



Republic of Namibia

MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT (MWT)

MOTIVATION STATEMENT

VOTE 23: DEPARTMENT OF WORKS

BY JOHN MUTORWA, MP

Minister of Works and Transport

Date: 30 March 2023

FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/2024



1. INTRODUCTION

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members of the National Assembly of Namibia.

- (a) It is my pleasant duty to present Vote 23 – Department of Works, for the 2023/2024 Financial Year. The budget indeed addresses the prevailing socio-economic-health challenges.
- (b) The mandate of the Department of Works is to ensure the development of state infrastructure, develop, implement and regulate sectorial policies related to construction, and maintenance of State assets. It is also mandated to administer legislations, governing the entire construction industry; and hence to promote and regulate statutes or laws to guide the Professions of Architecture, Quantity Surveying and Engineering.
- (c) The Department provides technical support to Government, in the development of State infrastructure, as well as provide associated services such as functional accommodation, payment of rates and taxes, stores, reproduction and auction services under the Government Stores and Government Garages.
- (d) Vote 23 provides specifically for technical and institutional support, functional and official accommodation, as well as the management and maintenance of Government properties. Under this Vote, the Department of Works also renders essential technical services to O/M/A's and Regional Councils, with regard to the implementation of Capital Construction Projects on the Development Budget, the provision of standard stock and material supplies, as well as printing services and the maintenance of garden infrastructure and equipment, among others.
- (e) The Total Budget Amount is “**Six hundred and forty-four million, four hundred and forty-two thousand Namibian Dollars**” (N\$ 644,442,000). Of this amount, **Five hundred and fifty-four million, four hundred and forty-two thousand Namibian Dollars**” (N\$ 554,442,000) provides for operational expenditure. The remaining amount of **Ninety million Namibian Dollars** (N\$ 90,000,000) provides for capital related expenditures.



2. Honourable members, the Department of Works budget for 6 programmes:

2.1 **PROGRAM 01: GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTION BUILDINGS REGULATION, COORDINATION AND SUPERVISION**

- (a) The purpose of this programme is to plan and oversee capital construction projects, and to renovate and upgrade Government buildings. The Program enables the regulation, coordination and development of building technical standards and technical support to almost 250 capital projects.
- (b) During the period under review, the Department managed a range of ongoing projects well in excess of N\$ 2,4 Billion.
- (c) Also under this Program Photo-Voltaic Systems, allowing for basic power; lights and hot water are installed and/ or refurbished in existing Government schools and clinics in remote areas, where the National electrification grid does not reach. Provision has not been made for the installation of photo-voltaic systems at Government facilities for this financial ^{year} as most of the schools and clinics were electrified through rural Electrification programme under the Ministry of Mines and Energy.
- (d) The Program administers and regulates the Acts on Professional bodies involved in the Construction Industry (Architects, Quantity Surveyors and Engineers) and also supervises and monitors, the construction work done by Contractors, on Government projects, including office buildings and service centres.
- (e) *We request an amount of Fifty-two million, four hundred and forty-two thousand Namibia dollars (N\$ 52,441,000) to be allocated to the GRN Construction Buildings Regulation, Coordination and Supervision Program.*



2.2 PROGRAM 02: PROVISION OF OFFICE ACCOMMODATION NEEDS.

- (a) This Program provides for the office accommodation needs, for all OMAs. It also includes the acquisition, management and control of accommodation through assigning of Government houses, for the use by Ministries, as well as the provision of staff housing to Government officials. Under this programme, the Ministry handles the transactions, pertaining to the procurement, expropriation, exchange and disposal of property, on behalf of Government.
- The alienation process of GRN non-assigned houses has recommenced in April 2020. The 2020 property valuations have been completed by Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform, and the process is on-going. It is expected to be completed soon as per Cabinet directive. The Ministry has written to all O/M/As to relinquish those assigned houses that they are unable to utilise into pool in order to be allocated to staff members.
 - The proses of verification of the fixed assets for the purpose of finalisation of the Asset Register has commenced toward the end of 2020 and it is ongoing. So far, three regions namely Hardap, Oshana and Khomas were successfully covered. The process is however moving slow and the Ministry has taken a different approach whereby a team is currently busy conducting consultations with all Regional Councils and are expected to finalise the process by April 2023.
 - Included in the amount required for this Program is the operational budget for paying rentals to Landlords in the amount of Ninety – nine million, and thirty-four thousand Namibia dollars (N\$99,034,000) with a shortfall of Thirty-three million Namibia dollars (N\$ 33,000,000), Funds will be used to pay for Office Accommodation rentals so as to ensure that Government Institutions have facilities to operate from. New office needs arise from the O/M/As that are to commence this financial year. The program further includes the purchasing of land for development and property assessment studies.



- (b) We request an amount of One hundred and seventy-three million, four hundred sixty-nine thousand Namibia dollars (N\$173,469,000) to be allocated to the Provision of Office accommodation needs.

2.3 PROGRAM 03: MAINTENANCE OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTIES

- (a) This Program ensures the maintenance and rehabilitation of Government properties and related infrastructures such as the servicing, maintaining and overhauling of water pumps and generator sets, as well as the rehabilitation of other existing specialised installations.
- (b) The responsibility of maintenance department is:
- re-instating physical condition to its original standard
 - preventing further deterioration or failure
 - restoring correct operation within specified parameters
 - replacing components at the end of their useful economic lifespan
 - making temporary repairs for immediate health, safety and security reasons (e.g after major building failure)
 - assessing buildings for maintenance requirements
- (c) The responsibility of the line Offices/Ministries/Agencies is:
- Improvement and upgrading to provide additional or new facilities
 - Upgrading to meet new statutory requirements
 - Major refurbishment and replacement to extend the useful life of the building
 - Restoration of the entire building
 - Work performed under warranty or retention period
 - Operational tasks to enable occupancy and use (e.g. cleaning, security, waste management, etc)
 - Supply of utilities (e.g. electricity, water, refuse etc)
- The Ministry of Works is responsible to advise, give specifications and it is the responsibility of the O/M/As to budget for the works not exceeding two million (N\$2 000 000.00).



- (d) Government inherited buildings that have been built many years ago and all materials used have reached their time and an urgent need to revamp all is now. Government buildings in all 14 regions are dilapidated to an extent some ^{are} vacated and idling empty, while Government institutions are renting out from private Landlords and paying exorbitant money. The time has come that Government commits to and pay urgent attention to renovation and maintenance through adequate budgeting. Ninety percent (90%) of the Development Budget is allocated to Ongoing and Minor Capital Renovations which is for flats, government houses and other functional buildings including the upgrading of oxidation ponds and sewerage systems in the following regions, Khomas, Otjozondjupa, Hardap, and Kavango East. The current budget is focusing more on building new buildings but not on maintenance and renovations, continuing to construct new infrastructures, while the existing ones are left to deteriorate is simply shooting oneself in the foot!
- (e) I sincerely appreciate the attention being given to school infrastructures maintenance particularly, as a result of the COVID 19 Pandemic. Furthermore, allow me to loud for the injection of over N\$90 million toward the maintenance of government properties, particularly offices, hospitals, clinics and health centres.
- (f) OMA's have established their own routine maintenance units, to cater for preventative maintenance, as per Cabinet Decisions. They must therefore ensure that: there is an appropriate maintenance budget, on Page 23 of the Estimate of Revenue, Income and Expenditure: an amount of **six hundred and thirty-two million six hundred and ninety-eight thousand Namibia dollars (N\$632,698,000)** is allocated to O/M/As in the 2023/2024 financial year! The maintenance function has also been delegated to the Regional Councils, as per the Decentralization Act. For this delegated Maintenance function, only **Twenty-four million, three hundred and fifty-seven thousand Namibia dollars (N\$ 24,357,000)** has been appropriated, for the fourteen Regional Councils, as follows: 021-Travel and Subsistence, 022-material supplies, 023-Transport, 024-Utility, 025-maintenance and 027-Training Courses/skills development, take note that only twelve percent 12%(N\$3 million) is allocated to maintenance activities in all regions, which makes it hard to distribute as well as to handle

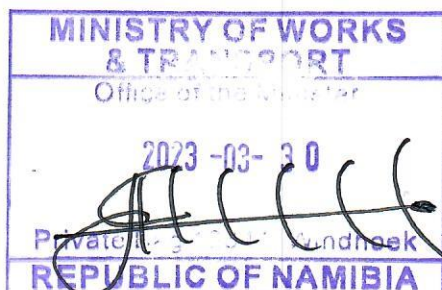


all renovation and maintenance matters on the table. Feasibility studies for the construction, alterations and renovations of regional/sub-regional maintenance offices are included under this programme, but it is never enough. Our buildings are deteriorating daily and a need to curb is now!

- (g) *We request an amount of Two hundred and eighty-six million, two hundred and ten thousand Namibia dollars (N\$ 286,210,000) to be allocated to the Maintenance of Government Properties, Programme.*

2.4 **PROGRAM 04: PROVISION OF CENTRALISED SERVICES**
(GOVERNMENT STORES)

- (a) This Program facilitates the provision of standard stock to all O/M/A/s, conducting auction services for the disposal of Government Vehicles, furniture, and equipment as per Cabinet Decision No. 20th/06.09.05/004. The Division earns 10% of the revenue into the trading account to be able to pay for auctions advertisement and other cost related to auction process.
- (b) Honourable members, the Ministry is in the process to finalize a merchant agreement/swipe machine with commercial banks to enable all auction clients to transact seamlessly at the auctions to avoid cash handling by auction officials which possess many risks.
- (c) Honourable members, forty-seven (47) auctions were held during the 2022/2023 financial year, and revenue ~~was~~ generated from the auction: **Sixty-Seven million and seventy-six thousand and twenty-seven Namibia Dollars (N\$67 076 027).**
- (d) *We request an amount of Thirty-three million, five-hundred and twenty-five thousand Namibia dollars (N\$33,525,000) to be allocated to ^{this} Programme.*



2.5 PROGRAM 05: PROVISION OF HORTICULTURAL SERVICES

- (a) This Programme facilitates the provision of Horticultural services at all Government office buildings and service centres; maintaining of existing landscaping and gardens, and to create new ones; and to promote a greener environment to all Government buildings.
- (b) Under this programme the Ministry performs activities such as planning, layout, planting, watering, fertilizing, pruning, cleaning, supply and maintenance of pot plants, maintenance of swimming pools and providing plants for decorations during the commemoration and celebration of National events.
- (c) *We request an amount of ten million, two-hundred and forty-one thousand Namibia dollars (N\$ 10,241,000) to be allocated to Horticultural Services provision.*

2.6 PROGRAM 99: POLICY CO-ORDINATION, SUPERVISION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

- (a) The purpose of this programme is to provide, direct, coordinate and supervise the activities of the Ministry, including the Public Enterprises under its mandate, and to provide support in auxiliary services, finance and personnel affairs, and is responsible and accountable for the administration thereof.
- (b) The programme also oversees the execution of the Ministerial Strategic Plan, Annual Plan and Procurement Plan and among other, it includes the preparation of the Ministry's annual financial statements, accountability report and ensure proper budget execution and control.
- (c) The Ministerial Structure caters for 2735 approved positions of which 142 are budgeted and cleared by the Secretary to Cabinet and are ready to be filled within the fiscal year 2023/2024.
- (d) Other activities under this Programme are to provide and ensure a stable, reliable, sustainable and cost-effective ICT services, to establish and maintain a reliable network infrastructure, computer hardware, software and technical support services.



- (e) This Programme also oversees the implementation of the Ministerial Wellness Programmes, to ensure awareness of general health.
- (f) *For this program, we request an amount of Eighty-eight million, five hundred and fifty-six thousand Namibia dollars (N\$ 88,556,000) to be allocated to Policy Co-ordination, Supervision and Support Services programme.*



SUMMARY : VOTE 23: WORKS, 2023/2024)

PROGRAM	P-CODE	BUDGET ALLOCATION OPERATIONAL (N\$)	BUDGET ALLOCATION DEVELOPMENT (N\$)	TOTAL (N\$)
GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTION BUILDING REGULATIONS, COORDINATION AND SUPERISION	1	46 079 000	6 362 000	52 441 000
PROVISION OF OFFICE ACCOMMODATION NEEDS	2	173 169 000	300 000	173 469 000
MAINTENANCE OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTIES	3	204 421 000	81 789 000	286 210 000
PROVISION OF CENTRALISED SERVICES (GRN STORES)	4	32 741 000	784 000	33 525 000
PROVISION OF HORTICULTURAL SERVICES	5	10 241 000	0	10 241 000
POLICY COORDINATION, SUPERVISION AND SUPPORT SERVICES	6	87 791 000	765 000	88 556 000
Office of the Minister	06:01	7 786 000	0	7 786 000
Administration	06:02	70 664 000	0	70 664 000
ICT	06:03	9 341 000	765 000	10 106 000
TOTALS				644 442 000

For this VOTE 23, we are requesting a total amount of Six Hundred and Forty-four million, four hundred and forty-two thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$ 644,442,000).

I thank you for listening, and for your consideration and approval of the 2023/2024 budget for Vote 23: Department of Works, MWT.

I Thank You

for your attention

