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MD's Foreword.

A school with potable water and a flushing toilet is not too much to ask for. However, to some school children in rural Namibia, this is a luxury. If this status quo is to be changed, corporate entities would need to come on board to assist the Government's efforts in promoting sustainable development and equitable universal access to basic services.

Corporations do not operate in isolation but instead benefit from drawing resources from the communities; natural or human. For this reason, it is essential that companies expand their focus from their core business into considerations of how they can additionally contribute positively towards the societies they function in.

Furthermore, in a world where environmental and social issues have become prevalent in the minds of many consumers, businesses can no longer prosper without an effort of meeting these concerns; which have propelled companies to explore more sustainable and conscientious business initiatives (D'Amato et al., 2009).

This shift in focus is defined as Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and/or Corporate Social Investment (CSI); where a company conducts its business in a responsible manner by investing intellectual, financial, and human resources in constructive projects and initiatives aimed at strengthening the country, its people, and its operational environment. CSI has the potential to improve the lives of people across multiple development sectors through the provision of cash, services, products, time etc. The return on CSI is twofold as it firstly results in a healthier, empowered, informed, and prosperous society as well as an enhanced reputation for the benefactor organisation.

CSI presents a strategic imperative. As such, NamPower has proudly aligned its business imperative towards this direction as can be witnessed in its strategic pillars and goals, which encompass 'unlocking the value of electricity sector collaboration'. This strategic pillar supports the development of the electricity industry and economy while accelerating electrification and developing new products and services. Formalising the giving process and aligning it with Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) principles is vital to integrate CSI into the business value chain. Mr. Kahenge S Haulofu

Over N\$268 million in value

NamPower has made huge investments in the areas of rural electrification aimed supplementing the Government's at efforts to improve the standard of living for all citizens. Millions have additionally been invested and continue to be invested annually through the provision of undergraduate, postgraduate, and vocational training bursaries to young aspiring Namibian students in various fields of study related to NamPower's core business--continuing the 10-year legacy of focused support by the NamPower Foundation in areas of education; capacity and skills development; health and social welfare; sports; as well as community development for the Namibian nation.

CSI programmes are intended to uplift communities and should therefore be relevant to the needs of the communities they wish to serve. Our aim is to have a positive impact on our people, cultures, and communities as well as undertake social investment initiatives in areas where we can make a practical and meaningful contribution.

Engaging in CSR activities results in high profits, enhanced ability to recruit, improved innovation, competitiveness and market positioning. It also solidifies the ability to affect poignant change, rebuilds trust in corporate businesses and improves brand reputation.

As a responsible corporate entity which recognizes the value of CSI, NamPower remains committed to the continuous support of CSR as aligned in its corporate goals and strategies. There is no doubt that CSR has the potential to support the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) due to its similar goals and benefits with those of the MDG programme. The MDGs provide social development benchmarks that can be used by grant-makers to identify, implement, monitor, and expand social development initiatives.

Thus indicating that CSR can be harmonised with government programmes to achieve similar objectives relating to issues of peace, poverty, hunger, security, development, human rights, environment, and global cooperation.

Seeing that CSR is not a once-off project but rather a continuous practice that should be embedded in all areas of business, NamPower is dedicated to continue investing in the company's CSR programmes. Constant evaluation of our focus areas will ensure that we remain on par with current developments and the changing needs of our communities. We are excited to share that over the past 10-years, we have managed to allocate approximately N\$268,545,720 of our total company budget towards CSI initiatives.

The NamPower Foundation is proud to be celebrating 10-years of continuous support in critical areas that are beneficial to grassroot economic development, and the social progression and transformation of the Namibian nation.

NamPower pledges, as long as resources allow, to uplift communities and transform the lives of the less privileged by supporting projects and initiatives that have a long-term impact and potential for sustainability.

About Us.

The NamPower Foundation is wholly owned by the Namibia Power Corporation (Pty) Ltd and was created with the objective of being the social investment extension of NamPower.



Vision

NamPower wishes to express and demonstrate positive social impact through the NamPower Foundation's activities of upliftment and transformation within the lives and communities of the underprivileged Namibians.

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Mission

To achieve sustained improvement in Namibian lives through innovative and leading social interventions, whilst leveraging our resources and expertise to optimal effect.



The Foundation has a proactive and reactive strategy towards projects needing to be funded, with the former applying to projects identified by NamPower Foundation and the latter to projects initiated and submitted by applicants.

Ensuring Security of Supply

NamPower

established as a Trust in 2008 and

was later changed to a Foundation in

The Foundation is a department within

the company and operates as its

corporate social investment arm with a

mandate to empower communities and impact lives through support of various

The

2010.

Brief History.

social development projects at the regional and national levels. As such, it is governed by the standard rules and operating procedures of the company in terms of human and financial resourcing.

Since its inception, the Foundation focused on social investment projects in five (5) areas of development namely: Education, Health and Social Welfare, Community Development, Capacity and Skills Development, as well as Job Creation and Entrepreneurship Development. However, by 2017 the focus areas had been reduced to four (4), with the exclusion of Job Creation and Entrepreneurship Development which was deemed incorporated in the other focus areas.

The NamPower Social Investment projects are classified into two categories: Flagship Projects and Social Partnership Projects. Flagship Projects are those that the Foundation supports continually, while Social Partnership Projects are those that receive a once-off support.

One of the Foundation's largest flagship projects, the National Science Fair, was discontinued in 2017, and the funds diverted to educational infrastructure development, such as the building of classrooms and supporting infrastructure. Since 2011, the Foundation has continued to support Disability Sport Namibia (DSN), which has become its second-largest flagship project.

Corporate Social Responsibility Investment for Ten years

Foundation

was





Education.

Education is undoubtedly one of the most important drivers of socio-economic development in any nation. Thus, it is befitting for the NamPower Foundation to play an enabling role in this critical sector of the economy to contribute to its success. To this end, the Foundation has continued to support various institutions in the education sector through the provision of stationery, furniture as well as funding for infrastructural development and/or renovations amongst others.

All fourteen (14) regions of the country have benefitted from the support that has been channelled into the education sector; the total value of which currently stands at N\$16,945,313.48. In the next pages, we share some of the heart-warming stories of success and the impact of our support for this critical sector, from around the regions.

Education.

C Eduvision Online Learning Programme – Otjozondjupa Region.

2. Nikodemus P Nashandi **Primary School receives** a library - Oshikoto Region.

30 A new library for Salmon **Boois Primary School** – Hardap Region.



Donation of Beds and Mattresses to school learners - All Regions.



50 Enongo Day Care Centre receives brand new classrooms - Oshikoto Region.



Donation of classrooms and a bus to Ruacana **High School** – Omusati Region.

7. Donation of ablution facilities improves basic hygiene at Rupara Junior **Primary School** - Kavango West Region.

Potable water now available at Olavi Sivhute **Combined School** - Kavango West Region

Eduvision Online Learning Programme.

– Otjozondjupa Region



Investment of over N\$487 thousand in bandwidth and optical cables The passion of a dedicated educationalist aided by supportive corporates like NamPower led to the introduction of Eduvision Online Learning, a programme that saw rural schools compete for academic excellence with other schools at national level.

Welcome to the EDUVI

e 🖬 🏛 🛛

A few years ago, the then Principal of the Edugate Academy in Otjiwarongo, Frikkie Louw, was reviewing the national examination results and was disappointed by the poor academic performance of Tsumkwe Secondary School.

"On one Sunday, I travelled to Tsumkwe to discuss with the school Principal how best we, as an academy, could assist the school to improve its results," Louw related.

After that trip, the Eduvision Online Learning programme was conceived. The aim of the project was to offer learners effective interactive classroom teaching in their own environment through e-learning techniques in order to help improve their senior secondary school results.

Following that discussion, according to Louw, they sent out letters of appeal to different corporate organisations for their support for the project. That is when NamPower, and two other corporations, came on-board.

"Someone at NamPower must have thought, 'this is something we should do'," the former Principal said as he reminisced about how the NamPower Foundation became involved in the Eduvision programme.

Soon after engaging with the supporting corporates, satellite dishes and a Smartboard were put up at Tsumkwe Secondary School and directly connected the school to the Edugate Academy in Otjiwarongo.

In addition, the project acquired the Panopto programme, which is a software developed by the University of Florida to record all the lessons for Grade 10 to Grade 12 for subjects such as Biology,

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NamPower Foundation



Mathematics, Chemistry, and Physics. Through the Panopto Cloud interface, individual learners could access these lessons at any time and place, where and whenever they needed to.

"This enabled us to connect lessons at the Edugate Academy directly to the classroom in Tsumkwe, where teachers and learners could share live lessons and conversations," Louw said.

In one instance, there was no Mathematics teacher at Tsumkwe Secondary School and during that time, virtual lessons were given to the learners from Edugate Academy.

Louw explained that in 2019, Tsumkwe Secondary School was placed number 183 on the national examination results log. However, only a year after the introduction of the Eduvision Online Learning programme, the school had moved to position number 25 on the log, a powerful testimony of its impact and effectiveness.

"We are so grateful for the assistance we received from the NamPower Foundation. Without them, we wouldn't be where we are today," Louw said.

Three (3) other schools that are currently on the same programme are Okakarara Secondary School, Waterberg Junior Secondary School, and Cornelius Goreseb Secondary School. To facilitate the implementation of the programme at these schools, the NamPower Foundation purchased and installed smartboards, computers, cameras, and sound systems at Waterberg Junior Secondary School and Okakarara Secondary School. In addition, a School/ Write programme for Tsumkwe Secondary School, and a one-year subscription for Panopto APP for Tsumkwe, Okakarara, and Waterberg secondary schools were purchased.

One-year subscriptions were also paid for upgrading the bandwidth between Edugate Academy and Tsumkwe Secondary School and for optical cables for Okakarara and Waterberg secondary schools at a total cost of N\$487,155.40.

According to Louw, the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture requested them to put one hundred (100) more schools on the Eduvision Online Learning programme. In this regard, they have already secured one hundred (100) satellite dishes from their corporate partners. He says if all plans materialise, six thousand (6 000) learners will benefit from the Eduvision Online Learning programme.

"Despite the tremendous growth of the programme, it would not function without the huge support we have received from sponsors like the NamPower Foundation," Louw stated.



Nikodemus P Nashandi Primary School receives a library.

- Oshikoto Region

Library worth

over N\$483

thousand

The inside of the library Nikodemus P Nashand Primary School, shortly after it was built.

At Nicodemus Nashandi Combined School in Othema Village in the Oshikoto region, a storeroom was once used as a classroom, library, and Principal's office, all at the same time.

According to the then Principal of the school, Hiatsinta Shivute, the situation was not conducive as they could not even see what books were available in the collection they had due to the lack of space.

"Whenever I had visitors in the "office", the teacher and learners had to idle around outside until the room was vacant again," Shivute related.

However, the situation eventually changed for the better after the NamPower Foundation availed funds to build a library for the school.

The much-needed relief came after the school randomly dispatched letters to potential donors for assistance. "We first heard about the NamPower Foundation at a teachers' conference from teachers whose schools had previously received help from the Foundation," she said.

Soon after writing to the Foundation, they received a positive response to their request for assistance and submitted their library plans and quotations to the Foundation.

"NamPower paid for building material and at the inauguration of the library, they brought us books and some encyclopaedias to stock it up," Shivute said.

Support from the NamPower Foundation for the construction of the library was worth N\$483,654.00.

Shivute says that the construction of the library had a positive impact on the reading skills of learners, as more of them, especially those in grades 4 to 9, now visit the library and borrow books to read.

Since the school did not qualify to have a Librarian, the language teacher doubled up as Librarian. The school also installed Wi-Fi services in the library to further enhance the learning experience at the school.



A new library for Salmon Boois Primary School. – Hardap Region

Handing over of the library to the school.

The Salmon Boois Primary School is a former army base that was transformed into a school. The school has six hundred and twenty-three (623) learners, twenty-two (22) teachers, and three (3) support staff.

The NamPower Foundation constructed a library with a storeroom at the school at a cost of N\$594,094.00.

According to the Principal of the school, Adanasius Araeb, previously, the school had a small room in which books were stored.

"Since the construction of the library, there has been a lot of excitement, as we can now store books as well as host learners there," Araeb said.

However, he said the remaining big challenge is that there are no books, bookshelves, chairs, or desks for use in the library.

"So, the library is empty! However, we have requested the Regional Education Directorate office to remedy the situation," the principal said.

He expressed gratitude to the NamPower Foundation for the much-needed injection, which, he says, will facilitate the improvement of learning at the school.





623 learners benefit from new library



Donation of Beds and Mattresses to school learners.

– All Regions



520 beds 655 mattresses



Over N\$1,6 million in value The COVID-19 pandemic brought about unprecedented challenges for all sectors of the Namibian society.

Currently, one of the greatest challenges for schools in underprivileged communities is ensuring adherence to COVID-19 social distancing regulations, particularly in student hostels, where learners share mattresses and beds due to a shortage of these items. Such environments further promote the spread of the virus among learners.

NamPower identified this as a major challenge for the education sector and decided to act on it through its corporate social investment arm, the NamPower Foundation.

Subsequently, the NamPower Foundation donated five hundred and twenty (520) beds worth N\$1,076,400.00 and six hundred and fifty-five (655) mattresses worth N\$598,833.75 to the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture.

"Our donation seeks to assist affected schools to comply with COVID-19 protocols and promote a healthy, conducive, and hospitable environment in the hostels. It is our hope that this donation will go a long way in enhancing the physical and psychological well-being of learners, so they can perform better in their studies," NamPower Managing Director, Kahenge Haulofu, said at the handover ceremony.

As a responsible corporate entity, NamPower believes the attainment of quality and inclusive education for all is only possible when all organisations in the public and private sector share the responsibility for its realisation, as stated in the Education Act, Act 16 of 2001, and the educational policy document, "Towards Education for All".

The Minister of Education, Arts & Culture, Anna Nghipondoka pictured with Dr Simeon Amunkete from NamPower and ministry officials during the handover of the mattresses and beds.





The Administrative Officer in the Hostels Division of the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, David Tjonga, welcomed the donation, saying it will make a positive impact on the quality of the lives of beneficiaries.

"Some learners sleep on the floor with only their blankets and dilapidated mattresses as protection from the extremely cold weather conditions. They will be very happy to receive this life-saving donation," the Administrator said. Tjonga says the ministry identified twenty-three (23) needy school hostels in marginalised communities countrywide and already, seven (7) of them have benefitted from this donation.

"The donation from the NamPower Foundation means a lot to the sector and is highly appreciated," he said.



Enongo Day Care Centre receives brand new classrooms.

– Oshikoto Region



35 children benefit



Over N\$642 thousand in donation A Board member of the Enongo Day Care Centre in Onkani Onakazizi Village in the Oshikoto region says local community members thought they were getting a 'school' when the construction at the centre started.

"But we told them, it was a Day Care Centre made possible by NamPower! Please continue doing what you are doing to other regions as well. This is really great," a very happy Jason Erkkison said.

The NamPower Foundation donated N\$642 199.04 to the Enongo Day Care Centre for the construction of toilets, two classrooms, an office, and a storeroom. Erkkison says the day care centre started in a little hut made of mud, in 1993, as there was a need for day care and school preparation facilities in the village.

"If the NamPower Foundation was not there, we would still be in a mud hut today. We really appreciate the donation from NamPower," he added.

Erkkison said getting a permanent structure lured government participation in the project, such as support from the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare, who now pays the only teacher at the centre, an allowance. Previously, the teacher was remunerated from contributions by parents of children who attend the day care centre.

The day care centre accommodates 35 children of pre-primary age and one teacher.





Donation of classrooms and a bus to Ruacana High School.

– Omusati Region

Ruacana High School in Ruacana, in the Omusati region, received support worth over N\$900,000.00 from the NamPower Foundation for the construction of two classroom blocks and a storeroom, the renovation of two laboratories, and for the purchase of science equipment.

In addition, the NamPower Foundation contributed an amount of N\$250,000.00 towards the purchase of a school bus.

School Principal, Thomas Nakale, says before the laboratories were renovated, they were used as classrooms and did not serve their intended purpose.

"But after the renovation and receiving the science equipment, the school's academic performance improved, especially in the science subjects," the principal said.

According to Nakale, the addition of new classrooms also had a positive impact on school operations, as the challenge with space at the school was solved. The renovations to the laboratories also meant that they could now serve their intended purpose.

For Nakale, acquiring a school bus was one of the highlights for the school community, as they could now travel to events easier than before.

"Before we would spend thousands of dollars on transport each time we went for sports events or any activity that required the use of transport but now, we simply fill up and go, saving a lot of money. We really enjoy the benefit of having our own transport," the principal related.

He says further, to express their gratitude, the school named the renovated laboratories after NamPower and they are now called the 'NamPower Block'.

There are five hundred and eighty (580) learners and thirty (30) teachers at the Ruacana High School.



2 Classrooms Constructed



N\$250 thousand donated towards school bus



Over N\$1,1 million contribution in value



- Kavango West Region



Over N\$493 thousand spent The School Principal of Rupara Junior Primary School says the generous contribution of N\$493 658.00 from the NamPower Foundation for the construction of ablution facilities has greatly improved general health and hygiene at the school.

The school is located in Rupara Village, 75 km west of Rundu in the Kavango West region.

The NamPower Foundation built eight toilets at the school; four for girls, two for the boys, and another two for the teachers. Previously, the school used pit latrines.

School Principal, Maria Zuze, says, before the ablution facilities were constructed, learners would often fall sick as a result of an unhygienic environment. "Now, there is improvement in the personal hygiene and general health of our learners. They can now wash their hands immediately after using the toilet, which has reduced the risk of disease. Our learners are well and happy now," she explained.

According to Zuze, the NamPower Foundation donation encouraged the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture to complement the Foundation's efforts by building additional toilets for the school.

"We are really thankful for the donation from the NamPower Foundation. We can assure you that our toilet facilities are still in good condition and that we will continue to maintain them as such," Zuze proudly said.





Learners at the Olavi Sivhute Combined School no longer have to fetch water for their daily needs from the Kavango River anymore.

This can be attributed to the NamPower Foundation's generous donation of N\$726,500.00 for the drilling of a borehole and installation of water tanks and a stand.

"We didn't have any running water and had been drinking directly from the river for over twenty years of the school's existence," Acting Principal, Willem Kotokeni said.

The school, located in Musese Village in the Kavango Region, has more than nine hundred (900) learners from Grades 0 to 9.

Kotokeni says, sometimes the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture would fill the tanks from the nearest water hole, but if they did not, then the school had to get the water directly from the river.

He says occasional incidents of crocodile attacks in the area made it unsafe for learners to fetch water from the river. However, that ceased to be a concern with the availability of water at the school now.

"The contribution from the NamPower Foundation has changed our lives and the operations of the school completely and positively," the acting head said.

Kotokeni says the school is planning to make clean water accessible to the community of Mususe village by connecting a pipe from the borehole to the village.

The village has approximately 5 000 inhabitants.



Borehole drilled



N\$726 thousand in value



Over 900 learners benefit 19

NamPower Foundation

Health and Social Welfare

N\$3,9 million in value The NamPower Foundation believes in the adage, "a healthy nation is a productive nation" and therefore supports healthcare projects across the country, to ensure that people in those communities receive primary healthcare. In addition, the Foundation also supports Social Welfare initiatives to ensure that vulnerable communities are taken care of.

Projects and programmes that are supported by the Foundation under the Health and Social Welfare category are, gender-based violence awareness campaigns; community trauma healing training; mobile clinics and many other health-related support activities.

Regions that have benefitted from the NamPower Foundation's support in this category include, Khomas, Otjozondjupa, Zambezi, Kavango East, and Erongo.

The total value of support: N\$3,971,145.92

Health and Social Welfare.

1 o Trauma Healing **Network receives** support - Khomas Region.



20 Vulnerable children benefit through **Mainstream Foundation** - Zambezi Region.



So COVID -19 Donations to Vulnerable Communities - Different Regions.



✓ NamPower renovates parts of Katutura Hospital - Khomas Region.





Trauma counsellors training



N\$80 thousand sponsorship

In 2014, the Trauma Healing Network received sponsorship of N\$80,000,00 from the NamPower Foundation for the training of trauma counsellors. These are members of the community who receive special training to assist others to develop coping skills to deal with and heal from traumatic events in their lives.

Trauma is defined as any deeply distressing or disturbing experience such as injury, death, illness, rape, divorce, retrenchment, and abuse, among others.

The Trauma Healing Network is a Namibian registered Welfare Organisation and has been in existence since 2012. Its primary objective is to facilitate the emotional well-being of people who have been traumatised by teaching them coping skills to help them heal and build resilience against future traumatic events.

According to the Founder, Dr. Schalk Botha, the organisation's aim is to bring healing and teach people how to cope with current or future trauma. He says that many Namibians need trauma counselling and healing, and now even more so after the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Trauma Healing Network came to know about the NamPower Foundation through one of its employees. They then wrote a proposal for sponsorship to NamPower and received the sponsorship they needed.

"The sponsorship enabled us to do community work and cover the costs of community members who could not afford trauma counselling services. Our journey with NamPower has been nothing but the best," Dr. Botha said.

He says all Namibians can benefit from their services, as they have trained trauma counsellors in various towns in the country. To make





Ten Years of Powering Sustainability

their services even more accessible to communities, the Network aims to train facilitators throughout the country.

As part of their employee wellness programme, NamPower bought an emotional support programme from the Network.

According to NamPower's Senior Wellness Officer, Julinda Gomaxas, NamPower was the first company to join the Trauma Healing Network's Employee Care Programme. "We support the psychological wellbeing of NamPower employees by availing these professional services to them, which include individual counselling services, as well as participation in Healing Retreats. This is a vital component of an Employee Assistance Programme in the workplace," Gomaxas added.

NamPower employees pictured after attending a Trauma Healing Camp.



Vulnerable children benefit through Mainstream Foundation.

– Zambezi Region



Classroom block and ablution facilities



Over N\$443 thousand donation The long arm of the NamPower Foundation reaches all corners of Namibia, as evidenced by its support of the Mainstream Foundation in the far north-eastern Zambezi region. The Mainstream Foundation is a community-based non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) based in Katima Mulilo which started operations in 2010.

The foundation is registered with the Ministry of Health and Social Services and offers inclusive education and various activities to children living with disabilities, as well as trains parents and guardians of these children, through its educational centre.

"Most of these children are denied access to schools because of their disabilities, hence, we decided to cater for them. Some have mental disabilities, some severe physical disabilities while others have learning difficulties," the Director of the Mainstream Foundation, Ms. Sylvia Chidunka explained.

The foundation offers an educational programme and a rehabilitation programme to the learners, while it also does advocacy work and awareness-raising on children's rights.

The foundation started from humble beginnings. At its inception, it had no permanent structure from which to operate.

"We just had a "mbashu" (shelter made from corrugated iron sheets) when we started our operations until NamPower came to the rescue", Chidunka said.

The director says they first received a donation for educational material from the NamPower Adhoc Sponsorship programme, which directed them to the NamPower Foundation for the substantial sponsorship they needed to improve their operations.





In 2015, the Mainstream Foundation received an amount of N\$443, 829.00 from the NamPower Foundation for the construction of a three-classroom block and ablution facilities for their educational centre.

"The donation from the NamPower Foundation meant a lot to us as it gave credibility to our operations. The community was very happy that we now had a formal structure and as a result, the centre attracted more people as it created a safe environment for our children," Chidunka said.

Chidunka says they have looked after their property well and are now installing burglar bars on the windows to further secure it.

According to Chidunka, the facility had fifty-two (52) learners initially but due to some challenges, they now have thirty-three (33) learners, between the ages of four (4) to twenty (20) years. The biggest of these challenges is the inability of most parents to transport their children to school, while the COVID-19 pandemic has also greatly impacted operations at the centre. "Nonetheless, we are determined to continue against all odds," an adamant Chidunka added.

She says their next project is to secure transport for the learners so that all of them can attend lessons and are not deprived of their basic right of access to education, like any other Namibian child.

Chidunka says they want to start prevocational classes for the young adults so that they can become self-reliant after they leave the centre.

"We want to teach our girls how to make baskets and the boys how to make furniture items such as chairs and tables, as such skills can help them to be self-reliant in future," she says.

To realise these plans, Chidunka says they will appeal to donors for support, while they also strive for self-sustenance.

Children in a classroom at the Mainstream Foundation.





COVID Donations



N\$2,5 million donation

In April 2020, soon after the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, NamPower, like many other corporations in Namibia, jumped on the bandwagon to support Government initiatives in the fight against COVID-19.

The spread of the COVID-19 virus is a major public health threat affecting basic human rights such as sanitation and access to potable water that might not be available to all people, especially in a developing country like Namibia.

Hence, the NamPower Foundation decided to heed the call by local authority leaders to lend a helping hand to the most vulnerable and poor among various communities in the fight against the pandemic.

The donation of N\$2,5 million, included one hundred and fifty-four (154) toilets and twenty- eight (28) water tanks for vulnerable communities in the Khomas and Erongo regions, and the town of Okahandja in the Otjozondjupa region.

Forty-four (44) toilets and twenty (20) 2 500 litre water tanks were donated to the informal settlements of Vyf Rand, Oshetu Number 2 and 3, Saamstaan and Vergenoeg in Okahandja, while eighty (80) toilets and forty (40) 25 litre sanitisers were donated to informal settlements in Windhoek. Thirty (30) toilets and eight (8) 10 000 litre water tanks were given to communities in the coastal towns of the Erongo region.

The eight water tanks earmarked for the Erongo region were donated to the Harambee and Uis informal settlements in Karibib, as well as to settlements such as Okombahe, Omatjete, Uis, and Tubusis in the Daures constituency.

The thirty (30) dry pit latrines were donated to communities in the Ongulumbashe, Saamstaan, and Build Together informal





settlements in Usakos, the Hakahana, Sonskyn, 7de Laan and Saamstaan informal settlements in Omaruru, the Harambee and Uis Informal settlements in Karibib, and !Goas informal settlement in Henties Bay.

In addition, 2,500 water containers (jerry cans) and 18,000 bars of soap were given to the Groot-Aub community. This particular donation was valued at N\$371,716.35 and benefitted approximately 5,500 households at the settlement. Addressing guests at the handover ceremony were councillors of the beneficiary destinations, NamPower Managing Director, Kahenge Haulofu, who said, that through such donations, new infectious diseases, in particular, the coronavirus, can be prevented if tackled collectively.

NamPower Managing Director, Kahenge Haulofu and Minister of Urban & Rural Development, Erastus Uutoni, and a Town Council beneficiary seen at the official handover of the Covid-19 donations in Windhoek.







76 drip stands repaired



Hospital donations and partial renovations In 2007, NamPower staff members joined the NamPower Foundation in renovating the Katutura State Hospital in Windhoek.

The general perception was that the Katutura State Hospital needed some renovation and that is exactly what the NamPower staff members responded to and did when they rolled up their sleeves, gathered all unused but perfectly usable furniture and equipment to spruce up parts of the hospital that was built in 1973.

The project team drafted in their colleagues and other institutions to contribute skills, time, funds as well as advice.

The old counters at the casualty were replaced with shiny chequer plates and clean tops and the glass windows were cleaned. The empty cool drink crates, old table, and flaccid steel cabinet at the Police counter gave way to a clean, modern counter and a new steel cabinet.

The acute care unit on the second floor of the hospital got new chairs for staff, new curtains around patients' beds, brand new mattresses for all the beds, and a fresh coat of paint on the walls.

A doctors' meeting room was created and fully furnished with a boardroom table and chairs, as well as a microwave oven, fridge, and kettle. The floor was covered with a brand new carpet and the walls were freshly painted.

Apart from the work at the hospital, NamPower staff also repaired seventy-six (76) mobile drip stands from the hospital at one of its workshops.





For close to two months, NamPower staff, in their green overalls, were a permanent fixture at the hospital, to ensure the completion of this project.

Through this selfless act of service by NamPower, various companies have been motivated to contribute to the renovation of the Katutura State Hospital and other state health facilities. NamPower believes that smart partnership between the public and private sectors, as demonstrated by this project, is the ultimate solution to supporting the government in addressing the needs of various communities nationwide.



Community Development



37 Projects



N\$1,9 million in value NamPower subscribes to the idea of equal access to health, wealth, justice, and opportunity for all people. However, due to the way society operates and for a variety of other reasons, some individuals and groups of people are excluded from accessing these basic rights. Thus, it is important to give affected individuals and groups an opportunity to improve their circumstances. In this regard, the NamPower Foundation has supported various communities in different ways to build and improve on what they already have or start something entirely new that will improve their standard of living, ensure self-reliance and lead to food security.

Some of the community development initiatives that were supported by the Foundation include projects such as poultry farming, tailoring, gardening and brick-making, etc.

Regions that benefitted from the Foundation's support for community development initiatives include, Khomas, Otjozondjupa, Zambezi, Kavango East, Kavango West, Kharas, Omaheke, Ohangwena, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto, Zambezi, and Kunene.

A total number of thirty-seven (37) community development projects were supported to a combined value of over N\$1.9 million.

30

NamPower Foundation

Community Development.

VOMEN ASSOCIATION OF Hindjou Gardening feeds vulnerable community - Otjozondjupa.



20 Vaalgras Women's Project empowers community – //Kharas Region.



3 Local project brings service closer to its community - Omaheke Region.



O Project averts human-offict wildlife conflict – Kavango West Region.



- Otjozondjupa



Garden materials



Over N\$85 thousand provision Since 2009, Arnold Hindjou and Eric Meroro have fed vulnerable members of their community from produce harvested from one hectare of a five-hectare plot, which they lease from the Okakarara Town Council and till by means of a donkeydrawn plough. The project leases the land at a monthly cost of N\$4,300.00, including prepaid electricity used for pumping water, and employs four people on a permanent basis.

To date, they have turned the plot into a flourishing garden whose produce feeds an even wider network of needy communities in Okakarara, including people living with HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis patients, as well as two local schools.

"The gardening project benefits various communities each year, depending on whether or not we have a good harvest in a particular year," said Hindjou, one of the partners who work on the plot. According to him, this would not have been possible without the financial support from the NamPower Foundation.

Hindjou and his partner drilled a borehole on the plot themselves and bought seeds to start the gardening venture. Shortly thereafter, Hindjou read in a newspaper about the opportunities that the NamPower Foundation offers and immediately applied for support for the gardening project. The NamPower Foundation approved the application and provided fencing material, irrigation pipes, a water tank, a water pump, gardening equipment, seeds and fertiliser, an industrial scale, and shade nets for the gardening project for a combined value of over N\$85,817.15.







The injection enabled Hindjou Gardening Project to grow a variety of vegetables such as beetroots, onions, carrots, cabbage, and beans as well as maize. The Hindjou Gardening Project is a three-time beneficiary of the NamPower Foundation and has made the best out of each donation that it has received since 2014.

Communities in and around the Otjozondjupa region were so impressed by the Hindjou Gardening Project that they requested them to share their expertise and train them in gardening. Since then, the partners have trained community members in basic gardening skills as far as Okondjatu, Koblenz, Okamatapati, and Okakarara.

"With help from the NamPower Foundation, we were able to fend off stray animals that would wander into the cultivated land, install irrigation pipes, as well as train our people on how to grow their own food and become selfsufficient," Hindjou added.

Currently, the project supplies vegetables to Agro-Marketing & Trade Agency (AMTA), Spar Otjiwarongo, as well as street vendors in Otjiwarongo and Okakarara. The project has also donated food to the government-run Food Bank programme, which plays a major role in providing food to vulnerable communities throughout the country. The then Regional Councillor of the Okakarara Constituency, Vetaruhe Kandorozu, applauded Hindjou and his partner for their commitment towards helping the needy, especially in the Okakarara community.

Hindjou envisions their farming venture becoming self-sustaining within the next two years if they manage to get a tractor to cultivate the entire hectare of the plot and put it under irrigation so that they can grow more crops. "Given the erratic changes in climatic conditions, we could also grow lucerne to make fodder for the animals during the dry period, " he says.

Hindjou also dreams of planting sunflowers to produce oil from the seeds.

His long-term vision is to teach his community to be self-reliant and contribute towards food security by reducing Namibia's reliance on food imports, from other countries.

"Eventually, we hope to overcome the obstacles that stand in our way and become self-reliant. We have done well under the circumstances and are very thankful to NamPower for the support," Hindjou said.







Community kitchen assistance



Over N\$124 thousand in value The NamPower Foundation has contributed significantly to the Vaalgras community, as witnessed by the activities taking place in the settlement. The Foundation assisted the community with the completion of a community kitchen, a cooling room, as well as fencing for the facilities for an amount of N\$124,176.00.

Vaalgras is a village in Namibia's //Kharas Region, located 60 kilometres northeast of Keetmanshoop. It is home to the Vaalgras Traditional Authority and is mostly inhabited by the Oorlam people, a group that is descendant from the OvaHerero, Nama, and other Namibian tribal groups.

Women in the Vaalgras community are particularly proactive and always take the lead in initiating community development activities. In 2009, the women of the Vaalgras Women's Project, with a membership of eighty (80) women, started a fundraising drive by contributing cash or in kind. Each woman either contributed N\$50.00 in cash or donated some meat, which would be barbecued on a fire (braai) for resale.

According to Martha Stefanus, chairperson of the project, the group, which only had five members initially, would host community braais and traditional dance events where they would sell meat to raise funds for community development projects.

"Our first project was the building of four community toilets as we saw the need for flushing toilets for our community. We received help from the Traditional Authority, as well as prominent individuals in the community and managed to achieve our goal," Stefanus related.

In 2012, the Vaalgras Women's Project requested the NamPower Foundation for funding to build a community kitchen and a cooling room.





"Without hesitation, the NamPower Foundation granted our request by buying all the building material for the facilities. We can never thank the Foundation enough for its contribution," Stefanus said.

According to the project leader, the community uses the kitchen during traditional festivals and catering for farmers' union meetings and activities. The cooling room is rented out to community members to store perishable items for large gatherings such as funerals and weddings.

"We charge N\$150.00 rental fees and an additional N\$200.00 for electricity for the use of the facility. The money goes towards the maintenance of the buildings. NamPower's support has really had a tremendous impact on our community, and we commit to taking care of the facilities they have built for us so that our community can continue benefiting from them," Stefanus added. "Our project is non-discriminatory and is there for the benefit of everybody in the community. Therefore, we would like to assure donors, such as NamPower, that whatever funds they donate, will be used for the benefit of everyone in the community and not individuals," Stefanus said.

"As a group, we also identify vulnerable children in our community and buy them warm clothing from the proceeds of our income-generating activities," the project head said.

She believes such initiatives bring a sense of community, belonging and care for each other and are vital in any community.

Future plans for the Vaalgras women include producing school uniforms, tracksuits, and patchwork fabric (laslappie), which is used to make their traditional attire, that they intend to sell to raise funds.



Local project brings service closer to its community.

– Omaheke Region



Brick-making equipment



Over N\$88 thousand sponsorship Mbaha Conglomerate Trading CC, based in Aminuis, in the Omaheke region, had been making bricks manually since 2012 until it received brick-making equipment through sponsorship from the NamPower Foundation in 2015.

M7MIs

Since then, Jefta Mbaha says there was no looking back, as they started supplying the Aminuis community and other nearby villages.

The NamPower Foundation availed N\$88,828.82 for the purchase of brick-making equipment, with the intention of employing vulnerable community members and transferring skills to them. Currently, the project employs four people from the Aminuis community.

True to the entrepreneurial nature of its owner and to further empower its employees, the Mbaha Trading Conglomerate sent three of its employees for basic brick-making training that was facilitated by a local cement company and the Omaheke regional governor's office.

"It was a good gesture from the NamPower Foundation since it has contributed to the lives of those employed at the project, the residents of the Aminuis constituency, and the region of Omaheke at large," Mbaha said.

Mbaha Conglomerate Trading CC produces different types of bricks such as hollow blocks, solid blocks, super bricks, and interlock blocks. The bricks and blocks are used for the construction of houses, upgrading of gravestones, and building of graves.

Mbaha says, having this project within the constituency will raise the standards of living among members of his community, as they will be able to build good quality houses and take advantage of the employment opportunities that the project presents.

The young entrepreneur says he came up with the idea of making bricks after observing the logistical challenges faced by the community in procuring and transporting bricks from Gobabis and


Aranos to Aminuis, as there was no tarred road linking these towns back then.

Despite some teething problems that most businesses experience, Mbaha Trading Conglomerate's big break came in 2018 when it was awarded a tender to build twelve (12) houses in the neighbouring Otjinene village.

In the following year, 2019, they were awarded another tender to build a recreation hall for the Rietquelle Junior Secondary School in Aminuis.

"Unfortunately, we could not complete this project because the school did not have enough money to see it through," he said.

Even though the business has secured an industrial site from the village council, it does not have storage facilities for both material and equipment, as well as a physical structure from which to operate.

"Although we have been allocated a site to start operating from, we do not have any materials to fence it off and are still operating from my residence," Mbaha said.

Mbaha's wish is for all construction projects in Aminuis to make use of locally available bricks and support his business. His wish list also includes fencing off his business premises, having well-trained employees, having secure storage facilities for materials and equipment, and owning a small truck for transporting materials and equipment.

Mbaha is optimistic that his dreams and wishes will be fulfilled and, given his attitude, energy, and drive, it is only a matter of time.



- Kavango West Region



Four 10,000 litre water tanks



Over N\$147 thousand donation

The impact of the support from the NamPower Foundation on the Mungongi Agriculture Project in Musese Village in the Kavango West region has been three-fold:

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According to Stephan Mungongi, initiator of the project, the Foundation's support has improved crop production, reduced human-wildlife conflict, and provided access and proximity to clean water for community members.

The NamPower Foundation donated four (4) 10, 000 litre water tanks and erected them on stands, for an amount of N\$147,203.00.

"The availability of clean water within the community has drastically reduced instances of human-wildlife conflict because residents no longer have to fetch water from the river where they were often attacked by hippos and crocodiles. It also means that elderly people in the community no longer have to walk 1.4 kilometres to and from the river to access water, as all they need to do is just walk a short distance to our site to get clean water," Mungongi related.

As part of its social responsibility, Mungongi shares the project's water resource with the community free of charge, a gesture which he says has been welcomed and highly appreciated by the villagers in Musese.

The Mungongi Agriculture Project is a brainchild of Mungongi and started in 2015 with growing fruits and vegetables and harnessing water from the Kavango River.

"It started off very slowly when we used donkey carts to fetch water from the river to irrigate the plants," he said.

Mungongi said the harvest was small but with assistance from the





C Ten Years of Powering Sustainability

NamPower Foundation, production has since gone full-scale, and the harvest is now bigger.

Different horticultural produce such as cabbage, onions, tomatoes, watermelon, and butternut are cultivated at the project.

"The project is viable and sustainable well into the foreseeable future because of the current drive by the government for people to buy locally produced goods and the need to ensure food security in the country. So, we look forward to continuing to make a meaningful contribution towards the growth of the community, the region, and the country's economy," Mungongi opined.

The project employs five people.

"NamPower really came through for us and has not only made a big difference in the lives of people in our community but has positively impacted on the project's revenue and we highly commend them for that. This is a dream come true for us and we look forward to so many successful years and it's all because of your assistance," Mungongi said, with gratitude to the Foundation.

Capacity and Skills Development.



40 Projects supported

N\$1,8 million in value Capacity-building is defined as the process of developing and strengthening the skills, instincts, abilities, processes, and resources that organisations and communities need to survive, adapt, and thrive in a fast-changing world. An essential ingredient in capacity-building is the transformation that is generated and sustained over time from within and that goes beyond performing tasks to changing mindsets and attitudes. It is our belief at the NamPower Foundation that, with the necessary skills, individuals and communities are empowered with vital tools to determine the trajectory of their development, create employment opportunities for themselves and become self-reliant. In this regard, the NamPower Foundation has assisted diverse projects in cash and kind.

Beneficiaries under this category were awarded grants for the manufacturing of wheelchairs, computer training for unemployed youth, support for WorldSkills Competition entrants, entrepreneurship training for People Living with Disabilities, refurbishing of computers and printers, payment of accommodation for a training workshop, and printing of motivational books.

Regions that benefitted from support for capacity and skills development projects include, Khomas, Otjozondjupa, Zambezi, Kharas, Omaheke, Ohangwena, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto, Zambezi, Hardap, Erongo, and Kunene.

A total of forty (40) projects were sponsored under this focus area for a total value of N\$1,835,751.58

40

NamPower Foundation

Capacity and Skills Development.



O Local seamstress receives school uniform supply tender – Omaheke Region.



20 Firelighter manufacturing training for locals - Erongo Region.





Over N\$333 thousand sponsorship Seamstress Okeri Uremena, a 42-year-old woman with a physical disability, has been awarded her first-ever big tender to supply school uniforms to one of the local schools in her village of Otjinene, in the Omaheke region.

Never in her wildest dreams had Uremena thought she would one day get a three-year tender to supply school uniforms and tracksuits to learners of Usiel Ndjavera Primary School in her village.

Uremena, who is a member of the National Disability Council of Namibia (NDCN) and is based in the Omaheke region, used to do tailoring on a small-scale doing alterations or sometimes making traditional OvaHerero dresses for the women in the village. Things changed for the better after she attended a six-month NamPower Foundation-sponsored entrepreneurship training programme for people with disabilities.

After acquiring sponsorship of N\$333,080.00 from the NamPower Foundation in 2017, the NDCN entered into an agreement with the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) to provide entrepreneurship training to people with disabilities and equip them with knowledge and skills to run their businesses.

Uremena was among the twenty-seven (27) trainees who benefitted from the entrepreneurship training which was conducted in her region.

"I have learned things that I did not know before, such as how to manage my business and handle my books," a proud Uremena related her story.

She says after completing her six-month-long training, she went back to work with vigour and determination to change her life for the better. She bought material and started supplying school uniforms to some learners at Usiel Ndjavera Primary School.





ည် Ten Years of Powering Sustainability

"Having seen what I could do, the school authorities visited to inspect my products and decided to award me a three-year contract to supply 700 uniforms and tracksuits to the school. Although this was a big order compared to what I was used to, I was so excited to have secured it and gladly signed the contract without even thinking about where I would get the capital to purchase the materials I needed," Uremena said.

"Now, I need assistance to honour this sizable order. I need to buy material and employ three people from the community to assist me to get it done but, more importantly, to also empower them in turn," she said.

Uremena was allocated a plot from where to operate her business by Otjinene Village Council free of charge.

The mother of two biological and three adopted children has a bigger vision to supply school uniforms to all four schools in Otjinene Constituency in the Omaheke region. The Head of Research and Development at the NDCN, Tjiueza Tjombumbi, says the entrepreneurship training opened the minds of the trainees as they no longer see themselves only as people with disabilities but as productive members of society who can own businesses and contribute to the growth of the economy.

"Most importantly, they were able to register their own businesses, which is an important step in starting a business," Tjombumbi stated.

According to the NDCN representative, Uremena is among the few trainees who either started or grew their business after the training.

"What the NamPower Foundation did for these people is remarkable, judging from what Uremena has achieved so far. I have no doubt that she and other trainees who went through this training will continue to grow their businesses and become selfreliant," Tjombumbi added.



– Erongo Region



24 trained



N\$200 thousand donation The impact of the NamPower Foundation can be felt in various sectors of the Namibian economy as exemplified by the training of different communities in the Erongo region in the manufacture of firelighters.

Approximately twenty-four (24) people from Kalkfeld, Omaruru, and Omatjete were trained for three months, thanks to the generous support of N\$200,000 from the NamPower Foundation to Omuriro Manufacturing CC. The factory is based in Omaruru and consists of a group of eight workers and five external contractors, and supplies seventy (70) stores all over Namibia, as well as markets in South Africa and Germany.

The firelighters, made from invader bush, are locally manufactured and are completely natural, as they do not contain any chemicals or additives such as petroleum or paraffin.

Peter Till, of Omuriro Manufacturing CC, wanted to plough back into the communities of the region where he does business, by imparting his skills to them to start their own businesses and produce firelighters for income.

To make his vision a reality, he needed additional funding and then approached the NamPower Foundation for assistance.

Till says the training required the trainees to work in the factory and also receive training in health and safety, production efficiency, and micro accounting.

Till, who is grateful for the NamPower Foundation's contribution says, their firelighter is the only natural product that empowers previously disadvantaged people, while at the same time, restoring the natural habitat and delivering the best value for money and quality to customers.





"NamPower Foundation made a real impact by providing this unique opportunity to women in rural areas to start businesses and be empowered. A good example of the level of impact this project has can be seen in the Kalkfeld teams 1 and 2, who are now producing firewood and continue supplying us with the sticks needed to manufacture firelighters," Till added.

He urges the Foundation to continue supporting small enterprises and give owners of small businesses an opportunity to earn a living for themselves. Although the combination of COVID-19 lockdown measures and the preference of local retailers for imported products reduced sales in the barbeque (braai) accessories industry by 50 to 70%, Till says they are currently in negotiations with American and Dutch retailers for possible high-volume export orders. The future certainly offers a spark of hope for the fire lighter manufacturers.



Flagship Projects

Flagship projects, unlike the once-off social donations, are those that are supported by the NamPower Foundation on a continuous basis.

Currently, the Disability Sports Namibia (DSN) and the Medic Rush Initiative are the NamPower Foundation's flagship projects. These projects have had a significant impact nationwide.

The DSN, which comprises the Namibia Paralympic Committee (NPC), Special Olympics Namibia, and Namibian National Association of the Deaf, is an organisation that caters for sports people with disabilities. These sports codes are often neglected in the mainstream sports arena. However, NamPower sees sports as an agent of change and empowerment for those with disabilities and, therefore, supports the DSN in its quest to bring about a change in social perceptions towards people with disabilities and their participation in sports and other social activities. We believe that by participating in sports, persons with disabilities acquire vital social skills, develop independence, and become empowered to act as agents of change.

The Foundation's second flagship project is the Medic Rush Initiative, through which thousands of underprivileged Namibians in remote areas can access healthcare services. Thousands of Namibians in rural areas do not have the means to access basic, let alone specialised healthcare; thus, NamPower sees it as its moral obligation to support government efforts in ensuring that these communities have access to essential healthcare services.

The National Science Fair was also a flagship project from 2010 until it was discontinued in 2016. Subsequently, the funds that would normally be allocated to this project were diverted towards investment in educational infrastructure, such as building and/or renovation of classrooms, science laboratories, and supporting infrastructure.

The total value of support: N\$21,942,331.46

N\$21 million in value

Flagship Projects.



O NamPower enables **DSN Athletes to attend** 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games.



20 Hochland Roundtable Medic Rush Initiative.



30 National Science Fair.



N\$2 million sponsorship

Disability Sports Namibia (DSN) has been able to send its athletes to international sporting events each time they come up, thanks to the generous support that the NamPower Foundation has rendered to the body since 2011.

The NamPower Foundation supports the DSN in the participation of national, regional, as well as international competitions. This support entails the payment of training camps, training fees, participation fees, subsistence and travel allowances and all costs related to participating in competitions.

The DSN comprises three bodies, namely, the Namibia Paralympic Committee (NPC), Special Olympics Namibia, and the Namibian National Association of the Deaf (NNAD).

For the second time, two of the three athletes from the Namibia National Paralympic team won medals at the recently concluded 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games in Japan. Ananias Shikongo, and his guide brought home a silver medal, while his teammate, Johannes Nambala, and his guide brought home a bronze medal.

Secretary-General of the DSN, Michael Hamukwaya, says although the number of athletes qualifying for international events has declined over the years, they have been able to send athletes to each of these world events with the generous help of the NamPower Foundation.

"Disability Sports is still not given appropriate recognition and support in Namibia, but NamPower has given it support and prominence at both national and international levels. NamPower is the only organisation that has supported elite sports for disabled athletes, which is quite costly," Hamukwaya added.

The Namibian Paralympic team has taken part in all four international paralympic games, throughout the ten years. In 2012, five athletes made it to the London games, while nine made it to the Rio de



Janeiro games in 2016 and, most recently, three made it to the 2020 Tokyo games.

The Paralympic Games have seen overwhelming growth and success in Namibia since 2008, when Reginald Benade won a bronze medal in Beijing, China. Johanna Benson brought the first gold medal from London, United Kingdom, in 2021 and all these achievements were realised through continuous support from the NamPower Foundation.

In 2016, the athletes won five medals; one gold, one silver, and two bronze, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Similarly, athletes under the DSN also attended the four World Championships held in France in 2013, Qatar in 2015, the

United Kingdom in 2017, and the United Arab Emirates in 2019.

"All this was made possible by the generous help of the NamPower Foundation," Hamukwaya stated.

The NamPower Foundation first sponsored DSN in 2011 with N\$850 000.00. The sponsorship subsequently grew to N\$1.2 million in 2014, and then recently, was increased to N\$2 million.

NamPower believes that sport and recreation are essential in the lives of people and communities, therefore, accessibility and opportunities for participation should be made available to everybody.







Medical supplies in remote areas



N\$170 thousand sponsorship Not everyone can access specialised medical services and that is true for most Namibians living in remote, rural villages of the country. This could be due to proximity to these services, lack of transport, or simply, due to poverty.

However, noble initiatives such as the Hochland Roundtable Medic Rush make such important, but inaccessible, medical services available to affected communities.

These initiatives are made possible by the generous support from corporates such as NamPower through the NamPower Foundation, which has made it possible for thousands of underprivileged Namibians in remote areas to access emergency healthcare whenever the need arises.

The NamPower Foundation has been supporting the Hochland Roundtable Medic Rush initiative for the past eight years, making it one of its flagship projects.

NamPower considers it a moral obligation to support the government in its efforts to make essential healthcare services accessible to the people.

During the past year, the Medic Rush team delivered medical supplies to clinics and health care centres in the //Kharas Region.

The NamPower Foundation sponsored the 2020 Medic Rush for N\$170 000.00, which was used to buy medical supplies. Tses, Berseba, and Klein Vaalgras Clinics were the recipients of the medical supplies.

The Hochland Roundtable 154 Chairman, Basson Van Rooyen, says Medic Rush came into being, courtesy of medical professionals who volunteer their expertise and time to render a valuable service





to underprivileged citizens who cannot afford medical services. He says this is their way of giving back to the community.

"NamPower has made it possible. The Foundation has been the main sponsor of the Medic Rush over the past seven to eight years," Van Rooyen said.

He said there will be no Medic Rush this year as all its members are on the frontline of the battle against the COVID-19 pandemic in hospitals, which are currently overwhelmed with cases.

According to Van Rooyen, during the time their members were unavailable, they could only offer limited support to a rural clinic with medication, hygiene products, and food for the community. He says the last two years were especially challenging as a result.

In the past couple of years, Medic Rush has undertaken medical initiatives in the Omaheke, Otjozondjupa, Kunene, and Kharas regions and well over five thousand (5000) residents of Bushmanland, Damaraland, Epukiro Pos 3, and Palmwag Doro !Nawas benefitted from free basic health care services which include nutrition, oral care, counselling, and specialist care with referrals and evacuation to medical centres for emergency treatment.







Over N\$9,9 million donations The National Science Fair was one of the NamPower Foundation's first flagship projects and had been in existence way before the formation of the NamPower Foundation, which re-organised it and turned it into a bigger and all-inclusive event. ×

The annual Fair afforded learners the opportunity to exhibit their projects and compete against each other in categories such as Physical Science, Physics and Chemistry, Environmental Science, Space Science, Aquatic Sciences, Science Journalism, Astronomy, Mining, Eco-Tourism, Building Sciences, Biology Sciences, Agricultural Sciences, Water Science, Engineering, Energy, Social Science, and Medical Sciences.

The best projects from each school would qualify to compete at the Regional Science Fair, where learners from as young as ten and eleven years of age took part every year.

The initiative was the brainchild of the Namibia Mathematics and Science Teachers Association (NAMSTA) and aimed to promote and create interest in Mathematics and Science in schools.

NamPower had been contributing towards the Science Fair since 2002 before taking over as the main and sole sponsor in 2005.

According to the former Head of the NamPower Foundation, Lucia Hiveluah, the success of the Fair was visible through increased reach and participation of schools, improvement in the quality of projects as well as increased interest in Mathematics and Science subjects in schools.





Hiveluah said the National Science Fair became a platform for information exchange and learning for both teachers, who also acted as judges or coaches, and learners.

The NamPower Foundation discontinued its support for the National Science Fair in 2017 and the funds were diverted to investment in educational infrastructure, such as the building of classrooms and supporting infrastructure. "By the time the NamPower Foundation stopped sponsoring the Fair, it was our view that the Foundation's investment had paid off as many learners had gone through the Fair and some had developed their projects further into businesses or advanced research," the former Head added.

To date, the NamPower Foundation's support to the National Science Fair over the years amounts to N\$9 999 734,51.



Job Creation and Entrepreneurship Development.

This category of projects was short-lived as it was phased out after only four years; the reason being that it was deemed to be cross-cutting and therefore, could be addressed through the other four focus areas, namely, Education, Health and Social Welfare, Community Development, and Capacity and Skills Development.

The first project to be supported under this nowdefunct category was in 2011 and the last in 2014. Some of the items that were sponsored for various projects include; welder kits and cables, pottery machines, building material, brick-making equipment, different types of sewing machines, chairs, and tables.

Beneficiaries in this category were Hardap, Khomas, Omusati, and Kavango regions.

Job Creation and Entrepreneurship Development.

Gwaitalale Pottery
Project going stronger
Khomas Region.

Gwaitalale Pottery Project going stronger.

– Khomas Region



Over N\$70 thousand assistance "When I touched the clay for the first time, I knew this is what I wanted to do," said Vistorina Nakanyala, owner of the Gwaitalale Pottery Project in Windhoek.

After getting training from the College of the Arts, Nakanyala started producing pottery products, although on a small scale. While exhibiting at the Ongwediva Trade Fair, she overheard someone talking about funds being available from the NamPower Foundation and that piqued her interest.

"I immediately went to the NamPower stand at the Fair, completed an application form, and submitted it. Three weeks later, I was notified that my application for funding had been approved," a very proud Nakanyala revealed.

The NamPower Foundation bought her a pottery machine, worth N\$54,888.00, building material worth N\$6,890.00, and sponsored her training on Good Business Practices at the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST), worth N\$10,00.00.

Shortly thereafter, Nakanyala and her partner started operating, employing four people, including her two children.

While she manufactures the products in Windhoek, her partner markets and sells them in northern Namibia.

"If it was not for NamPower, I would not have a studio from which to operate. I even bought a second-hand machine to complement the one NamPower bought for me," Nakanyala said.

Nakanyala has trained four unemployed ladies in the community on pottery. Regrettably, she says most of them have abandoned the trade after their hands became excessively dry and started cracking





from handling clay regularly.

Nakanyala now yearns to get more training in the trade so that she can refine her skills and the quality of her products.

Things have since changed for her business as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has restricted the movement of people and her ability to exhibit and sell her products as she did before. The Ongwediva Trade Fair was one of her biggest markets but due to the pandemic, it has not taken place for the past two years.

"To continue marketing my products during the pandemic, I had to become

innovative. I now go to weddings in the north of Namibia and market my products directly to wedding guests who buy them as traditional gifts for married couples," she added.

One of her biggest markets were tourism establishments that used to buy her products in bulk, however, that too has been affected by the absence of tourists as a result of the pandemic.

Nakanyala sees this as a temporary setback and is hopeful that things will look up again and that business will return to normal.



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