



**MINISTRY OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE**

**BUDGET MOTIVATION  
2025/2026 FINANCIAL YEAR**

**VOTE 36**

**PRESENTED BY**

**DR EMMA KANTEMA, MP  
MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE**

***MAY 2025***

***NATIONAL ASSEMBLY***

*Checked Against Delivery*

**Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee  
Honourable Members of this august House**

I rise to present to this august House, motivate and seek your support for the budget allocation for Vote 36, Gender Equality and Child Welfare, for the 2025/2026 Financial Year. The Gender Status Index improved **from 0.802 (80.2%) in 2023/2024 to 0.805 (80.5%)** in 2024/2025 Financial Year. Namibia has closed at least 80.5 percent of its gender gap, ranking the Country at number **8** globally and number **1** in Sub-Saharan Africa, according to the Global Gender Gap Report 2024.

As a Ministry we celebrate the achievements of gender equality and the empowerment of women especially in the area of Governance. Namibia has the first female President, Her Excellency Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, a female Vice-President and a female Speaker of the National Assembly as well as the first female Secretary to the Cabinet. Namibia is currently the only country in Africa where women constitute over 60% of the Cabinet, making us a trailblazer in gender-balanced governance on the continent.

I therefore urge this House to support the proposed budget so we can continue advancing gender equality and empowering all Namibians.

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

The Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare has been allocated a total budget of **(FOUR HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-THREE MILLION, FIVE HUNDRED AND NINETY-SEVEN THOUSAND NAMIBIA DOLLARS) N\$473,597,000** to execute its core mandate of ensuring gender equality and equitable socio-economic development of women and men, and the well-being of children.

- (a) **FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIVE MILLION, TWO HUNDRED AND NINETY-SEVEN THOUSAND NAMIBIA DOLLARS (N\$455,297,000)** is allocated to the Operational Budget; and
- (b) **EIGHTEEN MILLION, THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND NAMIBIA DOLLARS (N\$18,300,000)** is earmarked for the implementation of capital projects.

## **1. PROGRAMME 01: POLICY, PLANNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES**

The primary purpose of this programme is to provide efficient and effective administration and support services in respect of Information Technology, Finance, Human Resources, Auxiliary Services, Policy Coordination and monitoring of the implementation of Ministerial programmes to ensure that the image and mandate of the Ministry are upheld, and internal control systems are adhered to.

**1.1. An amount of TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHTY MILLION, SIX HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THREE THOUSAND NAMIBIA DOLLARS (N\$280,623,000) has been allocated for the Financial Year 2025/26 to cater for policy, planning and support services, including decentralized functions and development projects.**

**1.1.1.**In terms of ministerial infrastructure development, the Ministry has planned to construct the Keetmanshoop Community Empowerment Centre for Phase 4 consisting of the construction of an Administration Block, Two (2) Staff Houses and Paving, renovations of Ongwediva Community Empowerment Centre, Homes of Safety and Shelters, renovation and maintenance of the Namibia Children's Home and After School Centre as well as regional offices.

**1.1.2.**Furthermore, a total amount of **N\$100,187,000 (ONE HUNDRED MILLION, ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN THOUSAND NAMIBIA DOLLARS)** has been allocated to cater for the decentralized functions of the Ministry of which an amount of **N\$70,998,000 (SEVENTY MILLION, NINE HUNDRED AND NINETY-EIGHT THOUSAND NAMIBIA DOLLARS)** is allocated to cater for subsidy for

ECD Educators to ensure improved access to Early Childhood Development Programme. An amount of **N\$1,200,000.00 (ONE MILLION, TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND NAMIBIA DOLLARS)** has been allocated for Income Generating Activities.

## **1.2. Key priority programs to be implemented in the Financial Year 2025/26**

The budget allocated to this programme is intended to support research in the areas of child welfare and gender equality, conduct evaluations of ministerial programmes and policies, develop a ministerial statistics database and dashboard, and facilitate the construction and maintenance of ministerial infrastructure including regional and constituency offices, Community Empowerment Centres, as well as children's homes and GBV shelters.

### **1.2.1. Planned programme targets and expected outputs**

- Evaluation of the Zero Hunger Road Map (2016-2020). The Zero Hunger Road Map (2016-2020) outlines strategies to eliminate hunger, focusing on vulnerable populations.
- Construction of phase 4 of the Keetmanshoop Community Empowerment Centre
- Feasibility Studies for the Construction of the Eenhana Regional Office, Gibeon Constituency Office and Outjo Constituency Office.
- Renovation and upgrading of existing infrastructure at Namibia Children's Home and After School Centre, Safety houses in Outapi and Khorixas; Keetmanshoop and Mariental, community empowerment centres in Ongwediva, and Design and documentations for Nkurenkuru.
- Renovation and upgrading the existing infrastructure at Farm Kaukurus, conduct a Feasibility Study for the development of a rehabilitation and detention centre for children living and working on the street at Farm Kaukurus in Omaheke Region.

### **1.3. Major achievements during 2024/2025**

During the Financial Year 2024/2025, the evaluation of the Blueprint on Wealth Redistribution was completed, the Conditional Basic Income Grant Programme document that stipulates qualifying criteria and how the programme will be administered was finalised. The construction of Phase 3 of Keetmanshoop Community Empowerment Centre: consisting of a Multi-Purpose Hall and Classroom Block, was completed. The existing structure of Farm Kaukurus in Omaheke Region and Gender Based Violence (GBV) Shelters in Zambezi Region were renovated. The Namibia Children's Home and the After-School Centre in Windhoek were maintained.

## **2. PROGRAMME 02: CHILD CARE AND SOCIAL PROTECTION**

**Programme Activity:** Implementation and popularization of the **Child Care and Protection Act, 2015 (Act 3 of 2015)** and coordination of the National Agenda for Children.

**A TOTAL AMOUNT OF N\$108,723,000.00 (ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHT MILLION, SEVEN HUNDRED TWENTY-THREE THOUSAND NAMIBIA DOLLARS)** has been allocated to this programme to improve care and protection for the well-being of children, inclusive of Personnel Expenditure.

### **2.1. Key priority programs to be implemented in the Financial Year 2025/26**

#### **2.1.1.Reduce incidences of Gender Based Violence/Violence Against Children and Trafficking in Persons Response Program:**

The program will focus on increasing the number of social workers at Gender Based Violence Protection Units in all regions as well as at Constituency level. The Ministry received an additional staff compliment of 134 social workers from the Public Service Commission. The deployment of these positions will be done in phases mainly due to the limited number of social workers available in the market. During this financial year, the Ministry has

received additional funding to deploy a total of 35 social workers in all regions.

**The Ministry also intends to do prevention and early intervention services that include launching a National Campaign to address Violence Against Children.** With an increase in the number of children experiencing VAC, the Ministry intends to mobilise communities in not only reporting cases of VAC, **but focussing on issues like parenting skills, life skills, community-based awareness campaigns** to stop harm before it occurs. It also includes detection mechanism, reporting of cases and providing services that respond quickly to signs of risk.

Conducting multi-sectoral trainings for social workers and other key stakeholders (including the police) on responding to violence against children, including focussing on responding to online child sexual exploitation and abuse.

Provision of shelter services for survivors of Gender Based Violence/Violence Against children and Trafficking. These include procurement of basic materials such as food items and other related items to maintain and ensure the dignity of these survivors.

#### 2.1.2. Psychosocial support program for vulnerable children:

The program will focus on enforcing legal frameworks that uphold children's rights, ensuring access to essential services particularly for vulnerable children through **integrated case management** system. The key priorities under this area include:

#### 2.1.3. Provision of subsidies to places of safety, places of care and shelters:

The Ministry continues to provide subsidies to 20 privately owned Residential Child Care Facilities. These facilities receive a monthly subsidy based on the number of children that are placed there through a court order.

## **2.2. Major achievements**

**The following interventions were carried out during the year under review:**

**2.1.1. Shelters for victims of Gender Based Violence, Violence Against Children and Trafficking in Persons:** The Ministry has eight operational shelters situated in Khomas, Hardap, //Kharas, Omusati, Ohangwena, Kavango East, Zambezi, and Kunene regions. During the period under review, **254** victims of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Violence Against Children (VAC) and Trafficking in Persons (TIP) were accommodated for safety and psychosocial support.

**2.1.2. Residential Child Care Facilities and programs for children living and working on the street:**

**2.1.2.1.** To strengthen care and protection services, the Ministry provided subsidies to **20** private and non-governmental care facilities. These facilities are Private Children's Homes, Places of Care, and two Shelters that provide accommodation to victims of GBV, VAC, and TIP. As a result, a total of **517** children are accommodated in registered children's homes, places of care and shelters and have directly benefited from these funds on a monthly basis. Currently, the Ministry manages the operations of the Namibia Children's Home where **107** orphans and vulnerable children are accommodated. While **741** children, especially those living and working on the streets, are receiving services at the After-School Centre.

**2.1.2.2.** the After-School Centre hosts an Interim Night Shelter and various after-school programs for children at risk of ending up on the streets, children living on the streets and children working on the streets.

**2.1.2.3.** As part of the program, the Ministry also conducted regular street visits to round up children living on the streets in abandoned houses, and reintegrate them into various boarding schools across the country and back into their families. During school holidays, the Ministry organizes

and manages holiday camps for children at Farm Kaukurus to ensure that these children do not return to the street and then return to school when the holidays are over.

**2.1.2.4.** The Ministry has worked with willing parents to reintegrate some of the children into their families. During the financial year 2024/2025, a number of **282** children were re-integrated into **31** boarding schools in the Khomas, Hardap, Omaheke and Otjozondjupa regions.

**2.1.2.5.** The Ministry has also completed the first phase of establishing a rehabilitation and educational centre at Farm Kaukurus for children living and working on the street, children with behavioural challenges and children in conflict with the law. Though not operating at full capacity, the Ministry is now able to host holiday camps at Farm Kaukurus, while simultaneously working on the next phase in establishing these centres.

**2.1.3. Psychosocial support for children in need of protective services:**

The Social Workers continue to provide psychosocial support to children in need of protective services countrywide. Psychosocial support entails the provision of counselling services, material support, and facilitating access to services such as reintegration into schools for teenage mothers, access to national documents and healthcare services. To date, a total of **5,603** children across all the 14 regions received psychosocial support from Social Workers.

**3. PROGRAMME: 03 SUPPORT COMMUNITIES, EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND SPECIAL PROGRAMMES**

**3.1.** A total amount of **Fifty-Two Million, Seven Hundred and Ninety-Eight Namibia Dollars (N\$52,798,000)** has been allocated to this programme for 2025/2026 Financial Year to continue facilitating the socio-economic empowerment of communities with a particular focus on women, coordinating the implementation of community-specialised projects, and entrepreneurship development. The programme also caters for support



towards the provision and strengthening of Early Childhood Development (ECD) programmes and services. The allocation is inclusive of personnel expenditure.

### **3.2. Key priority programs to be implemented in the Financial Year 2025/26**

The financial resources allocated to this programme will enable the implementation of these key interventions: Provision of IGAs materials and equipment, strengthening of Women in Business Association (WBA) Committees, coordinate the EntreprenHER trainings, facilitate technical and production skills training, implement the Cluster of Sustainable Village (CSV) model, training of Educarers, provision of ECD Educarers monthly subsidy and teaching and learning materials.

#### **2.1.1.Planned programme targets and expected outputs**

- Coordinating the implementation of annual IGAs application process and supporting forty-two (42) beneficiaries with materials and equipment based on the funding ratio of 70% women and 30% men.
- Capacitating Four hundred (400) beneficiaries with core business skills through the EntreprenHER Start and Improve Business (SIYB) training model including intellectual property, digital and financial literacy.
- Strengthening Women in Business Association (WBA) in four (4) regions: //Kharas, Erongo, Oshikoto, and Kavango East.
- Training beneficiaries in technical and production skills for value addition.
- Establishment of the CSV site commenced in **Kavango West (Mankupi constituency)** with the fencing, clearing of land, drilling and installation of boreholes.
- Administering subsidy to 3256 Educarers in all regions and supporting two hundred and forty-six (246) ECD Centres with teaching and learning materials.

### 3.3. The following achievements were recorded during the 2024/25 Financial Year:

#### 3.3.1. Community Empowerment Programmes

##### 3.3.1.1. Income Generating Activities (IGAs):

During the preceding Financial Year, the Ministry through the Income Generating Activities (IGAs) Support Programme provided IGAs materials and equipment support to beneficiaries to improve their micro businesses and income-generating activities. In total, 65 IGAs beneficiaries were approved for funding from the following Regions: //Kharas (8), Hardap (6), Khomas (9), Ohangwena (4), Omaheke (7), Omusati (10), Oshana (4), Oshikoto (4), Otjozondjupa (5), and Zambezi (8). **In line with the funding ratio to support 70% women and 30% men per funding cycle, the Ministry managed to support 65% women and 35% men in 2024/25 FY. Four regions (Erongo, Kunene, Kavango East and Kavango West) are at the procurement stage.**

##### 3.3.1.2. EntreprenHER Project:

The EntreprenHER project is designed to provide comprehensive business training to beneficiaries, especially women, whose business training needs are often not addressed through conventional training. In the previous financial year 2024/25, **fifty-three (53)** women entrepreneurs were trained in digital literacy to enhance the use of digital tools of trade; **thirty (30)** women in agriculture were capacitated on Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) techniques; one hundred and **eighty-two (182)** women micro entrepreneurs were trained in Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) packages and equipped with core business skills. **Forty-seven (47)** out of the **one hundred and eighty-two (182)** women are venturing into male dominated sectors (plumbing, carpentry, welding and electrical). This project was facilitated through the support of UN Women and the De Beers Group and co-funded by the Government Republic of Namibia.

##### 3.3.1.3. Women in Business Associations:

The Ministry strengthened the Women in Business Associations (WBA) Committee through training, and business to business networking for women micro entrepreneurs. The Ministry successfully held WBA seminars in Kunene and Zambezi regions. The objectives of the seminars were to strengthen the regional WBA structure and to elect Regional WBA Committee in the two regions. The Kunene and Zambezi Regional WBA Committees were duly elected, consisting of a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer as well as their deputies. The Regional WBA Committees are entrusted to represent the business aspirations of women micro entrepreneurs at grassroots level. The Ministry established regional WBA committees in all regions except Erongo, //Kharas, Oshikoto, Kavango East and Oshana.

#### **3.3.1.4. Community Empowerment Centres:**

The Ministry established 12 Community Empowerment Centres in 11 regions these facilities continues to deliver training and support services to local communities, with a focus on skills development and value addition. **One hundred and fifty-six (156) beneficiaries** were equipped with various technical and production skills (beadwork, weaving, gardening skills, and health & safety tools handling) in Omusati, Oshikoto, Zambezi and Omaheke regions.

#### **3.3.1.5. Maintenance of Community Empowerment Centres**

Maintenance work at the Tsumkwe Community Empowerment Centre in Otjozondjupa region is progressing well after the closing of bids on 03 January 2025. The erection of the fence and repair of toilets have been successfully completed.

#### **3.3.1.6. Revenue collection at Community Empowerment Centres**

During the period under review (2024/25 FY) an amount of **N\$ 154 950.00** was collected through revenue collection at the Centres.

### **3.4. Early Childhood Development Programme**

#### **3.4.1. Enrolment in ECD Centres**

During the period under review, the number of children enrolled in Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centres increased from **100,406** in 2023 to **110,726** in 2024, of whom **57, 650** are children aged **5** years and above accounting for over **55%** of the total enrolment. While the enrolment of children 0-4 years slightly improved from 43,373 in 2023 to 53,076 in 2024.

#### **Educarer Subsidy**

The number of Educарers receiving the monthly allowance increased from **1307** to **3256** in the country. The allowances are provided in three (3) payment categories: N\$1,500.00 for Educарes with basic ECD in-service training; N\$2,000.00 for Educарers with accredited certificate in ECD; and N\$2,500.00 for Educарers with an accredited diploma in ECD. The monthly subsidy is provided to Educарers serving predominantly at community-based ECD Centres including Faith-Based (FBOs) and non-governmental organisation (NGOs) ECD Centres. In addition, **1211 out of 3256** Educарers receiving subsidies were monitored and mentored to enhance the quality of care and service delivery.

#### **3.3.3. Teaching and Learning Materials**

The Ministry supported **249** ECD Centres with teaching and learning materials. The selection of these centres included all types of ECD ownership, i.e. private, community-based, faith-based organizations (FBOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and others, with a particular focus on those serving the most vulnerable communities.

### **3.5. Special Programmes**

#### **3.5.1. Community-Based Special Projects:**

The Ministry initiated **fifteen (15)** community gardening projects across seven regions, aimed at empowering communities towards self-sustenance and enhancing household food security. As part of these efforts, **three (3) boreholes** were drilled and installed at Grace Crop Garden in Okorukambe Constituency and Erindirozombaka in Talismanus, Omaheke Region, as well as at Omatale in Nehale IyaMpingana Constituency, Oshikoto Region.

In addition, the community gardening projects of EHA Trading in Kunene; likokola and Pandelia in Oshikoto; and Bakgalagadi and Grace Crop in Omaheke, were supported with gardening materials, including fruit tree seedlings. Community members involved in these projects received Training of Trainers (ToT) and hands-on training in horticultural production to enhance their skills and ensure project sustainability.

### **3.5.2. Clustered Sustainable Village Initiative:**

The Clustered Sustainable Village (CSV) Initiative is an innovative developmental approach aimed at transforming Namibia's villages into vibrant, self-reliant rural economies. Following the completion of the CSV feasibility study, the Ministry, in collaboration with other stakeholders of Social Security Commission (SSC) and the World Food Programme (WFP), conducted an **introductory workshop in Kavango West Region.**

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

## **4. PROGRAMME 04: PROMOTION OF GENDER EQUITY AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN**

A total amount of **N\$31,453, 000.00 (THIRTY-ONE MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTY-THREE THOUSAND NAMIBIA DOLLARS)** is allocated to the programmes for 2025/2026 Financial Year towards the strengthening of Gender Mainstreaming programme, National Gender Coordination Mechanism, Gender Based Violence Campaign, combating of

Trafficking in Persons (TIP) interventions, Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting Programmes.

#### **4.1. Key priority programs to be implemented in the Financial Year 2025/26**

The budget allocated to this programme is aimed at the implementation of the National Gender Equality and Equity Policy (2025-2035), Gender Coordination Mechanism, Combating Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Male Engagement, Trafficking in Persons (TIP), women in politics and decision-making programme, women's empowerment and family development as well as Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting.

##### **4.1.1.Planned programme targets and expected Outputs**

- Improving the Namibia Gender Status Index from 0.81 to 0.82 through the implementation of the National Gender Equality and Equity Policy (2025-2035) focusing on the areas of Educational Attainment, Health and Survival, Economic Participation and Opportunity, and Political Empowerment.
- Reducing incidences of Gender Based Violence and Trafficking in Persons through the implementation of the #EndGBVNamibia Campaign, strengthening Male Engagement, capacity building of key service providers, Traditional and Religious Leaders engagement and providing support to Trafficking in Persons victims.
- Enhancing capacity to implement Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting in Offices, Ministries and Agencies (O/M/As) according to respective mandates.
- Strengthening National, Regional and Constituency Gender Coordination Mechanism and making them functional functional for the effective implementation of the National Gender Equality and Equity Policy and its Implementation Action Plan.
- Strengthening the capacity of community members (youth, adults, women, men, boys, and girls, traditional leaders, church leaders, health extension workers, volunteers and Gender Focal Persons (GFPs)) and sensitising

them in basic legal literacy on gender related issues, including GBV and TIP.

- Accountability and capacity to ensure effective implementation of gender equality and equity policies at all levels, including strengthening of capacity for gender mainstreaming and Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting.
- Coaching and mentoring Parliamentarians on democratic processes and issues related to gender equality and women's empowerment through advocacy for 50/50 representation at all levels.
- Enhancing prevention and early intervention programs through community engagement and social behaviours change to eliminate harmful practices that perpetuate GBV and TIP in all spheres of life including the workplace, homes and schools.

## **4.2 Major achievements, projects and programs output completed in 2024/2025 Financial Year.**

**4.2.1** 4.2.1 The Namibia Gender Status Index improved from 0.80 in 2023/2024 to 0.81 in 2024/2025 Financial Year. Namibia has closed at least 81% ranking the Country at number **8** globally and number **1** in Sub-Saharan Africa. According to the Global Gender Gap Report 2024, these improvements were realized in the areas of Educational Attainment with **100%**, Health and Survival with **98%**, Economic Participation and Opportunity with **78.3%**, and Political Empowerment with **45.6%**.

**4.2.2** The following interventions were implemented during the period under review:

### **a) Gender Based Violence (GBV) campaign intensified**

- Thirty-six thousand, six hundred and fifty-eight (**36 658**) people were reached through campaigns, such as commemorations of National and International Days (Trafficking in Persons Day, **16** Days of Activism against GBV, International Human Rights/Namibia Women's Day, and International Women's Day).

- Two hundred and twenty-one (**221**) traditional leaders and religious leaders were capacitated on gender equality, GBV and Gender related laws through community conversations, training of stakeholders, and sensitization sessions.
- The Ministry hosted the **4<sup>th</sup>** National Men's Conferences in Rundu, Kavango East Region, under the theme: "Redefining Masculinity: A Holistic Approach to Well Being". The conference brought together over **835** men to discuss issues of mental health, men's health, gender related laws. The conference also reflected on a growing recognition of the importance of positive masculinity, emphasizing emotional health, interpersonal relationships, and community engagement. The health services such as HIV counselling and testing were provided during the conference.
- Thirty-six (**36**) Regional male staff members of the MGECW were sensitized, using the Men and Boys Training Manual on GBV, HIV/AIDS, and Sexual Reproductive Health in Erongo Region.

#### **b) National Gender Equality and Equity Policy (2025-2035)**

- The Policy was finalized and launched on **07 March 2025** in Opuwo, Kunene region, during the commemoration of International Women's Day. The goal of the Policy is to "reduce all forms of gender discrimination, Gender Based Violence, and gender inequalities in all spheres of life in Namibia leading to a gender-just society where women, men, girls and boys, Persons with Disabilities and Marginalised Communities, enjoy equal rights and live freely, in dignity, have equal access to opportunities, resources and participate equally and fully in the socio-economic development of the country".

#### **c) National Gender Coordination Mechanism:**

This is a multi-stakeholder gender coordination mechanism with different national levels (Ministerial chaired by the Right Honourable Prime



Minister and at Administrative levels chaired by various Executive Directors)

- The High-Level Gender Advisory Committee (GAC) - Chaired by the Prime Minister.
- National Gender Permanent Task Force (NGPTF) - Chaired by Executive Director for the MGECW.
- Six (6) National Implementation Clusters:
  - Gender Based Violence and Human Rights and Poverty Rural and Economic Development - chaired by Executive Director for MGECW.
  - Education, Girl and Boy Child - chaired by Executive Director, Ministry of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture.
  - Health and HIV & AIDS - chaired by Executive Director, Ministry of Health and Social Services.
  - Governance, Peace and Security - chaired by Executive Director, Office of the Prime Minister; and
  - Media, Research, Information and Communication - chaired by Executive Director, Ministry of Information and Community Technology.
- During the period under review, the High-Level GAC and NGPTF meetings were convened. Recommendations from these structures were incorporated in the National Gender Equality and Equity Policy.
- All the six National Implementation Clusters met 12 times during the period under review to provide inputs on the review and update of the National Gender Coordination Mechanism.
- Regional Gender Permanent Task Force and Constituency Gender Permanent Task Force meetings were convened in all 14 regions focussing on the implementation and monitoring of the National Gender Policy (2010-2020).

#### **d) Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting (GRPB)**

Thirty-five (35) Regional staff members responsible for Gender Programmes were trained on Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting in Otjozondjupa Region.

#### **e) Combating of Trafficking in Persons (TIP)**

- Thirty-six (36) Religious Leaders were trained on Trafficking in Persons guided by the Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act, 2018 (Act, No. 1 of 2018), The National Action Plan on Combating of Trafficking in Persons (2023 – 2027) (NAP on TIP), the National Referral Mechanism and its Standard Operating Procedures.
- The National Coordinating Body on Trafficking in Persons meetings were conducted quarterly during 2024/2025 FY to report on the implementation status of the NAP on TIP.

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

#### **Honourable Members**

In conclusion, I seek your support for the budget allocation of **N\$473,597,000 (FOUR HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-THREE MILLION, FIVE HUNDRED AND NINETY-SEVEN THOUSAND NAMIBIA DOLLARS)**, under Vote 36, to the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare to execute its core mandate of ensuring gender equality and equitable socio-economic development of women and men, and the well-being of children during the Financial Year 2025/2026.

Finally, I herewith extend my profound gratitude to the Deputy Minister, the Executive Director of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare, Ms Lydia H. Indombo, the Management Team and the entire staff members of the Ministry for their diligence in the compilation of the budget for the Financial Year 2025/2026. I thank you sincerely

**-THE END-**

