

# NAMIBIA

## Multi-Annual Indicative Programme 2021 – 2027

### 1. The overall lines of the EU international cooperation in Namibia

#### 1.1. Basis for programming

Since its independence in 1990, Namibia has matured as a democracy and has been enjoying stability and relative prosperity. The dominance of the liberation party SWAPO brought long-term stability after independence, but this era is slowly coming to an end and a broader spectrum of political choices is now apparent. In many aspects, Namibia is considered a model of overall good governance. But the country is still facing enormous social disparities amongst the various ethnic groups, between north and south and between urban and rural areas. With a Gini Index of 0.610, Namibia scores second after South Africa in terms of **wealth inequality**. Inequality is also expressed in public sectors: Access to quality public services is strikingly uneven in almost all relevant public sectors, ranging from access to education, energy, health and water/sanitation and hygiene. Governance indicators (particularly on transparency, accountability and corruption) do show some negative trends. The Namibian economy is largely based on the exploitation of its natural resources (mining, fisheries, agriculture and tourism). Namibia has been in recession or only registered **negligible economic growth** since 2016, leading to a high and rising public debt (above 60% in 2021). The pandemic has sharply deteriorated Namibia's economic fundamentals (-8% GDP growth in 2020), affecting **debt sustainability** and leading it to request its first IMF loan (Rapid Financing Instrument) of US\$ 273 million. **Its government faces difficulties responding to the triple challenges of the economy, climate change and Covid-19**. This might put in jeopardy Namibia's current achievements as well as its capacity and commitments to further develop and diversify its economy. These challenges are of course reflected more widely across the region, an important aspect given Namibia's reliance on SACU duties as part of its revenue.

The challenges of any EU engagement and interest will be to support the country in maintaining stability and relative prosperity, and its good democracy and human rights situation, while aiming to **reduce social-economic inequalities** and to **increase equitable access to quality services, particularly for vulnerable segments in society**. In terms of political governance, the key challenge in the coming years will be an inclusive political system based on citizen participation and efficient administration and political institutions. In parallel, improved economic governance, transparency and accountability of use of public financial and natural resources are deemed cornerstones of a successful economic recovery.

**The EU's Interests:** Overall, the EU strives to enhance bilateral relations with Namibia in areas of mutual interests and the MIP should underpin this process. The priorities formulated in all relevant national development strategies are overall in line with EU interests and overarching priorities, particularly with regard to provisions of the EU Green Deal and the EC communication "Towards a Comprehensive Strategy with Africa", as well as with the EU's endeavour to be at the forefront of promoting Good Governance and Human Rights throughout the world. As a stable democracy in the region, Namibia represents an important partner for the EU agenda on Peace and Security. Economically and socially the EU has a clear interest to spur investment and trade. Namibia is interested in maintaining and expanding its economic and business ties with the

European Union. The country can also be seen as a natural ally in the fight against climate change and other aspects of international concern. It is in the interest of the EU and Member States to work with Namibia on these converging interests, for example by fostering investment in the renewable energies as well as the blue and green economy sectors.

### **National Development Plans**

Namibia's long-term development policy framework "**Vision 2030**" aims at developing a "**prosperous and industrialised Namibia, developed by her human resources, enjoying peace, harmony and political stability**". This strategy is implemented through 5-year National Development Plans (NDP), of which the current NDP5 is under implementation until 2022. Together with the recently publicised Harambee Prosperity Plan 2 (HPP2, 2021-2025), the NDP5, also expected to be soon reviewed and updated to NDP6, is currently guiding the implementation of the Vision 2030. The four pillars of NDP5 are: 1) Economic Progression, 2) Social Transformation (to build capable and healthy human resources, quality education and vocational skills), 3) Environmental Sustainability (to ensure sustainable environment; natural resources such as wildlife, fisheries, forestry, as well as a solar and wind regime that is suitable for renewable energy) and 4) Good Governance.

NDP5 identifies various "**game changers**" that are expected to transform Namibia from a reactive, input-based economy into a proactive, high-performing economy, some of which have been supported by the EU through EDF 11 and are intended to be supported through the new NDICI:

- Increased **investment in infrastructure development** (particularly energy and water) - Intended Support through new NDICI
- Increased productivity in agriculture, especially for small-holder farmers - Support through ongoing EDF11 funds
- Increased investment in technical skills development - Support through ongoing EDF11 funds
- Improved **value addition in natural resources** – Support through ongoing EDF11 funds and intended NDICI funding

The four pillars of the recently published **Harambee Prosperity Plan II (2021-2025)** are equally highly relevant for the NDICI programming:

- 1) **Effective Governance (Accountability & Transparency, Strengthening the National Anti-Corruption Mechanisms, Improved Performance & Service Delivery, Enhanced Citizen Participation & Engagement.**
- 2) **Economic Advancement (Optimize Stewardship of Natural Resources & Public Assets, Enhance Productivity of Priority Economic Sectors Develop Complementary, Engines of Growth)**
- 3) **Social Progression (Zero Deaths from Hunger Poverty, Delivery of Urban Land, Housing & Sanitation, Improved Access to Healthcare, Improved Access to Quality Education & Sports, Combatting Gender Based Violence and Violence Against Children)**
- 4) **International Relations and Cooperation: Enhanced Economic Diplomacy for Economic Recovery.**

While the priorities of the NDP and the Harambee Plan are generally consistent with the challenges of the country, **neither the government's capacity nor the budgetary means are sufficient to fully implement the agreed strategies, policies and development plans. The economy remains small, insufficiently diversified and vulnerable towards external shocks.**

Design of actions and monitoring progress to reach the objectives and support evidence-based decision-making require improving the quality and availability of statistical data.

## **1.2 Status of joint programming**

As part of the “Working better together” approach to improve joint efforts and increase impact, EU Member States were actively consulted in defining the priority areas and sectors for the 2021-2027 MIP. No joint programming agreement with EU Member States exists for Namibia. The main reason is that of the five EU member states present in Namibia with an Embassy (DE, ES, FI, FR, PT) only Germany has a sizeable cooperation programme. Most Member States of the EU, as well as other multilateral donors, reduced their financial commitment for development support in Namibia significantly or even discontinued their cooperation entirely after the country reached upper middle-income country (UMIC)-status in 2009. Only Germany maintains a significant portfolio, exceeding by large amount the EU programme.

It is in this context that a continuation of the close cooperation and coordination has been agreed - including one Team Europe Initiative- while stopping short of joint programming. The EU, Germany and other member states already coordinate their activities very closely. Key developments in policy dialogue, programming and related cooperation topics, are regularly presented to and discussed with member states present. Namibia’s UMIC status, combined with the small number of member states with a cooperation budget, limits the possibility for Team Europe Initiatives (TEI) by definition, since the latter requires financial contributions from member states.

In the Green Growth sector, France and Germany have indicated their intention to work closely together in a Team Europe approach. Finland and Estonia have, among others, indicated an interest to work with the EU in education, though not in the framework of a TEI. Lithuania has also stated its interest, with the details still to be agreed upon.

## **1.3 Priority areas of the EU's cooperation with Namibia**

The priority areas of the EU’s future cooperation with Namibia have been identified as follows:

### **Priority area 1: Foundational Skills - Education**

Indicative sectors:

- i. Education policy and administrative management (DAC 11110)
- ii. Teacher training (DAC 11130)
- iii. Early Childhood Education (Integrated Early Childhood Dev) (DAC 11240)

### **Priority area 2: Inclusive Green Growth**

Indicative sectors:

- i. Water supply and sanitation (DAC code: 140)
- ii. Energy generation, renewable resources (DAC code: 232)
- iii. General Environment Protection (DAC code: 410)

### **Priority area 3: Good Governance and Gender Equality**

Indicative sectors:

- i. Government and Civil Society (DAC code: 150/15152)
- ii. Government and Civil Society (DAC code:150 /15113)

iii. Government and Civil Society (DAC code:150/15180)

#### 1.4 Justification and context

Namibia is a reliable partner and like-minded country, often sharing similar interests and values. Our longstanding partnership has a good scope for further reinforcement and broadening. The EU will among others continue to support Namibia in the implementation of its National Determined Contributions, strongly promote the sustainable management of raw materials value chains (e.g., through tapping into the potential of creating a strategic partnership through the “EU Action Plan on Critical Raw Materials”). Trade and foreign direct investment represent another area with a significant scope for expansion as expressed by both, the EU and Namibia.

The European Union supports a Global Recovery Initiative (GRI), linking debt relief and investment to the SDGs to promote a green, digital, just and resilient recovery. In Namibia, the GRI is a comprehensive policy-based approach, built around three elements: a) dialogue on policy commitments to deliver the SDGs and the Paris Agreement objectives; b) dialogue on sustainable integrated financial strategies, such as Integrated National Financing Frameworks, and, based on these dialogues, c) provision of financial and technical support. The fallout of the Covid-19 pandemic is severe and, aside from the human cost, will make fiscal management much harder still. Integrated approaches to financing, such as Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs), will be crucial to finance the recovery and the SDGs. They can improve data and diagnostics to find and fill financing gaps, mobilise and align a wide range of financing sources (public and private, domestic and international) with the country’s development priorities, guide the recovery in a sustainable manner and manage better future crises. By virtue of their holistic nature, such integrated approaches put the EU in a good position for a sustained dialogue on financing issues with the government. Moreover, such engagement will build on earlier successful and highly regarded EU capacity building to the Ministry of Finance to strengthen Public Financial Management<sup>1</sup>.

All EU interventions will be designed in accordance to the “**leave no one behind**” principle, focusing on the inclusion of particularly vulnerable groups in order reduce to the maximum extent socio-economic inequalities, which are one of the major challenges for a broad development in Namibia. Other cross-cutting priorities such as **digitalisation** and **gender mainstreaming** will be thoroughly integrated in all interventions. The country level implementation plan of the Gender Action Plan III for Namibia 2021-2024 specifically highlights the EU’s firm intention to address gender equality in a holistic manner throughout all priority sectors of intervention. For all three priorities it is a firm intention to strategically and meaningfully engage in structured dialogue with – and where need is, capacitate - a whole range of **civil society organisations** and create **synergies with ongoing 11 EDF interventions, thematic and regional programmes & instruments**. This

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<sup>1</sup> Further support is needed to enhance domestic revenue collection. Namibia has recently established the Namibia Revenue Agency (NamRa), responsible for administering Namibian tax laws and customs & excise services. We can foresee that NamRa will require future support to strengthen their administering of domestic revenue collection. Other areas that need support include for example strengthening efficiency of revenue collection through digitalization and reforming the customs system in use to be aligned with the generalized taxation system (ITAS). Since Germany has also been rendering support in this area via the ‘SDG Initiative for Namibia’ the EU and Germany could explore possibilities on how to further support public financial management in Namibia. They can also play a crucial role in supporting better EU engagement in our national cooperation strategies through a more intimate knowledge of national economic realities. GIZ already supports the Ministry of Public Enterprises with regard to performance management of public enterprises.

involvement will not be limited to consultations on policies and programmes but will also involve the implementation of some components by CSOs and capacity building or relevant CSOs.

Strong, mutually reinforcing linkages exist between the three sectors.<sup>2</sup>

### **Priority area 1: Foundational Skills – Education**

Sustainable Development Goal target 4.2 calls for all girls and boys to have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education by 2030. Nonetheless, early childhood development (ECD) access in Namibia not only exhibits stark regional inequalities, but also remains low overall. Namibia faces many challenges in the education sector, such as decreasing learning outcomes, high secondary school dropout rates and high repetition rates. Some regions have a rather low percentages of children attending school which is correlated with inaccessibility of schools and pre-schools for many rural children. Once in school, children from poorer backgrounds tend to do much worse than those from wealthier families. There is consolidated scientific evidence, that the period of a child's life from 0 to 8 years of age is critical for building a strong foundation for healthy development, lifelong learning and school achievement. Therefore, implementing quality ECD programmes is a highly cost-effective strategy to ensure that all children develop to their full potential. In the medium to long term, investments in ECD will also leverage many positive secondary effects on both economic growth and social progression, as ECD lays the foundation for a healthy, educated and capacitated workforce.

Based on these findings, ECD has gained a lot of momentum in Namibia during the last years. The implementation of ECD services is guided by a National Integrated ECD Policy that foresees ECD services to be delivered in a comprehensive way (covering all aspects of children's development, including cognitive, social, emotional and physical abilities) and in an integrated way (with strengthened inter-ministerial coordination and with the support from civil society and private sector). This policy framework is conducive to see Namibia making progress under SDG 4, as well as SDG 10.

With the 11th EDF Education Sector Support Programme, measurable progress has been recorded in several areas, progress which can be built upon in the future: Consultations with the Namibian government and the UN have highlighted the need to continue and expand this successful cooperation with the EU. Curriculum based discussions as part of our ongoing policy dialogue for Pre-Primary Education (PPE) and ECD could not only include aspects of gender equality, but could also aim at integrating basic elements of sustainable development education and information about climate change and basic WASH and nutrition educational elements. The EU's expertise in digital processes could also be sought in this perspective. Continuous investments also need to be secured for construction of new and for improvement of existing ECD centres and pre-primary classes, notably in terms of sanitation and water facilities, and with regards to improving access

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<sup>2</sup> While priority 1 contributes to a more inclusive social progress, priority 2 supports sustainability in renewable energy, water management and biodiversity conservation. Finally, priority 3 will strengthen social progress, democracy, accountability and transparency, good governance and gender equality, relevant for efficiency and progress in the other two priority sectors. In particular, priorities 2 and 3 are likely to positively contribute to stepping up trade and investment relations and overall dialogue between EU and Namibia in the years to come. Priority 3 will also significantly increase dialogue with Namibia, while at the same time supporting a significantly more inclusive and transparent governance of some key institutions.

conditions for children with disabilities. Public budgetary allocations to ECD and primary education, although rising, remain overall low for the needed interventions, and may suffer decreases due to Covid-19 crisis. There is also room to improve the **management of public funds** and “achieve more with the same budget”.

The EU has therefore a strong interest in continuing its engagement with Namibia in ECD to prevent the country from sliding backwards in its successful ECD long term trajectory and to see the country benefitting from the investments already done in the foundational skills in terms of better learning outcomes and better employability in the future.

As government funding is extremely limited and most CSOs in the sector rely on foreign donors or private sector support, CSOs also play an important role in policy advice and advocacy, however, CSOs would need to increase their capacities and knowledge in this regard. It is essential that partnerships are further reinforced and investment from various sources are promoted and coordinated in order to look for synergies and ensure sustainable results.

## **Priority Area 2: Inclusive Green Growth**

Besides education, the Harambee Prosperity Plan 1 & 2 identifies targeted investments necessary to achieve the plan’s objectives namely, “Guaranteed energy supply and sufficient water supply and access for human consumption and business activities”. Additionally, Namibia needs to strengthen its resilience to climate change to achieve “land degradation neutrality and optimum land productivity” pursued through the NDP5; this will support increased benefits to local communities by exploiting a bio economy based on sustainability principles.

The EU will contribute to Namibia’s development plans by focusing its investments so as to enhance the share of renewable energy (SDG7&12) and access to sustainable energy, improving equal access to clean water and sanitation (SDG6), addressing climate change<sup>3</sup> adaptation and mitigation concerns (SDG13), as well as at preserving biodiversity (SDG15) as requirements for sustainable development. These initiatives will support the implementation of Namibia’s NDCs under the Paris Agreement. The priority area is aligned with the objectives of the EU Green Deal, the EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change, the EU’s Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 and the EU-Africa Alliance for Sustainable Investments and Jobs. It focuses on renewable energy, water and sanitation, climate change adaptation and mitigation and biodiversity conservation. Finally, the EU also envisages supporting Namibia in line with the EU Action Plan on Critical Raw Materials to promote sustainable practices in the mining sector, develop the raw materials value chains and promote its integration with the EU. This EU priority will contribute to Namibia’s mid to long-term green economic recovery and growth. The outcome of these interventions should lead to sustainable growth and job creation. This priority is aligned with the Team Europe initiative.

## **Priority area 3: Good Governance and Gender Equality**

**Good governance** is of utmost importance for a pluralistic, participatory and representative democracy and a key enabler and cross-cutting issue for all sectors of development. Strengthening of some key institutions (e.g., Parliament, Youth Parliament, Anti-Corruption Commission, Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Child Welfare) can lead to an overall enhanced governance performance, an improved enabling environment for Civil Society and a

better service delivery. The latter is particularly important for the severely deteriorating situation for victims of gender-based violence, for whom insufficient protection and social services are put in place.

In many aspects, Namibia is considered as a role model of governance, rule of law and press freedom and is inspiring for many of its neighbours. However, in spite of its comparatively high ranking in governance indicators in Africa<sup>3</sup>, there are warning signals<sup>4</sup> and some worrisome developments in governance and particularly for specific indicators. An increasing deterioration in “participation, rights & inclusion”, “security and the rule of law”, “inclusion and equality” and “accountability & transparency” is documented, as well as warning signals for “gender” and “public administration”. The perception of corruption in Namibia is increasing. This negative trend is accompanied by a decreasing trust in Namibian institutions, particularly, but not exclusively, in the National Assembly, as recently revealed by an Afro-Barometer survey<sup>5</sup>. This calls for continued and enhanced engagement and capacity building with these institutions<sup>6</sup>, and for new support, in complementarity with ongoing EU funded programme such as “Enhancing Participatory Democracy in Namibia” (EDF11), “Technical assistance to enhance the Performance Management System (PMS) of the public sector” and other EU Member States activities<sup>7</sup>. While the programmes implemented under EDF10 and EDF11 already covered governance aspects, new complementarities, synergies and a stronger involvement of youth (both in parliamentary work and in the fight against corruption) will widen the scope of the interventions funded under NDICI<sup>8</sup>. The involvement of Civil Society and Local Authorities both at policy dialogue and implementation level is vital in all sectors under this priority<sup>9</sup>.

**EU priorities supported under these sectors:** Alliances for Science, Technology and Innovation and Digital (particularly governance, e-governance and possibly data protection and cyber security) and Governance (fight against corruption) and Human Development (Human Rights including labour rights, democracy, rule of law and accountability, education). **SDGs supported under this priority:** SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions/16.2/16.5/16.6/16.7) and SDG 5 (Gender Equality/5/15.2/5.3).

## 1.5 Duration of the MIP and option for synchronisation

The EU MIP 2021-2027 for Namibia is expected to have a duration of 7 years (2021-2027) with a midterm review indicatively foreseen in 2024. Namibia’s NDP 6 will cover the period 2022-2027

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<sup>3</sup> All indicators combined, Namibia ranks 7 out of 54 countries in 2019, compared to rank 4 in 2017, so the trend is negative: <https://mo.ibrahim.foundation/sites/default/files/2020-11/2020-index-report.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Warning Signs are defined as “progress (or no change) over the last ten years, but showing decline in the latest five years”

<sup>5</sup> [https://afrobarometer.org/sites/default/files/press-release/Namibia/nam\\_r8\\_pr\\_trust\\_in\\_namibian\\_political\\_institutions\\_1.pdf](https://afrobarometer.org/sites/default/files/press-release/Namibia/nam_r8_pr_trust_in_namibian_political_institutions_1.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> Parliamentary cooperation already exist with various EU Member States and could be up-scaled by EU support.

<sup>7</sup> This support could build on already ongoing support by some EU Member States and EU Member States foundations and previous support through Estonia, which is keen on supporting governance issues. The Spanish Cooperation has signaled their strong interest in public technical cooperation through their “International Foundation and Iberian America for Public Administration”

<sup>8</sup> The Finnish Embassy has been supporting the efforts of coalition of Namibian CSOs advocating for ATI for many years. The US is also providing some funding for CSOs in this area through small grants.

<sup>9</sup> See chapter on “Supporting measure for CSOs” for complementarity as well as the Namibia 2021-2024 Roadmap for Civil Society and the Gender Action Plan III Country Level Implementation Plan.

(5 years), whereas Namibia's Vision 2030 will remain valid until 2030 (9 years). It is envisaged to follow the NDP6 cycle as a basis for our programming activities. While the first part of the programming should be concluded by the end of 2021/beginning of 2022, a review can be envisaged in 2024, coinciding with a (potential) review of the NDP6. General Elections were held in Namibia in November 2019, with the next elections scheduled for the end of 2024, thus coinciding with the programming review. As changes in government can have a significant impact on the level of partner country engagement in the foreseen sectors, the review will come at the right moment to re-assess the situation and engage into intensive dialogue with Namibian counterparts.

## **2. EU support per priority area and proposals of Team Europe Initiatives**

### **2.1 Priority area 1: Foundational Skills - Education**

Early Childhood Development (ECD) and Pre-Primary Education (PPE) remain priorities for the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare (MGEPEWS) and for the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture (MoEAC). The MoEAC's Strategic Plan 2017-2022 aims at increasing the number of children in pre-primary to 80% by 2022 in order to promote equity as per SDG 4. Furthermore, NDP5 states that by 2022, 40% of children aged 0-4 should have access to Integrated Early Childhood Development and 80% of children aged 5-8 should have access to Early Childhood Education. Finally, NDP 5 calls for the development and maintenance of education infrastructure such as classrooms and requires the quality of teaching at pre-primary level to be enhanced<sup>10</sup>.

With decreasing budgets and FDIs, mainstreaming of financing, the implementation of partnerships and the creation of synergies and cooperative actions have more than ever become a necessity rather than an option. The integrated National Framework towards Integrated Early Childhood Development Service Delivery (IECD) for 2020-2027 revised by Namibia with 11th EDF support paved the way for some initial positive developments and results. The positive initiated processes now need to be consolidated to ensure sustainable changes:

Upstream, enhanced collaboration could be endeavored with organizations such as UNICEF and Interteam for promoting Results Based Funding (RBF). Downstream, collaboration must be up scaled with local CSOs which are often operating in remote areas, targeting the most vulnerable parts of the population, filling the voids of the services provided by governmental services. Collaboration must also be enhanced with academic institutions and the private sector, both can be vital in providing teachers training and the provision of digital tools in education. Horizontal synergies can equally be created 1) in the EU's other focal sectors, Green Growth and Governance, 2) through regional and transnational programs impacting ECD as well as 3) through EU Member States expertise, notably in the area of digitalization, and already ongoing programs such as GIZ initiatives in Vocational Training, Farming for Resilience and Sport Development.

In all this, a close collaboration with the Ministry of Health remains paramount. Hence, water and sanitation as well as hygiene and nutrition practices could benefit from a large range of collaborations, particularly in the aftermath of the pandemic. Through the EU's support, the quality

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<sup>10</sup> Together with South Africa, Namibia is a leading example in the southern African region in terms of ECD policy. Investing in the human development of the youngest segment of the population will also be complementary to the German support to Namibia in the TVET sector, which requires strong foundational skills.

of the education system will also be enhanced through capacity building and training of the educators. The dissemination and application of (ideally international) standards and the development of homogenized curricula for ECD throughout the country will constitute an important milestone for the overall professionalization of the sector. Children with disabilities need to be paid particular attention to, as well as the active participation of the local communities need to be reinforced for improving the conditions for access and for quality ECD. The dissemination of good practices in the regions, including the most rural and remote areas, as well as in urban and peri-urban settlements is yet to be achieved. This long-term process requires long-term commitment to achieve positive changes in both mentality and practices.

A new Sector Reform Contract is worth considering following the successful work done under the 11th EDF and the tangible progress made in policy dialogue<sup>11</sup>. It would allow for consolidating interventions to improve equitable and inclusive access to ECD and PPE, strengthening ECD and PPE institutional management, whilst acknowledging that investments in foundational skills represent an integral part of any sustainable socio-economic development.

EU support to this sector will also contribute to addressing Public Finance Management issues: The aim is to link a financially sustainable budget to the desired social and development outcomes and to meet the targets that have been set. In this respect, accompanying technical support to strengthen public financial management (PFM) and partners' reform efforts will continue forming an important component of the envisaged support. The PFM support provided under the 11<sup>th</sup> EDF was highly regarded by the Government and has created tangible results.

Based on consultations with the main ministries involved, five priority objectives have been identified to support IECD:

**1) Improvement of ECD and PPE access: to see continued scale-up of ECD centres and pre-primary classes.**

- Construction, renovation and upgrading of new or existing ECD centres and classrooms equipped with adequate equipment (playgrounds, safe drinking water and sanitation facilities)

**2) Improvement of IECD delivery quality: improving the teacher's quality is vital at ECD and PPE level.**

- Aligning curricula and adapting them to meet the current challenges, including the capacity of children to adapt to an environment in constant evolution
- Paying particular attention to inclusive education and to the needs of children with disabilities;
- Addressing hygiene and nutrition issues
- Promoting a professionalization of the sector, contributing to decent jobs/ employment creation;
- Exploring e-learning practices and using digital learning tools for IECD teachers;

**3) Improvement of ECD and PPE institutional management:**

- Improving public financial management capabilities in the relevant ministries
- Implementing the "New Basic Education Act" and the revised IECD Framework Reinforcing Monitoring and Evaluation mechanisms jointly between MGEPESW, MoEAC and MHSS
- Reinforcing data collection and data analysis

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<sup>11</sup> Finland is very keen on joining EU efforts in this regard through their "Future is made in Finland" programme for the Southern Africa region and other innovative concepts that involve foundational skills like reading (such as Grapho Games, which is already piloting in Zambia and Tanzania)

- Developing partnerships in ECD, notably with CSOs and the private sector, but also with EU Member States such as Estonia and Finland for state-of-the art expertise in areas like pedagogical supports, digitalization, infrastructure development, GIS-based monitoring, etc.

#### **4) Advocacy on the importance of IECD and public outreach at local, regional and national levels.**

- Advocating for increased public funding for PPE and ECD;
- Enhancing participation and coordination between Parliament, CSOs and other Government bodies involved in the implementation and oversight of ECE policies at all territorial levels

#### **5) Improvement of community and parents' participation in ECD centres and ECD delivery.**

- Enhancing the monitoring role of the Ministry of Gender;
- Encouraging the roll out of home based ECD delivery through parenting programmes notably in rural areas;
- Supporting WASH and nutrition awareness and tutorial actions in this area;
- Promoting Gender impact awareness (including GBV)
- Boosting the participation of CSOs and their contribution to transformative initiatives

##### **2.1.1 Specific objectives related to the priority area**

The specific objective is to improve equitable and inclusive access to quality Early Childhood Development (ECD) and Pre-primary Education (PPE) through strengthening of system delivery capacity.

##### **2.1.2 Expected results per specific objective**

- Advocating for increased public funding for PPE and ECD;
- Improved equitable access to ECD and PPE
- Improved IECD service delivery quality
- Improved ECD and PPE institutional management
- Improved awareness and knowledge on the importance of ECD
- Improved community and parenting participation in ECD centres and ECD service delivery

##### **2.1.3 Indicators (including baseline and targets), per expected result**

The main indicators for measuring the results are contained in the sector intervention framework attached in Attachment 1

##### **2.1.4. Possible use of blending and guarantees for investment under EFSD+**

Private sector investment in ECD has emerged with substantial funding via a local trust. Private finance has been mobilised through a private investor in the form of a “Social Impact Bond for Results Based Funding in ECD”. MoEAC and MGEPEWS are actively driving and supporting these initiatives, in close collaboration with other partners such as UNICEF and INTERTEAM Switzerland.

Such innovative sources of funding mobilising the private sector will create synergies with and complement EU budget support – which should remain the primary source of support for the education sector - and technical assistance. A platform for the coordination of funding exists, namely the National Institute for Educational Development and its functional and operational sub-committees, in which the EU Delegation is an active member.

Digitalisation (e.g., students tracking system, GIS-ARCIS mapping of ECD centres) is a domain where the private sector is poised to complement any government-led initiative. EU member states’ businesses have a lot to offer in this area. Their contribution will be strongly encouraged.

The EU’s support in the improvement of monitoring and evaluation processes will likely trigger even more interest in and collaboration from the private sector.

Subject to its confirmation through the implementation phase, it is expected that an indicative total amount of EUR 7 million may be used [between 2021 and 2024] to provision EFSD+ guarantee operations, including under this priority area.

Risks	Mitigation measures
Political uncertainty - low	No room for limiting the risk via our support to the ECD sector. But the risk is limited. Namibia enjoys one of the most stable political environments in Africa.
Lack of political willingness – low	The level of awareness at highest political level concerning the importance of foundational skills development has grown drastically over the last years. The Government has identified Education as a game changer, and ECD is emphasized in the Harambee Prosperity Plan II. The EU has been instrumental in raising awareness, in collaboration with implementing partners like UNICEF and CSOs.
Lack of investment in ECD - high	The impact of Covid-19 has been detrimental and put many strains on the Budget, affecting social sectors such as Education. The EU has developed a continuous and fruitful dialogue in the area of ECD with the Government and UNICEF. The increase of funding for ECD is being advocated as well as overall better management of the funds through a collaborative process. Partnerships with potential investors will be encouraged
Lack of skills and follow-up capacity to ensure sustainable results - medium	Technical assistance to the ministries will continue to be provided. Capacity building will be an integral part of it. The improvement of monitoring and evaluation tools has been identified as major priorities
Stakeholders at regional and community level are not contributing to the promotion of ECD centres - medium	Parents and community involvement will continue to be important components of the support to be provided, thus ensuring an adequate involvement of parents in topics related to schooling.

## 2.2. Priority area 2: Inclusive Green Growth

The overall objective in this priority area is to contribute to a greener, more resilient and inclusive long-term solutions for Namibia's economic development. To ensure this development, there is a need to guarantee access to affordable and clean energy and water access and to protect the fragile Namibian’s ecosystems and biodiversity. This priority will support the Growth & Jobs policy of the Namibian government.

**Energy dependency** on fossil fuels is one of the factors which is impeding a more robust and sustainable economic development. Namibia already more than doubled the access to electricity since independence, however, still only half of the population has access to grid electricity. Overall, the cost of energy in the country is high, affecting the efficiency and negatively influencing the work of many SMEs, undermining their competitiveness and access to markets. Furthermore, Namibia imports more than 50% of electricity to cover its domestic demand. The Namibian Government seeks to reduce the country's reliance on imported energy and diversify energy sources during the implementation of NDP5.

The recently published Harambee Prosperity Plan II reinforces Namibia's efforts to align the three energy policies to the National Integrated Resources Plan, with the objective to create greater certainty for investors and infrastructure developers in the energy sector. The potential for Namibia as a producer of PV-based electricity and wind power is high<sup>12</sup>. Namibia has one of the strongest solar radiations in Africa – and worldwide. The combination of large underpopulated surfaces, a stable institutional framework and neighbour countries with a strong electricity under-supply should lead to vast investment opportunities. Stakeholders, including domestic and foreign investors accentuate the need for more decentralization to allow for multiple offtakes. The above is highly relevant for the EU's global effort to promote a green, digital, just and resilient recovery. As such, the EU will contribute to the increase of sustainable and cheaper energy production and a more inclusive access. The EU will support investments in renewable energy infrastructures to contribute to the increase of energy production and a more inclusive access, while also promoting gender-inclusive job creation and skills development. As both the French and German cooperation agencies are active in this sector, the EU intervention will be coordinated with the Member States for strong synergies and impact.

At present, various options are under consideration. A first potential opportunity under the TEI, is to present a turnkey solution to the construction of a 40 Mw wind power energy generation farm in the Southwest coast of Namibia. The construction of this farm requests concessional funding from DFIs. Both KfW and AFD have shown interest in financing this project. A potential co-financing could be discussed between these financial institutions, where KfW would support the generation and AFD together with the EU could support the upgrade of transmission. A second opportunity is green hydrogen and green ammonia. Due to decreasing costs of solar and wind energy generation, Namibia has significant potential to produce these new energies sources at competitive cost. Therefore, the EU will support the Namibia's efforts to become both producer and exporter of green hydrogen and green ammonia. This could further contribute to Namibia's economic recovery as sizable green hydrogen production and export project would include a water desalination facility as well as the necessary development of the port for export. The EU and Member States will coordinate their efforts in supporting the development of this sector in Namibia through technical assistance to contribute to the development of the hydrogen strategy and the necessary technical studies. This coordination could also result in financial support to implement the chosen strategy

**Access to safe drinking water and sanitation** is an important and recognised human right and an important component of the right to an adequate standard of living. Water is a scarce resource and one of the major limiting factors to Namibia achieving economic, environmental and social

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<sup>12</sup> Notably Germany through its "Green People's Energy" programme is already active in the energy sector, and the Finnish private sector is keen in investing in Namibia's renewable energy (e.g. solar water solution in desalination, where a pilot is currently already implemented in Henties Bay and Finnfund is interested in further investments).

development objectives. Figures show that more than 60% of Namibia's water consumption comes from underground aquifers. 'Water Stress' in Namibia is registered at 86% of freshwater withdrawals compared to available freshwater resources. National consumption priority is given to water for domestic purposes, followed by agriculture, mining and industries. Finally, only 15% of the Namibia population have access to 'at least basic sanitation services and open defecation is still largely practiced at 73% (UN 2017). These numbers did not progress significantly during the last ten years and call for urgent actions. Namibia is one of the driest countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. It is highly vulnerable to climate variability and change, aggravated mainly by multiple stresses and low adaptive local capacity. Climate change is threatening access to water resources. Its negative effects on agriculture are jeopardising jobs and livelihoods of close to 70% of the country's population. The negative effects on the humanitarian situation (IPC phase 3, food insecurity for 17% of the population) if failing to strengthen climate change resilience of local communities would be severe. It will therefore be important to apply an integrated humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) nexus approach.

The widespread lack of sanitation infrastructure in Namibia is a limiting factor to healthier lives. The existing poor or under-developed water & sanitation infrastructure present a high health hazard especially in the informal settlements around cities. Given the trend of rural to urban migration, urban domestic water demand estimates predict a substantial increase in the next decade. The HPP2 recognizes the need to make provisions for and fast-track finance for key water infrastructure & sanitation projects, including the rehabilitation and modernisation of existing infrastructure.

Several other opportunities are in the pipeline, a strong coordination with Germany will be required to identify the opportunities for a TEI. The EU could consider the opportunity of presenting a concessional sovereign loan to the Ministry of Finance in order to support a water program encompassing different infrastructure projects (for instance: upgrading and extending Rundu's pipeline infrastructure, Namibia's second city; rehabilitation of Keetmanshoop's water supply network; commissioning of the Neckartal irrigation scheme, etc.). Another area for European cooperation could be the financing of a groundwater management project implemented by the French Geological Survey (BRGM) and the German Geological Survey (BGR). It is also envisaged to support a network of solar powered' boreholes in the rural areas of Ohangwena, Kavango East and West, as well as northeast of Oshikoto. In the area of sanitation, an extension of serviced land and the provision of basic sanitation services around cities through innovative financing could be supported.

**Namibia's biodiversity conservation** efforts continue to face managerial and financial challenges, despite having achieved substantial results in the past. Climate change is affecting negatively the already fragile ecosystems and the sustainability of the "Community Based Natural Resource Management" (CBNRM) approach is still not ensured. Until now, the ecosystem services provided by this sector were supported mostly by tourism. The COVID19 pandemic showed – amongst others - the need for diversification of the sector's sources of revenue. The government priority objectives for biodiversity conservation according to NDP5 includes, upgrading protected areas and improving their management; human wildlife conflict management and prevention; as well as ensuring financial sustainability and maximizing benefits to communities through diversified livelihoods. Furthermore, the government is committed to actions aimed at increasing the resilience of the local economy to the negative impacts of climate change.

Any support will be coordinated with Germany which has a well-established programme in this sector. Linkages, synergies and complementary could lead to a TEI within the Biodiversity sector. France also has recently established a regional programme on Biodiversity for the Southern Africa and is willing to support Namibia. The EU will support the well-established CBRNM programme, improving its ecosystem services delivery by targeting actions towards climate change resilience (SDG 13) and further contributing to the conservation of Namibia's unique biodiversity (SDG 15). The CBNRM has generated tangible benefits for the rural communities; however, there are concerns on whether this enables the reduction of socio-economic inequalities. Furthermore, it is essential to diversify the conservation's sources of income. As suggested by the consulted CSO's, these could include carbon capture credits, conservation agriculture, including Sustainable AgriFood Systems<sup>13</sup> and others. This would ensure conservation and improved livelihoods to conservancy communities. The EU will also share its experience in geographical indications and how these have developed niche markets that support local communities around the world that nurture food security and sustainable agricultural practices. These interventions will support the development of a new economic dynamism that will develop new green job opportunities, which will safeguard conservation and improved livelihoods to conservancy communities. It could be envisaged to provide technical assistance to the government in setting up a Green Bond that would enable local communities to develop their commercial projects, create growth and jobs contribute to more job opportunities whilst conserving the ecosystem and protecting biodiversity.

Additionally, the EU is already contributing to Namibia's efforts on the implementation of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) within the Paris Agreement. Further climate actions are foreseen beyond the NDCs and should encompass improved capacity for disaster risk reduction as inclined in the Sendai Framework.<sup>14</sup>

### **2.2.1. Specific objectives related to the priority area**

The specific objectives are:

**Specific Objective 2.1:** An increased share of renewable energies in the energy mix will facilitate a stronger and greener economic recovery

**Specific Objective 2.2:** Supporting a more inclusive water supply and sanitation will improve the livelihoods in rural and urban communities.

**Specific Objective 2.3:** Adapting practices and supporting conservation initiatives will make Namibia more resilient to Climate Change, enhance biodiversity conservation and improve livelihoods

### **2.2.2 Expected results per specific objective**

To support a stronger and greener economic recovery (SO1), seeks to accomplish the following results:

Result 2.1.1. The consumption of renewable energy in Namibia's energy mix is increased

Result 2.1.2. The access to energy is increased, especially in rural areas

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<sup>13</sup> Hungary has provided assistance in capacity building through Ministry of Agriculture-FAO Scholarships and these are intended to continue in the next programming period.

<sup>14</sup> Biodiversity conservation is also a focal area of German Development Cooperation. Linkages, synergies, and complementarity to Germany's development cooperation will be ensured.

### Result 2.1.3. The storage capacity is increased

To support a more inclusive access to water and improved sanitation (SO2), the following results need to be achieved:

Result 2.2.1. Rural and urban water infrastructure is developed to allow access to clean water for all, while promoting water use efficiency.

Result 2.2.2. Residents of informal settlements are educated on good sanitation practices and some key sanitation facilities have been developed.

To support a more resilient Namibia (SO3), the following results are expected to be achieved:

Result 2.3.1. The rural communities, including conservancies have adapted climate resilient agricultural production practices.

Result 2.3.2. Sustainable sources of income for conservancy communities are increased to foster social progress.

Result 2.3.3. Sustainable economic activities and jobs are promoted through biodiversity conservation.

Risks	Mitigation measures
Hesitation towards sovereign loans prevents investment in the intervention sectors. - MEDIUM -	Investment in the selected areas can be structured through a mix of sovereign and private loans. Also, the Government is aware of the necessary investment to relaunch the economic recovery.
The DFI and private sector are not sufficiently interested to invest in the Namibia economy due current investment conditions - MEDIUM -	The Government is willing to revamp its Foreign Investment policy to attract more investors into Namibia's economy.
The CBRNM is put into question due to external and internal factors - LOW -	The programme will strengthen the CBRNM through its intervention to improve communities' livelihoods.

### 2.2.3 Indicators (including baseline and targets), per expected result

The main indicators for measuring the results are contained in the sector intervention framework attached in Attachment 1.

### 2.2.4 Possible use of blending and guarantees for investment under EFSD+

The stated objectives will need to be achieved partially through infrastructure investment: increase in energy generation, its storage and energy access; water supply and sanitation, including desalination; and finally, ecosystem services' payment schemes. As mentioned above, France and Germany are working in these sectors and have shown interest to become involved in these investment opportunities, namely through AFD and KfW. Also, the EIB has declared its interest in supporting the EU interventions in Namibia.

The identified opportunities include:

- Support energy generation through renewable energies, its storage and transmission;
- Supply water to Windhoek, including water desalination;
- Supply water & sanitation to secondary cities with important population growth.
- Further development of regional (Ohangwena) underground water aquifer.
- Support ecosystem services' payments schemes.

The exact scope and nature of the investment will need to be assessed further, the objective will be to support Namibia to recover from the Health pandemic which has exacerbated economic and social hardships. Currently, the identified preferred modality is blending with technical assistance and private loans. In the context of Namibia's generally prudent fiscal policies some hesitation and even reluctance has been observed when it comes to drawing on foreign loans. Terms and conditions of such loans will have to be favourable/concessional for the Government to make use of them.

AFD, KfW and EIB have already contributed to the identified opportunities. It would be relevant for the EFSD+ to support these investments. Currently, the EFSD+ Guarantee Funds have not yet been mobilized in Namibia.

Finally, the government is interested in developing its green and blue bonds to support its sustainable development through new infrastructures. It needs Technical Assistance to support to the implementation of these financial mechanisms. The EU could decide to provide such technical assistance if some management systems are in place and financial preconditions are met.

Subject to its confirmation through the implementation phase, it is expected that an indicative total amount of EUR 7 million may be used [between 2021 and 2024] to provision EFSD+ guarantee operations, including under this priority area.

### **2.3 Priority area Good Governance and Gender Equality**

**Parliamentary Support:** Despite Namibia's comparatively strong governance record, there are some shortcomings in terms of e-governance and digitalisation. These deficiencies have been strikingly revealed in the context of the national Covid-19 crisis and lockdown, which brought many areas of parliamentary work to a near standstill. With regard to strengthening the Parliament in its transition to 'go digital' and 'e-accessible', several options for EU support can be envisaged. With the support of the World Bank, the Namibian Parliament recently has developed a blueprint strategy on "Strengthening Parliamentary Processes and capacity building through E-Parliament"<sup>15</sup>, whose implementation could be supported by EU funded programmes. Components to be supported range from financing parts of the *digital infrastructure* required for e-parliamentarian work; a complete *e-records/database of parliamentary debates*, the set-up of a *Parliamentarian TV channel*; an *online library* for parliamentarians and the research service; and *capacity building* with regards to the e-skills of the members of Parliament. An *e-consultation system* is also envisaged. Other, not directly "digital" related areas of support include the institutional establishment of an independent *Parliamentary Service Commission* and a *Budget Support Office*, and the strengthening of the Youth/Children Parliament. Already existing partnerships with other development partners such as the UN and other EU Member States will be

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<sup>15</sup> A proper needs assessment with clearly spelled-out priorities would be shared with the EUD towards the end of July 2021. A budgeting exercise for the various components will also be conducted by Parliament.

strengthened and complementary. In terms of institutional development, the *internal governance of the parliamentary administration* will be strengthening as well. The entirety of the above-mentioned interventions will significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Namibian Parliament and make Parliament more accessible and responsive to the citizens.

**Support to Anti-Corruption:** The fight against corruption has to date shown mixed results at best. The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) of Namibia is currently revising its National anti-corruption strategy and action plan. The new strategy and plan, compliant with the requirements under UNCAC will cover the period 2021-2025 and comprises eight (8) strategic objectives, ranging from *Preventing corruption in government offices, ministries and agencies, Public Enterprises, Regional Councils and Local Authorities* to anti-corruption education and the engagement of youth, civil society and the media to deter corruption. The EU Delegation intends to support the achievement of a whole range of the above objectives through a combination of technical assistance (and eventually TAIEX) and grants, including to civil society. The EU Delegation also intends to accommodate the explicit need of the ACC to be supported in conducting an *ACC national perception survey* and the development of a Comprehensive National Framework for conducting Risk Assessment and Management in Public and Private bodies, including capacity building. Supporting the Anti-Corruption Commission of Namibia in the implementation of the national anti-corruption strategy will leverage positive synergy effects across the entire public sector. The timing to support the government in its fight against corruption comes at a good moment as this topic is high on both the government's (Harambee Plan II) and the media's /citizen's agenda. Complementary to the support to the ACC, relevant civil society actors will be supported and capacitated to -amongst others - enhance corruption awareness and public education on corruption, to strengthen their capabilities to act as a watchdog and to serve as important interlocutors to relevant government agencies and ministries.<sup>16</sup>

**Support to Gender Equality and Combatting Gender Based Violence:** While Namibia has very advanced legal frameworks and action plans in place that aim at assuring gender equality and combatting GBV at all levels, realities on the ground are showing significant implementation deficits. Having been declared a national catastrophe by the President, violence against women (and children) has reached pandemic dimensions, leading to high socio-economic short-medium and long-term costs and continuous human suffering. The Ministry of Gender Child Welfare and Poverty Eradication's human and financial resources are far too insufficient to implement the recently adopted "Prioritised National Plan of Action on Gender Based Violence"<sup>17</sup>. The EU intends to support the Ministry at institutional level through technical assistance and in the implementation of key priorities formulated under this plan. This includes but is not limited to *enhancing the GBV protection and response services, prevention services and engagement with youth for transforming gender norms for long-term prevention*. Significant support will have far-reaching benefits for the entire population at large and would leverage positive synergetic effects with priority sector one in ECD. A significant part of the activities is likely to be implemented through local CSOs. On top of any assistance to the implementation of the Combatting GBV strategy, the EU's support will also aim at extensive policy dialogue on various family laws that address the structural aspects of GBV, such as laws that keep financially vulnerable women (and children) trapped in abusive relationships (divorce law, marital property law, inheritance, social

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<sup>16</sup> <https://ippr.org.na/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/civil-society-paper.pdf>

<sup>17</sup> The budgeting study of the GBV action plan is about to be completed and will provide the EUD with a clearer picture on the extent of what can be supported.

welfare and maintenance, customary marriage etc.). Civil Society Organisations in Namibia are well placed to support policy dialogue in this respect and will play an important role in advancing the discourse.

This sector has strong linkages to priority area 2 and to already ongoing EU support under EDF 11 (EPDN), thematic instruments and regional SADC initiatives. Close coordination will also be ensured with the newly established International Women’s Peace centre, which may potentially also be supported.<sup>18</sup>

**2.3.1 Specific objectives related to the priority area**

**Specific Objective 3.1:** A more effective, accessible and transparent Parliament will strengthen Namibia’s democracy

**Specific Objective 3.2:** A more effective implementation of anti-corruption measures will foster efficient and accountable institutions

**Specific Objective 3.3:** The comprehensive implementation of the GBV Action Plan by the Minister of Gender, Child Welfare and Poverty Eradication will in the medium to long run reduce the prevalence of violence in Namibia’s society (Strengthening of system delivery capacity).

**2.3.2 Expected results per specific objectives**

To support a more transparent and accountable **Parliament** (SO1), the following results are expected to be achieved

Result 3.1.1. Improved transparency and accountability of democratic institutions, including oversight by the parliament and civil society (EURF)

Result 3.1.2. Improved effectiveness of Parliamentary functions (EURF)

To support Anti-Corruption (SO2), the following result will be necessary:

Result 3.2.1. Enhanced capacity of the Anti-Corruption Commission

Result 3.2.2. High level of implementation of the national Anti-Corruption Strategy

To increase the capacity and effectiveness of the MGCW (SO3), the following result will be required:

Result 3.3.1. Strengthened capacity of first responders to provide care and support to GBV survivors

Result 3.3.2. Strengthened procedures and infrastructure for improved service provision to GBV survivors

Result 3.3.3. Strengthened community networks for GBV prevention and response

Result 3.3.4. Strengthened legal framework to prevent GBV

Risks	Mitigation measures
Administrative capacity of supported institutions (Parliament, National Assembly, Ministry of Gender and Child Welfare) – low to medium	Strong focus on technical assistance embedded in the institutions and comprehensive and endured training measure of the most relevant departments

<sup>18</sup> Support to combatting GBV and to support Gender Equality funded by Germany (regional programme ) is also envisaged to start in 2022. Close coordination will be required.

Resistance to change (digitalisation, e-governance) Medium	Organisational/cultural change management strategies and extensive training components to be accompanying the technical assistance and technological shift
Absorption capacity of funding and capacity building support low - medium	Capacity assessment of target CSOs to be carried out prior to any Call for Proposals. Focus on medium sized grants spread amongst various CSOs working in all the regions

**2.3.3 Indicators (including baseline and targets), per expected result**

The main indicators for measuring the results are contained in the sector intervention framework attached in Attachment 1.

**2.4 Proposals of country/multi-country/regional Team Europe Initiatives**

As outlined in chapter 1.2, the scope for genuine Team Europe Initiatives (TEI) in Namibia is quite limited. Member States such as France and Germany have however indicated their interest to work together in one of the identified priority sectors: **Inclusive Green Growth**

Member states agree with the transformational potential of a greener and more resilient economy in Namibia. Namibia could turn into a pilot country where bolder steps towards a higher share of renewable energy in the overall energy mix could be taken. France and Germany in particular have declared an interest in working with the EU and Namibia towards this objective. Both countries already work in the sector, notably through their development banks AfD and KfW. The portfolio of AFD has expanded over the last 12 months while KfW financial engagement in Namibia has historically been substantial. Other opportunities arise in the water sector and ecosystem services’ payments (see chapter 2.2. for more details). There is scope for the EIB to enhance its activities in Namibia as well, particularly through private sector support to SMEs. The precise nature and scope of member state support is still under discussion.

At multi-country level, the EU is considering interventions combining water diplomacy and co-operation on two river basins: the Orange-Senqu river basin and the Okavango river basin, the latter through the NaturAfrica initiative. Several of the important biodiversity landscapes in Namibia have trans-border components and fall within SADC-defined Trans Frontier Conservation Areas (TFCA) made up of Community Conservancies and other protected areas, and where there is significant cooperation and regional investment. As such, biodiversity and CBNRM components are in alignment with (a) various SADC strategies, policies and programmes (SADC Regional Biodiversity Strategy; SADC Protocol on Wildlife Conservation and Law Enforcement; SADC Trans Frontier Conservation Areas programme) (b) similar initiatives (including trans frontier ones) being implemented in all its neighbouring countries. The intervention in Namibia will contribute to the success of NaturAfrica Initiative.

The EU’s indicative contribution to this TEI (EUR 12 million) is subject to the confirmation of the Team Europe partners’ indicative meaningful contribution as early as possible. In the absence thereof, the EU’s indicative contribution may be redirected in accordance with the priority areas of the MIP and their allocations. The obligation of the Union and the Member States to coordinate their development policies following initiatives by the Commission to this effect, as per article 210 TFEU, always applies.



### **3. Support measures**

#### **3.1 Measures in favour of civil society**

The Constitution of the Republic of Namibia contains a number of provisions that guarantee the space for CSOs to operate and these provisions are generally upheld. A dedicated policy “Civic Organisation Partnership Policy” is in place (though under review) and aims at creating a clear policy framework for co-operation between Government and CSOs. However, this policy has not been fully implemented. In the absence of a proper coordinating CSO umbrella organisation, the recent creation of “CIVIC +264”, set up by five leading CSOs is a welcomed new development. However, the lack of Access to information, the absence of coordinated and regular policy dialogue between Civil Society and Government, the lack of trust in and fear from criticism from CSOs creates a rather disabling operational environment for Civil Society. Internally, many CSOs mainly lack financial sustainability (dependency on external donor support), and managerial and operational capacities at all levels. In spite of the above, Namibian civil society is vibrant and active in many sectors. CSOs are complementing (and in many cases compensating) the absence of adequate public service provision to communities. Some CSOs are strong on the advocacy and policy side, but they are the minority. The biggest challenge for CSOs in Namibia – apart from the unfavourable enabling environment, remains an insufficient income base, and particularly the lack of core (operational) funding. Building on previous support to civil society organisations and in full synergy and complementarity with other ongoing EU programmes and the strategic objectives outlined in the 2021-2024 Roadmap for Engagement with Civil Society, the EU’s support to civil society organisation should aim at:

- Strengthening the capacities and qualifications of CSOs for an enhanced public engagement, advocacy and policy dialogue, including research capacities
- Needs and capacity assessment of Local Authorities, followed by capacity development and training for local authorities (across the sectors covered by the MIP)
- Supporting and capacitating relevant CSOs to fulfil their watchdog and public education function, particularly with regards to anti-corruption
- Strengthening the capacity of CSOs to raise funds, particularly with the private sector and/or through social entrepreneurship and/or fundraising training and to engage in meaningful PPPs
- Promoting knowledge dissemination, networking and mentoring opportunities for CSOs / Support the coordination efforts of CSOs to be able to speak with one voice by supporting CSO platforms/ CSO coordination organisations
- Supporting actions aiming at fostering collaboration between the focal sectors’ project holders and CSOs, including private sector’s organizations;
- Supporting CSOs to promote environmental and climate awareness
- Supporting private sector associations (local and potentially European Business Organisations) in advocacy in raising their voice in a strongly state-run economic system aiming at the improvement of the business environment (e.g., in key regulatory areas such as public procurement, intellectual property rights and economic governance).

#### **3.2. Cooperation facility**

Namibia’s status as an Upper-Middle income country and the need to further develop a strong partnership in a range of topics calls for a well-endowed cooperation facility (CF). It serves to

accommodate the European Union and Namibia’s interest and topics which go beyond the proposed priority areas. It is envisaged to support the following:

- Supporting **short-term capacity development and institutional set up and support**, through specific technical assistance and other modalities of partnership, such as TAIEX and Twinning (e.g., for Access to Information).
- Activities supporting further advancement of EU-SADC EPA implementation, in complementarity with regional programming.
- Support to further development of **EU-Namibia Partnership**, e.g., to foster a conducive trade and investment climate, and specific interventions on the initiative of the EU.
- Supporting **policy dialogues**: events, conferences, studies, policy analysis, exchange platforms to support sector dialogues leading to policy reforms and engagement with governments and other stakeholders.
- Organisation of **Economic Diplomacy** activities and dialogues, including on the Economic **Partnership Agreement** (potentially also involving European Business Organisations)
- **Visibility actions** on EU cooperation and **public diplomacy** specific interventions to promote EU policies as well as its multilateral agenda in the partner country.
- **Specific studies, mappings, etc. including needs and capacity assessments** (e.g. of Local Authorities to support the implementation of EU funded programmes and local development).
- **Support to structured dialogue with Civil Society in key focal sectors**
- Activities aimed at **improving the business and investment climate** and reinforcing value chains with particular potential for growth and sustainable jobs.
- Promotion of **links and synergies between activities** of the national and of the regional programming.
- Reinforcement of **regional integration**, including the African Continental Free Trade Agreement.
- Support the **preparation of action documents and action programmes** of the EU’s cooperation, including via technical assistance.
- Support to multi-lateral organisations, institutes and bodies supporting EU-Namibia cooperation as per government needs and requests (e.g. International Women Peace Centre).

#### 4. Financial overview

Although the duration of this MIP is seven years, the indicative allocations for Namibia and for each of the priority areas and support measures laid down in the table below are provided for the 2021-2024 period only. The indicative allocations for 2025-2027, as well as the possible modification of other substantial elements of this MIP, will be subject to a decision by the EU. This decision should be preceded by a review of the implementation of this MIP, which should include a dialogue with the authorities and other stakeholders of Namibia.

<i>Financial overview for the period 2021-2024</i>		
Foundational Skills / Education	EUR 16 million	43% of total
Inclusive Green Growth	EUR 10,25 million	28% of total
Good Governance and Gender Equality	EUR 2,5 million	7% of total

Support measures	EUR 8,25 million	22% of total
<b><i>TOTAL for initial period*</i></b>	<b><i>EUR 37 million</i></b>	<b><i>100%</i></b>

*\* Subject to its confirmation through the implementation phase, it is expected that out of the total of EUR 37 million [1<sup>st</sup> period], an indicative amount of EUR 7 million may be used between 2021 and 2024 to provision EFSD+ guarantee operations across all priority areas.*

## Attachment 1: Intervention framework

<b>Priority area 1 : Foundational Skills</b>		
<b>Strategic objective:</b> To contribute to a well-educated and skilled society in Namibia able to play an active role in the social and economic development of the country by improving cognitive, linguistic, social and emotional development of all children entering primary education		
<b>Specific objective 1:</b> To improve equitable and inclusive access to quality Early Childhood Development (ECD) and Pre-primary Education (PPE) through strengthening of system delivery capacity		
Expected Results	Indicators	Baseline & targets <sup>19</sup>
1. Improved equitable access to ECD and PPE	a) % of children between the ages of 5-6 years old having successfully completed 1 year of pre-primary education before starting Grade 1 (disaggregated by sex and region); b) % of children 0-4 years old enrolled in ECD centres (disaggregated by sex and region);	TBC
2. Improved IECD service delivery quality	a) % of learners who are repeating Grade 1 (y-1 cohort); b) Ratio of qualified Educates / learners in ECD centres	TBC
3. Improved ECD and PPE institutional management	a) Annual EMIS and ECD-MIS reports published with complete and sound ECD and Pre-primary data b) # of ECD centres assessed and registered;	TBC
4. Improved awareness and knowledge on the importance of ECD	a) Proportion of children aged 36-59 months who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being, by sex b) % of general budget allocated to ECD and Pre-primary programmes	TBC
5. Improved community and parenting participation in ECD centres and ECD service delivery	a) Number of parents and community members trained on the importance of ECD and child nurturing practices with EU support; b) Number of Educates / caregivers trained on the revised ECD Curriculum with EU support	TBC

<sup>19</sup> Consultations with national authorities to be concluded during formulation.

<b>Priority area 2: Inclusive Green Growth</b>		
<b>Strategic objective: Contribute to a greener, more resilient and inclusive long-term solutions for Namibia's economic recovery</b>		
<b>Specific objective 2.1: An increased share of renewable energies in the energy mix will support a stronger and greener economic recovery</b>		
Expected Results	Indicators	Baseline & targets
1. The consumption of renewable energy in Namibia's energy mix is increased	a) Renewable energy generation capacity installed (MW) with EU support	a) 0 to at least 50 MW
	b) Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions avoided (CO <sub>2</sub> eq) with EU support	b) 0 to at least 49.79 tCO <sub>2</sub> e per year
2. The access to energy is increased, especially in rural areas	a) Number of individuals with access to electricity with EU support through a) new access b) improved access	a) 0 to at least tbc
3. The storage capacity is increased	a) Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions avoided (CO <sub>2</sub> eq) with EU support	a) 0 to at least 49.79 tCO <sub>2</sub> e per year
<b>Specific objective 2.2: Supporting a more inclusive water supply and sanitation will improve the livelihoods in rural and urban communities.</b>		
1. Rural and urban water infrastructure is developed to allow access to clean water for all, while promoting water use efficiency	a) Number of individuals with access to improved drinking water with EU support (disaggregated by sex)	a) 0 to at least 30,000
2. Residents of informal settlements are educated on good sanitation practices and some key sanitation facilities have been developed?	a) Number of households in informal settlements having access to basic sanitation facilities with EU support	a) 0 to at least 30,000
	a) Number of individuals receiving training on good sanitation practices with EU support (disaggregated by sex)	a) 0 to at least 30,000
<b>Specific objective 2.3: Adapting practices and supporting conservation initiatives will make Namibia more resilient to climate change, enhance biodiversity conservation and improve livelihoods</b>		
1. The rural communities, including conservancies, have adapted climate resilient agricultural production practices.	a) Agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable management practices have been introduced with EU support (ha)	a) 0 to at least 15 000 ha
2. Sustainable sources of income for conservancy communities are increased to foster social progress.	b) Number of jobs supported/sustained by the EU, disaggregated for green jobs (disaggregated by sex)	b) 0 to at least 10,000 people
3. Sustainable economic activities and jobs are promoted through biodiversity conservation.	c) Areas of terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems under a) protection, b) sustainable management with EU support(ha)	c) 0 to at least 15 000 ha

<b>Priority area 3: Good Governance and Gender Equality</b>		
<b>Strategic objectives :</b>		
<b>Contribute to Improved trust in representative democracy</b>		
<b>Specific objective 3.1: A more effective, accessible and transparent Parliament will strengthen Namibia's democracy</b>		
<b>Expected Results</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Baseline &amp; targets</b>
1. Improved transparency and accountability of democratic institutions, including oversight by the parliament and civil society (EURF)	a) Country score according to the International Budget Partnership's Open Budget Index (Score) (EURF)	a) Baseline (2019 <sup>20</sup> ), Target: to be established by the action
2. Improved effectiveness of Parliamentary functions (EURF)	a) Extent to which parliament reaches out to and interacts with citizens, civil society and media (EURF) b) Extent of Parliament's involvement in the budget cycle  c) Extent to which information technology and information management systems are available and used by the parliament and contributes to effectiveness (EURF)	a) TBC b) TBC c) TBC
<b>Specific objective 3.2: A more effective implementation of anti-corruption measures will foster efficient and accountable institutions</b>		
1. Enhanced capacity of oversight bodies, including parliament and supreme audit authorities (EURF)	a) Number of participants in training provided to oversight bodies, supreme audit authorities, parliamentary members, parliament staff showing improved knowledge of fighting corruption	a) Baseline: 0 / Target: TBC
2. Contribution to the Implementation of the Second National Anti-Corruption Strategy & Action Plan (2021–2025) <sup>21</sup>	b) Number of ACC priorities implemented with EU support c) Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a	b) Baseline: 0 / Target: 4 <sup>22</sup> c) TBC

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.internationalbudget.org/open-budget-survey/country-results/2019/namibia>

<sup>21</sup> Currently at consultation and drafting stage level with no intervention framework developed. Performance indicators, baselines and targets missing.

<https://acc.gov.na/documents/31390/31530/Updated+Proposed+NACSAP+Namibia+2021-2025+21+April.pdf/fc5b30bf-6d5c-c24a-e586-22ca3b96bd5c>

<sup>22</sup> Indicative at this point. To be discussed with the ACC and other relevant government interlocutors during formulation.

3. Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms (SDG)	bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials, during the previous 12 months (SDG) (complementary indicators may be the annual Transparency International Corruption Perception Index and Afrobarometer on corruption)	
<b>Specific objective 3.3 : The implementation by the Ministry of Gender and Child Welfare of the Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Action Plan will reduce its prevalence in Namibia’s society</b>		
1. Strengthened capacity of first responders to provide care and support to GBV survivors	Most indicators, baselines and targets as per GBV Action Plan <sup>23</sup> a) # of health workers trained to provide post GBV care	a) Baseline:42 Target : 390
2. Strengthened procedures and infrastructure for improved service provision to GBV survivors	a) # of GBV survivors provided with shelter	a) Baseline: 63 Target : 470
	b) of GBVPU’s renovated and/or refurbished	b) Baseline: 0 Target: 7
3. Strengthened community networks for GBV prevention and response	a) # Number of trained community volunteers actively involved in GBV prevention and response  b) Number of individuals benefitting from EU-funded programmes to counter sexual and gender-based violence (EURF)	a) Baseline: 0 Target : 370  b) Baseline: TBC Target: TBC
4. Strengthened legal framework to prevent GBV	a) Number of government policies developed or revised with civil society organisation participation through EU support (EURF)	a) Baseline: 0 Target: 3

<sup>23</sup> Most indicators as per National Combatting GBV action plan, tentative at this stage.

**Attachment 2: Donor matrix**

Support to NDP 5 in Million Euros

Development partners	Agriculture and Integrated Rural Development	Natural Resource Management (including CBNRM, Conservation and Water, Sanitation)	Sustainable Economic Development	Covid-19 special measures (various sectors)	Health	Education	Gender, Youth and Sports	Roads, Public Works & Transport	Sustainable and inclusive urban development	Energy	Economic Governance	Democratic Governance	Public Administration	
EU	20	FA	FA	A	2	-	36	A	-	A	FA	A	6	A
Germany	A	178	11	16	48	A	A	A	A <sup>24</sup>	12	A	A	A	7
EIB	-	-	5	5	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-
Finland	0,1	2,1	-	0,1	-	-	-	0,1	-	-	2,5	-	0,1	FA
JICA	A	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	76	-	-	-	-	-
EIB	-	-	5	5	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-
China	12	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-
UN Agencies	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Global Fund	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Note: A = active, FA = future active engagement.

<sup>24</sup> Phasing out

<sup>25</sup> New focal sector