



**Republic of Namibia**

**MINISTRY OF GENDER EQUALITY, POVERTY ERADICATION AND SOCIAL  
WELFARE**

**BUDGET MOTIVATION STATEMENT**

**APPROPRIATION: FINANCIAL YEAR 2024 /2025**

**VOTE 36**

**PRESENTED**

**BY**

**HONOURABLE MINISTER: DOREEN SIOKA**

**08 April 2024**

**Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee;**

**Honourable Members:**

I rise to introduce and motivate the budget of Vote 36 to this august House for the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare, for the Financial Year 2024/25 for support and approval.

Let me wholeheartedly thank the Minister of Finance Honourable Iipumbu Shiimi, the Director General of the National Planning Commission, Honourable Obed Kandjoze and their respective teams for their kind support and consideration of this Financial Year, 2024/2025.

Vote 36 budget appropriation for 2024/25 Financial Year, amounts to **N\$7 990 776 000.00 (Seven billion, Nine Hundred and Ninety Million, Seven Hundred and Seventy-Six Thousand Namibia Dollars).**

An amount of **N\$ 7 978 776 000.00 (Seven Billion, Nine Hundred and Seventy-Eight Million, Seven Hundred and Seventy Six Thousand Namibia Dollars)** has been allocated to Operational Budget of the Ministry, while an amount of **N\$ 12 000 000.00 (Twelve million Namibia Dollars)** is allocated to the Development Budget for the 2024/25 Financial Year.

The Development Budget of the Ministry will cater for the construction of a Community Empowerment Centre in Keetmanshoop, renovation of Farm Kaukurus in Omaheke Region, Homes of Safety and Shelters, renovation and maintenance of the Namibia Children's Home in the Khomas Region.

Approval of the allocated budget of **N\$ 7 990 776 000.00 (Seven Billion, Nine Hundred and Ninety million, Seven Hundred and Seventy Six Thousand Namibia Dollars)**, will be utilised towards the execution of the Ministerial mandate, which is to ensure gender equality, poverty eradication and socio-economic development of targeted

categories especially the most poor, the needy, and vulnerable members of our society which include Women, Men, Boy and Girl child, Marginalised Communities and People with Disabilities.

**BUDGET ALLOCATION  
PERCENTAGES (%) AS PER KEY  
PRIORITY PROGRAMMES:  
OPERATIONAL BUDGET**

<b>Social Grants (for most poor, needy, and vulnerable members of our society)</b>	<b>88%</b>
<b>Personnel Expenditure</b>	<b>4%</b>

Marginalized Communities Programmes ( <b>Ovatie, Ovatjimba and San Communities</b> )	3%
Other Programmes (Gender Equality, Child Welfare, Early Childhood Development and Community Development)	5%
Total	100%

**Honourable Chairperson of the whole house committee; Honourable Members:**

The Budget for the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare under Vote 36 for the 2024/2025

Financial Year has been allocated as follows:

## **MAIN DIVISION 1: OFFICE OF THE MINISTER**

1.1 The primary purpose of this programme is to provide political directives and to update Cabinet and Parliament on Ministerial policies.

1.2 A total amount of **N\$ 12 750 000.00 (Twelve Million, Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Namibia Dollars)** is allocated to this Main Division, which caters for the expenditure in the Offices of the

Minister and the three Deputy Ministers.

## **MAIN DIVISION 2: ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL SERVICES**

2.1 The primary purpose of this Main Division is to provide efficient and effective administration and support services in terms of Human Resources, Finance, Information Technology, and Auxiliary Services to all the Main Divisions of the Ministry; and to ensure that the image and mandate of the Ministry are upheld and internal control systems are adhered to.



**2.2A total amount of N\$ 262 396 000.00 (Two Hundred, Sixty Two Million, Three Hundred and Ninety Six Thousand Namibian Dollars) is allocated to this Main Division for the provision of support services within the Ministry which is inclusive of decentralized functions and activities of the Ministry.**

**MAIN DIVISION 3: GENDER  
EQUALITY AND  
WOMEN'S  
EMPOWERMENT**

This programme aims primarily to promote gender equality and empowerment of women through disseminating information, coordination, and networking with stakeholders, mainstreaming of gender equality in all sectors and at all levels, and advocating for gender responsive policies and laws.

During 2023/2024 financial year, the Ministry achieved the following through this programme:

During the 2023/2024 Financial Year, **11,704, (Eleven Thousand Seven Hundred and Four)** people were reached engaged, and trained through the

community awareness meetings on Gender Based Violence (GBV), men and boys' engagement, engagement with traditional leaders, training of stakeholders on GBV and related laws, sensitisation of, in and out of school youth, and commemoration of National and International Days.

**A total amount of N\$ 29 774 000.00 (Twenty-Nine Million, Seven Hundred and Seventy Four Thousand Namibia Dollars)** is allocated to the programmes under this Main Division: Gender Equality and Women Empowerment for 2024/2025 financial year towards the combating of Trafficking in Persons (TiP)

interventions, strengthening the National Gender Coordination mechanisms, Gender Based Violence campaigns, Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting, Women in Politics and Decision Making and finalisation and popularisation of the National Gender Equality and Equity Policy.

Through this programme, the Ministry will ensure the finalisation and popularisation of the National Gender Equality and Equity Policy and its Plan of Action through the National Gender Coordination Mechanisms. The programme will also intensify the combating of Gender-Based Violence

(GBV) through awareness raising on Gender Based Violence prevention and response among community members (youth, adults, men and boys, community volunteers, women, traditional leaders, and Gender Focal Persons); strengthen male engagement interventions in the fight against Gender Based Violence and Trafficking in Persons (TiP); enhance the capacity of key service providers such as church leaders, traditional leaders, national, regional and local government leaders to address GBV and change norms that perpetrate GBV.

O/M/A's capacity will be strengthened to implement Gender Mainstreaming and

Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting (GRPB). The National Plan of Action on Women, Peace and Security and the National Plan of Action on Gender Based Violence in Namibia will be reviewed and developed.

## **MAIN DIVISION 4: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

This Programme aims primarily to improve support towards Income Generating Activities (IGAs), strengthen management of community development programmes which are geared towards the

social and economic upliftment of all Namibians.

During the 2023/2024 financial year, 94,323 (48,734 girls and 45,589 boys) children were enrolled in 3,385 ECD Centres of which 43% represents children from 0 – 4 years in ECD centres. The Ministry ensured early stimulation of children 0-4 years through the provision of policy guidelines, curriculum development, in-service training of Educators.

As part of the Ministry's mandate to improve access to quality Early Childhood Development (ECD) programmes and services, the Ministry

provided monthly subsidies to **One Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Six** (1,356) ECD centres Educarers during the 2023/2024 financial year.

A total amount of **N\$ 54 651 000.00 (Fifty Four Million, Six Hundred and Fifty-One Thousand Namibia Dollars)** is allocated to this Main Division for the 2024/2025 financial year for the support and empowerment of community micro-businesses through the Income Generating Activities (IGA) programmes, Early Childhood Development (ECD) and provision of support in the form of monthly subsidies to Educarers and Personnel expenditure.



## **MAIN DIVISION 5: CHILDCARE AND PROTECTION.**

The primary purpose of this Programme is to improve care and protection for the well-being of children.

In 2023/2024 the social workers in the Ministry attended to a total of **1,753** children who experience violence and abuse.

A total number of 18 victims were accommodated at the shelters during the period from April to December 2023. During the awareness campaigns on

Gender Based Violence and Violence Against Children (GBV) and Trafficking in Persons, a total of **Eighteen Thousand and Ninety Four** (18 094) of people (including Children and Adults) were reached.

Private and Non-Governmental Organisations, Residential Child Care Facilities (RCCF) were subsidized by the Ministry, such as Children's Homes, Places of Care, and Shelters for GBV, VAC, and TiP victims. A total number of 524 children were accommodated in the Residential Child Care Facilities.

Psychosocial support services (PSS) were provided to 603 children at the Namibia Children's Home (NCH) and the After School Centre. The Psychosocial Support Services (PSS) were provided by the social workers to 11,704 children at Regional level, which includes counselling of children with behavioural problems, emergency support, and HIV/AIDS. International and national days were commemorated and celebrated to raise awareness, which includes **278** children that were integrated into various schools.

Social grants were provided to **373 017** (**Three Hundred and Seventy Three**

**Thousand, Seventeen)** Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVCs) who are currently on the grant system as at **31 March 2024**.

A total amount of **N\$ 1 700 821 000.00 (One Billion, Seven Hundred Million, Eight Hundred and Twenty One Thousand Namibia Dollars)** is allocated to this Main Division for 2024/2025 financial year to cover for expenditure related to programmes and activities aimed at the provision of Childcare and Protection Services, food rations for the Namibia Children's Home and After School Centre, as well as Personnel expenditure.

## **MAIN DIVISION 6: SOCIAL PROTECTION SERVICES**

This Main Division ensures administration and timely payment of Social Grants and Funeral Benefits to eligible beneficiaries.

During 2023/2024 financial year, the Ministry administered a number of **(Two Hundred and Eleven Thousand, Four Hundred and Sixty (211 460))** pensioners who are receiving Social Pension grants, representing a coverage of **Ninety-Seven percent (97%)** for old-age grant beneficiaries. Furthermore, **(Eight**

**Thousand, Two Hundred and Twenty Five) (8,225)** households (representing 37 053 individuals) received Conditional Basic Income Grants (CBIG), formally known as Food Bank, across all fourteen Regions, as part of the first phase of the implementation of the Basic Income Grant (BIC) which currently serves the urban and peri-urban poor.

A total amount of **N\$ 3 993 069 000.00 (Three billion, Nine Hundred Ninety-Three million, Sixty Nine Thousand Namibia Dollars)** is allocated to this Programme for the 2024/2025 Financial Year towards the provision of Social Grants to pensioners, Conditional Income

Basic Grants to the former Food Bank beneficiaries, Funeral Cover for pensioners and Personnel expenditure.

## **MAIN DIVISION 7: DISABILITY AFFAIRS**

The programmes and activities under this Main Division are aimed at ensuring improved livelihoods for Persons with Disabilities.

During the financial year 2023/24, a total number of **(One hundred and Seventy) (170)** Students with Disabilities were provided with financial support through the Student with Disabilities Grant

Programme (SWDGP). About (**Two hundred and Forty**) (**240**) students are expected to benefit from this Programme during the current Financial Year 2024/2025.

In addition, the Ministry has provided individual support to (**Nine Hundred and Forty One**) **941** needy Persons with Severe Disabilities, mostly children with cerebral palsy and Hydrocephalus by providing them with basic supplies such as nappies/dypers, formula milk, prep, bibs, sanitary pads and portable showers and toilets.

The Ministry successfully enabled access to Basic Services in the form of housing, clothing, Wheelchairs, and Disability



Grants to about **Four Hundred and Sixty (460)** Persons with Disabilities which was conducted through identification and referral cases.

A number of **Fifty Thousand -Two Hundred and Ninety-One (50 291)** Persons with Disabilities were provided with Disability Grants.

A total amount of **N\$ 43 526 000.00 (Forty-Three Million, Five Hundred and Twenty-Six Thousand Namibia Dollars)** is allocated to this Main Division for 2024/2025 Financial Year, inclusive of financial support to Students with Disabilities at Tertiary Institutions,

provision of basic commodities to Persons with Severe Disabilities, National Federation of Persons with Disabilities in Namibia (NFPDN) and its affiliated Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs), personnel expenditure and subsidy to the National Disability Council of Namibia.

Furthermore, an amount of **N\$1 589 971 000.00 (One Billion, Five Hundred and Eighty Nine Million, Nine Hundred and Seventy One Thousand Namibia Dollars)** has been budgeted to cover for expenditure of Social Grants for persons with Disabilities (Adults and Children).

## **MAIN DIVISION 8: POLICY, PLANNING AND RESEARCH**

The Main Division is responsible for policy formulation, socio-economic research, ministerial planning and coordination. In addition, the Main Division is also responsible for implementation of capital projects, monitoring, and evaluation of ministerial programmes.

During the previous Financial Year (2023/24), The Ministry renovated existing infrastructure, namely; (Namibia Children's Home, Gender Based Violence (GBV) Shelters in Opuwo and Katima

Mulilo), to provide accommodation to orphans and vulnerable children and to improve their living conditions thereby making them productive citizens. Furthermore, phase 2 of the Keetmanshoop Community Empowerment Centre has commenced.

A total amount of **N\$ 23 807 000.00 (Twenty-Three Million, Eight Hundred and Seven Thousand Namibian Dollars)** is allocated to this Main Division for the 2024/25 Financial Year towards the coordination of Ministerial programmes pertaining to Policy and Research. This amount includes an amount of **N\$ 12 000 000.00 (Twelve Million**

**Namibian Dollars)** allocated to cater for Capital Projects.

## **MAIN DIVISION 9: MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES**

The programmes and activities under this Main Division are aimed at ensuring improved and sustained livelihoods of Marginalised Communities and to ensure that they are taken up into the mainstream society.

Through the Education Support Programme, ( **Two Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty Five**) **(2,835)**

learners enrolled at various primary and secondary schools in the regions transported between their respective schools and villages during out-weekends and holidays to ensure that they stay in school and that they complete schooling.

A total number of **Thirty Two Thousand, Six Hundred and Seventeen (32, 617)** households of Marginalized Communities benefited from the Special Feeding Programme.

The Ministry assisted families of 394 deceased members from the Marginalized

Communities with burial services in order to ensure that they are accorded dignified burials.

The Ministry facilitated the issuance of **854** National Identification Documents which include ID cards, Birth Certificates for Marginalised Communities.

A total amount of **N\$ 280 011 000.00 (Two Hundred and Eighty Million, Eleven Thousand Namibia Dollars)** has been allocated to this Main Division for the 2024/2025 Financial Year, for the implementation of programmes for the Marginalized Communities mainly Education Support to Marginalized

students, Livelihood Support, Funeral Services and the San Feeding Programme, inclusive of Personnel Expenditure.

**Honourable Chairperson of the Whole Committee; Honourable Members:**

It is now my honour to present to this August House the Expenditure of the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare under Vote 36 for the Financial Year 2024/2025 which amounts to **N\$ 7 990 776 000.00** (**Seven Billion, Nine Hundred and**



**Ninety Million, Seven Hundred and  
Seventy-Six Thousand Namibia  
Dollars)** for your kind consideration and  
approval.

**I THANK YOU!**