

# **REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**



## **THE STATE OF THE REGION ADDRESS (SORA) 2025 DELIVERED BY THE HARDAP REGIONAL GOVERNOR, HONOURABLE RIAAN CHARLES McNAB.**

**MARIENTAL, HARDAP REGION, WEDNESDAY, 09<sup>th</sup> July 2025  
@10H00**

**HARDAP REGIONAL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR,  
AUTA !NANSEB BUILDING, KATRINA HANSE-HIMARWA  
STREET, MARIENTAL, NAMIBIA**

Honourable Chairperson, Gershon Daniel Francois Dausab

All Regional Councillors

Her Worship the Mayor of Mariental, Hon Sherine Kock & other Mayors

All Local Authority Councillors

The Acting Chief Regional Officer & all Heads of OMA's

Staff members of the Hardap Regional Council, Local Authority Councils and Line Ministries

Respected Chiefs and Councillors of Traditional Authorities

Esteemed Religious Leaders

All Political Heads

Different Managers & Staff of the Business fraternity, various stakeholder companies, private partners & SOE's

Residents of Hardap Region & the Media, the viewers and the Public at large;

**Good Morning...**

I am standing before you today, to deliver the State of the Region Address (SORA) of Hardap Region for the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year as mandated by Article 110A subsection (5) and (6) of the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia read together with Section 1 (a) and (d) of the Regional Councils Act, Act No. 22 of 1992. Let me on behalf of the region and indeed on my own behalf comment the Namibian

democracy that has once again proven its maturity as we transitioned into becoming a female led country. We have reason to celebrate as a nation as we have just entrusted our country to a woman of substance to lead Namibia as our 5<sup>th</sup> President of Namibia in the person of Her Excellency Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah and our equally able Vice President, also a woman of substance, Her Excellency Lucia Witbooi. Also, at the helm of the Namibian Parliament, we have a tested cadre, also our woman in the person of Dr. Sara Kuugongelwa-Amathila. This is truly a testimony of a matured democracy. I would also at this juncture express my gratitude to the President Her Excellency Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah for having entrusted me with the mammoth task of heading this great region as the Governor, I accept this call with all humility and commitment.

It has now been exactly five (5) months since we bid farewell to our beloved late Founding President of the Republic of Namibia, Dr. Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma, who sadly left us on the 8th of February 2025, may his revolutionary soul rest in eternal peace. Whilst we mourn his death, we remain grateful to our giant of the soil for paving the way to a free Namibia working very closely with his comrades. His selfless dedication to the freedom struggle is worth emulating now that we are faced with the struggle of economic emancipation. I vividly remember the slogan of our founding President, the father of the Namibian nation,

“A PEOPLE UNITED STRIVING TO ACHIEVE THE COMMON GOOD OF ALL MEMBERS OF SOCIETY WILL ALWAYS

EMERGE VICTORIOUS”. True indeed, let that call of unity always resonate with us.

We can only achieve economic freedom if we lead as selfless leaders and not leaders who only serve our interest. This therefore is a call to the regional leadership to emulate the selfless deeds of all our leaders who have since departed from this world. We can only keep their legacies alive if we live by the principles they have set.

**Honourable Chairperson and dear fellow citizens,**

Our communities in the Hardap region are expecting socio-economic developments to curb the issues of unemployment, drought, poverty and quality service delivery.

Hon. Dausab, as Chairperson of the Hardap Regional Council and Member of the Green Hydrogen Council, the citizenry of Hardap Region have hopes that the discovery of oil and gas, and green hydrogen will bring to them the much-needed relieve. Three years ago, Green Hydrogen was just a topic of conversation as stated by our Late President Dr. Hage G. Geingob, may his soul rest in perfect peace, and today it is a reality. Institutions and policies are in place. We are deliberate in using the interest in Green Hydrogen to stimulate other sectors of our economy and new adjacent industries, including logistics, agriculture and sustainable manufacturing. I implore on you together with the Regional and Local leadership to ensure that the benefits of these discoveries also spill over to our region for its greater benefit. Recently, on the 02<sup>nd</sup> July 2025, we witnessed the launch of the

Youth for Green Hydrogen Scholarship in Gibeon. The scholarship call is open as from the 07<sup>th</sup> July 2025 and will run until 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025. I urgently implore all youth between 18 and 35 years to apply now. The application forms are available at the Office of the Governor and all constituency offices. The outreach teams from SASSCAL and NSFAF are out in the constituencies, please go there, ask questions and learn more about the application process.

I want to quote from the State of Nation Address by Her Excellency, Dr. Nandi-Ndaitwah ,”As Citizens of Namibia, we can write the next chapter of our common destiny when we accept that it should not be business as usual. Our Plan is to deliver on our theme “Unity in Diversity, Natural Resources Beneficiation and Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Development” through the SWAPO Party Manifesto Implementation Plan. We cannot realize the ambitious undertakings contained in our Manifesto, if we continue to do things in the same manner, yet expecting different results. I will repeat it again here; we are too few to be poor and we can eradicate poverty. The Plan that we have, which clearly outlines 7 priority areas and 8 critical economic enablers must drive the socio-economic transformation we have committed to deliver to our people over the next 5 years.

The priority areas are:

1. Agriculture
2. Sports
3. Youth Empowerment

4. Quality Education & Training
5. Creative Industries
6. Quality Health & Social Welfare
7. Land, Housing & Sanitation

This is the plan and commitment of the 8th Administration under the able leadership of Her Excellency.

On this note, allow me to report on activities, programmes and developments of the different Offices, Ministries & Agencies as follows;

**Honourable Chairperson & Fellow Namibians, allow me to commence with reporting on the achievements by the Hardap Regional Council through delegated functions in the Region.**

- On-going construction of Services Infrastructure (Bulk Water Services) in Schlip Settlement to the tune of N\$7, 9 million.
- Rehabilitation of Oxidation Ponds in Hoachanas, N\$4,4 million.
- Construction of Interlocked Paved Road (Phase 1), N\$1 million
- Construction of 147 Rural Toilets, N\$2,6 million
- Social programs & community well-being was valued at N\$346,000.00
- HIV preventative initiatives undertaken to the tune of N\$360,000.00.
- Construction and connection of the houses to the main line have been completed by the contractors, and construction and

connection fees have been paid. The following places have been electrified during the year under review, Klein-Aub and Soutput, benefitting 182 beneficiaries.

**HONOURABLE CHAIRPERSON, MEMBERS, AND THE PUBLIC, I WILL NOW REPORT ON THE HEALTHCARE IN THE REGION.**

**Public Health Programs:**

**100%** of HIV clients were put on treatment.

The **Viral Load suppression** was recorded at **86%**.

The **TB treatment success rate** was **91%** for new and relapse cases. Our TB treatment success rate has remained the same for the last two reporting periods.

**Measles and Rubella Coverage** stands at **75 %**. Our MR 1 coverage remains regrettably low. It has even dropped further with 3% compared to the previous reporting period and this remains a source of concern so I would like to plead with all our mothers to bring the children for vaccination to the health facilities or to the outreach points.

**Staff Recruitment: 2024/2025.**

The directorate recorded a post-filled rate of 51.4% which is a 3% increase compared to the previous financial year.

### **Provision of Medical Equipment:**

- The region has received a number of medical equipment during the year under review. This includes infant incubators, Defibrillators, patient monitors, CTG monitors a dental chair for Rehoboth health centre just to mention but a few. In addition, the region has also received 37 wheelchairs.

### **HONOURABLE CHAIRPERSON, DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS & THE PUBLIC, I WILL NOW REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND LAND REFORM**

The region received above average rainfall after a prolonged dry spell which negatively impacted agricultural activities. The Hardap dam water levels dropped to 5%, stopping irrigation and halting production at the Hardap Green Scheme. Good rains have been received in the region during the just ended rainy season, to the relieve of all farmers. For the Agricultural sector, the government has allocated a total of 130 million nationally towards, Livestock Support Interventions and Crop Production incentives. The duration of these interventions is from 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

For the year under review the region has submitted claims valued at N\$ 11,9 million at the time of this report.

The Ministry is implementing Comprehensive Conservation Agriculture. The region has 382 farmers practicing at least 1 of the 3 principles of Conservation Agriculture.



The Ministry is implementing the following schemes under the Harambee Comprehensively Coordinated and Integrated Agriculture Development Programme (HACCIADEP):

**1. The National Horticulture Value Chain** was allocated N\$1,5 million for the year under review. The project started in 2019/2020 and is valued at N\$5,4 million benefitting 348 farmers with subsidized inputs.

**2. The Poultry Value Chain Development Scheme** was allocated N\$700,000.00. The project started in the 2020/21 financial year and is valued at N\$2.4 million benefitting 340 farmers with subsidized inputs.

**3. Agricultural mechanization scheme;**

The Namibia Agricultural Mechanization and Seed System Improvement Project (NAMSIP) development goal is to improve household food security and contribute to poverty reduction. Farm machinery is being delivered in the region, this consist of tractors, walking tractors with matching implements, balers, rakers and mowers, and hand-held equipment. A total of 14 Contractual Farm Machinery Operators underwent intensive training and will operate the tractors and provide ploughing services.

**4. The Small Stock Distribution and Development in Communal Areas** is a revolving scheme. To date, a total of 1,100 ewes and 55 rams were distributed to 55 beneficiaries.

**5. The Dairy value chain development scheme** is valued at N\$3 million benefitting 8 farmers.

In addition, The Directorate of Agriculture Production, Extension, and Engineering Services as per its mandate, provided extension services through advisory, mentorship, and training to over 4550 farmers, including schools, hostels, hospices, and backyard/community/individual gardens during the period under review.

**Honorable Chairperson,**

Land delivery is central to sustainable development and community well-being. The division of Land Reform is mandated to ensure tenure security, land use efficiency and economic development. The following is the progress made on addressing Land Reform.

- One (1) farm was acquired during the year under review.
- Three (3) beneficiaries were resettled on farms acquired.
- A total amount of N\$ 258,000.00 in lease fees was collected from resettlement beneficiaries and N\$ 500.00 collected from communal leaseholds.
- A total of 120 communal land rights were registered.

## **Under Rural Water Supply and Sanitation services,**

- A total of four hundred and eighty (480) water points are maintained in the region of which thirty-eight (38) water points have bad quality water and therefore supplied with water by a tanker until such time that alternative water sources are developed.
- A total of 6 boreholes were successfully drilled, whilst one (1) was unsuccessful.
- A total of 9 Installation of Newly Drilled Boreholes.
- The Rehabilitation of 8 Water Points.
- Three small pipeline extensions at Korakorabes post to Korakorabes (2,9 km), Kaitzub (1,8 km) and Rooikrans (2,5 km).

## **Water Tanker Services**

- Water was delivered by tanker to one hundred and sixteen (116) Water Points in the so called “Salt Block” area, which has saline water.

## **Emergency Water Supply**

- A total of sixteen (16) emergency water supplies were done, which included assisting Line Ministries.

## **Water Point Breakdowns on Water Infrastructures**

- A total of Four hundred and thirty-six (436) repairs on water Infrastructure (engines, solar, pipelines and windmills) were

carried out during the period under review, which includes assisting Line ministries.

### **Community-Based Management of Rural Water Supply (CBM) implementation**

- A total of 41 water committees established to date.

### **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) programs Community-Led Total Sanitation.**

- A total number of fourteen (14) villages were triggered to date and the progress has been satisfactory.
- A total of 200 beneficiaries of rural toilets received necessary education on how to use and maintain their toilets.

### **User Education on sanitation facilities**

- A total of 200 beneficiaries of rural toilets received necessary education on how to use and maintain their toilets during the period under review.
- A total of 7 WPC's and 65 Caretakers were trained.

## **NOW, REPORTING ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY**

- As a way to contribute towards economic development of the region, the office produced a mini-series titled “Promoting SMEs” which aimed at promoting micro, small and medium businesses in the region.

- The office also produced a Regional Profile focusing on Digital Transformation in the region, the documentary will be screened during the weeks leading up to the 35th independence celebration to showcase how the region has evolved digitally over the past years.
- As part of the Ministry's goal to roll out digital literacy in the country especially in rural areas, the MICT Hardap Office hosted the first digital literacy training in Maltahohe. Over 20 unemployed youth were equipped with basic computer skills, different editing applications such Capcut and Canva, basic photography and video production skills, as well as caption writing.
- More than forty (40) news stories focusing on developmental and current affairs for National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) News @ 8 main news bulletin segment was produced.
- The completion of the construction of the new state of the art MICT Regional Office is envisaged for July this year. Construction started September 2023, at a cost of approximately N\$6, 5 million.

**HONOURABLE CHAIRPERSON, MEMBERS AND THE PUBLIC AT LARGE, MAY I TAKE YOU THROUGH ON SOME OF THE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION**

- During 2024 Academic year there was a total enrollment of 29,590 learners compared to 30,166 during the current academic year, showing an increase of 576 learners.
- The Academic performance for Grade 11 Namibia Senior Secondary Certificate Ordinary level ranked 13<sup>th</sup> nationally, a decline from 12<sup>th</sup> position in 2023.
- In addition, for the grade 12 Namibia Senior Secondary Certificate Advance Subsidiary, Hardap region ranked 12<sup>th</sup> position, a decline of 7 positions from 5<sup>th</sup> place nationally.
- The challenges we are facing stem from factors such as child-headed households, poor academic performance, and poverty at home. These conditions have led to increased dropout rates, primarily due to hunger, as high schools currently do not have school feeding programs. Consequently, some learners are turning to substance abuse, including drugs and alcohol. This situation underscores the urgent need for coordinated efforts among all stakeholders to ensure that children remain in school.
- A total of 1337 candidates enrolled for the NSSCO and only 184 qualified for AS level, constituting 13.8%.
- The region has a total of eleven (11) schools that offer the AS-level. Dr. Lemmer High School recorded the highest % of learners qualifying for NSSCAS level at 31,6% and Daweb SS recorded the lowest at 5,1 %.

## **ALLOW ME, HON CHAIRPERSON AND THE PUBLIC TO REPORT ON THE INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT UNDERTAKEN BY THE DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION**

- Construction of two (2) ablution facilities, ten (10) classrooms and a 4, 5 hectares security fence at Rehoboth Project School, Block G, Rehoboth.
- Construction of 4 classrooms at Captain Rev. Dr Hendrik Witbooi Primary School, Gibeon.
- Construction of 4 classrooms at Rooiduin Senior Secondary School, Aranos.
- Emergency work was done under the development budget; revamp and replacement of 4 worn-out cooler and freezer rooms at Mariental High School Boys' and girls' hostel, Sonop and Empelheim hostels.
- A three-bedroom house and bathrooms were renovated at Empelheim hostel and Mariental respectively. Sewage pumps were replaced at Anna Maasdorp Combined School, Samuel Veldskoen Primary School & Cornelius //Oaseb hostel.
- The Ministry undertook major procurement projects; Supply and delivery of new fleet for the Directorate (5x Sedans, 4x Single Cabs and 1x Double Cab at N\$4,8 million; Rental of four Heavy Duty Photocopy Machines for 36 Months at N\$812,000.00; Procurement of computers for Maltahohe Library N\$61,000.00; Supply and Installation of 3x Clever Touch Interactive Smart Screens at N\$251,000.00 and

- Procurement of 200 Mattresses & 2x 20L Electric Urns for Hostels at N\$200,00.00. Procurement of No. 5 chairs and desks for schools N\$855,000.00; Procurement of Textbooks at N\$1,3 million; Procurement of 18 Laptops & 14 computers for the Directorate at N\$629,000.00; Procurement of equipment for technical subjects at N\$331,000.00 and Trails at N\$97,000.00.
- A total of 29 capacity building trainings were undertaken during the year under review targeting, academic staff members, management, youth and adults.

## **UNDER THE DIRECTORATE OF YOUTH**

- Kai//Kanachab Vocational Training Centre has officially started with an intake for the Skills training in June 2024, with 160 students that will complete this year as they are currently on Job attachment.
- Youth programs like the 121 Youth Enterprises development, under the HPP, has kick started in Gibeon constituency, where the youth has set up a General Shop to the tune of N\$ 300 000.00.
- trained 61 Adolescent Boys and Young Men as well as 118 Adolescent Girls and Young Woman in the towns of Rehoboth, Mariental, Aranos and Gibeon under the Government two Government initiative (G2G).
- Under the same G2G initiative 32 young men were trained in Maltahohe under the Grass Roots Development program.



- established a youth garden at the old youth centre that is still productive as of date.
- The ministry has also facilitated the intake for NYS and NAMPOL as well as the Defence ministry.
- The Youth Sport Stadium was also renovated for an amount of N\$ 2 million last year and is currently ready for utilization of sport activities.
- As we speak, we do have young people from Hardap region that is participating in the region 5 COSAFA games underway in Windhoek.

**HONOURABLE CHAIRPERSON AND THE CITIZENRY, NOW  
I WILL REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NAMIBIAN  
POLICE IN HARDAP REGION,**

- The Namibian Police in the Hardap Region consists of thirteen operational police stations and the Police Regional Headquarters in Mariental.
- The Namibian Police Force is in the process of adding additional Sub-Divisions to the region, such as the Protected Resources Sub-Division and Cyber Crime Sub-Division. These offices play a very crucial role in the investigation of complex cases.
- The Gender Based Violence Vulnerable Victims Protection Unit in Mariental was renovated at a cost of N\$ 477 000,00.
- Additionally, two plots were donated by Rehoboth Town Council, Erf No. 8, Block E: A prefabricated structure is readily available

to be used as a mobile police station while funds are sourced to build a permanent police station.

- Erf No. 4537, Block B: Situated next to the current police station was donated to extend the existing police station with additional offices and holding cells.
- Furthermore, an approval was granted by the Inspector-General of Police to build a police station, on a plot which was donated by the Hardap Regional Council at Rehoboth Urban West Constituency. This plot is strategically located in Burgershoek location to render police services to communities of Blocks A, D, F and G.
- Equally, plot No. 352 in Mariental next to the Police Regional Head Quarters was also donated by the Municipality of Mariental for the building of a Police Mortuary and Medium Workshop.
- In terms of crime statistics, the region experienced a 6% reduction in the crime rate for the period under review. Additionally, 977 of the total cases reported in the 2024/2025 Financial Year are police generated cases which constitute 23.4% of the total cases, which is a clear indication of police operations and efforts to address crime in Hardap Region. These police generated cases include intelligence led operations, station, regional -and national operations.
- The most common crimes committed in the region are: Assault with intend to cause Grievous Bodily Harm, Domestic related

crimes such as rape, thefts of all kinds, housebreaking with the intent to steal and theft, and stock theft.

**Possession and/or dealing in dependence producing drugs or substances:**

- In the year 2024, a total of 255 cases were reported in the region. A total of 278 arrests were effected of which 261 were male adults, 16 females and 1 juvenile female were arrested in connection with the related crimes.

**Total drugs confiscated:**

- 7,8 kg of pure cannabis with the value of N\$79,000.00,
- 30 kg of skunk cannabis valued at N\$1,5 million,
- 2 960 full mandrax tablets with the value of N\$ 356,000.00, and
- 4 units of cocaine with the value of N\$ 400.00.
- The total value of drugs confiscated is N\$1,9 million.

**Besides prolonged droughts, increased cost of production, farmers are also faced by the alarming cases of Stock Theft**

- A total of 285 cases of stock theft were reported during 2024 which led to the arrest of 222 adult males.
- A number of 180 large and 1 714 small livestock were reported stolen to the value of N\$6,9 million of which only 13 cattle and 197 goats and sheep were recovered. The total value of N\$ 564,000.00 was recovered, which constitutes 8.15%.

## **Gender Based Violence awareness campaigns.**

- A total of three (3) GBV awareness campaigns were lodged during the financial year.

## **Border Security**

- Strengthening border security through continued patrol was conducted along the Namibian-Botswana and Namibia-South Africa borderlines to secure the internal security of the region and the country at large.

## **HONOURABLE CHAIRPERSON, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I WILL KNOW REPORT ON HOME AFFAIRS**

- A total of 3 965 National Identity cards were printed, however 984 remain uncollected.
- The office registered 2 646 births and 919 deaths.

## **Outreach conducted**

- All eight (8) constituencies in the region were visited and all services rendered.
- A mass mobile registration was conducted at the Mariental Expo, during the period under review. A total 369 births were registered, and 249 duplicate birth certificates were issued.
- The Ministry of Health and Social Services allocated office space for the registration of births and deaths at the Mariental

State Hospital, the office will be opened once assessment is done.

- E-Birth and E-death notification system has been implemented at Stampriet and Hoachanas Clinics.

## **REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF HARDAP CORRECTIONAL FACILITY**

- The current facility capacity accommodates 818 inmates.
- For 2024/2025 a total of 60 inmates enrolled for core structured programmes in comparison to 2023/2024 where 32 inmates were enrolled 47 % increase in enrolments due to demand to address risks.
- The NCS produces food for inmates ration to reduce government spending and ensure organisational strategic plan to be self-sufficiency in food production.
- Impart knowledge and skills to inmates through practical agricultural activities.
- Currently 23 inmates are involved in the production.
- A total of 18 hectares are under production (Animal Husbandry and Crop Production); 2 hectares are occupied by the Piggery (180 porkers slaughtered monthly yielding 10-12 tons); 10 hectares are under Centre Pivot (Maize and Wheat); 2 hectares garden under sprinkler irrigation for vegetables and 4 hectares Lucerne.
- The total monetary value stands at N\$4,3 million.

- The facility workshop was established 2003 for maintaining purposes of the facility. The workshop has the following vocational trades: 1. Building Construction which consist of the following sub-trades: brick laying and plastering, plumbing and pipe fitting, electrical general, air condition and refrigeration and carpentry. 2. vehicle implement and repair (mechanics) 3. metal work (welding and fabrication) and 4. textile (tailoring). A total of 36 inmates placed in these different trades.
- Infrastructure development included conversion of old agriculture store into official accommodation, construction of 8 decent rooms for officers; construction of 6 prefabricated houses was erected in the facility premises for officers and they are all completed; construction of 15 government car parking facilities; construction of 1 poultry house and electrical fence.
- Offender Education is divided into three programs.
- Functional literacy: meant for all illiterate inmates and it is divided into 3 level. Level 1-3. Thirty-two (32) inmates enrolled for 2024/2025.
- Educational upgrading to improve vocational training and employment prospects: These activities include Adult Upper Primary Education and other activities that targets inmates whose risk of offending and reoffending is tied to poor employment resulting from low education attainment. Four (4) inmates enrolled one (1) completed for 2024/2025.

- Education activities based on interest: This includes inmates that are studying towards upgrading their academic result for Grade 11-12 NAMCOL and five (5) inmates enrolled one (1) completed.

## **REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF GENDER EQUALITY, AND CHILD WELFARE**

### **SOCIAL PROTECTION SERVICES**

- A total of 28,444 beneficiaries have been registered and are receiving social grants during the period under review and the grants are broken down as follows:
  - Maintenance grants 3 636
  - Foster Care Grant 459
  - Special Maintenance Grant 432
  - Vulnerable Grants 7 860
  - Old Age Grant 9 968
  - Disability Grant 3 387
  - Conditional Basic Income Grant 2 702.

### **GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT**

- The sub-division held 6 advocacy programs throughout the region.
- Conducted Constituency Gender Permanent Task Force meetings in all constituency in Hardap Region.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ERADICATION**

- There are 81 Early Childhood Development Centres in the region of which 61 receive subsidies.
- There are 182 Edu carers of which 4 are male and 178 are female.
- A total of 2,467 children are enrolled at Early Childhood Development Centres of which 1,281 are female and 1,186 are male.
- The purpose of the Income Generating Grant is to enhance the livelihood of communities for both rural and urban communities.
- IGA equipment's and materials were handed over to 6 Beneficiaries in 4 constituencies (Gibeon, Mariental Rural, Aranos and Rehoboth Rural) for the amount of N\$77 000.
- Model Early Childhood Development Centre (ECD) was constructed by Anglo American Foundation in Stampriet, Mariental Rural Constituency.

## **CHILD CARE AND PROTECTION SERVICES**

- A Place of Safety (Safe House) in Mariental has been operational since August 2024 to provide protection and care for children in need and victims of human trafficking.
- A total of 145 Children working and living on the streets were reintegrated/integrated back into school from January 2025, in collaboration with other stakeholders in Mariental.



## **THE FOLLOWING IS THE REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

### **WELFARE PROGRAMS;**

- The purpose of financial assistance is to assist veterans of the liberation struggle to afford the basic necessities of life in order to sustain themselves and their families. The assistance is given to registered veterans. There are 294 approved veterans in the region.
- The purpose of the funeral assistance is to ensure that registered veterans are accorded respectable and dignified burials. A total number of 8 Funeral assistance were granted to deceased veterans for 2024/2025 FY.
- A total number of 19 tombstones were erected on the graves of veterans of the Namibia National Liberation Struggle for 2024/2025 FY. The total budget for the erection of Tombstones was N\$ 304 000.00.
- Veterans Affairs in accordance with the Veterans Act No.2 of 2008 and the regulations thereof oversee the implementation of the economic project Individual Veterans Projects (IVPs) which are initiated by veterans. A total number of 5 IVPs have been paid and a total of 111 IVPs are approved, pending funds.

**HONOURABLE CHAIRPERSON AND THE INHABITANTS,  
THE INFORMATION BELOW REFLECTS  
DEVELOPMENTAL PROJECTS OF THE LOCAL  
AUTHORITY COUNCILS**

**MARIENTAL MUNICIPALITY**

- Completed of 33 toilets in Aimablaagte and Takarania, fully funded by the Municipality, aimed at improving public health.
- The NATIS Road project, provides direct access to industrial areas, and is on track for completion.
- Installation of Pre-Paid Water Meters: Procurement of 2,990 pre-paid water meters (funded by the line ministry) is underway, with installation expected by the end of July 2025, aiming to improve water usage accountability.
- NHE Housing Project – Aimablaagte: The National Housing Enterprise is constructing 34 houses in Aimablaagte, contributing to reducing the housing backlog.
- Shack Dwellers Federation Housing Development (SDFN): Ongoing partnership with SDFN has resulted in 110 serviced plots and 42 houses constructed for low- and ultra-low-income residents. An additional 139 erven in Empelheim Extension 4 have been allocated to SDFN members. The community-led servicing model has seen the successful construction of 38 houses to date.
- Empelheim Extension 5: Undergoing formalization with restructured erven and communal water points. Resident relocation is in progress.

- Aimablaagte Extensions 2 and 3: Identified as priority areas with 515 erven facing illegal encroachments. Redesign of Empelheim Extension 5 increased erf numbers through reduced plot sizes under the Flexible Land Tenure Act. While communal services exist in Aimablaagte, Empelheim Extension 5 is a greenfield site with limited infrastructure. The main constraint is the Municipality's limited financial capacity for land servicing, necessitating support from the line Ministry and exploration of alternative strategies like incremental and community-led servicing.

## **REHOBOTH TOWN COUNCIL**

- Construction of a new fire station valued at N\$4,9 million
- Construction of Lukert Swartbooi Street: Gravel to Bitumen at N\$3,2 million with the purpose of providing access to the new cemetery in block H and Block E.
- Repair of boundary fence around Rehoboth Townlands phase 1 valued at N\$1,364 million.
- Upgrading of Henry Bell Street at N\$3,2 million.
- Establishment and Fencing of a new cemetery in block H, at N\$3,2 million.
- Replacement of 1 500 dysfunctional Electricity PPMs in block E (phase 2) internally funded Project valued N\$5,7 million.
- TID rollover project for electricity meters for the entire town to make meters compatible with the new system valued at N\$1,2 million.

- Refurbishment of sewer pond or construction of a new sewer trickling plant for Rehoboth funded by MURD, valued at N\$21 million.
- Construction and upgrading of a total of 4km streets to bitumen standard funded by RFA, valued at N\$27 million.
- Revamping of Reho Spar valued at N\$6,8 million
- Construction of water network for Block H, Extension 2 at N\$1,3 million.
- Procure and install 7 200 split-type electricity meters around town valued at N\$36 million.
- Procure and install 9 500 water prepaid meters for the entire Rehoboth Town valued at N\$33 million.

### **Joint Venture with Private Developers**

- Construction of a 4MW Solar Plant
- Sales of 12Ha plot for the development of retail and truck port center
- Sale of 80 Ha plot for development of four township for the purpose of housing development
- Sale of 200 residential plots in the Extension 1 of Hillside Township for the purpose of housing development.

## **STAMPRIET VILLAGE COUNCIL**

- Consultants appointed to design projects for landfill sites, oxidation pond extension, borehole drilling and water supply system.
- Construction of a soccer field and road construction.

## **THE GIBEON VILLAGE COUNCIL REPORT THE FOLLOWING CAPITAL PROJECTS:**

- Phase 1 of the Sewerage Reticulation Project is funded by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water & Land Reform and MURD, to the tune of N\$ 2 million and N\$ 440,000,00 respectively.
- An amount of N\$ 5 million was earmarked for Phase 2 Sewerage Reticulation of which N\$ 2 million was utilized.
- The Gibeon Village Council has requested Keetmanshoop Municipality through Keetmanshoop Electricity Business Unit (KEBU) to assist the Council with the Token Identification Rollover exercise, where a total of close to 700 premises were visited since the inception of the program in February 2024. Overall, a total of 615 representing 88 % of active meters have successfully been Token Identified since the inception of the project.

## **MALTAHOHE VILLAGE COUNCIL**

- Supply of electricity in town to the value of N\$3,5 million funded by MURD.

- Interlock roads in town to the value of N\$832,000.00 and N\$1 million funded by RFA and MURD respectively.
- Water Supply to Vaal Kamp/Informal Settlement, at a tune of N\$4,5 million. In addition, electricity infrastructure was completed and funded by Nampower, with 110-meter installations.
- Installation of a PowerStation at Andrewville, valued at N\$250,000.00 and the upgrade of informal area at N\$350,000.00. Formalization of the new informal settlement is almost 95% completed.
- Electrical meters installation at N\$3,6 million.
- Water meter installation at N\$3,6 million.
- Extension 1 Happy Valley, establishment of 144 erwen.
- Gravel road upgrading for 20Km between Maltahohe and Helmeringhausen funded by Roads Authority.

## **ARANOS VILLAGE COUNCIL**

- Electrification of 800 houses in the informal settlement of Aranos, the project is being carried out through the Energy Management Contract agreement with Keetmanshoop Municipality and the Aranos Town Council. Kebu provides technical experience to manage and monitor the process of electrification of the 800 houses, the project is estimated to the cost of N\$9,6 million and is estimated to run for a period of 8 months.

- Upgrading 380m of Park Street- from gravel to interlock pavers. The project was funded through the RFA at a cost of N\$2, 2 million.
- Build Together Housing Programme-Construction of 27 houses underway at the cost of N\$2,1 million funded by MURD and the Regional Development Trust fund.
- Construction of 20 Houses through Shack Dwellers federation at a cost of N\$720 000.00
- Upgrading of the Aranos Town Council Electricity Main Intake switch gear to a modern MV switch gear. The project involves the decommission of the old switch gear to a modern switch gear, project is being funded by the MURD at a cost of N\$2 million, the project is to be completed within 8 months.
- Supply and delivery of 664 prepaid electricity meters and 1 164 prepaid water meters for the Aranos Town Council. – Project is funded by the Ministry, Project timeline - 5 months.
- The fencing of the current Oxidation ponds for the Aranos Town Council with Razor Mesh wire (160m x 60m) –Council funded, project is estimated to cost N\$400 000.00 and be completed in 4 months.

## **KALKRAND VILLAGE COUNCIL**

- The KVC is in the process of upgrading the mini electrical substation to the tune of N\$ 800,000.00 and N\$ 250,000.00 for connecting 28 households on septic tanks to the main sewer line.

- For the 2025/26 F.Y. The office planned to finalize the electricity network and road works in Extension 3 from a budget allocation of N\$ 1.5 M. The remaining balance on the budget allocation will be utilised for the rehabilitation of the old borehole behind the Kalkrand Police Station.
- The Council received an amount of N\$1,5M (2024/25 F.Y.) under the Decentralized Build Together Program from the Line Ministry and is targeting to construct 25 houses. The Office is currently in the planning process to execute the implementation/construction of the houses for the 2025/26 F.Y. Similar amount is more or less expected to roll out the BTP on a yearly basis to meet the target of more than 100 houses in five-year period.

## **GOCHAS VILLAGE COUNCIL**

- Interlocking of roads for N\$1 million in Auobplaat (215m) and in Town (230 m).
- TID Rollover: Budget allocated was N\$ 855 000.00. A total of 300 new electrical meters were installed.
- The Ministry granted approval for a budget of N\$ 2 2 million towards the construction of 37 houses for qualifying beneficiaries including nine institutional workers under the Build Together Program.
- The restoration of the oxidation pond is ongoing and an amount of N\$1, 3 million was spent. Phase 2 is valued at N\$4, 1 million.



## **PROJECTS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF HARDAP REGIONAL GOVERNOR'S OFFICE**

### **GOVERNOR'S SOCIAL PROGRAMMES**

- The Governors Kitchen Programme treats community members throughout the region with a meal through its pop-up kitchens. This was an initiative by the former Governor Hon. April and my office is continuing with this initiative.
- The Governors' office was preoccupied with socio-economic activities such as the provision of proper housing, food parcels, and financial assistance from primary school levels to Tertiary Education, in an attempt to better the livelihoods of the people in the whole of the region.
- Governor's Office has with the assistance and goodwill of Teviva Trading cc build a new ECD Centre for the "Withuis" community on the outskirts of Mariental.

**FINALLY, HONOURABLE CHAIRPERSON AND DEAR CITIZENS OF THE GREAT HARDAP REGION, I WILL NOW PRESENT THE REGIONS FUTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES FOR 2025/26.**

### **ARANOS TOWN COUNCIL**

- Upgrading of Sewerage system for the Town of Aranos to gravity sewer lines and upgrading of sewerage ponds. Project at

feasibility stage and to be funded through MURD at a cost of N\$8 million.

- Formalization of the informal settlement, upgrade and finalization of the Aranos Town Planning Scheme is estimated at N\$2, 3 million.
- Formalization and establishment of 5-hectare, 20 Urban Agriculture plots.
- Formalization and establishment of 100 erven at Aranos Proper town.
- Request for supply and delivery of interlock for the town council, for the paving of roads within the town of Aranos. Project is estimated to a total of N\$1.1 million, funded through the RFA.

#### **MALTAHOHE VILLAGE COUNCIL ENVISAGES THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTAL PROJECTS:**

- Construction of a Community Hall and Recreation Facility (Soccer Field)
- Extension of Shack dwellers
- Continuation Of water and Electricity infrastructure in Informal Area.
- Need to Purchase at least 20 standpipe meters for the new extension of Informal Settlement area.
- Renovation of SME Park.

## **MARIENTAL MUNICIPALITY**

- In order to address the inadequate land for development, the municipality is:
- Expediting the process to acquire 614 hectares of Farm Koichas No. 89 donated by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia
- Seeking acquisition of Portion 16 of Farm Koichas No. 89 (283.4 hectares) at N\$5 million.
- Engaging with the Evangelical Lutheran Church to acquire an additional 2,4 hectares of remaining land.

## **NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL SERVICES**

- The NCS envisage to; convert the old agriculture store into official accommodation for phase 2.
- Construction of new gate house (guard room).
- Construction of 2 furrowing houses.
- Construction of facility workshop; and
- Construction of 2 additional chicken houses

## **NAMIBIAN POLICE,**

- An application was made to the Regional Council to allocate two government houses for Drug Law Enforcement and Gender Based Violence Vulnerable Victims Protection Sub-Divisions. This matter needs urgent intervention.

## **REHOBOTH TOWN COUNCIL**

- Plans to construct a Solar Plant, funded by the developer.
- Engineering Consultant services for design of own water storage to be supplied by the boreholes to supply block E.
- Refurbishment of sewer ponds funded by MURD.
- Construction of additional infrastructures (Road, water network, ablution facilities etc.) in the new Cemetery in block H
- Replacement of 1 500 dysfunctional Electricity PPMs in block E **(Phase 2)**.
- Token Identification Rollover project for electricity meters for the entire Town
- Electrification of Block H area **(Phase 1)**.
- Refuse removal and landfill management - main contract for 2 years of construction and upgrading of a total of 4km of streets to bitumen standard funded RFA.
- Repair of boundary fence around Rehoboth Townlands 302 (Phase 1)
- Upgrading of Henry Bell Street (the road to the new Cemetery)

## **GIBEON VILLAGE COUNCIL**

- With funding from the RFA amounting to **N\$ 900,000.00** for the financial year 2024/2025 for Road Construction under Phase two (2). This is an ongoing project to be facilitated through the Procurement process.

## **STAMPRIET VILLAGE COUNCIL**

- With the remaining N\$ 588,000.00 from RFA, council will complete a 60-meter interlock road extension.
- Completion of a General Valuation Roll with funding of N\$ 450,000.00 from the MURD.
- Construction of a septic tank for 10 houses, funded by the Council and built by its staff.

### **Closing Remarks;**

**As I conclude this State of the Region address, I call upon every leader, every stakeholder, and every citizen of Hardap to embrace a renewed spirit of dedication and hard work. The challenges before us are great, but so too is our potential to overcome them through unwavering commitment and collective action.**

**Let us reject the notion of “business as usual” and adapt to “not business as usual”. Our people deserve better service delivery, improved livelihoods, and sustainable development. It is our solemn duty to rise above complacency and to deliver tangible results that transform lives.**

**I urge all regional leadership and partners to familiarize yourselves thoroughly with the National Development Plan 6 (NDP6) and the developmental blueprint of Namibia’s 8th Administration. These strategic frameworks are our guiding stars, designed to steer us**

**toward inclusive growth, social equity, and prosperity for all. Therefore, corruption has no place in the Hardap Region and we declare zero tolerance on any corrupt activity and declare a balanced shared prosperity by demonstrating ethical leadership in the sole interest of our inhabitants of this great region.**

**Over the next five years, the Office of the Governor is committed to harnessing and expanding the agricultural potential of the Hardap region, unlocking its vast resources to drive sustainable economic growth. A key priority will be empowering our youth and aggressively addressing unemployment through targeted initiatives and skills development programs.**

**In addition, we will focus on improving housing and sanitation infrastructure to enhance living conditions across the region. Our strategic agenda also includes advancing quality education and vocational training to equip our citizens with the skills needed for the future economy.**

**We will promote the growth of creative industries as a catalyst for innovation and job creation, while ensuring access to quality health services and comprehensive social welfare programs to support vulnerable populations.**

**Furthermore, the Office will prioritize effective land management alongside the development of affordable housing and improved sanitation facilities, recognizing these as fundamental pillars for regional development and social well-being.**

**Together, these programs form a holistic approach aimed at fostering inclusive growth and improving the quality of life for all residents of Hardap.**

**Together, let us work tirelessly, innovate boldly, and serve selflessly. The future of Hardap depends on our actions today. Let us be the leaders that not just want to make a difference but leaders that turns our generations vision and aspiration into reality for a better tomorrow.**

**I Thank you.**