



MINISTRY OF SPORT, YOUTH AND NATIONAL SERVICE

**BUDGET MOTIVATION
2024/2025 FINANCIAL YEAR**

VOTE 27

PRESENTED BY

**HONOURABLE AGNES B. TJONGARERO, MP
MINISTER OF SPORT, YOUTH AND NATIONAL SERVICE**

02 April 2024

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Honourable Chairperson of the Wholehouse Committee

Honourable Members of this August House

I rise to present to this August House and to motivate and seek your support for the budget allocation of Vote 27 for the 2024-2025 Financial Year.

The Ministry has been allocated a total budget of **SIX HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-NINE MILLION THREE HUNDRED AND NINETY-NINE THOUSAND NAMIBIAN DOLLARS (N\$679,399,000)** to execute its core mandate of developing the youth and promoting sport signifying an increase of 45% from the previous financial year. At the onset allow me to extend my sincere appreciation to Honorable Ipumbu Shiimi for the consideration testament to the priorities attached to this very mandate.

Our budget is comprised as follows:

- (1) FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIVE MILLION THREE HUNDRED AND NINETY-NINE THOUSAND NAMIBIAN DOLLAR (N\$555,399,000)** is allocated to the Operational Budget; whilst
- (2) ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FOUR MILLION NAMIBIAN DOLLARS (N\$124,000,000)** is earmarked for the implementation of capital projects.

PROGRAMME 1: YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE MILLION AND THIRTY-FOUR THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED & FORTY NAMIBIAN DOLLARS (N\$275,034,940) have been allocated to cater for youth programs and activities.

The National Youth Service is allocated **NINETY-SIX MILLION NINE HUNDRED AND NINETY-SIX THOUSAND NAMIBIAN DOLLARS (N\$96,996,000)**, whereas the National Youth Council is allocated **THIRTY-TWO MILLION NINE HUNDRED NAMIBIAN DOLLARS (N\$32,900,000)** to implement their respective mandates.

The Ministry executes its youth development and empowerment programmes which ensure that the youth become active participants in the mainstream economy; imparting skills to out of school and

unemployed young people, thereby making them more employable, self-reliant and productive citizens.

Part 1 - DIRECTORATE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

During the Financial Year 2023/2024 the Ministry made important strides in the furtherance of its mandate to enhance youth empowerment through the following programmes and projects, as outlined in our Third national Youth Policy.

1.1. Youth Skills Training

The Ministry is mandated to offer basic skills training to young people who do not meet the entry requirements of conventional technical vocational training and tertiary education institutions. This segment of the youth population makes up the majority of unemployed youth due to their low education attainment. The Ministry fulfils an important and unique role by targeting these young people in order to equip them with basic skills which will enable them to improve their livelihoods and use the acquired skills to initiate self-help projects and enterprises in their respective regions and constituencies. .

Therefore, in this new financial year the Ministry will commence skills training at the newly renovated and upgraded **Kai //Ganaxab Youth Skills Training Centre** near Mariental in Hardap Region. The Ministry aims to enrol with an initial intake of 160 students in the following trades; basic office administration and computer literacy; hospitality and catering; bricklaying and plastering; carpentry and joinery; welding and fabrication; tailoring and fashion design; and plumbing and pipe fitting.

Furthermore, the Ministry will also offer one-year youth skills training programmes at **Berg Aukas Youth Skills Training Centre** with an envisaged intake of 100 trainees for agriculture and computer training; at **Frans Dimbare Youth Skills Training Centre** with an envisaged intake of 100 trainees for training in carpentry; tailoring; computer literacy; horticulture; animal husbandry; crop production; plumbing; hospitality and *catering* and **Okahao Youth Skills Training Centre** with an intake of 50 trainees to be trained in agriculture.

At the Ministry's multi-purpose youth resource centres across the country, the Ministry will continue to offer semester courses such as soft skills, computer literacy, tailoring and other tailor-made courses

to the youth considering the regional dynamics and demand. About 278 youth countrywide went through this same training in 2023/24 financial year.

1.2. Youth Health & Wellbeing

The Ministry reached 5 336 youth through its youth friendly clinics in Zambezi, Kavango East, Oshana, Erongo and Karas regions. Furthermore, the Ministry engaged over 3100 young people in sexuality and reproductive health engagements through its Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights Programme in all 14 regions. This effort is complementary to initiatives by other OMAS such as Ministry of Health and Social Services in contributing to promoting youth health and wellbeing as well as reducing the HIV/AIDS prevalence among young people.

1.3. Youth Employment & Economic Empowerment: 121 Rural Youth Enterprises

The establishment of 121 youth owned enterprises was further consolidated during Financial Year 2023/24 and all enterprises got fully registered with the Business Intellectual Property Authority (BIPA) as legal business entities. Thus far, the Ministry in partnership with the implementing agency, has facilitated the funding of 28 out of 121 worth N\$8 million through a soft loan facility from the Development Bank of Namibia. In this new financial year the Ministry has budgeted N\$9.8 million which will be used to fund and operationalize some of the remaining youth enterprises. The Ministry will continue to mobilise financial resources to enable the remaining of the enterprises to fully function.

1.4. Youth Employment & Economic Empowerment: Namibia Youth Credit Scheme

The Namibia Youth Credit Scheme programme aims to equip young people with funding and basic business administration skills which allow the youth to create employment. The Ministry is currently disbursing loans to 287 youth to the tune of N\$2.3 million. To ensure continuity of this programme, an amount of N\$ 10 million is provided for in the new financial year to advance more loans to youth enterprises. Acknowledging the need to improve on our offerings, the Namibia Youth Credit Scheme has been identified as one of our Business Process Re-engineering project which will see a revamp to improve efficiency and create value.

1.5. Youth Self Employment & Income Generating Projects

During the 2023/2024 Financial Year 15 youth beneficiaries graduated under the Charcoal Youth Self-Employment Pilot Project. The Ministry, working together with stakeholders such as the Ministry of, Agriculture, Water & Land Reform is in the process of putting in place the necessary mechanisms including allocating identified government farms to enable the beneficiaries to start producing charcoal in order to generate income, and expand to start other entities. . An amount of N\$12 million has been allocated in the 2024/25 Financial Year which will enable the Ministry to train about 1000 new youths in charcoal production as well as other youth self-help projects, thereby contributing to youth self-employment and income generation.

PART 2 - NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE

The mandate and objectives of the Service, as per section 4 (1) of the National Youth Service Act, Act No.6 of 2005 are to offer national service, technical and vocational training, personal development programmes and opportunities for voluntary service to the youth, and thus contributing in a sustainable manner to national socio-economic development efforts.

2.1. National Service Training

National Youth Service offers there inter-dependent training programmers to the Namibian youth on a voluntary basis. The first phase of training is the National Service Training. This training is conducted over a period of six (6) months of intensive basic training aimed at changing the recruits from common civilian behaviour to semi- military behaviour and conduct. The training aims at inculcating discipline, loyalty, patriotism and commitment to the Namibian socio-economic development among the recruits enrolled on the program. The training is offered with the support of other services, such as the Namibian Defence Force, Namibian Police and Namibia Correctional Service. Since its inception in 1998, National Youth Service has trained over six thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven (6 867) youths in National Service. Youth from diverse social and cultural backgrounds are recruited based on equitable representation from all the 121 constituencies.

During the recruitment of the 14th Cohorts of recruits, which recently concluded training in December 2023, NYS received an overwhelming number of applications, up to seven thousand (7000), demonstrating a high interest of the youth in this programme. The training is conducted at Henties

Bay Training Centre, after it was recently relocated from Rietfontein Training Centre to Henties Bay Training Centre in Erongo Region to pave way for specialized skills training, and to ensure that training is not compromised given the civilian environment at Rietfontein Training Centre.

For the current financial year, given the improved budget, the Service remains resolute to fully utilising the Henties Bay Training Centre and plans to recruit one thousand, five hundred (1500). In order to ensure the realisation of this number, the service will have to incur costs including the cost of minor renovation of the centre, particularly the connection of the sewer to the main municipal line. Currently, the Municipality of Henties Bay has to collect the residue on a weekly basis. Further, costs will include the costs of full training such as procurement of training materials, uniforms, food provision and basic upkeep of recruits in the absence of allowances.

2.2. Voluntary Service

Voluntary service is the second phase of training offered by National Service. Upon completing National Service Training, the graduates are deployed in various projects of national importance on a voluntary basis for a period of six (6) months up to twelve (12) months or more, depending on the nature of the project.

Voluntary Service aims to instil civic virtues among the Namibian youth while emphasizing on promoting the values of volunteerism.

To date, a total of five thousand nine hundred and thirty (5 930) youth participated in various projects of national importance on voluntary services whereas during the 2023/24, a total of one hundred and ten (110) were deployed for Voluntary Service on the following cites, including:

- rehabilitation of Etosha National Park Fence,
- provision of cleaning Auxiliary Services under the Office of the President
- de-bushing of Etegameno Children, Adult Rehabilitation Centre under the Ministry of Health and Social Services
- Crime Prevention under the Namibian Police Force,
- de-bushing and fencing at Gam Resettlement,
- removal of illegal fences in Kavango East under the Ministry of Agriculture

- Provision of security services and the Namibia Ports Authority (Namport)
- Provision of labour for various NYS agricultural production projects

Recruits remain in service and may be deployed during national emergencies or any other activity of national importance when needed. In Financial Year 2024/25 the National Service will continue to ensure that recruits are actively involved in Voluntary Service. With a planned increase in numbers in the recruitment for National Service Training, it is anticipated that there will be corresponding increase in the deployment of recruits to projects around the country.

The Service envisages having a wider coverage for Voluntary Service around the country by securing additional Voluntary Service sites and to ensure the successful implementation thereof, the Service will ensure that basic needs of recruits while on voluntary service are provided. These includes implementation such as camping equipment, working tools, uniforms, and allowances for the upkeep of recruits are adequately provided for.

2.3. Technical Vocational Education & Training

This is the last phase of training programmes offered by the service. NYS offers thirteen (13) TVET programmes, which are registered with the Namibian Training Authority and accredited by the Namibian Qualifications Authority. TVET equips the youth with the practical skills and knowledge required by various industries, thus bridging the gap between the skills employers require and the skills job seekers possess. Furthermore, TVET does not only prepare the youth for gainful employment but also equips them with the skills needed to start their own businesses and become employers or entrepreneurs themselves.

In 2023 academic year, the Service graduated 127 trainees in its various trades and has already enrolled 389 trainees in TVET programmes for the 2024 academic year. The number of TVET enrolments will be substantially increased before the end of the financial year to 700 trainees. The Service will not only increase enrolment into its existing programmes but plans to expand the scope of its trades and transition its programmes to ensure that it focuses on national TVET priority areas to meet the objectives of Vision 2030.

This expansion of scope necessitates adequately equipping training workshops, and this will be prioritised during the 2024/25 financial year. Given the Service' plans to maximise the capacity of the Rietfontein Training Centre, the service will ensure adequate provision of training material and

equipment required in the various training workshops facilitate learning and competency and completion requirements. Trainees of various trades require different uniforms and / or protective clothing and tools hence the budget will cater for most of these needs including food provision.

2.4 NYS Agriculture production activities

NYS is extensively involved in agricultural production around their various production centres. These activities include, agronomy production, horticulture production and cattle farming, all aimed at aiding training and for self-sustainability to supplement treasury allocation. Given the draught in the country, the agronomy production which is dependent on rainfed has been severely affected and no harvest or yield is expected. Further, given limited water supply to the horticulture gardens, NYS envisages moving towards irrigated agriculture by procuring few centre pivots to maximize production. The produce would be used to feed trainees at various centres and any residue would be made available to the market to contribute towards food security in the country.

2.4. Youth Security Service

National Youth Service has established a Youth Security Service to provide employment opportunities for the youth. The Youth Security Service guards and protects government and state-owned enterprises properties. So far, a total of one thousand one hundred and eighty-four (1184) youths are employed as security guards. The Service Act, contemplate that consideration should be given to person who have completed national service training when recruiting, into the Namibian Defence Force, Namibian Police and Namibia Correctional Service. Pursuant to section 15(1) (b) of the National Youth Service Act and in fulfilment of a MoU which exists between NDF, NAMPOL and NYS, a total of three hundred and eighty-six (389) trainees got recruited into the uniformed services during the year 2023.

Given the remaining number of recruits who have not secured any employment, NYS intends to increase its security clientele. However, in doing various operational requirements have to be put in place necessitating budgetary provision. Therefore, part of the allocated budget will be used to support the expansion of security service and thereby creating sufficient employment for the youth.

PART 3 NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL

The National Youth Council continues to serve as a link between government and the youth and amongst the youth. The council empowers the youth, with emphasis on leadership, capacity building in psycho-social areas and entrepreneurship. The programmes involves youth exchange locally as well as at regional and international levels. In the previous financial year the council provided, amongst others, financial support to youth forums, with emphasis placed on leaders, including those in marginalized communities. The Council launched the Village Entrepreneur Project which is an initiative to economically support young people to develop business acumen and run their own enterprises. The council further advanced subsidies to affiliate youth organizations.

During the 2023/24 Financial Year 2,190 youth benefited from interventions, categorized as follows:

3.1. Governance and Leadership: Focus was placed on coordinating Board activities and ensuring smooth collaboration among members at different levels of the NYC structure to enhance the effectiveness of the institution.

3.2. Entrepreneurship and Business Development: Throughout the financial year 2023/2024, NYC launched of the Village Entrepreneur Project, aimed to provide support and resources to young entrepreneurs in rural areas. Additionally, activities like the acquisition of rental camping materials and the Omaheke Regional Youth Business Trade Expo provided platforms for youth to showcase their entrepreneurial ventures and gain practical experience in trade. Agricultural exchange visits to neighbouring countries like Zambia and horticulture training further equipped young people with valuable skills and knowledge in agricultural practices, promoting economic empowerment and sustainability within communities.

3.3. Leadership and Capacity Building: Council conducted workshops on proposal writing, financial literacy and anti-corruption training, thereby equipping youth with essential knowledge for effective leadership and governance. Annual youth conferences and leadership training sessions provided platforms for networking, collaboration, and skill development, nurturing a new generation of capable leaders.

3.4. Health and Well-being: Workshops on mental health, comprehensive sexuality education, and sexual and reproductive health and rights provided vital information and support to address pressing issues affecting the health and wellbeing of youth. NYC-funded life skills training and manicure and pedicure sessions not only enhanced personal well-being, but also provided opportunities for skills acquisition and economic empowerment among youth, contributing to their overall development and resilience.

3.5. Digital Skills and Technology: Recognizing the importance of digital literacy in today's digital age, NYC conducted digital youth work trainings to equip young people with essential digital skills and knowledge. These initiatives bridged the digital divide and empowered youth to leverage technology for personal and professional growth, enhancing their prospects in the digital economy and promoting innovation and creativity.

3.6. Community Engagement and Advocacy: Engagement with communities and advocacy for youth rights and issues were central to the Council's activities. Platforms such as youth engagement meetings, commemoration of World AIDS Day, and participation in various forums and conferences provided opportunities for youth to voice their concerns, advocate for their rights, and engage in dialogue on pressing social, economic, and environmental issues. Hosting conferences, forums, and outreach programs targeted at youth from Marginalised Communities and youth with disabilities accentuated the Council's commitment to inclusivity and social justice.

3.7. Environmental Sustainability and Green Initiatives: In line with global efforts towards environmental sustainability, the National Youth Council organized initiatives to promote green skills and environmental awareness among youth. Workshops on climate change, green skills training, and initiatives like the training on green hydrogen aimed to empower youth with the knowledge and skills to address environmental challenges and contribute to sustainable development efforts.

3.8. Networking and Collaboration: The National Youth Council actively engaged in networking and collaboration efforts to strengthen partnerships and enhance its impact. Activities such as regional visits, familiarization visits, and hosting of executive committee meetings facilitated dialogue, knowledge exchange, and collaboration with stakeholders at local, regional, and international levels. Additionally, the registration of youth organizations and participation in various forums and events served to expand the Council's network and enhance its effectiveness in advocating for youth issues and promoting youth development.

3.9. Community Support and Outreach: Support provided to youth forums in different constituencies, donations of sanitary pads and equipment, and presentations on civic education and parliamentary matters aimed to empower youth-led initiatives and address pressing community needs. By actively engaging with communities and providing support where needed, the Council demonstrated its dedication to serving the interests and welfare of youth across Namibia.

National Youth Council Planned Interventions for Financial Year 2024/2025

3.10. Civic Engagement and Voters' Education: As Namibia prepares for national democratic elections, scheduled to coincide with the renewal of mandates for Constituency Youth Forums ("CYFs"), Regional Youth Forums (RYFs) and the Board of Directors, the importance of youth participation in the electoral process cannot be overstated. Council will spearhead and support civic engagement and voters' education initiatives aimed at empowering young people to exercise their democratic rights effectively. Through targeted workshops, seminars, and outreach programs, the Council will educate youth about the electoral process, the importance of voting, and the roles and responsibilities of elected representatives. Special attention will be given to Marginalised Communities and youth with disabilities to ensure their inclusion in the democratic process.

3.11. Capacity Building of Elected Youth Leaders: Following the elections of youth leaders at various levels, the Council will focus on capacity building to equip them with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively fulfil their roles. Orientation programs, leadership training workshops, and mentoring sessions will be organized to enhance their understanding of governance structures, youth development strategies, and advocacy

techniques. These capacity-building efforts aim to empower elected youth leaders to become effective representatives of their constituencies and drive positive change within their communities.

3.12. National Youth Climate Engagement: Climate change continues to pose significant challenges to the future of Namibia, and youth engagement in climate action is imperative. The Council will collaborate with local climate organisations and international partners to mobilise youth participation in climate initiatives. Activities such as workshops, seminars, and awareness campaigns will be conducted to educate youth about climate change, mitigation strategies, and sustainable practices. Additionally, the Council will support youth representation at international climate conferences, empowering young people to advocate for climate justice and contribute to global climate action agendas. As Namibia pursues its Green Industrialization ambitions, Council will also continue to deliver relevant and impactful programming that supports the strategy of the Government of the Republic of Namibia, in partnership with existing and new partners.

3.13. Institutional System Strengthening: To enhance its effectiveness and efficiency, NYC will strengthen its institutional systems and capacities by investing in technological infrastructure upgrades, human resource capabilities, and robust administrative policies and procedures. Capacity-building workshops and training programs will be conducted for Council staff to enhance their skills in program management, monitoring, and evaluation. These efforts aim to ensure that the Council operates with transparency, accountability, and professionalism in its youth development endeavours.

3.14. Economic Empowerment Interventions: The Council will implement targeted interventions to support youth entrepreneurship and employment opportunities, including by providing access to credit and financial support for youth-led businesses, as well as offering sector-specific training and capacity-building programs. Additionally, the will focus will be on the sustainable management of horticulture sites, ensuring that they contribute to youth livelihoods and local economic development. By fostering economic empowerment, the Council aims to create pathways for youth to achieve financial independence and contribute to the country's economic growth.

The Ministry intend to embark on the legislation amendment and enhancing organisational structure to address discrepancies and governance issues at the NYC.

PART 4 - PROGRAMME 2: SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,

Honourable Members,

TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SIX MILLION AND SEVENTY-THREE THOUSAND FIVE THUNDRED AND EIGHTY-NINE NAMIBIAN DOLLARS ONLY

(NS\$236 073 589) has been allocated to continue developing and promoting sport countrywide.

The Ministry's long-term goal, in line with NDP5, is to lay the foundation for the professionalization of sport in the country so that the sport industry can to contribute meaningfully to employment creation.

4.1. Sport Facilities

The enabler for sport development is adequate and well-maintained facilities. Currently, the Ministry has eleven (11) sport stadia under its management. During Financial Year 2023/24, the Ministry made significant progress towards upgrading the Independence Stadium to CAF standards required to host international football matches. Honorable Members, I am happy to report that the procurement process for the appointment of engineering and architectural service provider has advanced. As we speak, the Ministry is in the seven days standstill period where by we have notified all the bidders of the outcome of the procurement process. If the Ministry does not receive any application for review of the bid evaluation process, we expect to appoint the successful bidder on 09 April 2024. After the appointment, we have set strict deadlines for the consultant which will ensure that the consultancy services required, including the advertising of the procurement for a contractor, will be ready four months from the date of the signing of the contract.

Furthermore, the Ministry made significant progress in the construction of the Eenhana Stadium, as well as the construction of a sport stadium in Nkurenkuru. The Ministry also purchased a 5-hectare plot in Otjiwarongo for the construction of a regional sport stadium for the Otjozondjupa Region. Renovations of the Mariental Stadium was completed.,

For the new Financial Year, the Ministry has budgeted **TWENTY MILLION FIVE HUNDRED AND NINETY THOUSAND NAMIBIAN DOLLARS ONLY (NS\$20 590 000)** under the operational budget for maintenance of Ministerial buildings and stadiums including

Khorixas Stadium, Hage Geingob Stadium, Rundu Stadium, Katutura Sport Complex, Swakopmund Stadium, Oshakati Sports Stadium, Luderitz Sports Complex.

4.2. 2024 Paris Olympics and Paralympic Games

The 2024/25 Financial Year marks a pivotal moment on the sporting calendar, with the highly anticipated 2024 Paris Olympics and Paralympic Games on the horizon. It is, therefore, imperative that Government continues to support our athletes in their journey to qualify and ensure that those who end up qualifying stand the best possible chance get to a podium finish. The Ministry has set aside **FOUR MILLION SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY-THREE THOUSAND NAMIBIAN DOLLARS (N\$4,683,000.00)** to prepare Team Namibia to participate in the 2024 Paris Olympics and Paralympic Games, as well as in other important competitions such as the Para World Athletics and the Para Swimming Competition.

4.3. African Union Sport Council Region 5

Cabinet has approved for Namibia to host the next African Union Sport Council Region 5 Youth Games in May 2025; hosting is rotational and mandatory amongst member states. While May 2025 is in 2025/26 Financial Year, this year's budget of **TWENTY-NINE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY-FOUR THOUSAND NAMIBIAN DOLLARS (N\$29,454,000)** will be utilized to prepare the country in terms of developing and rehabilitating the required infrastructure to host the games. Furthermore, the Ministry will continue to support participation of our young athletes both at local and international events during the financial year in order to identify new talent and prepare them for the Games in 2025.

4.4. National Anti-Doping Organization

Namibia is a signatory to the World Anti-Doping Code; therefore, it is required to establish its own National Anti-Doping Organization (NADO). Toward realizing this objective, the Ministry, as part of the new budget has allocated **FOUR MILLION NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND NAMIBIAN DOLLARS (N\$4,900,000.00)** for the anti-doping programmes which includes anti-doping activities currently being carried out by the Namibia National

Olympic Committee as well as the drafting of the legislation required for the establishment of a fully-fledged National Anti-Doping Organisation.

4.5. Namibia Boxing and Wrestling Control Board

The Namibia Boxing and Wrestling Control Board has been allocated **FIVE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND AND TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIVE NAMIBIAN DOLLARS (N\$5,700.275.00)** to support reforms, including the amendment of the Boxing and Wrestling Control Act 11 of 1980 and the implementation of new strategies aimed towards the professional promotion of boxing and wrestling.

4.6. Namibia Sports Commission

The Namibia Sports Commission operates as a statutory entity in accordance with the Namibia Sports Act (Act 13 of 2003). For the fiscal year 2024/2025, the Commission has been allocated a budget of **TWENTY MILLION, FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND (N\$20,500,000)**. These funds serve not only the operational needs of the Commission but also extend to support all registered national sports bodies. Presently, there are fifty-three (53) registered national sports bodies and umbrella organizations.

These sports bodies hold responsibility for the development of their respective sports codes nationwide and ensure the provision of competitive opportunities for various national teams. Both the Ministry of Sport, Youth, and National Service and the Namibia Sports Commission are actively engaged in the categorization of sports codes within the country. Our objective is to classify each sport code into distinct categories, accompanied by corresponding grant allocations. This approach aims to streamline resource distribution and foster the growth and development of sports across all levels.

4.5. Namibian Schools Sport Union

In October 2023, Cabinet approved the Integrated Physical Education and Schools Sport Policy (IPESS). The implementing agency, **NAMIBIAN SCHOOLS SPORT UNION (“NSSU” for short)** has been allocated a budget of **N\$6,000,000 (SIX MILLION NAMIBIAN DOLLARS)** under the new budget.

The IPESS Policy aims to establish a well-coordinated and seamless system with a focus on children and youth in the context of school-based physical education and school sport, and it also advocates for equitable, inclusive and accessible participation in sport. Historically, the

NSSU was not being allocated sufficient funds to fully implement schools competitions in government schools. This situation over time resulted in an increase in private sport academies and sport competitions in private schools which are only accessible to the privileged few. With this increase in budget allocation, the NSSU will increase its staff complement and implement league-based sports programmes in government schools countrywide throughout the year.

Additionally, the same budget will be utilised to reform the NSSU, in line with the objectives of the Policy. Such reform must ensure that NSSU programmes and activities reflect the ideals of the Policy. Towards this end, the Ministry, with the assistance of UNESCO, has already appointed a consultant who will help the Ministry to, among other things, benchmark with other school sport unions in SADC and propose a new and modern structure of the NSSU which will be best suited to realise the objectives of the IPSS Policy.

4.6. New Sport Bill Project

Few years ago Ministry organized a national sports conference, which gathered representatives from all sports organizations alongside renowned sports experts. A pivotal outcome of the conference was the resolution to amend the Namibian Sports Act, with the aim of modernizing the country's sports sector toward professionalization.

To implement this resolution, the Ministry enlisted the services of a legal drafter in the fourth quarter of 2023. This legal expert was assigned the task of aiding the Ministry in reviewing the 1993 Sports Policy and the Namibian Sports Act (No. 12 of 2003) and its regulations.

Since then, the Ministry has been actively engaged in crafting a new vision and strategy for sports in Namibia, leveraging the achievements of the 1993 Sport Policy and the current Namibia Sport Act of 2003. Substantial progress has been made in this initiative, and we anticipate tabling the new sports bill in Parliament in the fourth quarter of this calendar year.

4.7. Implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding Real Madrid Foundation

Through negotiations facilitated by the Spanish Embassy in Windhoek, the Ministry successfully orchestrated the extension of the Real Madrid Foundation to Namibia. In February of this year, the Ministry formalized this agreement by signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Cadilu Fishing Pty Ltd, securing them as a financial partner for the implementation of the Real Madrid Foundation Programme in Namibia. This landmark MoU

positioned Namibia as only the second African country, following Egypt, to benefit from the Real Madrid Foundation's initiatives.

This MoU serves as a pivotal mechanism through which Namibia can identify and nurture talented young footballers at an early stage, providing them with opportunities to develop their skills in Europe and ultimately contributing to the emergence of professional footballers for our nation.

The primary objective of the MoU is to identify talented young footballers at an early age and facilitate their enrollment in the Real Madrid academy in Spain for advanced development. Additionally, projects outlined in the MoU will involve training sessions conducted by Real Madrid coaches and the establishment of a dedicated school in Namibia where promising footballers can pursue both academic education and further their footballing skills.

Already, the Real Madrid Foundation, in collaboration with the Ministry, has conducted coaching clinics in Otjozondjupa and Kavango East in October 2023. These clinics are set to continue in Omaheke and //Kharas in May 2024, followed by Kunene and Ohangwena in October 2024.

4.8. Implementation of the Westphalia Youth Football Development Programme

The Government of the Republic of Namibia and the Federal Republic of Germany entered into a bilateral agreement in 1994 aimed at fostering the development of youth football in Namibia. This reciprocal arrangement involves exchanges, with Namibian youth teams visiting Germany and Westphalia teams also visiting Namibia. The primary objective of this initiative is to provide young Namibian boys and girls with exposure to early football development practices, thereby preparing them for future international competitions.

As a result of this agreement, Namibia has successfully nurtured several notable football players who have achieved recognition both domestically and internationally, including Collin Benjamin, Ricardo Mannetti, Razundara Tjikuzu, Fillemon Kanalelo, Johanness Hindjou, among others.

Over time, the agreement has been amended to incorporate the twinning of schools in Namibia with those in Germany. Presently, 11 schools spanning the breadth and length of Namibia have been paired with German partner schools for this purpose.

Activities under the agreement have included a tour of Germany by an under-15 Namibian team in June 2023. Currently, the Westphalia U/17 boys team is visiting Namibia. During their tour of the Erongo Region, they competed against the Erongo Newspaper Cup Team and the Namibian U/17 National Team in Swakopmund. Following their engagements in Erongo, the team traveled to Gobabis over the Easter weekend, where they again played against the Namibian U/17 national team and a select team from the Namibia Newspaper Cup.

PART 5 - PROGRAMME 3: POLICY COORDINATION AND SUPPORT SERVICE

The total allocation for this programme is **ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-EIGHT MILLION TWO HUNDRED AND NINETY THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-TWO NAMIBIAN DOLLARS (N\$168 290 472)**

5.1. Maintenance of Ministerial Facilities

The Ministry budgeted **TWENTY MILLION FIVE HUNDRED AND NINETY THOUSAND NAMIBIAN DOLLARS (N\$20 590 000)** under the operational budget for maintenance for 2024/2025 financial year, to among others, renovate dilapidated stadiums around the country. I happy to report that construction of Frans Dimbare Integrated Rural Development Centre was completed during 2023/24 financial year with a total budget of **9 million Namibian dollars** and was officially handed over during February 2024. **Renovation of Mariental Sports Complex** was also completed in Financial Year 2023/24 with the exception of grass planting, which has been postponed due to the current water restrictions in Mariental.

5.2. Capital Projects

The Ministry has allocated amount of **ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FOUR MILLION NAMIBIAN DOLLARS (N\$124 000 000.00)** for capital projects in Financial Year 2024/2025,

5.2.1. Construction of Nkurenkuru Multi-purpose Resource Centre

The official site hand over of this project was done in 2023/24 financial year. The initial construction will commence with 3 x multi-purpose courts (netball, volleyball and basketball

courts) and a football pitch with a budget allocation of **N\$10 million** appropriated under the 2024/25 financial year. This is an ongoing Ministerial project for the next two financial years.

5.2.2. Construction of Mariental Multipurpose Youth Centre

Construction of the new Mariental multi-purpose resource centre will commence in 2024/2025 financial year with a budget **3 million Namibian dollars** for the appointment of a consultant who will perform feasibility study and documentation services. The existing office building was demolished during 2023/24 financial year as it was found not fit for office use, hence the construction of the new office.

5.2.3. Construction of Otjiwarongo Multi-purpose Centre

The Ministry is planning to construct a new Multi-purpose Youth Resource Centre and sports facilities as the Ministry does not have any such facility in Otjiwarongo. The budget allocation of 2 million Namibian Dollars under 2023/2024 financial year was used to acquire a 5-hectare plot from the Otjiwarongo Municipality. The new budget allocation for this project is **5 million Namibian dollars** under which the Ministry plans to construct phase 1A which encompasses the feasibility study and documentation, whereas during phase 1B the Ministry is planning to construct 3 multipurpose courts which includes netball, volleyball, football, basketball, tennis court. The project is ongoing for the next two financial years.

5.2.4. Construction of Eenhana Sports Complex

The construction of Eenhana Spots Complex is an ongoing project which is currently at Phase 5 of its project life cycle. During phase 4 the Ministry completed the renovation of the pavilion, public entrance, substation, and mini-substation.

Three multi-purpose courts for netball, volleyball, basketball tennis courts were completed during 2023/24 financial year. Phase 5A, which comprises the construction of football fields, athletics tartan track, changing rooms and ablution facilities is currently underway. The Ministry envisages completion during this calendar year.

5.2.5. Construction Usakos Sport Complex

The fencing and construction of the guard house at the Usakos Sport Complex was completed during 2023/24 financial year. The Ministry has allocated a further **3 million Namibian dollars** in the new budget for the continuation of this project which will include the construction of the

3 multipurpose courts (Netball, volleyball and tennis). This project is ongoing for the next two financial years.

5.2.6. Upgrading and renovation of Independence Sport Stadium

As I elaborated earlier, this is an ongoing project which has received a budget allocation of 80 million Namibian dollars for the Financial Year 2024/2025.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole house Committee

Honourable Members

As I conclude I would like to seize this moment to thank the Deputy Minister, Executive Director and the entire staff members for their dedication to discharging our mandate we are entrusted with.

It is now my singular honour to submit the proposed budget of **SIX HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-NINE MILLION THREE HUNDRED AND NINETY-NINE THOUSAND NAMIBIAN DOLLARS (N\$679,399,000)** for Vote 27 for this august House's favourable consideration.

I thank you