



PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT

REPORT

30-31 AUGUST 2023

WINDHOEK

NAMIBIA

Executive Summary

Namibia has shown commitment to its development goals, including Vision 2030, National Development Plans, and global commitments like the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Economic growth fluctuated, with a notable 8.5% Gross Domestic Product (GDP) contraction in 2020, driven by COVID-19, climate shocks, and geopolitical events. Budget constraints and a rising debt-to-GDP ratio (70.1%) pose challenges.

Namibia's private sector carries a N\$118.9 billion debt, with a 5.1% Year-on-year increase. Despite reforms and political stability, high unemployment (46.1%) persists, especially among youth. As per the Growth at Home Industrialisation Strategy, the development of effective public-private partnerships forums as well as increasing the network capital of industries through the development of sectoral associations is a key priority in terms of countries' overall growth ambitions.

The Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade (MIT) has worked on an internal Private Sector Development Policy Framework, which helped shape policies such as those on MSMEs and the creation and fostering of institutional platforms such as the Namibia Trade Forum to further strengthen the interface between the public and private sector.

The Government of Namibia recognizes the notable work done by the private sector in the country and is keen to support continued dialogue with the private sector; with great anticipation that it will organize itself to effectively engage and contribute meaningfully to the development aspiration of the country. It is essential that government and its institutions are available to assist and facilitate where possible, but the private sector should drive the envisaged institutional framework.

The two-day high-level private sector engagement event was, therefore, important to support the government's efforts towards structural transformation, industrialization, the development of the Informal Economy, employment creation and impactful investments.

Key takeaways from the meeting can be summarized as follows:

1. The private sector expressed a strong interest in hosting a public-private partnership forum
2. There is a need to establish SDG relevant financing mechanisms that support the growth of MSMEs and the Informal Economy.
3. Positioning our local private sector to leverage key opportunities that are presented by the green transitioning, AFCTA and regional value chains development priorities is imperative.
4. There is a collective commitment to fully support the implementation of the informal economy policy and related frameworks.



A. Introduction

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, along with other international agreements, acknowledge the need for a stronger partnership with the private sector. This partnership aims to encourage innovative approaches to sustainability and transformation while utilizing their technical expertise and financial resources to promote inclusive and sustainable development in Namibia at both national and local levels.

Namibia faces significant challenges such as high unemployment rates, income inequality, and a heavy reliance on primary industries. To address these issues and foster robust, sustainable, and inclusive growth, Namibia has launched the drafting process of its 6th National Development Plan (NDP), themed "Fostering Recovery, Inclusiveness & Resilience for Quality & Sustainable Development." Additionally, a diversification strategy has been developed to overcome fiscal, growth, and skills-related constraints. This strategy emphasizes engaging with the private sector to enhance productivity, attract targeted investments, and acquire necessary skills.

Namibia's investment landscape is evolving, with opportunities emerging in various sectors, including energy like the green hydrogen, critical raw minerals and extractives, agriculture, and manufacturing. The country's participation in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) presents new prospects for the private sector. Specifically, the government is committed to supporting the informal economy and implementing social protection measures to drive economic development.

To accelerate its development goals, the Government of Namibia is collaborating closely with the country's private sector to harvest the resources, expertise and innovations of domestic, regional and international enterprises and investors. For example, Namibia is exploring green resilience bonds and blending various financing tools, alongside gender-related initiatives.



Lucia Lipumbu

Minister of Industrialisation
and Trade

“ Whilst it is key that we postulate the trilateral cooperation it is very important that in the design, implementation and monitoring of the private sector component that we emphasize that you need to be in the ‘driver’s seat yourself”.



Alka Bhatia

Resident Representative
UNDP

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I call upon the private sector to come together and provide substantive input in the National Development Plan (NDP) and contribute to the development agenda of the country. I pledge the commitment of UNDP to support the continued engagement of the government and private sector through a private sector led dialogue platform.

Collaboration among the government, businesses, civil society, and international organizations is crucial to creating an enabling environment that promotes inclusive economic growth, ensuring that the benefits reach all segments of society. The Namibian government seeks to ensure that the private sector contributes to national development objectives. This context has provided an opportunity for consultations with the private sector, government offices, bilateral partners, and stakeholders to foster engagement and dialogue, encouraging private sector participation in the development agenda.

The Government has built solid and valuable relations with Namibia's private sector membership organizations, such as the Namibia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NCCI), Namibian Manufacturers Association, the Indigenous Business Forum, and newer players such as the Namibia Informal Sector Organisation (NISO).

To facilitate this process, Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade (MIT) supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) held a two-day public-private engagement to facilitate dialogue, partnership, discussions, and integration across various business sectors, including the informal economy. The objectives of which were set out with the aim of:

- i) Institutionalising a dialogue between the private sector and the government, with the objective of enhancing Namibia's business environment and promoting greater cooperation and collaboration between these two sectors.
- ii) Underscoring UNDP's role as facilitator in supporting the country to understand existing private sector-driven initiatives and how these can be strengthened through partnership with the government for greater impact.
- iii) Encouraging dialogues that facilitate the alignment of support from major corporations to micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), with a specific focus on strengthening capacity and bolstering the local private sector and the informal economy.

The meeting was attended by private sector entities representing a diversity of Industries, Ownership Structures; Profit-Oriented, Investment and Economic Growth enterprises, Regulation and Compliance, MSMEs and Informal Economy Civil Society Organization (CSO) and actors. The meeting generated evidence and gathered insights from various perspectives identifying challenges faced by the sector, particularly limitations of the private sector in supporting government initiatives on sustainable development. Concurrently, the meeting identified opportunities for further collaboration that need to be investigated further across sectors.



B. Engagement activities

The private sector engagement meeting was in a round table discussion format, facilitated by subject matter experts from UNDP Africa Sustainable Finance Hub (ASFH), with questions structured to catalyse discussion focusing on group discussion around four thematic areas.

The following are the summaries from the discussions in the different four themes:

1. Institutionalized Partnerships, Collaboration between Public and Private Sector

The private sector explored how they could collaborate with government, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders to pool resources and expertise in pursuing SDGs. Furthermore, they co-created recommendations to support the operationalization of Public-Private Partnerships to amplify the impact of collective efforts.

The group identified the following key challenges as impeding public-private collaboration:

- There has been limited consultation with the private sector on policy and sector-based development. While some progress has been made in engaging the agriculture and mining sectors, further efforts are required to effectively involve the remaining sectors.
- Most of the private sector is unaware of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area Agreement (AfCFTA) and the opportunities that exist therein. There is generally a lack of access to information sharing between the government and the private sector.
- Policy that has been developed across all sectors is perceived too often to lack foresight due to limited input by the private sector; additionally, policy implementation is ineffective.
- Government(development) versus private sector(profit) short to long-term objectives are not reconcilable and this presents a challenge with trust on either side(s).
- Most of the sectors are currently organized under associations resulting in fragmented sectors.
- There was mention of the establishment of the High-level economic forum; however, till date, there is no visible evidence of engagement and no clarity of its status.

The observations were followed by the Private sector identifying opportunities for public-private sector collaboration.

- *Where sector-specific platforms are maintained, a platform that addresses cross-cutting issues and body representative of the private sector should be introduced.*
- *They also proposed that public-private dialogue be maintained through a Namibia Public Private Forum.*
- *The forum should be led by the private sector and work alongside a government entity fit to deal with the private sector.*
- *There is a willingness from the private sector to engage with the government, especially in leveraging the AfCFTA to create room for the export market.*
- *The private sector can contribute significantly to the National Development Plan (NDP) process and its formulation, implementation and contribute to the development agenda of the country.*



2. Finance & Impact Investment

The Namibian financial sector is relatively well-developed with a mix of local and foreign-owned banks. These institutions play an important role in financing the private sector. One such entry point is the Namibia Stock Exchange (NSX), which is a key player in private sector financing. Through the NSX, companies can access capital markets to raise funds. Of course, there is the Namibia Financial Institutions Supervisory Authority (NAMFISA), which has the authority to oversee non-banking entities and ensures a healthy investment environment.

Of late, there has been a growing interest in sustainability and impact investment in Namibia. This has specifically been in sectors that foster socio-economic development without harming the environment. Some of these sectors include renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and ecotourism, which have all seen a rise in impact investments by big private sector players.

With Namibia's rich biodiversity and cultural heritage, it provides great opportunities for sustainable ventures that can attract impact investors in the country. In addition, the focus on sustainable development and green economy through the green hydrogen initiative and other important initiatives could position the country to tap into international pools of impact investment funds.

However, access to finance remains a major challenge for small players in the economy including micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). This is despite the presence of various financial institutions in Namibia. There is, however, a serious gap between financing needs of MSMEs and the availability of affordable credit. But given the growing realization of the important role of MSMEs in job and wealth creation, as well as economic diversification, there is a recognition by both the public and private sector to support MSME financing.



Pohamba Shifeta

Minister of Environment, Forestry
and Tourism

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We have many informal businesses in the environmental sector, and we try to train and impact skills, and some of them became formal. If you stop the informal businesses today, you will feel the impact of the economy. This is an important sector, and we need to find ways of gradually transforming the informal sector”.

In this context, this session highlighted existing opportunities and explained how the private sector investors allocated capital to projects and encouraged social and environmental impacts, supporting enterprises aligned with SDG targets.

The group identified and highlighted key private sector capital investments that currently contribute to NDP and mainstream sustainability into business models, and assessed their effectiveness:

- Renewable energy enterprises grew based on emerging needs as part of a new sector. They have been able to contribute to grid capacity, and some enterprises have been listed on the Namibia Stock Exchange (NSX).
- Climate financing has been accessed through the Environmental Investment Fund (EIF). It is critical to expand this fund to additional institutions – including social and environmental dimensions.
- Namibia offers elaborate environmental and governance frameworks, such as through global directions like the International Capital Market Association (ICMA) principles for bonds and the NamCode as a corporate governance code, but they do not speak to social dimensions, and the environmental considerations are not tailored to Namibia’s specificities.
- Affordable housing projects, such as the Osona Village, have met a critical development need and provided catalytic support towards the growth of entire value chains linked to housing construction.
- Meeting the needs of marginalized areas, projects like the Aussenkehr Valley, with its grape exports, have been able to deliver productive activities to parts of Namibia that do not traditionally encompass strong economic activities with initial support from pension funds. 60% of the country comprises rural areas, contributing only 5% to the national GDP.
- Bootcamp, which emerged through Start-Up Namibia of the MIT as supported by the German Government through GIZ , offered growth support for SMEs in the financial services sector and beyond.
- With pension fund anchor financing, the Business Financial Solution (BFS) Nampro Fund offers catalytic funding and provides handholding support to enterprises to enable their growth and graduation towards regular market conditions, which has been successful and speaks to Namibia’s specific needs.



Claire Hobbs

Chief Treasurer
Bank Windhoek

“ We are trying to work together as financial institutions in the financial sector, we want to bring positive change, we want to collaborate, we want to work with Government.



Danny Meyer

Director, SME Compete

“ The financial sector could take another look and consider changing the model slightly or putting up a fund with a project-based lending facility in place. There is a need for project-based funding in Namibia right now.



The following were identified as barriers to channelling additional investments into the national development objectives:

- Innovative financing instruments and sources are mainly limited to climate and lack sufficient coverage of social dimensions. This means that key social issues, such as unemployment, rural migration and inequalities, and national development priorities, are not sufficiently addressed. Additionally, climate financing is currently only channelled through EIF (while additional accreditations are ongoing) and mainly reaches community-based enterprises or organizations.
- The availability of information on existing financing and support mechanisms is limited. It excludes certain groups, like enterprises in rural areas or the informal economy, such as due to the lack of digital platforms. Some of the available support may need to be more inclusive and, hence, not meet the actual needs of the private sector.
- Pension funds can only invest 3.5% of their value into unlisted companies, which are the ones requiring the most capital. Such regulatory hurdles make it difficult for impactful investments to grow, and it appears as if they are seen as not commercially viable. As piloted recently, a regulatory sandbox approach may help to find solutions for such enabling environment challenges.
- Public and private sector financing follows a siloed approach with limited interaction. Grants offered by the Government or partners may compete with other funding, making it impossible to achieve a sustainable business model for the support itself, creating competition.
- MSME support is limited and operates in silos; concentrated mentorship is not available at scale, hindering enterprises from growing significantly and contributing to Namibia's economy. Micro enterprises are completely excluded.
- While the structure, regulatory basis and capacities are in place for public-private partnership (PPP) models, they do not function in practice and Namibia does not have successful PPP models to showcase. Some existing rules hinder partnerships, such as the limitations in accepting unsolicited bids from the private sector.

The group pointed out areas for the role of the private sector vis-a-vis that of the government and development partners as contributors to national development objective:

- The private sector could come together to develop a tailored and comprehensive impact framework to measure and manage the impact of enterprises and investors. This could include standards, metrics, taxonomies, reporting tools and indexes with customised environmental dimensions and strong social dimensions to meet Namibia's specific context requirements.
- The public sector could address current regulatory hurdles limiting SME growth potential, such as the pension fund ceiling limit. It should provide clear and timely regulations for private sector opportunities within the economy. In exchange, the private sector can offer resources and expertise for Namibia's sustainable growth.
- Collaboratively led by both the public and the private sector, a coordinated national funding and support model could be established, which pools existing funding and technical support among all public and private sector actors to share information. This could include the revitalization of the PPP approach building on the experiences of the National SME Fund. It would need to, ensure that proper support is offered, including incentives, and provide mentorship at scale particularly to SMEs in sectors with high impact potential.



Obeth Kandjoze

Director General
National Planning Commission

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We are calling upon the private sector to play the role of now beginning to look for those green industries whose products need the green image and make sure that the green industry works.



Dr. Michael Humavindu

Deputy Executive Director,
Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade

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We want to strengthen our partnership as a country, all the key stakeholders in the country must always work together.

One key outcome is to ensure that there is an effective and longstanding sustainable platform that make sure that we can always collaborate going forward which is quike key.

3. Promote Sustainable Inclusive Green Growth through accelerated Skills Development for Employment and Entrepreneurship

A survey conducted by the Economic Policy Research Association (EPRA) amongst 559 Namibian business entities revealed that 56% find it “difficult” to obtain appropriately skilled employees, whilst 30% find it “extremely difficult” (EPRA, 2022).

Adequate skills are a prerequisite for economic growth. Increasingly, skilled Namibians need to catch up with global standards if they ply their trade in a small, shrinking Namibian economy (EPRA, 2022). In the era of globalisation, skilled Namibian’s – especially the youth – are more easily able to relocate to where their skills are best rewarded, resulting in the erosion of the Namibians skills base, the hindering of additional job creation and a reduction in the governments revenue (EPRA, 2022).

The session covered subjects related to creating an environment beneficial to the Namibian private sector. It explored how the private sector could contribute to SDGs by providing skills development opportunities and creating decent, sustainable jobs, particularly for marginalized groups. Participants were invited to input reasons for hesitancy in private sector participation and potential changes. It explored incentives for the private sector and proposed policy considerations. The group identified that Namibia lacks skills at scale, varying across different sectors, for sustainable green growth.

The group identified key challenges as impeding the development of required skills by private sector/skills developers:

- There is a lack of financing for skills development across the value chain. Although some skills exist, they are not at scale nor evenly spread across sectors, resulting in the need to import skills, particularly for burgeoning Namibian industries such as Green Hydrogen and Oil and Gas. Best practices such as a challenge fund on job creation were shared; where government provides and the private sector can cost-share the costs on a ratio of 7:3, with the government giving grants of up to 70% and the private sector contributing to 30% of the cost.



- Linked to the lack of financing, it was acknowledged that there is a lack of adequate infrastructure for skills development, as well as non-integrated use of current infrastructure.
- The private sector also raised the issue of there being insufficient incentive to develop skills.
- There is no systemic approach to apprenticeship. There is a lack of provision for apprenticeship in regulation and labour law, thereby disincentivizing apprenticeship and practical skills development in the private sector.
- Regulations are not harmonized or integrated for oversight & compliance, which can erode development agendas in favour of compliance. This is arguably due to the lack of centralised review and dissemination of policy/regulation. Regulations are multiple, fragmented, and emanate from various sources (horizontal) and levels (vertical). This lack of coordination makes it time and resource intensive to interpret and navigate regulations and remain compliant as the private sector; time and resources that could otherwise be spent on skills development.

The observations were followed by the Private sector identifying opportunities to address skills shortages through financing impact-driven skills development and re-considering the policy/regulation landscape. The group considered the following solutions:

- Improving the financing of skills development, at scale, across the value chain. It was emphasized that this financing should be impact-driven, leverage more flexible pathways to development and accreditation, and promote adult- and lifelong learning.
- Skills development should be incentivized by inculcating a culture of apprenticeship through systematic transformation (policy, regulation and/or making provision in labor law). This could incentivize skills development for employers whilst simultaneously protecting apprentices.
- Develop a centralized body that reviews and disseminates regulation but is also able to identify horizontal and vertical integrations (or misalignments) in regulation. Streamlining the regulatory environment through such a body could open clear channels of public-private sector communication and reduce the cost of compliance. Thereby allowing private sector to focus on more developmental agendas, including skills development.
- Taking regional and continental priorities, private sector in Namibia emphasized the need for prioritizing the development of the local private sector skills, the country should focus on initiatives such as Agriculture Supplier Development (ASDP) and Authorized Economic Operator program(s). These efforts will enable the country to harness the benefits of the AfCFTA while concurrently nurturing in-country skills.
- Lastly, it was noted that there needs to be improved synergy between the long-term goals of government and the short term needs of the private sector and entrepreneurs (private sector/entrepreneurs).





David Mueller

SDG Investor Map Specialist
Africa Sustainable Finance Hub



The SDG Investor Map, led by MIT and supported by UNDP, identified opportunities for the private sector to contribute to Namibia's sustainable development across the infrastructure, food and beverage, education, health care, transportation and services sectors.



Veripi Kandenge

Namibia Informal Sector
Organization



What we want to see from our side is to be protected as the informal economy. We would like to see the industry look for ways to form linkages between big and small companies and have a vision which can transform the informal economy to become formal according to the recommendations of the ILO.

4. Fostering growth of the Informal Economy - non-coercive strategies enabling access to finance and skills development.

In Namibia, the Informal Economy employs more than half of the working population, majorly composed of women and the youth. They are engaged in different activities, including but not limited to cross-border trading, plumbing, carpentry, transportation, and operating home-based businesses. The informal economy is heterogenous and categorised by productive, parasitic and survival enterprises. The informal economy actors are either users of or suppliers of goods and services.

Despite the above contributions, the informal economy is not holistically included in the National Development Plans (NDP) 1-5 of Namibia. The role and contribution of the informal economy players as partners in the private sector development agendas overlooked and needs to be addressed.

During the stakeholder consultations, the following were the key observations:

- The need to explore different strategies/ approaches and partnerships that encourage integration of the Informal economy into the formal sector by ensuring an enhanced and structured economy that will provide incentives to drive business growth.
- The need for effective and relevant policies that will facilitate the informal economy transformation and formations. Currently, Namibia is characterized by different policy and legal frameworks that are not coherent, not operationalised and are not aligned to the needs of the MSMEs. In addition, the government has not involved key the stakeholders in the formalisation process of legal frameworks, case in point the informal sector policy which has been drafted by the government with no input from stakeholders.
- There are different, uncoordinated structures that are not aligned to the needs of the informal sector.
- There is a need to ensure that informal economy workers and economic units are recognised and mentioned explicitly in official documents, laws and regulations recognising their existence and needs. This will require review and alignment of current Acts and laws.



- There is a need to establish a forum that will mobilise and effectively coordinate regular meetings, training, and exposure of the different stakeholders to address existing information gaps.
- Lack of knowledge of rights and bylaws by the police, local authorities and the informal economy operators resulting in harassment, the confiscation of the goods or closure of operations.
- Language barriers hinder understanding, application, and compliance of policies and directives from authorities.
- Financial exclusion is one of the challenges facing the informal economy in Namibia with only 51.7% accessing financial services. Strategies to promote financial inclusion for all businesses in Namibia need to be urgently designed.
- A need to formalise the informal economy was raised with different positions being highlighted. The process of addressing the move to formalisation needs to consider the lack of understanding of the requirements, high cost of registration i.e., time and money, multiple registration requirements, no incentives to encourage registration, and information asymmetries by agents. Transformation and formalization should be a gradual process, more so bearing in mind the business cycle or phase of the enterprise and not a one-size-fits-all approach.

C. Recommendations

Through the meeting, the private sector presented insights and various perspectives and identified challenges that are experienced, maximizing awareness of opportunities and facilitating the private sector's participation in the country's development initiatives for sustainable development.

The Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade pledged to ensure tabling the outcomes of the deliberations to Cabinet for review and further guidance while together with the UNDP they will play a supporting role to ensure that the mechanism is in place. Below are the key recommendations that have emerged from the Private Sector Engagement Meeting:

C.1 Enabling public-private partnership and dialogue

- i. Establish a mechanism for regular dialogue between the private sector and the government to facilitate the exchange of ideas, foster joint initiatives, and monitor progress towards sustainable development goals.
- ii. Formalize a dialogue between the private sector and the government, with the objective of enhancing the business environment in Namibia which seeks to cultivate greater engagement and collaboration between the public and private sectors.

C.2 Accelerating an enabling environment for financing and impact investment

- Maintain efforts to enable a conducive business environment, streamline regulations, and promote Namibia as an attractive destination for private sector investment, especially to ensure SME growth that harnesses the resources and expertise of the country's enterprises, including in the informal sector. Review existing financing mechanisms and instruments and identify the most suitable options to channel domestic and international capital into Namibia's development priorities through a coordinated approach among all public and private actors, including through the revitalisation of PPP models.



- Convene enterprises and key investors, including Namibia Stock Exchange (NSX) and commercial banks to establish impact frameworks that consider the specific characteristics of Namibia, building on global directions, to especially customize the environmental dimension, and strengthen the social dimension currently lacking.
- Introduce a Regulatory Impact Assessment as a mechanism to systematically promote regulation and policy harmony especially in the areas of impact investment and skills development to promote inclusive growth and foster job creation.
- Finance and incentivise skills development value chain to meet the growing diversified market needs.

C.3 Upskilling for inclusive growth and green transition

- Carry out skills assessments and audits of investment pipelines to gain a deeper understanding of investment prospects that can be harnessed to enhance the employment landscape.
- Propose policy considerations to accelerate skill development, education, and lifelong learning for the diversified economic market.
- Consider introducing incentives or tax breaks for companies that engage in on-the-job training or hire inexperienced youth. This will encourage skill development and employment.
- Establish a forum where public and private sectors collaborate to design curricula tailored to the labour needs of different sectors can be highly beneficial.
- Establish both financial and strong mentorship programmes with graduation opportunities accompanying enterprises on their path for growth.
- Position the local private sector (formal and informal) to leverage growth opportunities presented by the Africa Continental Free Trade Area; the Intra Africa Trade and regional priorities Through the initiation of Authorized Economic Operator and Supplier Development Programme(s).



Ipumbu Shiimi

Minister of Finance and
Public Enterprise

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There is no debate about the importance of collaboration, as it strengthens unity in national, business, private and public sectors; if we can all work together as a team, I am sure we can achieve excellent results. If we do not have a structure, we will not be able to consolidate our dialogue



Dr. Christian Shingiro

Deputy Resident
Representative
UNDP

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We need to foster stronger partnerships between the private sector and the government to unleash the full potential of Namibia's resources. Collaboration is key to ensure inclusive and equitable development.



C.4 Structural transformation of the informal economy

Namibia's diverse informal economy makes significant contributions towards the country's economy, but is not an integral part of growth efforts, as it is left out from policy and regulation formulation and strategies that would transform the sector to increase their competitiveness and growth. As such a review of current policies and regulations to identify suitable reforms to enhance the informal economy's contribution to growth should be conducted and used to inform engagement on AfCFTA and other pertinent discussions.

There is a need to understand the informal sector (micro and small enterprises) and design or support strategic approaches that should be inclusive including exploring opportunities, support incentives, policy frame works and structures to be supported and drive transformation of the informal economy.

- Facilitate engagement and coordination of different stakeholders to ensure sensitization, implementation of policies and strategies.
- Support and promote access to finance through the amendment of the Banking Act, SME Financing Strategy, and promote creative and innovative financing mechanisms (insurance, pension, savings).
- Synchronize and centralize data related to the informal sector.
- Support the development of the informal economy and related policies as well as legal framework to incentivise formalisation.
- Sensitize and create awareness of the codes of conduct related to the informal sector; and to capacitate the actors in the sector to be able to interpret the legal frameworks.



Dr. Leake Hangala

Hangala Group

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If Namibia has to improve, there must be deliberate efforts by Namibians to be competitive, hence there is a need for discussion between Namibians on how to take our country forward. We need to be patriotic, we have one common denominator, which is to take this country forward.



Irish Goroh

Programme Specialist
UNDP

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Our economic evolution hinges on the trinity of foresight in leadership, skill, and action (work) recipe for sustainable growth.

Programme for the Event:

Private Sector Engagement to promote Inclusive and Sustainable Development in Namibia

ate: 30th August 2023

Venue: The Weinberg Hotel, Windhoek

Host – Ms Afra Schimming Chase

Start Time: 08:00 A.M.

	Time Allocation	Programme Item	Facilitator
<p>Day 1 30th Aug</p>	<p>08:00 –08:45</p>	<p>Guest arrival, tea/coffee and breakfast.</p>	<p>Host</p>
	<p>08:45 – 08:50</p>	<p>Welcoming of guests</p>	<p>Dr. Michael Humavindu Deputy Executive Director Ministry of Industrialization and Trade</p>
	<p>08:50 – 09:00</p>	<p>Brief Background and objectives for the 2-day event</p>	<p>Dr Christian Shingiro Deputy Resident Representative UNDP</p>
	<p>09:00 – 10:00</p>	<p>Private sector Dialogue – (Concurrent Round Table Discussions) - Institutionalizing Partnerships, Collaboration between Public and Private Sector - Financing & Impact Investing - Sustainable Green Growth - Accelerating skills development for employment and entrepreneurship - Fostering integration of the informal sector into the main economy</p>	<p>Africa Sustainable Finance Hub Private Sector (ASFH)</p>



	10:00 – 10:30	Feedback Session	<i>Private sector – All</i>
	10:30 – 10:40	Closing Remarks	<i>Dr Leake Hangala – Hangala Group</i>
	10:40 onwards	Networking session	<i>All</i>

Day 2: Private Sector Engagement to promote Inclusive and Sustainable Development in Namibia

Venue: The Weinberg Hotel

Host – Ms Afra Schimming Chase

Dates: 31st August 2023

Start Time: 14:00 P.M.

Day 2- 31st Aug 2023	Time Allocation	Programme Item	Facilitator
	14:00 – 14:30	Guest Arrival & Registration – Cocktail Drinks	All
	14:30 – 14:45	Welcoming of Guests and National and AU Anthems	Host
	14:45 – 15:00	Recap of Day 1 and activation of Slido/Menti – Ice breaker question – In one word What is your expectation.	Host
	15:00 – 15:10	Welcome Remarks	<i>Mr Bisey Uirab President of NCCI</i>
	15:10 – 15:25	Opening Remarks	<i>Ms Alka Bhatia Resident Representative UNDP</i>
	15:25 – 15:45	Key Notes Speaker by	<i>Hon. Minister Lucia lipumbu Ministry of Industrialization and Trade</i>
	15:45 – 15:50	Welcoming of Panel 1 Members to the stage and acknowledgment and presenters	Host
	15:50 – 16:10	from round table. Presentation from first two round	Private Sector
	16:10 – 16:50	table discussions Panel Session 1: Synergy and Sustainability: Unveiling the future of Partnerships,	<i>Hon. lipumbu Shiimi – Minister of Ministry of Finance and</i>

	Collaborations, Financing, and Impact investment.	Public Enterprises, MP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Claire Hobbs- Chief Treasurer – Bank Windhoek • Hon. Obeth Kandjoze - Director General National Planning Commission • Dr Leake Hangala - - Hangala Group • O&L Group – Gideon Shilongo Moderator- Natasja Beyleveld
16:50 – 17:00	Slido: Take questions from the platform to be addressed by respective panellist	Natasja Beyleveld Moderator
17:00 – 17:15	Welcoming of Panel 2 Members to the stage and acknowledgment and presenters from round table.	Host
17:15 -17:35	Presentation from second set of round table discussions	Private Sector
17:35 -18:15	Panel Session 2: Empowering tomorrows economy: Green skills for employment and just energy transition and informal sector advancement.	Public and Private Sector <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hon. Pohamba Shifeta Minister, Ministry of Environment Forestry and Tourism • Hon Tom Alweendo – Minister, Ministry of Mines and Energy • Mr Veripi Kandenge, Namibia Informal Sector Organization • Mr Burger – CEO, NAMDEB Foundation



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Danny Meyer – Director, SME Compete Moderator- Natasja Beyleveld
	18:15 – 18:25	Slido: Take questions from the platform to be addressed by respective panellist.	Natasja Beyleveld Moderator
	18:25 –18:30	SLIDO Mapping the way forward Share your thoughts on how you want to see the continued Private Dialogue for continued collaboration and engagement Closing Remarks and AU and National Anthems	Host
	18:30 –18:45	Cocktail and Networking Session	United Entrepreneurs Association of Namibia Mr Tonata Shiimi All
	18:45 – till late		

