



BE PART OF THE FIGHT!



2022/23 financial year

ANNUAL REPORT

National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2025





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Directorate of Public Education and Corruption Prevention

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List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

ACC	Anti-Corruption Commission
ALAN	Association of Local Authorities in Namibia
ARC	Association of Regional Councils
BIPA	Business and Intellectual Property Authority
CCL	Cabinet Committee on Legislation
COPP	Civic Organizations Partnership Policy
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
ECN	Electoral Commission of Namibia
FIC	Financial Intelligence Centre
ITAS	Integrated Tax Administrative System
JDC	Judicial Service Commission
LAs	Local Authorities
LRDC	Law Reform and Development Commission
MC	Magistrates' Commission
MFMR	Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources
MME	Ministry of Mines and Energy
MoEAC	Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture
MFPE	Ministry of Finance and Public Enterprises
MICT	Ministry of Information and Communication Technology
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MHAISS	Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security

List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

MURD	Ministry of Urban and Rural Development
NACS	National Anti-Corruption Strategy
NACSAP	National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan
NACSC	National Anti-Corruption Steering Committee
NANGOF	Namibia Non-Governmental Organisations Forum
NCCI	Namibia Chamber of Commerce and Industry
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
NIED	National Institute for Educational Development
NIPAM	Namibia Institute for Public Administration and Management
NPC	National Planning Commission
NUST	Namibia University of Science and Technology
O/M/As	Offices, Ministries and Agencies
OAG	Office of the Attorney-General
OoJ	Office of the Judiciary
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
PEs	Public Enterprises
PSC	Public Service Commission
RCs	Regional Councils
UNAM	University of Namibia
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes



"The Strategy is derived from the Harambee Prosperity Plan II which calls for the development and full implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan. It targets to continuously promote effective governance through promotion of synergies to accelerate national development agenda at all levels of our society."

Excerpt from the speech by the Right Honourable Prime Minister, Dr Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, Prime Minister of the Republic of Namibia read at the launch of the NACSAP on 16 March 2022

Executive Summary

This Annual Report covers the period from April 2022 to March 2023, which served as the first year of reporting on the actual implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2025 (NACSAP) following its launch on 16 March 2022. The NACSAP consists of 95 actions carried out by 44 institutions, informed by eight Strategic Objectives aimed at combating corrupt activities and ensuring transparency in governance processes of institutions.

The success of the NACSAP relied on institutions' dedication to implementing the actions, and individuals to uphold the values of honesty and integrity. As a result, it is essential that the strategy is reported to the public and relevant stakeholders so that progress can be tracked.

Despite various challenges, including non-reporting by some leading implementing institutions for the 2022/23 financial year. NACSAP Annual Report indicates that progress has been made on many fronts and that the strategy's objectives have been substantially met in some respects. During the reporting period, 87 out of the 95 actions were implemented while 18 actions were not implemented.

After one year of NACSAP implementation, the key results per Strategic Objective are as follows:

Strategic Objective	Total number of activities	Number of activities implemented	Number of activities not implemented
1	10	10	0
2	47	40	7 (2.1.3, 2.1.4, 2.2.6, 2.2.3, 2.6.1, 2.7.2, 2.5.3)
3	13	13	0
4	6	6	0
5	5	4	1(5.1.3)
6	10	10	0
7	2	2	0
8	2	2	0

The National Anti-Corruption Steering Committee (NACSC) monitors the overall implementation of NACSAP to ensure its success. The NACSC is divided into four clusters responsible for overseeing and directing the execution of tasks that relate to specific NACSAP Strategic Objectives. The NACSC and Clusters are supported in the form of discussion topics and operational support by the Secretariat from the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), Directorate of Public Education and Corruption Prevention. Furthermore, respective bodies such as NACSC, Clusters, and Secretariat have implemented a monitoring and reporting mechanism to ensure the successful execution and evaluation of NACSAP initiatives.

As a result, Clusters held the following number of meetings under this financial year:

- Cluster 1 – 4 meetings
- Cluster 2 – 4 meetings
- Cluster 3 – 3 meetings
- Cluster 4 – 4 meetings

Steering Committee

Although the Secretariat planned to host two steering committee meetings, only one steering Committee meeting was held on 8 September 2022.

Regional Forums

Meanwhile, the Regional Forums are created as a platform for sharing information of NACSAP implementation and engagement of stakeholders at a regional level. As such, out of 14 only 10 regional forums were held by the following regions: Erongo, Kunene, Hardap, //Karas, Kavango East, Kavango West, Zambezi, Otjozondjupa, Khomas and Oshana.

Implementing institutions are acknowledged for their dedication to report on their respective institutional activities. NACSAP is committed to ethical practices and transparency in its efforts to address and prevent corruption. All data collected has been done so with the highest ethical standards. This report is the culmination of the data collected from the implementing institutions. Ultimately, the Annual Report provides an invaluable map to guide the government and citizens alike in the fight against corruption. With continued dedication to the NACSAP, it is possible to bring a corruption-free society closer to realization.

Chairperson's Message

Corruption poses a significant threat to the development of any nation. Recognising this, the Government of the Republic of Namibia has taken swift action to combat corruption by developing the NACSAP. Implementing this anti-corruption strategy demonstrates the government's commitment to promoting good governance, strengthening existing mechanisms to prevent and combat corrupt practices, fostering ethical behaviour, and upholding integrity.



Through this Strategy stakeholders collaborate closely to identify areas vulnerable to corruption and devise effective measures for prevention. By prioritising anti-corruption efforts through this comprehensive Strategy, Namibia aims to enhance its reputation as a transparent nation with solid governance systems. It sends a clear message that corrupt practices will not be tolerated in any sector or level within the country.

This annual report on the implementation of the second National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan highlights the key achievements and obstacles encountered during this crucial period since its rollout in April 2022 up to 31 March 2023, which marks the 2022/23 financial year. Indeed, this report serves as a foundation for monitoring, evaluating, and accountability for the Strategy's implementation.

One of the key aspects covered in this report is the success achieved in raising awareness about corruption and promoting a culture of integrity among citizens. Furthermore, the report sheds light on progress made in law enforcement, legislation and other effective measures devised for prevention.

However, it is important to acknowledge that implementing an effective anti-corruption strategy has its fair share of challenges. The annual report identifies key obstacles faced during this period, including limited resources allocated for anti-corruption measures, lack of ownership by critical sectors, late or non-reporting by the implementing institutions to the Secretariat, and ongoing efforts to strengthen institutional frameworks to enhance transparency and accountability.

In a nutshell, while there have been notable achievements in combating corruption through the implementation of NACSAP, it is evident that there are still challenges that need to be addressed. This annual report is a valuable tool for policymakers and stakeholders to assess progress made and identify areas where further improvements are required to ensure a more transparent and accountable society. Happy reading!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paulus Kalomho Noa', written over a light blue circular stamp.

Paulus Kalomho Noa
Director-General and Chairperson of the Steering Committee

1. Introduction

Namibia developed the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan in line with Article 5 of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, which required member states to develop a National Anti-Corruption Strategy addressing corruption at all societal levels. Since April 2022, the Government of the Republic of Namibia has implemented the country's second National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2025 as an important measure to guarantee an environment adverse to corruption. The latter was developed after the first Strategy, implemented between the 2017/2018 and 2019/2020 financial years lapsed.

The Anti-Corruption Commission, the coordinating entity, evaluated the Strategy in the 2020/2021 financial year; its recommendations for the need for continuity of the Strategy necessitated the formulation of the Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2025. The second Strategy has eight Strategic Objectives, which informs the 95 actions implemented by 44 lead-implementing institutions. The NACSAP has eight Strategic Objectives as follows:

Strategic Objective 1	Increasing the level of political accountability and transparency
Strategic Objective 2	Preventing corruption in government offices, ministries and agencies, public enterprises, regional councils, local and traditional authorities
Strategic Objective 3	Strengthening efforts to deter corruption
Strategic Objective 4	Conducting extensive anti-corruption education
Strategic Objective 5	Preventing Corruption in the private sector
Strategic Objective 6	Engaging civil society, non-governmental organisations and the media in combating corruption
Strategic Objective 7	Preventing corruption and promoting accountability in the sports fraternity
Strategic Objective 8	Enhance engagement and participation of youth in anti-corruption programmes

This report provides an account of the NACSAP progress during the 2022/23 financial year, looking at the initiatives, challenges, and outcomes of our efforts in combating corruption and promoting good governance, helping to ensure that the initiatives are transparent and accountable to the public. By understanding the dynamics of the NACSAP, readers can better understand the implementation process and how better to support the implementation of the NACSAP.

The Annual Report is divided into seven parts, each providing valuable insight into the progress of the NACSAP. The first part outlines the background and purpose of the report, while the second details the NACSAP's place within the government's strategic priorities as outlined in National Development Planning documents.

Part three of the report provides an overview of the roles of the NACS Steering Committee, the Clusters, the Secretariat, and the implementing Agencies. Information on the implementation progress is in Part four, which results from the NACSAP's monitoring and reporting process. Part five delves into the additional support activities of the Secretariat and the ACC, while part six and seven outlines the lessons learned and plans for the 2023-2024 financial year respectively.



2. Alignment with National Strategic Priorities

National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2025 is aligned with national policy instruments. This includes the national blueprint Vision 2030, which sets out the long-term development goals for Namibia. Vision 2030 emphasizes on eliminating corruption and promoting good governance as critical pillars for sustainable development. The Strategy is also aligned with the country's National Development Plans (NDPs), which underscores Namibia's dedication to promote transparency, accountability, and good governance as essential for national development. Furthermore, the Strategy is also an activity in the country's Harambee Prosperity Plan II, a policy implementation fast-tracking tool.

The table below illustrates the three strategic instruments, activities and the outcomes that are linked to NACSAP:

Government Strategic Document	Document Linkages with NACS	Activities	Outcomes
Namibia Vision 2030	Section 3.9 Enabling Environment; Section 3.9.4 Good Governance, Transparency, Accountability	Independent watchdog institutions ensure the implementation of anti-corruption programmes and monitor activities of the Government, the private sector, and civil society organisations and agencies.	The Government operates in an effective, efficient, transparent and accountable manner at all levels under accepted constitutional principles.
	Section 6.7 Democratic Governance	Create an enabling environment against social/political conflict and corruption and for democratic participation	
Harambee Prosperity Plan II	Effective Governance and Service Delivery	Implementation of the Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan; Access to Public Information; E-Governance	Full implementation of the NACSAP
Namibia's 5 th National Development Plan (2017/18 – 2021/22)	Section 5.2 Accountability and Transparency	Strengthen anti-corruption measures by educating public and private entities on measures to prevent and report corruption. Institutions will devise Risk Management Plans that identify areas that are vulnerable to corruption and establish preventative measures.	By 2022, Namibia is the most transparent and accountable nation in Africa. -Reduced Corruption Perception Index from 65% (2015) to 35% (2020/21), 20% (2021/22) -Increased Transparency International index (score) from 53 (2015) to 60 (2020/21), 65 (2021/22)

Accordingly, by aligning with these strategic priorities, the National Anti-Corruption Strategy ensures that efforts to combat corruption are integrated into broader national development plans. This alignment allows for a more coordinated and holistic approach to addressing corruption, ensuring that resources and efforts are directed towards achieving tangible results. Furthermore, by incorporating those, the Strategy benefits from global expertise and knowledge in anti-corruption measures.

National Progress on the Outcome Indicators:

The Harambee Prosperity Plan II has set a target to 'Improve Namibia's ranking on the Ibrahim Index on African Governance from its current position of seven to a position within the top five best performers.'

The Ibrahim Index on African Governance is a tool used to assess and rank the governance performance of African countries. It considers democratic and political governance, human/social economic opportunity, and human development. In recent years, Namibia has seen a slight downward trend in the index's ranking (2020 & 2021) Sub-Index on Accountability[1]. Despite being ranked 7th in 2019, Namibia dropped to 8th in 2020 and 2021 out of 54 countries. Similarly, the score slightly declined from 64.3 in 2019 to 64.1 in 2020 and 2021.

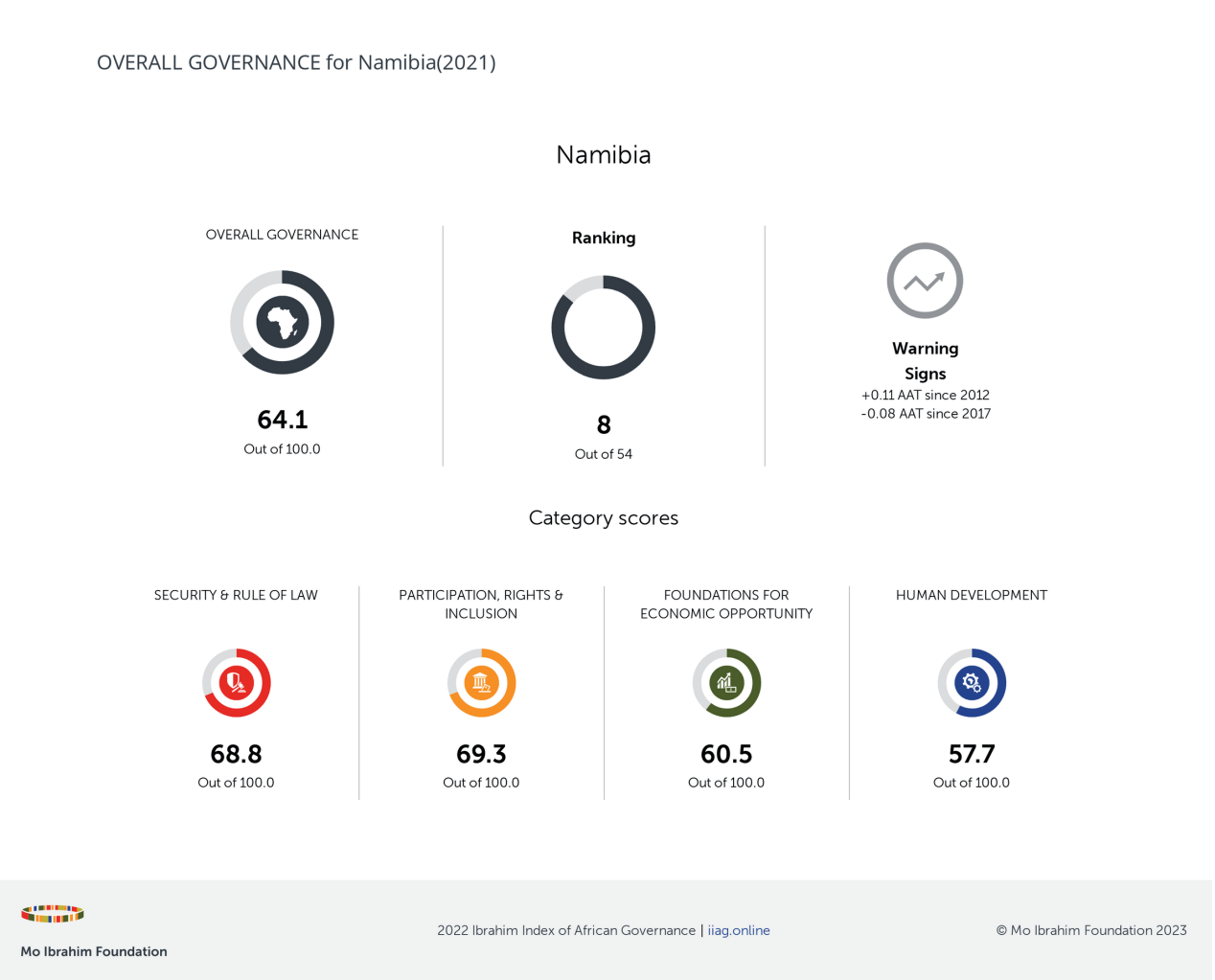


Figure 1 : Score and categories

[1] The Sub-Index Accountability was changed to Transparency & Accountability for 2021. The Indicators and corresponding scores used for calculating the Mo-Ibrahim- Transparency & Accountability Sub-Index were as follows: Security & Rule of Law, Participation, Rights& Inclusion, Foundations for Economic Opportunity, Human Development.

OVERALL GOVERNANCE for Namibia

LOCATION	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Change '12-'21
Namibia	8	8	6	7	7	8	7	7	8	8	0



Mo Ibrahim Foundation

2022 Ibrahim Index of African Governance | iiag.online

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Figure 2: Score

OVERALL GOVERNANCE for Namibia

LOCATION	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	AT '12-'21
Namibia	63.1	63.7	64.3	65.2	64.7	64.4	64.7	64.3	64.1	64.1	+1.0



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Figure 3: Ranking

In the Harambee Prosperity Plan II Goal 2 under Pillar 1 on Effective Governance also targets to 'Improve ranking on the Corruption Perception Index from current position of 6 in Africa as measured by Transparency International'.

Increasing levels of corruption[2] are negatively correlated with public trust in state legitimacy and thus endanger the overall inspiring Namibian development path to become a mature, transparent and functioning democracy. The score is far from National Development Plans target of 65 by the 2021/22 financial years, as the country strived to be more transparent and an accountable nation in Africa. These changes highlight the need for continuous efforts towards improving governance practices and call for robust implementation of the NACSAP.

[2] The Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index , shows that perception of corruption is quite spread in Namibia. The Index placed Namibia at the 58 out of 180 countries with a score of 49. This slightly negative trend has been established since the past years. Other corruption indicators are following a similarly negative trend, disaggregated by sectors and institutions: [1] The Sub-Index Accountability was changed to Transparency & Accountability for 2021. The Indicators and corresponding scores used for calculating the Mo-Ibrahim- Transparency & Accountability Sub-Index were as follows: Security & Rule of Law, Participation, Rights& Inclusion, Foundations for Economic Opportunity, Human Development.

The Ibrahim Index of African Governance 2020 shows a clear deteriorating trend for various governance indicators, including anti-corruption and transparency and accountability, and warning signs for gender equality. This negative trend is also underscored by the most recent Global Corruption Barometer (2019), which reveals that 78% of people thought that corruption has increased during the previous 12 months (63% in 2015) and 11% of public service users paid a bribe during the previous 12 months (7% in 2015). Africa Integrity Indicators support the overall negative trend for Namibia.

3. NACSAP Monitoring and Reporting Process

3.1 NACSAP Implementing Organizations

A total of 44 institutions implement and report to the Secretariat on the 95 activities under the Strategy. The actions are aligned to institutional mandate (s) or line of work. The implementing institutions called the lead institutions, work in partnership with other entities in executing such as co-leads. During the period under review, the Secretariat cited late reports and non-reporting due to lack of understanding on their responsibilities, change of focal persons and mere non-attention to the Strategy. To address this, and complementary to the cluster meetings, the Secretariat embarked upon the one-on-one consultations where they explain the role of the institutions, and delve on their actions, further provided training on the reporting templates.

3.2 The National Anti-Corruption Steering Committee (NACSC)

To ensure that the NACSAP is tracked, the National Anti-Corruption Steering Committee (NACSC), supported by the Secretariat derived from the Directorate of Public Education and Corruption Prevention within the ACC oversees its implementation by the NACSC. The Steering Committee is the core body providing leadership and strategic direction regarding the implementation of the NACSAP.

Members of the NACSC include ministers, deputy ministers, heads of institutions and accounting officers from selected offices/ministries/agencies (O/M/As), representatives from the private sector, civil society organizations and the media. Meetings of the NACSC are held twice in a financial year normally in quarter two and four. However, during the period under review, only one Steering Committee meeting took place on 09 September 2022.



Caption: A group photo taken during the Steering Committee meeting on 9 September 2022, Windhoek

3.3 The NACSAP Clusters

The NACSC is divided into four Clusters, with each Cluster overseeing the implementation of activities under one or more NACSAP strategic objectives. Meetings of the Clusters are held at least each quarter, and are chaired by the respective chairpersons who are elected by the members.

The monitoring of activities under the eight strategic objectives have been allocated to various Clusters as follows:

Cluster 1	Strategic Objective 1 : Increasing the level of political accountability and transparency Strategic Objective 3: Strengthening efforts to deter corruption
Cluster 2	Strategic Objective 2: Preventing corruption in government offices, ministries and agencies, public enterprises, regional councils, local and traditional authorities
Cluster 3	Strategic Objective 4: Conducting extensive anti-corruption education Strategic Objective 6: Engaging civil society, non-governmental organisations and the media in combating corruption Strategic Objective 8: Enhance engagement and participation of youth in anti-corruption programmes
Cluster 4	Strategic Objective 5: Preventing Corruption in the private sector Strategic Objective 7: Preventing corruption and promoting accountability in the sports fraternity

The NACSAP Clusters Chairpersons



Cluster 1 Chairperson
Ms. Lydia Kandetu,
Secretary, National Assembly



Cluster 1 Vice-chairperson
Mr. Theo Mujoro, Chief Electoral & Referenda
Officer, Electoral Commission of Namibia



Cluster 2 Chairperson:
Mr. I-Ben Nashandi, Executive Director
Office of the Prime Minister



Cluster 2 Vice Chairperson
Ms. Annelly Haiphene, Executive Director
Ministry of Fisheries & Marine Resources



Cluster 3 Chairperson
Ms. Calista Swartz, Director
National Youth Council of Namibia



Cluster 3 Vice-Chairperson
Ms. Naita Hishoona, Executive Director
Namibia Institute for Democracy



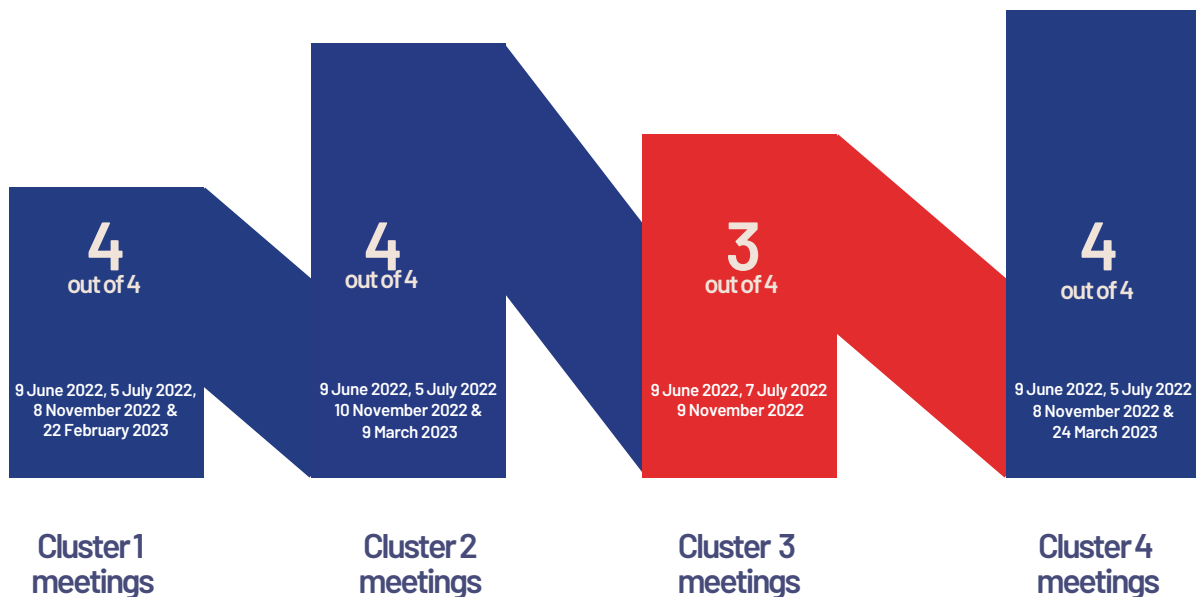
Cluster 4 Chairperson
Ms. Vivienne Katjiongua,
Chief Executive Officer, BIPA



Cluster 4 Vice Chairperson
Mr. Danny Meyer, Director
SME Compete

During the period under review, the Clusters steered the implementation of activities assigned to them. This is, in some instances, through partnerships, driving a sense of ownership and sharing of best practices. An induction workshop for all Clusters focal persons and members was held on 9 June 2022 in Windhoek. The workshop provided NACSC members with a clear mandate of their role in overseeing the implementation of the Strategy. This meeting counted as the first Cluster meeting for all Cluster in quarter one of the 2022/23 financial year.

The Clusters have held the following meetings during the 2022/23 financial year:



Caption: Representatives from various institutions attend a Cluster meeting

3.4 The NACSC Secretariat, Monitoring and Reporting Process

The Secretariat comprises of staff members under the ACC's Directorate of Public Education and Corruption Prevention. The Secretariat provides secretarial support to the steering committee, provides policy recommendations and advisory on specific issues pertaining the implementation of NACSAP. During the period under review the Secretariat coordinated Regional Forums, Steering Committee and Cluster meetings and tracked NACSAP quarterly progress. Furthermore, they compiled annual report as well as undertook consultative meetings with implementing institutions.

Despite the Secretariat's commitment and dedication, the non-reporting by implementation institutions served as a setback in the timely documentation of the progress reports. Another challenge identified was the overwhelming task of the Secretariat, performed by staff members as an ad hoc role to their already bloated task relating to the mandate of the institution as well as reporting on the obligations of the State as part of its commitment to international instruments such as the United Nations Convention Against Corruption among other national and regional instruments. These duties leave them with inadequate time to follow up with the institutions. Moreover, the turnover of staff members and vacant positions exacerbates this situation.

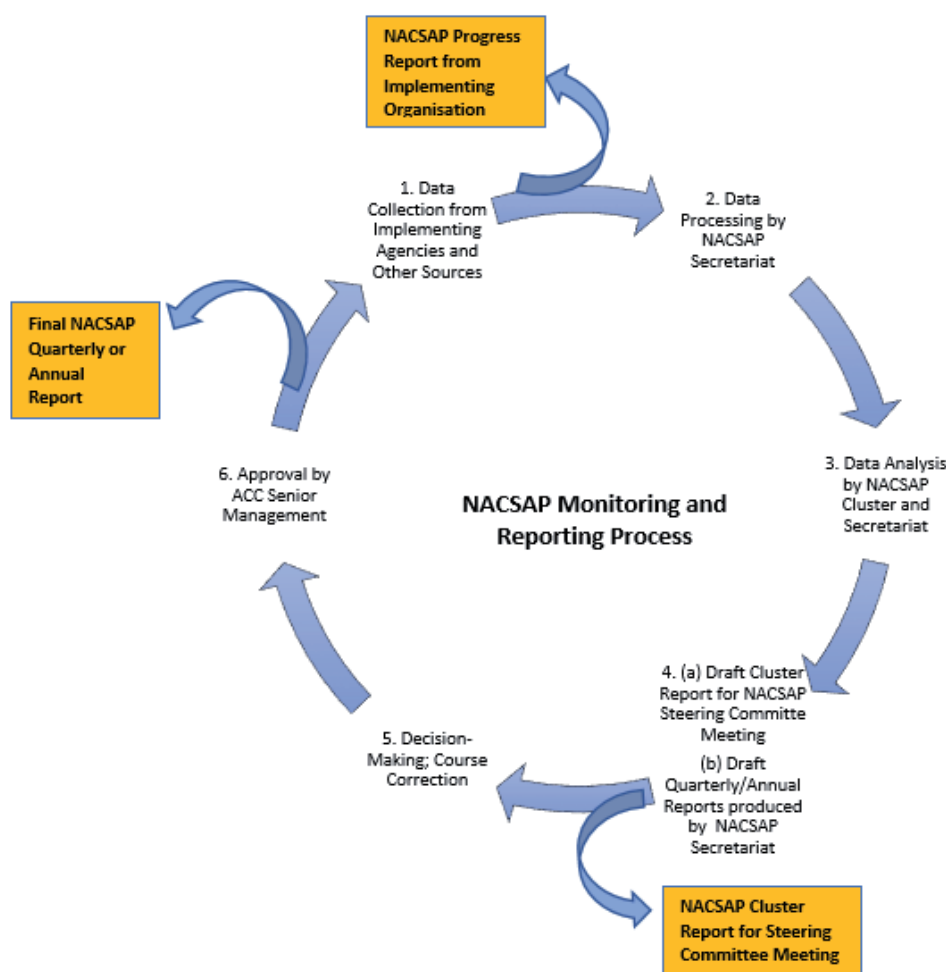
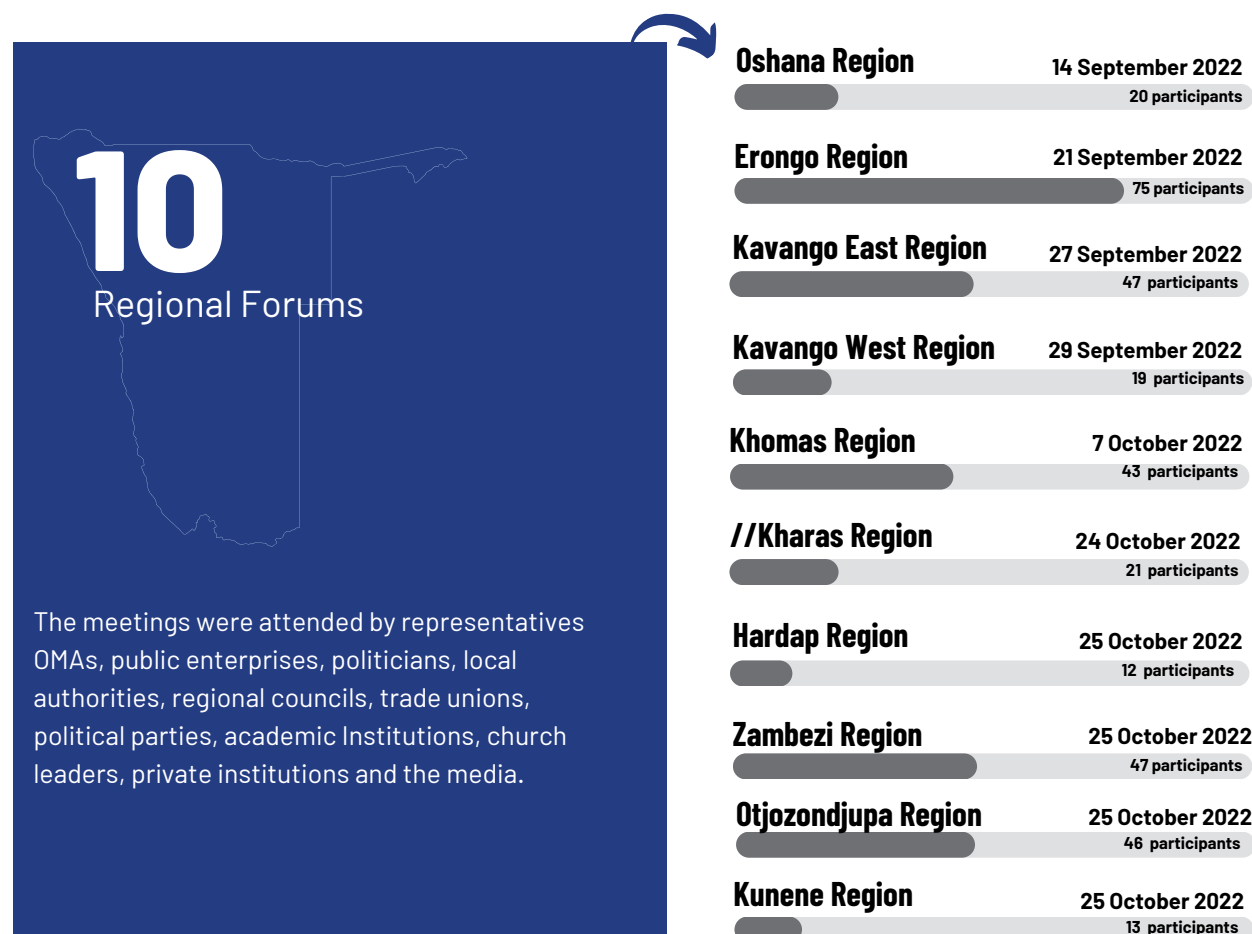


Figure 4: NACSAP Monitoring & Reporting Process

3.5 The Regional Forums

The implementation of NACSAP made provision for the hosting of the Regional Forums spearheaded and chaired by the Regional Governors of each region. A Regional Forum is a platform for operationalising the Strategy at the regional level and was created to share information and engage stakeholders regarding the progress of its implementation. This is done to drive inclusivity and avoid implementing the Strategy only from the central level. The Regional Forum is held once a year, whereby the Regional Governor invites the guests to this important meeting.

In the review period, forums were held in the following regions as outlined below:



Despite the successful hosting of 10 regional forums, some challenges were encountered. These included a lack of ownership from the respective Office of the Governors and some Regional Councils. Other challenges included poor attendance and limited funds for hosting the forums in full scope. In addition, due to timeous reporting by some lead institutions, the Secretariat could also not provide rich information on the progress made with the implementation of the Strategy timely, which left a considerable gap in the added value and information access by the participants to the meeting.

4. Progress on the Strategy Action Plan

This section presents the progress made on each action by NACSAP implementing institutions.

Strategic Objective 1

Increasing the level of political accountability

Political accountability has been a contentious issue in many countries, and Namibia is no exception. It is therefore imperative to increase the transparency of political arena to promote accountability and enhance public trust in the political system. There are 10 actions under this Strategic Objective implemented by four lead institutions as follows: (ECN 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.3; ACC 1.1.4, 1.2.4, MFPE 1.2.1, Parliament 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.2.5, 1.2.6). Below is an account of the progress made during the period under review.

Specific Objective 1.1: Increasing the transparency of political party financing

Action 1.1.1 Annual reviews on whether provisions of party transparency as contained in Chapter 4 of the Electoral Act, 2014 have been complied with. Annual reports thereon will be published and submitted to Parliament. Each report will investigate any reasons for non-compliance and will offer solutions.

Political party compliance is reported in the ECN Annual Report. The Annual Report contains a detailed report of the submission of political party compliance as provided in the Electoral Act. The annual report for 2022/23 is only due for submission in August 2023 in terms of the Electoral Act.

As an in-house arrangement, the ECN compiled a compliance template, indicating which parties comply with which sections, and this template is shared with the Commission quarterly. It was reported that the local authority organisations/associations are struggling financially and, therefore, unable to afford an auditor to audit their books in terms of section 140 of the Electoral Act, 5 of 2014.

Unlike political parties, local authority organisations are only contesting elections in particular local authorities and, therefore, usually have a limited amount of expenses, i.e., travelling all over the country to try and garner votes. As such, they do not have a huge support base, and most of the time, their supporters are unemployed people thus unable to pay a membership fee to ensure the organisation makes revenue. During the stakeholder meetings held in 2022, one of the leaders of such an organisation informed the Commission that the organisation had a mere N\$20-00 in their banking account and would not be in a position to pay an auditor thousands of dollars to audit their books.

As a result, the ECN is in the process of amending the Electoral Act, proposing to provide parties and organisations

or /associations who cannot afford to appoint auditors to appoint accountants or even make a declaration under oath, stating their financial difficulties.

Action 1.1.2 Strengthening cooperation between ECN, Parliament and MoF with regard to political parties funding.

The ECN, in partnership with the National Assembly, held a stakeholders workshop on compliance with Sections 139, 140, 141, and 158 of the electoral act, 5 of 2014, on 21 September 2022 in Windhoek. The session aimed to educate the political parties about their responsibilities regarding compliance with the provisions of Chapter 4 of the Electoral Act, especially their duties to provide audited financial statements. The ECN observed that political parties and registered organisations are not fully compliant with the provision. The non-compliance is also attributed to limited funds accessible to some political parties and associations, particularly those without any seats in Parliament and, as a result, unable to afford auditors' fees. While those with seats in Parliament have no structures, standard procedures, or regulations to guard the process.

The programme included presentations from key stakeholders, mainly the ACC and Public Accountants & Auditors Board (PAAB).

In terms of Section 140 and Section 158 (funds they generate and public funds) that deal with the Audited Financial Statements and Disclosure of Public

Funding, it was indicated that ECN still observed a slow pace, particularly on the disclosure of public funding. A similar situation had been observed in terms of Section 141, which deals with the disclosure of foreign and domestic financing of political parties, organisations, or other persons. The ECN continues to execute deliberate interventions to educate the political parties and local authority associations/organisations on their obligations through various written reminders.

Action 1.1.3: Compile and submit the post-elections report within the prescribed period in terms of section 116 of the Electoral Act.

During the period under review, the Commission conducted three (3) by-elections in the constituencies of Swakopmund, Moses //Garoeb and Okaku on 12 August 2022, 06 January 2023 and 17 March 2023 respectively. The reports were due for submission as provided for in the Electoral Act to Parliament in February 2023, July 2023 and September 2023 for Swakopmund, Moses //Garoeb and Okaku respectively. The Swakopmund Performance Assessment and Post-Election Report is available at the Commission.



Action 1.1.4: Conduct anti-corruption education, and ethics training for political parties and registered organisations under the ECN.

The ACC conducted a session on corruption for political parties and registered organisations during a consultative and capacity-building workshop on 21 September 2022.

The session aimed at providing the party members with practical information on preventive anti-corruption measures. More than 23 representatives from various political parties and local authority associations attended the session, representing the Congress of Democrats, Christian Democratic Voice, National Unity Democratic Organization of Namibia, Namibia Economic Freedom Fighters, All People's Party, United Democratic Front, Landless People's Movement, Popular Democratic Movement, National Patriotic Front of Namibia, United People's Movement, Independent Patriots for Change, National Democratic Party of Namibia, National Empowerment Fighting Corruption, Rundu Concerned Citizens Association, Rehoboth Independent Town Management Association and Promised Land Residents Association.

Apart from this workshop, the ECN uses every opportunity where political parties are gathered, e.g., at political liaison committee meetings, to educate the political parties and organisations or associations on the importance of compliance with the applicable sections of the Electoral Act.

Specific Objective 1.2: Strengthening the integrity and transparency of Parliament

Action 1.2.1: Resources availed to Parliament within the means of the State to ensure that Parliament can carry out its oversight role effectively.

The financial resources was availed to Parliament to ensure its oversight role was carried out effectively. Additional funding was provided to the National Assembly and National Council at the Midyear Budget review for 2022/2023, and the estimated budgets increased by N\$56,823,270. 00 to N\$167,031,000.00 (Vote 03) and N\$22,054,580.00 to N\$102,900,000.00 (Vote 03) from original estimates of N\$167,031,000.00 and N\$80,845,520.00 respectively.

In addition, political party funding was promptly disbursed to the political parties on the first day of each quarter as per the statute. Moreover, to ensure funding is loaded on the payment system and monthly releases are availed on the first day of each month to allow spending to be made available on time. The amount of money transferred to political parties during the reporting period as part of the political funding was N\$119,356,000.00, which equates to N\$29,839,000.00 per quarter from April 2022 to March 2023. The Ministry of Finance will continue making funds available to Parliament and political parties as per the approved budget in the next financial year.

Action 1.2.2: Parliament will annually publish a report on compliance with their specific rules on asset disclosure.

NB: Amend, reform and strengthen the Code of Conduct and Rules of the Parliament as well as specify and provide for the actions and measures, in line with the Namibian Constitution (Article 59 (2)) and the Code of Conduct (Chapter 5), that need to be taken in the event of non-compliance. The regulations should also provide for the protection of the members of Parliament in terms of privacy, human, rights and what should be done with the information provided. It is also recommended that information provided should be subjected to further audits. The Office of the Auditor-General (OAG) should be tasked with the responsibility to audit information declared annually and produce a report.

In terms of Article 59 (2) of the Constitution, all Members of Parliament are required to disclose their financial and business interests. Parliament (National Assembly and National Council) reported that during the period under review, 47 MPs of the National Assembly submitted their Asset Declarations, while 57 MPs did not submit theirs, while all 40 MPs of the National Council submitted their Asset Declarations. This represents 45% and 100% compliance with Asset Declarations by the National Assembly and National Council respectively. The register for the Declaration of Assets has been compiled and is available for analysis. The due date for the declaration of assets is 30th April every year unless otherwise decided by the Standing Committee of Privileges in terms

of Article 6.8 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the National Assembly.

However, challenges such as the failure to submit asset declaration continues to persist, especially in the National Assembly. During the previous financial year (2021/2022), 45% of MPs in the National Assembly failed to submit their Declaration of Assets. In addressing this shortcoming, the Secretary to National Assembly presents the register to the Standing Committee of Privileges on an annual basis in terms of Article 6.4 (d) of the Code of Conduct for the Members of the National Assembly.

Parliament plans to call meetings for the Standing Committee of Privileges in terms of the Code of Conduct, Chapter Six (6), for the enforcement of the declaration of assets, follow up with MPs who fail to submit Asset Declaration and produce a compliance report in the next financial year.

Action 1.2.3: Training courses on the various legislation will be offered to Members of Parliament (MPs) and staff annually.

Parliament, with the support of the Enhancing Participatory Democracy Programme, has undertaken a capacity needs analysis for the Members of the 7th Parliament and training opportunities are sought in the identified areas. MPs are also exposed to training relevant to the international parliamentary bodies and Parliamentary Standing Committees they form part of.

The following trainings were conducted for both Houses during the reporting period:

- Good Governance and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- Namibia Budget Process;
- Budget Oversight/transparency;
- Gender Responsive and Pro-Employment Budgeting;
- Training on Ethics and Integrity conducted by the Anti-Corruption Commission held in Swakopmund;
- Peer Review Program and Training for Members of Public Accounts Committees and Supporting Officials organised by the Southern Africa Development Community Organisation of Public Accounts Committee (SADCOPAC) held in Maseru, Lesotho;
- Joint Seminar for both Houses on International Parliamentary Forums;
- National cyber security awareness creation session attended by the ICT Committee;
- Capacity building training on "Digital Democracy-Bridging the Digital Divide organised by Namibia Institute of Democracy and the Hans Seidel Foundation for ICT committee;
- Training by IOM on international essentials of migration management for the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security;
- Leadership training for Chairperson, Deputy Chairpersons and Chief Whips of the National Assembly;
- Open Budget Survey: Dissemination and Engagement Workshop;
- 27th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP27 Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt).

Analysis of the effectiveness and impact of the training is a challenge as one of the Houses (National Assembly) does not have a training officer that keeps track of all training and develops tools to measure the effectiveness of the training.

Plans for the next Financial Year:

- Ethics and Protocol training for MPs and Staff;
- Public speaking, lobbying and advocacy to strengthen the capacity of women MPs.

Action 1.2.4: Facilitate periodical seminars for public debates to disseminate best practices on integrity amongst MPs to discuss topical issues related to integrity and corruption annually.

The ACC conducted Anti-Corruption awareness as well as ethics and integrity training for the Parliamentarian Standing Committee on Public Accounts on 16 June 2022 and 01 August 2022 respectively.

Action 1.2.5: Strengthening of parliamentary and public oversight and follow up action on findings. Parliament should develop punitive measures to take accounting officers to task.

The National Assembly made 40% progress on developing a reporting template, which will be disseminated to OMAs and PEs to report on implementing recommendations adopted in the House. On 15 September 2021, the Right Hon. Prime Minister issued a memo to all Ministers regarding implementing the resolutions of the National Assembly.

The corrective actions will be educational rather than punitive, as accounting officers are not legally accountable to Parliament. O/M/As & RC will be educated on the importance of the implementation of the recommendation.

Challenges: Tools for record keeping on the follow-up on the implementation are not in place but in the process of being developed.

Plans for next financial year:

- Reporting template to be shared with OPM and all O/M/As for reporting on a sixth-monthly basis. The follow-up is to be done by Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) officer;
- Periodic meetings are to be held between Parliament and the Prime Minister on the implementation of recommendations;
- To educate OMAs and PEs on the role of Parliament and the importance of implementing the recommendations of Parliament.

Action 1.2.6: Regular training on budget design and management with MPs and specifically Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Accounts to strengthen the oversight function in this regard.

During the period under review the following interventions were executed:

- four training sessions conducted for both MPs and staff in the areas of the budget process, accountability and transparency;
- three-day workshop on SDGs and Good Governance was delivered by

the UNDP and KAS;

- five-day workshop on Gender Responsive and Pro-Employment Budgeting was conducted by UNFPA and ILO;

Parliament has a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UNICEF of which one of the target areas are (i) improved knowledge by MPs and staff of Parliament on budget analysis and tracking and (ii) Strengthened budget oversight by Parliament for improved budgetary outcomes.

Plans for next financial year:

- Continuous training on the Open Budget Survey to improve transparency and accountability from both the Executive and Parliament;

More training programs for MPs and budgeting and financial management systems to be conducted.

Strategic Objective 2

Preventing corruption in government offices, ministries and agencies, public enterprises, regional councils, local and traditional authorities

Corruption is a major threat to the development and stability of societies, particularly in developing countries. It undermines public trust in government institutions, erodes the rule of law, and stifles economic growth. One of the most effective ways to combat corruption is to prevent it from occurring in the first place. This can be achieved by strengthening legal and regulatory frameworks, promoting transparency and accountability in government operations, and implementing effective internal controls and risk management systems. This Strategic Objective covers a large portion of the strategy with 47 actions implemented by 18 lead institutions as follows: (OPM 2.1.1, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.7, 2.5.1, 2.5.2, 2.5.3, 2.6.6, MURD 2.1.2, ACC 2.1.3, 2.1.4, 2.1.5, MHAISS 2.1.6; NAMPOL 2.1.7; MWT 2.1.8; MAWLR, 2.2.3, 2.2.4; MEFT 2.2.5; MHETI 2.2.6; MHSS 2.2.8; MICT 2.2.9; MPE now MFPE 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 2.3.3, 2.6.1, 2.6.4, 2.6.7, 2.6.8, 2.6.9, 2.6.10; OoJ 2.4.1, 2.4.2; MoJ 2.4.3; OAG 2.6.2, 2.6.3, 2.6.5; MFMR 2.7.1, 2.7.3, 2.7.4, 2.7.5, 2.7.6, 2.7.7; MME 2.7.2, 2.7.8, 2.7.9, 2.7.10, 2.7.11).

Specific Objective 2.1: Addressing public institutions' specific vulnerabilities by systematic implementation of preventative measures

Action 2.1.1: Periodic review of Business Process and Management Systems to ensure effective service delivery and good governance.

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) reported 50 percent progress on this action during the 2022/23 financial year. On the Integrated Social Assistance System (ISAS), there was a request to include the children's grant module, and that request has been met. The construction of the Children Grant Module has been completed and demonstrated to the ministry. As such, the development of this system (ISAS) for managing and paying social pensions, disability and maintenance grants was completed and implemented. Training of users has also taken place. The system was also integrated with the National Population Registration System (MHAISS: NPRS) to verify applicant identities at time of capturing.

Another key tool is the Commodity Beneficiary Management Information System (CBMIS). This system was developed for Directorate Disaster Risk Management (DDRM) in OPM to manage the flow of commodities in DDRM warehouses country-wide, and manage beneficiaries' who benefit from disaster assistance. The warehouse management and beneficiary registration components were completed.

Memorandum of Understandings were

signed and letters were issued for stakeholders to avail resources to form part of the project for the Integrated Beneficiary Registry (IBR), a one-stop-shop system that would provide access to all social protection systems from a single window. This system is being developed for the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare.

Furthermore, progress was made on developing online declaration of interest by public servants.

In addition, pilot testing, testing and verification, User Acceptance Testing as well as User manual were conducted.

Action 2.1.2: Revision and harmonisation of the public sector systems and legislation inclusive of RCs and LAs to ensure that they uphold the principles of good governance.

NB: Ministry of Urban and Rural Development (MURD), Association of Local Authorities Namibia (ALAN), Association of Regional Councils (ARC), National Association of Local Authority Officials (NALAO) and Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) are given the task of looking at the legal framework that RCs and LAs use. These are mainly the Public Service Act and Regional Councils Act, as well as the Local Authorities Act. The institutions, as mentioned earlier, were to find the best way to incorporate the declaration of Interest and Assets in the RCs and LAs.

a) Amendment of the Regional Councils Act, 1992 (Act No. 22 of 1992): The Ministry of Urban and Rural Development enlisted

the service of a Legal Drafting Consultancy that is tasked with the amendment of the Regional Councils Act, 1992 (Act 22 of 1992) with the objective of harmonising certain provisions thereof with those of the Public Service Act, 1995 (Act 13 of 1995). The amendments are focused on among others, the provisions governing human resources management and governance matters related to Regional Councils structures and procedures. The ministry held stakeholders' consultative workshops and the final stakeholders' validation meeting was held during August 2023. The stakeholders included, among others, representatives of O/MAs, Regional Councils (political and technical), Regional Governors and Trade Unions. The final consolidation of stakeholders' input is being finalized and MURD will submit the draft bill to Cabinet.

b) Amendment of the Local Authorities Act, 1992 (Act No. 23 of 1992): The process of amending the Local Authorities Act, 1992 (Act No. 23 of 1992) as amended is at an advanced stage. The amendment process has also followed a consultative approach which started in 2022 when the first draft amendment bill was sent to local authorities for scrutiny and comments. The revised draft Bill was discussed at a national stakeholders' consultation and validation workshop which took place on 19 – 20 September 2023 in Windhoek. After the two days' workshop, local authorities and stakeholders were again given additional time to submit any further written comments or inputs. MURD is currently,

with the assistance of a legal expert, finalizing the amendment bill for it to be submitted to the Cabinet and its relevant Committee (Cabinet Committee of Legislation).

c) Local Authorities Reform Policy Paper: The Local Authorities Reform Policy Paper is still undergoing refinement. The paper was re-submitted to and considered by the Cabinet Committee on Overall Policy and Priorities (CCOPP) in April 2022 and it was referred to reconsider certain governance matters. The Ministry is working with the Association for Local Authorities in Namibia (ALAN) and the National Planning Commission to address pertinent issues raised and there is a commitment to bring it to finality.

Action 2.1.3: Develop national framework for conducting corruption risk management in public bodies.

It was reported that this activity was not planned for the financial year under review.

Action 2.1.4: Develop a national framework for conducting practices, procedures and system examination in public bodies and build capacity thereof.

It was reported that this activity was not planned for the financial year under review.

Action 2.1.5: Conduct Corruption Risk Assessment and other system examination of procedures on corruption vulnerabilities in OMAs, RCs, LAs as well as public bodies, and provide recommendations for risk mitigation and organisational transformation.

During the period under review, the ACC conducted 18 Corruption Risk Assessments (CRAs) at local authorities, ministries and PEs in the Erongo, Oshana, Khomas, Zambezi, Otjozondjupa, Omusati, Kavango West, //Karas, Kavango East, Kunene and Ohangwena regions. Corruption risk mitigation plans were developed for each institution to implement recommendations to mitigate the identified corruption risks.

Action 2.1.6: Strengthen policies and capacity building of staff to reduce loopholes that are caused by middleman in the issuing of National Documents.

During the year under review, the Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security (MHAISS) reported that they have an established and functional Ethics and Integrity Committee as a result a total of 2,741 Pledges was facilitated across the country and remains ongoing. In addition, committee members attended the OPM Integrity Summit. Furthermore, an information sharing sessions to sensitize members of the dangers of corruption, in particular the illicit trading with national documents was conducted. Moreover, a "Report Corruption" alert button was created on the ministerial website.

Civic Affairs recorded a total of 25 disciplinary cases of which 5 resulted in dismissals and 1 demotion, Namibia Police Force (NAMPOL) recorded a total of 546 departmental and 726 criminal cases of which lead to 56 discharge and 8 demotion was effected. Namibia Correctional Service (NCS) recorded a total of 331 disciplinary cases were initiated of which 14 discharge and 3 demotion was effected. The above indicated information cover NAMPOL, NCS and Department of Civic Affairs (Immigration, Civil Registration and Refugee Management).

Action 2.1.7: Develop and implement anti-corruption mechanisms to close loopholes for corruption in the force.

The Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs invited the Anti-Corruption Commission to conduct anti-corruption awareness. The training sessions covered topics on the mandate of the Commission, corruption, ethics and integrity is aimed at sensitizing the official on the dangers of corruption. In this respect, training was conducted to officials at 107 officers at Lucius Mahoto Correctional Service Training College on 11 November 2022, 22 officials of Ministry of Defence and Veterans Affairs: Internal Audit Section on 3 August 2022 in Windhoek, 23 officials at Karibib Staff and Command College on 08 July 2022, 32 officials at Namibian Army Rooikop BN 125 and 44 Artillery on 11 October 2022 as well as 20 officials at Namibia Command & Staff College on 13 September 2022.

Action 2.1.8: Develop and implement anti-corruption mechanisms to close loopholes for corruption in works and transport sector.

The Ministry of Works and Transport embraced corruption risk assessment and invited the ACC to conduct corruption risk assessment which was inclusive of anti-corruption education as well as ethics and integrity training. A total of 21 CRAs were conducted at all Government Garages and Stores country-wide as well as the Head office. Of these, four were conducted during the 2022/23 financial year. All mitigation plans were handed over to the respective components, the ACC consolidated all the 21 CRAs to compile a consolidated report summing up the work done as well as common loopholes identified during the conducting of these CRAs between 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 financial years respectively. This report will serve as a reference point for the Ministerial management to mitigate the identified corruption risks thereby ensuring accountability.



Specific Objective 2.2: Enhancing accountability, transparency and integrity specifically in public institutions

Action 2.2.1: Establish and operationalise Integrity Committees.

A total of 37 integrity committees have been established, operationalized and the capacity building is ongoing. These include monthly online meetings as well as training. A total of 260 Integrity Committee members across the public service were thus trained during the period under review. The OPM in partnership with the UNDP Accelerator Lab held three training sessions in Swakopmund, Gobabis and Windhoek.

Despite progress made, some challenges were encountered. The OPM is not able to establish Integrity Committees in institutions that are not covered under the Public Service Act, 1995 (Act 13 of 1995). The ACC may direct POB, MFPE and MURD to do so under the Anti-Corruption Act, 2003.

Meanwhile, in the next financial year, OPM will host the monthly zoom meeting to keep the momentum. One quarterly capacity building face to face session, as well as produce the quarterly reports

Action 2.2.2: Enforce the signing of the one-page integrity pledge to uphold and guide ethical conduct, including integrity, honesty, objectivity and impartiality.

A total of 25 OMAs has signed the Integrity Pledges. Signing of Integrity Pledges at OMAs are ongoing although a lot of OMAs

have stated, there were still staff members that did not sign due to absenteeism, etc.

Challenges:

- staff members are reluctant to sign pledges due to a lack of understanding of fear of victimisation.

Plans for the next financial year:

- OPM plans to conduct more information sessions with staff members to explain the pledges.

Action 2.2.3: Ensure transparency and compliance in the allocation and distribution of agricultural, veterinary and water sector initiatives.

It was reported that, the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR) finalized internal consultations on the development of the Draft Water Pricing Policy.



Action 2.2.4: Develop proper mechanisms for the transparent, equitable allocation and management of land.

The MAWLR reported that it has finalized the revision of the National Resettlement Policy and submitted it to the Cabinet for approval. The Ministry also intended to review the National Resettlement Criteria; however, this could not be done because this activity was dependent on the approval of the Revised National Resettlement Policy by Cabinet.

The Ministry held workshops on 21- 22 May 2022 and 21 - 22 June 2022 to consider and discuss comments and inputs on the Land Bill by Ministry of Justice. After the said workshops inputs were incorporated, and the Bill was sent back to the Ministry of Justice on 29 September 2022.

During March 2023, the Ministry conducted training on the provisions of the Communal Land Reform Act, 5 of 2002 for members of Communal Land Boards that were appointed in March 2021.

Action 2.2.5: Ensure protection of natural resources and environment through specific anti-corruption and transparency policies and procedures.

During the period under review the Ministry has submitted the Bill on Protected Areas and Wildlife Management to the Parliament for tabling and discussions. This Bill clearly outlines the protection of natural resources,

sustainable utilization and fair distribution of this resources.

Anti-Poaching strategies on Wildlife crime prevention and law enforcement is enhanced through Nationwide Wildlife related investigations, intelligence operations, surveillance and regular patrols in the strategic protected areas.

To combat corruption and enhance ethical conduct among the staff members, the Ministry has developed Code of Conduct/standard operational procedures to promote discipline. Furthermore, the implementation of the Environmental Management Act (EMA) is monitored through quarterly review reports and site inspections, as requested by the public. Awareness campaigns on the provisions of the EMA were carried out during the year under review at Okahandja Municipality, Ohangwena Traditional Authority and Rundu Town Council.

In support of NACSAP, the Ministry had identified high risk areas and staff members comprising of Integrity Committee members, Human Resource staff, Procurement Management Unit, Procurement Committee and Finance staff were trained on Corruption, Ethics and Integrity by ACC during the period under review.

Action 2.2.6: Promote systems of integrity through specific anti-corruption and transparency policies and procedures in higher education.

There was no progress report received from the Ministry of Higher Education, Technology and Innovation.

Action 2.2.7: Promote systems of integrity through specific anti-corruption and transparency policies and procedures in the public service.

During the period under review, OPM indicated that this activity would be more robustly executed in the next financial year, namely: Review of the remunerative work outside employment policy to promote transparency of Public Servants.

Action 2.2.8: Promote systems of integrity through specific anti-corruption and transparency policies, procedures in the health sector.

For the period under review, the Oshana Regional Directorate of Health and Social Services participated in the Corruption Risk Assessment from 31 May to 03 June 2022. Over the four days, the 21 participants were trained on what constitutes corruption, ethics and integrity. The ministry also developed a corruption risk mitigation plan, which they would implement to address and close the corruption risks identified. The ministry also have the to promote transparency, accountability, integrity and quality through the following systems: Quality Assurance, Industrial Relations, Helpdesks at health facilities and Internal Audit.

2.2.9 Develop and implement an Access to Information legislation to ensure access to public information and transparency of decision-making processes to further provide for relevant action to protect information.

It was reported that the Access to Information Act was signed into law in December 2022. The Ministry organised a workshop on the legislation for government communications officers held in Otjiwarongo, Otjozondupa region from 13 to 17 March 2023. The training completes another pillar in the country's effort to enhance the dissemination of information by sectors and to ensure compliance with requirements for institutions in the country. In the meantime, the government allocated 20 million Namibian dollars in the 2023/2024 financial year budget to establish the Office of the Information Commissioner to oversee its implementation.



Caption: Communication officers attend a workshop on the information access legislation (Source: MICT Facebook)

Specific Objective 2.3: Enhancing transparency and integrity specifically in Public Enterprises.

Action 2.3.1: Standardise regulations and policies for PEs.

The draft Regulations under section 38 of the Public Enterprises Governance Act, 2019 (Act No.1 of 2019) were shared with all key stakeholders and two (2) separate workshops were conducted during the period under review. Two comprehensive reports have been compiled which are to be tabled at management for comments and inputs.

Action 2.3.2: Reports and data on the conduct and performance of all PEs are made available publicly per the relevant law.

During the period under review, it was reported that the Integrated Performance Management System (IEPMS) has been completed and is ready to be rolled out. Seven (7) commercial public enterprises have been identified to be conducted in line with the system.

Action 2.3.3: Facilitate and conduct corruption awareness and ethics training for PEs staff members in collaboration with ACC.

During the 2022/2023 financial year, no training could take place as a result of the merger of the Ministry of Public Enterprises into the Ministry of Finance.

Challenge: With the dissolution of the Ministry of Public Enterprises, many of the activities were affected and put on hold pending the finalisation of the merger of the Ministry into the Ministry of Finance.

Specific Objective 2.4: Strengthening the integrity and transparency of the Judiciary

Action 2.4.1: Conduct an analysis of all judicial reform initiatives introduced to streamline the efficiency of the judiciary management systems in Namibia.

It was reported that the Judiciary has various initiatives and ongoing reforms to streamline efficiency of the judiciary management systems in Namibia which are the following:

- There is court connected mediation in the High Court of Namibia since 2014, mediation is a method of alternative dispute resolutions aiming at finalizing matters speedily, cost effectively and timeously;
- Superior Courts have practice directives, these directives are aimed at managing the matters as soon as they are place on the court rolls. The cases are managed by the Judges, and timelines are given from the inception of the cases, until they are finalized;
- The Regional Court and also the District Courts (Magistracy) will also have practice directives to roll out as soon as it is finalized, this will ensure that pre-trial conferencing will also be held at Regional Court level. Timelines of how long a case should be on the Court roll will be measured. The number of cases to be finalized in the Regional Court and District Court levels will be in the practice directives. It was resolved that each Regional Magistrate should finalize 10 cases per month and each district

court Magistrate 30 cases per month, which, in essence, creates a performance standard to assess the efficacy, efficiency, effectiveness of Magistrates;

- The Lower Court Magistrate also have a judicial quality assurance manual in place to guide their work;
- A special corruption court was also set up in Windhoek at the JP Karuaihe District Court to deal with corruption matters in February 2023. This is in addition to special courts on Wildlife Crime that were held in Katima Mulilo, Rundu, Okahao and Outapi.

Action 2.4.2: Adequate resources availed to the Judiciary to ensure that the courts have sufficient and well-trained staff (all judicial officers and court support staff).

It was reported that there are no sufficient resources availed to the Judiciary in terms of financing to appoint more judicial officers and support staff members to deal with corruption cases. Furthermore, there is also no financial resources provided to train and equip the judicial officers and court support staff on corruption matters.

Action 2.4.3: Necessary infrastructural resources and facilities sufficient and necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the courts availed.

Under this action, the Ministry had renovated the Luderitz Magistrates Court, Seis Periodical Court, Rehoboth Magistrates Court, Bethanie Magistrates Court, Gobabis Magistrates Court, Aus Magistrates Court, Masters Office building and newly built Ouroub Periodic Court.

Specific Objective 2.5: Ensure public financial and asset disclosure for public officials

Action 2.5.1: Develop and implement an online system for declaration of interest and monitoring and evaluation tool within the performance management system.

The Office of the Prime Minister reported 75 percent progress on this action. The system development phase has been completed and is still in the piloting phase. User Acceptance still in progress with PSC. Training of users on the system has commenced. So far, the following institutions were trained up to April 2023: National Assembly, MME, MAWLR, MoEAC, MoDVA (Veteran Affairs Division), MICT, MEFT, Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation, Office of the President, MHASS, Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare, MFMR, MoJ, NPC, OoJ, MWT, ECN, OPM, ACC, MHETI, MSYNSS, Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade and Ministry Of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation.

Challenges:

- technical challenges had been experienced;
- the willingness from OMAs to implement and adapt to the online system;
- the roll out is slow due financial constraints.

Plans for next financial year: the first time for online declaration of interests.

Action 2.5.2: Conduct training on compliance with the Public Service Staff Rule E.X/II Code of Conduct, Ethics and Integrity.

Training on the Code of Conduct Ethics and Integrity has been provided to Integrity Committees as well as at the Human Resource Forum.

Challenges: More awareness is still needed.

Plans for next financial year: The OPM plans to improve on the training provided and ensure internal capacity is built to deliver the training

Action 2.5.3: Produce an annual report on monitoring and evaluation of declaration of interest for public servants.

Although progress has been made in developing the online system, OPM indicated that no report was submitted online system.

Plans for the next financial year: to report and produce an annual report on the activity.

Specific Objective 2.6: Support public procurement system reform and enhance accountability in budget management.

Action 2.6.1: Reduce diversion of resources into non-budgetary accounts.

No report was made on this action, because the discussion between the Secretariat and MFPE regarding the focus including its key performance indicator (KPI) was not concluded during the reporting period.

Plans for the next financial year: the Ministry to provide regular reports.

Action 2.6.2: Complement internal audits with independent external audits.

The Office reported to have produced 108 reports that were drafted, round tabled and signed by the Auditor-General during the period under review.

Action 2.6.3: Enhance budget transparency by strengthening the auditing of public institutions and ensuring that audit reports are produced on time.

It was reported that the office conducted various stakeholder engagements with the aim to ensure stakeholder education and encourage the submission of financial statements. A total of 62 financial statements was submitted during the period under review.

Action 2.6.4: Enhance budget transparency: In year reports to improve the amount of accessible information available on the budget.

It was reported that in year reports on budget are readily available and accessible.

Action 2.6.5: Ensure RCs and LAs capacity in financial management and auditing.

During the period under review, the OAG provided training on the institutional review as well as on the circular D12. One training course replicated over a number of institutions targeting the internal auditors of OMAs and RCs from all 14 regions, as a result 1241 officials were trained.

Furthermore, the training also focussed on the CROs, Councillors, managers of Hardap and Karas Regional Councils. In addition, a total of 15 institutions were trained, the targeting internal audit of OMAs and RCs.

Plans for the next financial year: training targets the MHAISS in Zambezi, Kavango East, Kavango West and Ohangwena regions.

Action 2.6.6: Strengthen compliance on OMAs to oversee all ITC procurement and ensure that such procurement is only done in consultation with, and certification by OPM.

NB: *OPM to conduct more awareness to OMAs and collaborate with MoF for payments only to be made after certification by OPM. OPM should also develop a tool that will strengthen compliance.*

The office has undertaken various activities, including public education, the Code of Good Practice launch, and training for public officials. The Procurement Act has mandated that OMAs has established the Procurement Management Unit, Bid Evaluation Committee, Procurement Committee, in addition, the Review Panel, Procurement Policy Unit, and Central Procurement Board.

OPM has issued OMAs with Annual Technical Specifications (reviewed annually) to be used for bidding purposes.

Meanwhile, the issues of procurement are not within OPM's mandate. However, to enforce compliance, OPM does the following:

- The OPM, Department Public Service Information Technology Management (DPSITM), issues standards and technical specifications to OMAs for bidding purposes.
- OPM takes part in bid evaluation.
- Once ICT equipment and software are delivered, OPM's Quality Assurance Technical Team carries out inspection.
- Payment for ICT equipment and software should only be made after certification by OPM.

Next financial year, the OPM plans to conduct more awareness to OMAs. It further, wants to collaborate with MFPE for payments only to be made after certification. OPM should also develop a tool that will strengthen compliance. The Finance Ministry is looking to bolster the portal implementation as a transparency mechanism.

Action 2.6.7: MoF to continue conducting public awareness activities on public procurement as per the Public Education Strategy year after year.

The year under review, the Ministry of Finance and Public Enterprises (MFPE) conducted a total of 145 public education and awareness activities on public procurement Act, 2015. These activities include strategic stakeholders' meetings with accounting officers and members of the internal procurement structures, face book posts, bidders' briefings and radio interview.

The above interventions produced positive results, namely: more demand for

support to comply with the Act which include request for training and use of the e-GP portal and a better understanding of its main objectives.

Moving forward, the Ministry plans to:

- Continue with stakeholders' meetings in the regions to discuss the amendment of the Act, Code of Good Practice on Preferences, and e-GP Portal;
- Have more radio interviews to educate the public on different aspects and / or projects related to the public procurement Act;
- Intensify the use of social media platforms to reach out to the public with different messages regarding public procurement.

Action 2.6.8: Conduct training courses in public procurement for public entities (including internal auditors), the Office of the Auditor-General and private audit firms.

It was reported that a total number of 104 public entities were trained on the Public Procurement Act, 2015 during the period under review. The actual achievement exceeded the annual target which was 70 public entities trained on the Public Procurement Act, 2015 as amended. This was attributed to the positive efforts made by the Consortium which consist of NIPAM, UNAM and NUST, because it trained 56 public entities while MFPE trained 48 entities.

The Consortium was formed through a Corporation Agreement signed with the MFPE and Heads of the three local

institutions to develop short courses and qualifications in public procurement. The short courses and qualification are open for everyone including internal auditors. Moreover, the Ministry had a training session in Windhoek with internal auditors from all the regions at an event organized by OAG.

Furthermore, the Consortium offered three qualifications on public procurement through NUST during the period under review, namely: Certificate in Procurement Management (NQF 4); Bachelor of Procurement & Supply Chain Management (NQF 7); and Postgraduate Diploma: Procurement Management (NQF 8). A total of 589 students enrolled in all three qualifications and 470 completed their studies during the academic year 2022. This is a positive development, because students who successfully completed their studies will be useful in different structures for procurement be it their public entities or the Central Procurement Board of Namibia (CPBN).

The challenges experienced with short courses trainings and qualifications on public procurement during the reporting period include, but not limited to the following:

- Shortage of staff at PPU in MFPE compared to the demand of training from public entities;
- Although training was made available through the Consortium, public entities had limited funds and turned to MFPE for free training which exceeded its capacity to respond;

- The Certificate in Procurement Management enrollment at NUST was very low because it only had six (6) students compared to the degree with 283 and postgraduate diploma 247 students.

Plans for the next financial year: the MFPE and Consortium will work together to find different approaches/methods to conduct training and a focus on quality assurance. The Consortium conducts aggressive marketing of the qualifications through different platforms.

Action 2.6.9: Capacity development of the PPU staff will continue to take through unaccredited short courses, professional courses and internal capacity development.

During the period under review, PPU staff members were involved into many capacity development interventions. In terms of academic qualifications, a total of 18 officials were enrolled through the Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply (CIPS) and many formal trainings and workshops through online and face to face. These include: amendment to the Procurement Act, Code of Good Practice on Preferences, review of bidding documents with the GIZ consultants, e-procurement, compliance audit process and its tool and pool procurement and framework agreements.

Plans for the next financial year: PPU will intensify its staff development through different approaches including a dedicated day per week to discuss key issues emerging from legal advice, trainings and meetings with stakeholders.

Action 2.6.10: In order to ensure transparency in the procurement system, information on procurement plans, procurement implementation reports, and contract awards will readily be made publicly accessible.

During the financial year 2021/22, MFPE in collaboration with OPM developed and piloted the Electronic – Government Procurement (e-GP) Portal (phase 1). Further, guidelines were issued, and trainings conducted mainly for the staff members in the Procurement Management Units (PMU). Then, it went live across the public service from 01 April 2022. The primary purpose of the e-GP Portal is to enhance transparency and accountability in the procurement process by making it compulsory for all public entities to upload key documents.

During the period under review, MFPE in collaboration with OPM had trained 122 public entities on e-GP Portal from 2021/22 – 2022/23 financial years. However, its usage was not impressive for the period under reporting, because the target of 105 trained public entities should have been using the system, but only 45 were using it. Notably, the 45 had published the following on the system: 45 Annual Procurement Plans (APPs), 334 Bid adverts, 369 Bidding documents, 156 Bid opening reports, 30 Notice of selection of awards and 42 Executive summary of evaluation reports. The statistics presented above confirmed two main challenges: low uptake and non-compliance with the e-GP requirements.

Challenges: limited staff at PPU and OPM, poor internet connectivity (down -time) and some participants had limited understanding of the Act, which made it difficult for staff members responsible for procurement to apply the system.

Plans for the next financial year: MFPE and OPM will continue to address the quality of the e-GP training, apply different strategies, internet connectivity (availability of the system) and system design. Furthermore, MFPE to consider reviewing the PPU structure with a view to get additional staff members.

Specific Objective 2.7: Prevent corruption and promote transparency in the extractive industries, fishing and other living marine resources

Action 2.7.1: Assess and align current legislation and subordinate legislation with international fishing and other living marine resources industry standards.

The Ministry mandate is guided by the Marine Resources Policy of 2004, the Marine Resources Act of 2000, and the Marine Resources Regulations of 2001. Namibia is a member of International bodies such as:

- The International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) is an intergovernmental organization responsible for the conservation and management of tunas and other marine species in the Atlantic Ocean and adjacent seas. The prominent role of ICCAT is to ensure the sustainable management of these highly migratory and economically important fish species;

- The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) is an international organization established in 1982 with the goal of conserving and managing the marine living resources in the Southern Ocean surrounding Antarctica. CCAMLR's mission is to ensure the conservation of the Antarctic marine ecosystem and its biodiversity while allowing for the sustainable use of marine resources;
- South East Atlantic Fisheries Organization (SEAFO) is an intergovernmental fisheries management organization established in 2001 to promote the conservation and sustainable management of fisheries resources in the South East Atlantic Ocean;
- The Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) is an international non-profit organization that operates a certification and eco-labeling program for sustainable seafood. The Namibian Hake sector is certified by MSC. The main objective of the MSC is to promote sustainable fishing practices and ensure the health and long-term viability of marine ecosystems. The MSC achieves this by setting standards for sustainable fishing and seafood traceability and by providing a certification process for fisheries and seafood businesses.

Action 2.7.2: Assess and align current legislation and subordinate legislation with international extractive industry standards.

It was reported that this action is under revision.

Action 2.7.3: Develop proper mechanisms for the transparent and equitable allocation of fishing and other living marine resources rights and or quotas.

During the financial year under review, it was reported that the MFMR is working toward preventing corruption and promoting transparency in fishing and other living marine resources, the aim is to enhance transparency and an equitable system for granting fishing rights and quota allocation.

Action 2.7.4: Improve on the implementation of current policy and regulatory framework in tangent with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Code of Conduct on Responsible Fishing Practices.

It was reported that this activity is planned for execution in the next financial year 2023/24 during which the Ministry plans to review the Marine Resource Policy of 2004 and the Ministry's Marine Resources Act. The Ministry also planned to consolidate Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy into one policy. The Ministry complies with the FAO code of conduct as fish stocks are managed on a sustainable basis, through setting Total Allocable Catches (TAC) and allocation of quotas for the fishing sector to extract for their business. Furthermore, the Ministry has

an institution capacity in place to conduct research and provide policy advice and control (IUU) fishing activities in our water. Moreover, the policy and legislation make provision for the establishment of fisheries inspectors to monitor and control catches, in addition, there are Fisheries Observer Agents placed on fishing vessels to monitor and control catch operations at sea.

Action 2.7.5: Provide public education on the fishing and other living marine resources industries.

During the period under review, it was reported that the Ministry hosts World Ocean Day each financial year, aiming at educating the public on the importance of the ocean and marine resources. In addition, the Ministry conducts press releases on TV, national radio, showcases and provides information to the public through trade fairs.

Action 2.7.6: Fishing and other living marine resources industries to adopt and implement specific anti-corruption and transparency policies and procedures. (M

The ministry reported that it is in the process of reviewing fisheries policies, Acts, regulations to incorporate anti-corruption strategic objectives.

Action 2.7.7: MFMR to establish a committee to deal with grievances and dispute resolutions for the fishing industry.

The ministry reported that it does not yet have a grievance Committee however, there is an integrity committee in place.

Action 2.7.8: Monitor national grievance and dispute resolution mechanisms w.r.t the extractive industry.

The extractive industry grievance and dispute resolution mechanisms are defined in the relevant sector legislations. In this respect, the law provides for a Commission to listen to and determine grievances concerning mineral or petroleum licence holders and landowners under the respective laws. Therefore, both the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act and Petroleum Act constituted an Ancillary Rights Commission to adjudicate such disputes.

During the period under review, the Mineral Ancillary Rights Commission (MARC) in total received 49 applications for their intervention, whereby 39 got access to execute their rights and 10 was pending, which they have been resolved in 2023.

Action 2.7.9: Ensure transparency compliance with international extractive industry standards set by IAEA and KPC, as Namibia is a producer and trader of uranium and diamonds.

NB: Train relevant officials and amend existing or incorporating additional regulatory measures.

There was no progress report received from the Ministry.

The Ministry reported as follows:

Minerals Bill Status - The draft Minerals Bill went through an internal review process before it was shared with external stakeholders to solicit inputs and comments. Comments have been received from seven stakeholders, which

has since been reviewed by the Minerals Bill Committee. Consultation was held with Chamber of Mines.

EITI- The Ministry of Mines and Energy is not a member to the Extractive Industry Transparency International (EITI) as the membership comes with terms and conditions that must be thoroughly studied by contemplating member states and it is on voluntary basis. However, under the HPPII, Namibia is made a commitment to subscribe to the EITI by 2025 and/or review applicable laws to improve transparency and deepened public trust. Namibia under the chairmanship of MME is busy conducting an assessment to determine if Namibia is complying to the EITI standard as well as the benefit of subscribing to the EITI.

Uranium - On the trade of Uranium Namibia adheres to major international treaties and conventions related to safeguards and fully implements her obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). The government is developing responsive regulatory frameworks & amending current laws to strengthen regulatory oversight and control applicable to the nuclear fuel cycle.

Namibia reports pursuant to article 33 (a) and 34 quantity, composition and destination of uranium concentrate exports. Namibia also submits Additional Protocol submissions to the IAEA. Physical Protection and Safeguards requirements are also set as conditions in the export permits, spot and long-term Agreement authorisations issued to Mines.

Diamond - In regulating the trade of diamonds, MME complies with the Kimberly Process Certification Scheme aimed at combating conflict diamonds and enhances transparency in the trade of rough diamonds.

Action 2.7.10: Provide public education on the extractive industry.

During previous years, MME has conducted road-shows and workshops to sensitise the public on licensing requirements, procedures, and processes. However, this financial year MME has been unable to conduct sensitization initiatives due to budgetary and other resources constraints.

MME used initiatives such as NBC, trade fairs, mining expos, and mining indabas locally and internationally to sensitise the public and investors on its work and challenges.

Action 2.7.11: Review the effectiveness of the diamond beneficiation programmes.

The Ministry undertook a review of the diamond beneficiation programme in the country during 2022/ 2023 Financial year as part of priority areas under its Annual Plan. The status of the exercise indicate that the country has a well-established diamond cutting and polishing industry spanning from its establishment in 1998 when the first diamond cutting, and polish factory was established.

The following has been recorded as milestones achieved to date:

- Further, the diamond downstream industry has expanded in terms of

in terms of licenses issued and operationalised from 11 to 18 diamond Cutting licenses to date. Out of these, 13 are Sightholders of the Namibian Diamond Trading Company.

- Rough diamonds polished locally increased to 70% and above. This has been enabled by the annual directive towards rough diamond exportation which is aimed at controlling the exportation of rough diamonds from the country unpolished by diamond manufacturers.
- Employment in the industry has revolved around on average 1000 employees among whom 80% are Namibians.
- It also came out that the industry plays a significant role in supporting communities in terms of Corporate social responsibility voluntarily.
- Challenges highlighted were amongst others were:
- Unavailability of a standard data collection methodology at both MME and NDTC.
- Resistance from diamond manufacturers to share their diamond related information due to lack of reporting legal provision in the Diamond Act.
- Insufficient rough diamond supply locally to meet the diamond factory needs.

The exercise concluded that the Diamond industry in Namibia has the potential to grow and contribute towards sustainable developmental goals if well managed and controlled.

Strategic Objective 3

Strengthening efforts to deter corruption

Anti-corruption laws are an effective means of the anti-corruption strategy. Strengthening efforts to deter corruption through law enforcement is a crucial component of any anti-corruption strategy. There are thirteen (13) actions under this strategic objective, executed by seven (7) lead implementing institutions as outlined in the results as follows: (ACC 3.1.1, 3.1.3, 3.2.1; Parliament 3.1.2; OoJ 3.1.4; MFPE 3.2.2, 3.3.1; MOJ 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.2.5; OAG 3.2.6; OPM 3.3.2; FIC 3.3.3).

Specific Objective 3.1: Strengthening the Anti-Corruption Commission

Action 3.1.1: Develop and implement an ACC staff recruitment, promotion and retention policy.

During the period under review, it was reported that the ACC has embarked upon a restructuring exercise. The Commission had since established a Restructuring Committee, with the aim to oversee the restructuring process of the Commission.

Action 3.1.2: Strengthen ACC's financial capacity to enable it to carry out its mandate effectively.

The ACC Budgetary was N\$ 73, 971, 000 in the 2022/23 financial year. The allocation increased by N\$ 7, 717, 000 for 2022/2023 financial year from the initial allocation of N\$ 62 million allocated in the 2021/2022 financial year. In the next step, ACC financial capacity to continuously be further strengthened.

Action 3.1.3: Strengthen the capacity of ACC public education and corruption prevention officers, investigators as well as prosecutors through extensive joint training.

During the period under review, officials from ACC, NAMPOL and Prosecutor General attended the Cyber Forensic First Responder Training from the 20th to 24th February 2023 in Swakopmund. The Training aimed to equip participants with a broader view of Cyber Forensics and the methods used to collect and seize information from digital devices. The training was conducted by SIU and sponsored by the SADC with support from GIZ under the Peace, Security and Good Governance Program in the SADC Region.

Action 3.1.4: Monitor delays in corruption cases, the reasons for these delays, and provide recommendations to eliminate unnecessary delays.

NB: *Relating to investigation and prosecution of corruption cases*

During the period under review, Office of the Judiciary (OoJ) reported that it does not deal with investigations and prosecution of corruption cases, but adjudicate over corruption cases.

Some of the delays in the finalization of corruption cases are:

- Police investigations and forensic investigations not finalized on time;
- The Prosecutor-General's decision not

.obtained on time, that may result in the matters been withdrawn or struck from the court roll;

- From the side of the Judiciary, the biggest challenge is a lack of sufficient judicial officers to adjudicate over criminal matters and a lack of infrastructure, which is lack of court rooms where the trials should take place.

Possible ways to address the above delays are:

- The appointment of more judicial officers to adjudicate over corruption matters is an urgent need and also support staff, but that comes with financial resources to be availed;
- The construction of sufficient court infrastructure is required which also has financial implications;
- Police officers dealing with the investigations to be trained and also be equipped with the necessary skills/resources that they need during investigations and finalization of their investigations to ensure timeous submission of dockets to the Prosecutor-General office for decision.



Specific Objective 3.2: Strengthening anti-corruption legislation

Action 3.2.1: Amend the Anti-Corruption Act, 2003 to include the solicitation for or acceptance of a bribe by a foreign public official or an official of an international public organisation as a criminal offence.

- *Amend the Anti-Corruption Act, 2003 to include embezzlement by a person in the private sector as a corrupt practice.*
- *Amend the Anti-Corruption Act, 2003 to ensure strengthening of Public Education and Corruption*
- *Prevention in conducting system examination.*

During the year under review the ACC reported is currently drafting the National Anti-Corruption Policy Framework that will pave way to the amendment of the Anti-Corruption Act.

Action 3.2.2: Combat illicit enrichment inclusive of enabling tax authorities to conduct lifestyle audits.

During the period under review, the MFPE reported that NamRA has established functional intelligence units to carry out life style audits. Lifestyle audits are also extended to the internal members under the internal affairs department.

Plans for the next financial year: NamRA to report on the target, number of successful audits and challenges faced.

Action 3.2.3: Amend the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977 to include the corrupt practices referred to section 1 of the Anti-Corruption Act, 2003 in the list of offences provided for in Schedule 1 and Part IV of Schedule 2 to the Act.

During the period under review, the Ministry of Justice reported that the proposed amendment has been made and approved by the Cabinet Committee on Legislations (CCL) and are currently with the Directorate of Legislative Drafting for drafting. Finalization of the process is expected to be completed by 30 June 2023.

Action 3.2.4: Amend the Prevention of Organised Crime Act, 2004 (POCA) to align it with the Anti-Corruption Act, 2003. In particular, the definitions of 'authorised member of police' and 'member of the police' should be extended to include authorised officers of ACC, to enable such officers to enforce POCA. (MOJ)

It was reported that the proposed Amendment has been made and approved by the Cabinet Committee on Legislation (CCL) and now with the Directorate Legislative Drafting. Finalization of the process is expected to be completed by 30 June 2023.

Action 3.2.5: Implement and monitor both Whistleblower Protection Act, 2017 (Act No. 10 of 2017) and Witness Protection Act, 2017 (Act No. 11 of 2017).

The Ministry of Justice reported that benchmarking visit to South Africa and the United States of America completed between 31 May 2022 and 30 August 2022.

Moreover, formulation of budget and costs for approval and funding of office structure was completed.

Plans for next financial year:

- Appointment of Director of Office;
- Develop Structure for WPU office and send to Public Service for approval;
- Sourcing office space for the Witness Protection Unit;
- Drafting of regulations if any to operationalize Act;
- Minister to send instructions to drafters to issue notice operationalizing the Act;
- Recruitment of staff of Witness Protection Unit.

Challenges: Financial constraints are experienced in the implementation of the Witness Protection Regime.

Action 3.2.6: Develop and enact an Audit Bill to ensure Auditor-General Reports are followed by rectified accounts.

The OAG reported 86% progress on the draft Audit Bill consisting of: Legal Drafter appointed, first draft presented to Management Committee, additional quote discussed and submitted to PC Draft policy submitted by Adv. Denk. Management and Adv. Denk discussed the draft bill and policy with OAG Obtained input from AG and Incorporated input into draft bill and policy document.

Plans for the next financial year: Draft bill and policy document is to be presented to Minister of Finance and Public Enterprise and CCL.

Specific Objective 3.3: Addressing public institutions' specific vulnerabilities

Action 3.3.1: Monitor the register of business entities and individuals who are barred from undertaking government-related work due to previous irregularities and dishonesty or corruption convictions.

The Review Panel received 4 cases for debarment during the last quarter of 2023. One case finalized, and three will be finalized during the first quarter of 2023. The one debarment finalized has been uploaded on E-Portal. Meanwhile, the Unit to continue uploading Orders on the E-G Portal as per the set requirements.

Action 3.3.2: Monitor the implementation of the Public Service Staff Rules amended to extend the definition of 'major offences' to include corrupt practices as contemplated in Chapter 4 of the Anti-Corruption Act, 2003.

The department Public Service Commission (PSC) within the Office of the Prime Minister has divisions responsible for misconduct, analyses of misconduct and appeal cases, determine the commensurate punitive measures for all corrupt practices. Most of the cases of misconduct that fall into the category of corrupt practices, the PSC recommends a discharge from the Public Service as commensurate punitive measures, irrespective of what the Disciplinary Committee (DC) recommends. The PSC is consistently recommending the discharge for most corrupt practices offences committed by staff members and recorded 100 percent progress as reported each quarter.

Challenges:

- some cases of corrupt practices misconduct the PSC does not recommend a discharge due to the improper formulation of charges;
- some cases of corrupt practices misconducts are collapsing due to non-adherence to misconduct procedures by the O/M/As;
- cases of corrupt practices misconducts where the DC recommends warning and/or fine are not coming to the PSC for recommendations.

Action 3.3.3: Review progress made on preventing and combatting laundering of the proceeds of crime.

It was reported that, the Financial Intelligence Act, 2012 (Act 13 of 2012) gives FIC the power to receive and analyze data, which is used to identify proceeds of crime, Money Laundering (ML) and the financing of terrorism and proliferation financing. FIC work closely with Law Enforcement Agencies including the Office of the Prosecutor General, Intelligence Agencies, Receiver of Revenue, ACC and the private sector to identify threats and criminal abuse of financial system as well as provide actionable intelligence for investigations on requests. FIC work also contributes in maintaining enhanced international co-operation, by amongst others, availing spontaneously and upon request, financial intelligence that may aid counterpart organizations in the investigation, prosecution and asset forfeiture of ML/ Terrorist Financing (TF)/ Proliferation Financing (PF) activities.

Since 2009 to 31 March 2017, the FIC has exchanged financial intelligence and information with Law Enforcement Agencies (including the Nampol, ACC, Ministry of Finance-Directorate Inland Revenue, and office of the Prosecutor General. The FIC share intelligence with a variety of Law Enforcement agencies for further investigation of financial crimes, suspected activities of ML and TF. These intelligence disclosures enabled Law Enforcement investigations and facilitated the seizing, freezing and confiscation of suspected proceeds of crime within Namibia.

Dissemination: Spontaneous disclosures/Responses to request for information from April to March 2023

Agency	April to June
ACC	0
Namibia Revenue Agency	16
Namibian Police Force	19
Office of the Prosecutor General	2
Foreign FIUs	1
Others	21
Total	59

NO. of interventions: 4
Amount restricted by FIC : N\$ 845, 706.13

Agency	Number (July to September)
ACC	2
Namibia Revenue Agency	22
Namibian Police Force	52
Office of the Prosecutor General	12
Foreign FIUs	6
Others	13
Total	107

NO. of interventions: 3
Amount restricted by FIC : N\$ 4, 530, 141.97

Agency	Number (October to December)
ACC	2
Namibia Revenue Agency	40
Namibian Police Force	43
Office of the Prosecutor General	5
Foreign FIUs	1
Others	10
Total	101

NO. of interventions: 14

Amount restricted by FIC : N\$ 9, 093, 511.49

NO. of interventions: 3 Amount restricted by FIC : N\$ 1, 004, 939.58
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Agency	Number (January to March 2023)
ACC	2
Namibia Revenue Agency	29
Namibian Police Force	31
Office of the Prosecutor General	2
Foreign FIUs	0
Others	12
Total	76

April 2022- March 2023

24

Total Number of
interventions orders

N\$ 15, 474, 299. 17

Total amount restricted by FIC

Plans for next financial year: FIC will continue to carry out its mandate as set out in the Financial Intelligence Act, 2012 (Act No. 13 of 2012). Furthermore, it plans to disseminate the target number of interventions.

Strategic Objective 4

Conducting extensive anti-corruption education

Specific Objective 4.1: Conduct anti-corruption, ethics and integrity training for personnel of public institutions

Conducting extensive anti-corruption education is crucial for any society to progress and thrive. Such education fosters a culture of accountability, transparency, and ethical behavior amongst individuals, businesses, and public institutions. By educating citizens and promoting awareness about the negative impacts of corruption, we can reduce the instances of corrupt practices and build a more just and equitable society. There are six (6) actions under this Strategic Objective implemented by four (4) leading institutions as follows: (ACC, 4.1.1, 4.2.2, MoEAC 4.1.2, 4.2.3; ALAN 4.2.1; MICT 4.2.4).

Below is the progress made by the institutions on each action:

Action 4.1.1: Ensure participation of staff of OMAs, RCs and LAs at periodical training courses on ethics and integrity.

The ACC is expected to conduct ethics and integrity training for public institutions and private bodies to promote ethical conducts a culture of integrity to enhance accountability and support transparency. The purpose of the training is to strengthen a culture of integrity, trust and to set high standards of ethics that will cultivate an honest public official. It also aims to promote accountability and support transparency.

During the period under review, the ACC conducted a total of 76 Ethics and Integrity training sessions, reaching 2216 participants.

Action 4.1.2: Implement a training programme on ethics, integrity and anti-corruption for school teachers.

It was reported that the ACC: Directorate of Public Education and Corruption Prevention (PECP) and the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture (MoEAC) have reached an agreement to train Life Skills Teachers during the 2023/2024 financial year on the Anti-Corruption Education Manual for Teachers (ACEMT) as part of the attainment of the abovementioned strategic objective and action. The Training of Trainees (25 Regional School Counselors and 2 officials from NIED and PQA) was conducted on 22-24 March 2023, at Otjiwarongo in Otjozondjupa region. Focal persons were nominated for each region for coordination of the planned action.

Challenges: Financial constraints.

Plans for the next financial year:

- Focal persons to coordinate the training of all Life Skills teachers in the regions;
- Project Manager to develop a Life Skills Teachers' Training Reporting Template;

Ministerial focal persons to get the invitation from ACC to attend the trainings in the regions.

Specific Objective 4.2: Increasing the degree of public awareness on the impact of corruption

Action 4.2.1: Organise periodical consultations and public debates for promoting the best anti-corruption practices within local and regional authorities and increasing citizens' confidence.

The ACC conducted various training sessions inclusive of anti-corruption awareness, ethics and integrity training as well as conducted corruption risk assessment at the following local authority bodies: Luderitz Town Council, Erongo Regional Council, Usakos Town Council, Karibib Town Council, Erongo Regional Council, Swakopmund Municipality, Omaruru Municipality, Swakopmund Municipality, Arandis Town Council, Erongo Traditional Authorities, Rehoboth Town Council, Nkurenkuru Town Council, Khorixas Town Council, Outjo Municipality, Helao Nafidi Town Council and Tsandi Village Council.

Action 4.2.2: Organise awareness sessions on corruption and ethics for the public to enhance general knowledge and understanding.

It was reported that ACC conducted anti-corruption education/ Ethics and Integrity training as follows:

Audience	Date	Number participants	of
Youth Forum Oshikoto	06 May 2022	30	
Youth Forum - Ohangwena	07 June 2022	23	
Youth Forum - Eenhana	08 June 2022	23	
Youth Forum - Omutwe (Oshikunde)	09 June 2022	10	
General Youth Groups- Zambezi	27 October 2022	21	
Okandjira Settlement Public Officials + General Public members- Otjozondjupa	23 February 2023	15	
Okakarara General Public members - Otjozondjupa	16 February 2023	27	

Action 4.2.3: Monitor delivery of the anti-corruption theme in the civic life skills subject in schools.

During the period under review, ACC reported that a refresher training for official from the DPECP was held at NIED, Okahandja, Otjozondjupa Region from 31 January 2023 - 2 February 2023 to prepare the MoEAC life skills teachers training as part of 2023/24 annual plan. The objective of the training was to give in service-training to officials on monitoring the delivery of the Anti-Corruption themes in the civic life skills subjects in schools and train new Life Skills Teachers in 2023/2024 financial year. Furthermore, DPECP also conducted another training for Regional School Counsellors (RSCs) ahead of training the Life Skills teachers who are supervisors of life skills teachers.

Plans for the next financial year: to conduct training on the Anti-Corruption Education Manual for all Life Skills teachers.

Action 4.2.4: Implementing civic education programmes for promoting ethics, integrity, openness and access to and protection of information through relevant educational media.

The Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (MICT) reported that it implemented 50 civic education programmes in the period under review.



Strategic Objective 5

Preventing corruption in the private sector

Corruption in the private sector leads to disadvantaged economic growth and harms society as a whole. Preventing corruption in the private sector is not only necessary but imperative to ensure a fair and just economic system. By implementing transparency and accountability measures, companies can cultivate a culture of honesty and integrity. There are five (5) activities under this Strategic Objective being implemented by three (3) lead institutions and six (6) co-lead institutions as follows: (NCCI 5.1.1; BIPA 5.1.2, 5.1.3, 5.1.4; Chamber of Mines 5.1.5).

Specific Objective 5.1: Supporting transparency and integrity in private enterprises

Action 5.1.1: Assist enterprises in the private sector in developing internal integrity systems compliance procedures and ethics codes. Further, integrate anti-corruption awareness.

NCCI is developing the country's first Private Sector ESG Adoption Framework, which will address ethical behaviour within the private sector through the Governance element. The governance component will address and formalize specific actions that the private sector will need to implement to ensure ethical behaviour in their business dealings. The governance component will also ensure the private sector decision-making processes, and reporting conform to the

required ethical behavior benchmark for the private sector. The Framework will enable corporations to fulfill their obligations (equitable taxes), zero corruption tolerance, and enhance transparency on board nominations, and mergers/acquisitions. The Framework Draft is being finalized for review.

Complementary, the SME Compete, a co-implementing institution executed some internal controls and thereby negates the possibility of corruptive practices taking place at the firm. In addition, also raised awareness among MSMEs about the impact that corruption has on their business.

Meanwhile, the NCCI also collaborated with NamRa on providing basic training in the central region and in the north on the operation of ITAS for them to fulfill their tax obligations as part of ensuring ethical behaviour in entrepreneurship ventures.

As a way forward, Cluster 4 is planning an Ethical Behaviour Seminar in early 2024. The concept note has been already been circulated among committee members for input.



Action 5.1.2: Facilitate the enactment and oversee implementation of New Business Entity Bill.

***NB:** The legislation would aid in simplifying bureaucratic procedures for service to private and public companies.*

BIPA has made significant progress in facilitating the enactment and implementation of the New Business Entity Bill. So far, BIPA has drafted a detailed project plan, which was subsequently approved. In the meantime, the project is due for finalisation in 2024.



Action 5.1.3: Ensuring that private and public companies, taking into account their structure and size, have sufficient internal auditing controls to help prevent and detect acts of corruption and that the accounts and required financial statements of such private enterprises are subject to appropriate auditing and certification procedures.

BIPA reported that this requirement is out of their mandate.

Action 5.1.4: Promoting transparency among private entities, including where appropriate, measures regarding the identity of legal and natural persons involved in the establishment and management of corporate entities.

In an effort to promote transparency and accountability, BIPA crafted the Mutual Evaluation Report, of which the assessment was done by an external assessor. In addition, the authority plans to embark upon robust stakeholder engagement on the implementation of the action plan.

Action 5.1.5: Extractive industry bodies to adopt and implement specific anti-corruption and transparency policies and procedures.

The Chamber of Mines continuously explores measure to promote transparency in the mining industry through various measures. According to the Chamber's 2022 Annual Review report, in the spirit of rebuilding the image of mining and the brand of Namibian minerals, the Chamber has stepped in to guide both private and public sector on best practices in mining and to assist in addressing some of the systemic loopholes in the regulatory system. These include the submission of input or comments on the Minerals Bill made to the Ministry. The input, coordinated through Minerals Bill Committee established by the Chamber, was submitted to MME on 24 May 2022.

Strategic Objective 6

Engaging civil society, non-governmental organisations, and the media in combating corruption

Engaging civil society, non-governmental organisations, and the media in combating corruption is crucial for ensuring accountability and transparency in governance. The media, on the other hand, can raise public awareness and put pressure on governments to take action. So, it is imperative that we engage civil society, non-governmental organisations, and the media in efforts to fight corruption and promote transparency and accountability in governance.

Strategic Objective 6 has ten (10) actions, implemented by eight lead institutions. Progress was made in implementing the actions as follows: (NID 6.1.1, IPPR 6.1.2, NPC 6.1.3, 6.1.4; UNAM 6.1.5, 6.1.6, MICT 6.2.1; ACC 6.2.2, EFN 6.2.3, Media Ombudsman 6.2.4).

Specific Objective 6.1: Supporting transparency in civil society and non-governmental organisations

Action 6.1.1: Organising anti-corruption public dialogue, ethics training and corruption awareness at national, regional and local levels.

The Namibia Institute for Democracy (NID) reported that they trained 52 elected councilors and some administrative staff from three Regional Councils and Local Authorities (Komas-17, Erongo-18 and Omaheke-17) in Namibia. The training focused on the following topics: What is corruption and other related definitions, causes and examples of corruption in

Regional and Local Authorities Councils in Namibia and; strategies to combat corruption in Regional and Local Authorities in Namibia.

Plans for the next financial year:

- NID to continue training Regional and Local Authority Councils on Anti-corruption in Namibia's Regional Councils and Local Authorities;
- Conduct Anti-corruption education and training for civil society and non-governmental organisations to raise awareness and enhance knowledge and skills of anti-corruption measures relevant to promote transparency, accountability, and good governance practices within their own organisations.

The IPPR, as a co-leading institution for this action reported that they, the IPPR published and launched two papers - one on the potential for open contracting in Namibia and a second called After Fishrot: The Urgent Need for Transparency and Accountability on 4 November 2022. The papers were launched at a public event in Windhoek attended by 25 people.

It was also reported that, the IPPR launched an annual assessment of local and regional governance on 10 November 2022. The assessment reviewed the levels of transparency and accountability exhibited by each of Namibia's 14 regional councils along with a geographically representative subset of 18 of the

country's 57 local authorities.

Moreover, the IPPR organised a successful one-day anti-corruption conference in Walvis Bay on 8 December 2022 as part of its Integrity Namibia project. Topics addressed included reducing corruption risks in fisheries, public procurement, and oil and gas. A representative of the ACC's Swakopmund office also addressed the conference. The conference was attended by 60 people from the local community, including local and regional politicians, private sector representatives, and trade unionists.

Furthermore, the IPPR also published and launched four editions of its Procurement Tracker Namibia bulletin focusing on green hydrogen governance, fake awards, procurement compliance and the performance of the Procurement Policy Unit. These were launched at public dialogue events held at the House of Democracy in Windhoek.

Action 6.1.2: Continuously engage relevant CSOs to assist in research on anti-corruption issues.

It was reported that, on 13 November 2022 the IPPR in partnership with Transparency International-Iceland coordinated a joint media release, signed by over 20 Namibian CSOs and Transparency International chapters around the world, calling for restorative justice in the Fishrot case. The media release was covered in media in Namibia and Iceland, as well as in South Africa and several European countries.



Caption: Walvis Bay Mayor Trevino Forbes opened the Integrity Namibia conference held in Walvis Bay on 8 December 2022. The conference was organised by IPPR as part of its anti-corruption work which contributes to the implementation of NACSAP



Caption: Participants from the Walvis Bay community attended the Integrity Namibia conference on 8 December 2022 organised by IPPR.



Action 6.1.3: Review existing legal and regulatory environment for civic organisations to provide a parallel complementary voluntary registration system for CSOs and simplify the formal registration of CSOs as provided for in the Civic Organisations Partnership Policy of 2005. The National Planning Commission needs to increase efforts on board all CSOs in order for the Civic Organizations Partnership Policy of 2005 to be realised.

The National Planning Commission reported the following:

- Funding was secured through EDF11 for the review process;
- A program steering committee was established;
- Civil Society was engaged and notified on the review of the GRN-COPP;
- ToR for the recruitment of the GRN-COPP Review Consultants was shared with the Civil Society for input;
- Consultants were recruited in September for the GRN-COPP Review;
- A task force to support the consultancy team was appointed;
- The consultants tabled an inception report;
- Advertisements were placed in newspapers for review;
- The country was divided into 4 clusters to engage CSOs in 4 towns nationally.

Plans for the next financial year:

- Expected to process the outcome of the GRN-COPP through the right legal channels for final approval;
- The outcome of the GRN-COPP

Review will be shared with the Program Steering Committee.

Action 6.1.4: Encourage transparency initiatives through the development and implementation of comprehensive CSOs codes of conduct on ethics.

NPC reported that strategic objective 6.1.3 is a pre-requisite for strategic objective 6.1.4. At this point in time, they cannot address this strategic objective without completing item 6.1.3. The consultants were sensitized on Strategic Objective 6.1.4 so that it reflects on the outcome of the COPP-GRN Review.

Action 6.1.5: Enhance collaboration with the academic community on corruption issues (research and programmes).

During the period under review NUST/the HEITCNAL reported that they will complete the mapping out of the curricula for the following anti-corruption courses:

- Anti-corruption institutional course for Students in Higher Education;
- Pedagogical Anti-corruption course for lecturers or academic staff.

Plans for the next financial year: Upon completion of the curricula mapping process, a submission will be drafted to be presented to the internal governance structures of the University for approval before proceeding with the development of modules for the courses.

Action 6.1.6: Development of unaccredited and accredited anti-corruption training courses and delivery thereof, by institutions of higher learning.

NUST has reported that they have identified a series of anti-corruption courses that are to be developed and offered to various target audiences within the university. These courses align with the institution's strategic objectives, which include Securing Institutional Efficiency and Sustainability to develop new and review existing university governance documents, policies, procedures, and practices that lead to efficiency, transparency and accountability in decision-making.

These courses include:

- An Institutional Anti-corruption course/module for students: this course will be mandatory for all students, irrespective of their chosen field/area of specialisation. The curriculum for the course is currently being mapped out in the first quarter of 2023. (Strategic Objectives 4 & 8)
- A Pedagogical Anti-corruption course for lecturers on the instructional approaches, methods, strategies, and techniques for facilitating the Anti-corruption institutional course for students. The curriculum for the course is currently being mapped out in the first quarter of 2023 (Strategic Objective 4).
- An Anti-corruption course for Council members and other university committees to strengthen governance, accountability, integrity,

and compliance. The curriculum for the course will be mapped out in the third quarter of 2023 (Strategic Objectives 2 & 3).

- An Anti-corruption course for academic and administrative staff to promote ethics, integrity, compliance, and accountability. The curriculum for the course will be mapped out in the third quarter of 2023 (Strategic Objectives 2 & 3).

By offering these courses, NUST aims to promote a culture of integrity and accountability within the institution and produce responsible leaders committed to ethical conduct.

Specific Objective 6.2: Supporting the role of the media

Action 6.2.1: Continue to build and maintain an enabling environment for free media in line with the Namibian Constitution.

During the 2022/23 financial year under review, The Ministry of Information and Communication Technology monitored media coverage on corruption and six media institutions reported corruption per quarter.

Action 6.2.2: Conduct public education seminars on corruption for media houses and enhance partnership with media houses in the fight against corruption.

The ACC reported that during financial year under review, it executed two media briefings in Erongo and Oshana regions. The Erongo held its 8th media briefing on 23 June 2022 and was attended by 14 participants.

The briefing aimed to inform journalists in the Erongo Region on the ACC activities. This event also strengthens the relationship between the ACC and the media fraternity in the Erongo region. The media briefing for Oshana region took place on 19 May 2022 at Oshana Regional Council, Leo Shoopala Hall with 27 participants.

Action 6.2.3: Conduct training of investigative journalists on anti-corruption related issues as a priority.

The Editors Forum of Namibia reported that during the period under review (1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022), no training in this regard was offered or undertaken by the Editors' Forum of Namibia (EFN). The reasons for this include ongoing Covid-19 travel restrictions at the time, and a lack of budget due to annual fundraisers usually conducted by the EFN to raise funds for such trainings not having been possible throughout the Covid-19 period.

In addition, the training was offered via online platforms by external organisations or institutions such as UNESCO, the EFN shared such information with members and their staff and encouraged them to attend and up-skill themselves. The training focused on the safety of journalists, and in particular investigative journalists who cover corruption related stories. During this reporting period, some journalists were arrested while others were killed elsewhere in Africa and the world.

Action 6.2.4: The Media Ombudsman to create awareness and popularise the office of the media ombudsman and the

'Self-Regulatory Code of Ethics and Conduct for Namibian Print, Broadcast and Online Media'. Also, sensitising the public about the fact it does not cover freelance and citizen journalism.

During the financial year under review, the EFN commissioned print, radio, and television advertisements promoting its office and the role of the Media Ombudsman, which during the period under review (1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022) were regularly carried by Forum broadcast members at a frequency and schedule determined by their internal policies. As for print media, newspapers such as The Namibian carry the advertisement on page 2, the Namibian Sun on page 2 in their masthead and the Republikein on page 4. The adverts are standardised since more than 10 years ago and have become a permanent feature of the respective publications.

It is also known that during the time period the Media Ombudsman appeared on several panel discussions and was approached by members of the public who laid complaints against EFN members they perceived to have breached the media code of conduct on ethics.

Challenges: Budgetary constraints. The office of the media ombudsman is funded by the EFN. Projects undertaken by the office are financed by the EFN and external partners depending on the specificity of the project. During the Covid pandemic, the EFN could not raise funding while external partners directed their finance towards vaccine manufacturing and distribution.

Strategic Objective 7

Preventing corruption and promoting accountability in the sports fraternity

The sport world has always been plagued by corruption and lack of accountability, from match-fixing to doping scandals. However, when sports stars and organizations engage in unethical practices, it also undermines the integrity of the sports. Strategic objective 7 has 2 Actions, implemented by two institutions as follows (NSC 7.1.1, 7.1.2)

Specific Objective 7.1: Supporting transparency and integrity in sports

Action 7.1.1: Sports oversight bodies to adopt and implement specific anti-corruption and transparency policies and procedures in all sporting codes.

During the financial year under review, the Ministry of Sports, Youth and National Service reported that currently there aren't policies on transparency in this respect.

Action 7.1.2: Promote systems of integrity through corruption awareness and ethics training for sports clubs, administration staff members in collaboration with anti-corruption affiliates.

It was reported that the funding was secured from UNESCO to conduct training on anti-doping. Through the anti-doping office, the Ministry and line bodies continue to train athletes and officials on anti-doping activities. Through UNICEF the Ministry is also rolling out the safeguard project to the identified regions.

Strategic Objective 8

Engagement and participation of youth in anti-corruption programmes

While several anti-corruption initiatives have been put in place, the participation and engagement of youth should be ongoing. Young people make up a significant portion of the population in many countries and hold tremendous potential for driving positive change. There are two actions under this Strategic Objective, implemented by two lead institutions, and ten (10) co-lead institutions as follows: (MYSNS 8.1.1, NYC 8.1.2)

Specific Objective 8.1: Enhance the understanding of youth about corruption, ethics and integrity

Action 8.1.1: Develop and implement a training programme on ethics, integrity and anti-corruption for youth leadership in all 14 regions.

During the financial year under review, the Ministry of Sports, Youth and National Service reported that they sought expertise from the Anti-Corruption Commission, who conducted training for a diverse group of youth in Kavango East region. A total of 52 participants were trained on 5 December 2022 on anti-corruption & Ethics & Integrity Trainings. The training is also in line with the Strategic objective 4 of the NASCAP.

Action 8.1.2: Conduct dialogue sessions on anti-corruption, good governance, ethics and integrity for youth.

During the financial year under review, The National Youth Council reported that a

number of sessions were held in Ohangwena, Eenhana and Oshikunde Constituencies between 7 and 9 June 2022 as well as one dialogue session in Zambezi Region in October 2022.

Plan for the next financial year:

The NYC plans to reach and involve more youth in anti-corruption, ethics and integrity sessions. The Ohangwena Youth Forum office in partnership with ACC will be hosting trainings in Endola, Ongenga, Engela and Oshikango.

5. Activities in Support of Implementation

5.1 Advocacy Activities on NACSAP

The Directorate of Public Education and Corruption Prevention at ACC organised and conducted a System Examination training, which took place from 14-17 November 2022. It aimed to equip 15 officials to ensure that ACC corruption prevention officers have a uniform approach when examining systems of both public and private bodies. The guideline was benchmarked with Kenya's Systems Examination processes during the Peer-to-Peer Learning Alliance of Anti-Corruption Authorities, established in 2019.

Development partner support: The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) continued to play an active role in implementing NACSAP successfully. The UNDP provided technical and financial support in building stakeholder capacity for the induction of the Cluster members. Moreover, promotional items such as banners and folders were printed.

In addition, during the period under review, ACC submitted four (4) quarterly reports to the HPP II monitoring team. It is also noteworthy that the Strategy shall be continuously monitored and evaluated to ensure the momentum to fight corruption is recovered. Record of meetings are in place.

One-on-one consultations: To ensure the smooth implementation of NACSAP, the Secretariat embarked upon one-on-one consultations with implementing institutions. The aim was to bring them on par with other NACSAP implementing institutions as well as to help the secretariat fast-track the implementation of the strategy. The following one-on-one consultation meetings were held:

- Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation- 30 August 2022
- MICT- 01 September 2022
- MSYNS- 02 September 2022
- BIPA- 06 September 2022
- Namibia Sports Commission- 29 August 2023.

5.2 Development of Knowledge Products

ACC staff members managed to develop the following products in support of NACSAP. These are:

- Development of Terms of References for the five monitoring bodies/ structures;
- The ACC launched the System Examination Guidelines on 11 July 2022 during the commemoration of African Anti-Corruption Day;
- Consolidated report of the Ministry of Works and Transport CRA report;
- Compliance with NACSAP Service Standards: The Secretaries of the Clusters adhered to all standards in terms of the crafting of the minutes and reports of the NACSAP.

6. Lessons Learned

In any country, the fight against corruption is a complex and multifaceted endeavor that requires the collaboration and commitment of various institutions. This was particularly evident in Namibia during the first year of implementing the National Anti-Corruption Strategy. The implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan faced its fair share of challenges during its first year (2022-23). While lack of ownership by institutions posed significant challenges, also presented opportunities for growth and progress as follows:

- The cluster meetings served as a platform for continued engagement, where cluster members from the various institutions exchange ideas, share best practices and discuss the activities across a diverse spectrum;
- There is an urgent need for the ACC to establish a dedicated Secretariat for the Strategy, because a dedicated team (and not ad hoc as it is now) remain crucial for tracking progress timeously. The current structure is overwhelming, mainly for the team based at the headquarters that should perform dual responsibilities;
- There is a need for increased budget towards the Strategy implementation and coordination, and continuous capacity building in various areas and skills sets for the Secretariat;
- Funds should also be dedicated to the publicity of the NACSAP activities and actual Strategy. In order to create a society that is fair, just, and accountable. With effective publicity, and a synergy of efforts, we can educate and engage citizens in the fight against corruption, promoting transparency and accountability at every level of society;
- Collaborations are central to successful implementation of the Strategy. Combating corruption requires a collective effort and the involvement of various stakeholders, including government agencies, civil society organizations, and the general public;
- Transparency and accountability are crucial elements for any successful government. In order to combat corruption and promote good governance. By understanding the significance of NACSAP and the role it plays in promoting transparency and accountability, we can all contribute to the fight against corruption in Namibia.

7. Next Steps

Plans for 2023-2024 Financial Year

While the 2022/2023 financial year marked the start of the actual implementation of the NACSAP, plans for the 2023-2024 financial year play a crucial role in advancing this strategy and taking concrete steps towards a more transparent and accountable Namibia as follows:

Implementation

- Continue with the implementation of NACSAP activities, considering that NACS implementation ends in 2025, and

Advocacy & Coordination

- Improved coordination and advocacy to ensure institutions take ownership of the Strategy.



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