also the tournament's patron. The tournament winner received N\$10,000, with second-place runner-up Ohangwena B

receiving N\$6,000 and third-place runner-up Kavango West Region receiving N\$4,000.

Only Marginalized Communities (San, Ovaherero, and Ovambo), commonly known as Indigenous People, compete in the event.

Spearheaded by the Division Marginalized Communities, the aim is to integrate them into the mainstream of the Namibian economy.

Thus, they are served under four strategic pillars:

- Education Support
- Livelihood Support (Special Feeding Programme, Burial Services & Income Generating Activities)
- Land Re-Distribution Programme
- Awareness Raising and Advocacy

STAFF MOBILITY

No	Types of Mobility	Number of staff members
1	Appointments	7
2	Promotions/Transfers	4
3	Retirements	1
4	Resignations	2
5	Deaths	1



Wear a mask. Save lives.

Wear a mask
Clean your hands
Keep a safe distance



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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