Government of the Republic of Namibia
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Namibia in Facts and Figures

- Located on western side of southern African Continent
- Surface Area: 824,000 km²
- 13 Ethnic cultures (rich cultural diversity)
- Population 2.06 Million
- 37.9% of population live in urban areas and 62.1% in rural areas
- Gini coefficient stands at 0.58
- GDP per capita income is N$ 16,895 i.e. US$ 2,047 and €1520
- Political stable and Good Governance
- Driest Country in Southern Africa – some areas prone to occasional flooding. E.g. Caprivi and northern regions.
- Comparative Advantages: Vast open spaces, diverse wildlife, biodiversity, minerals and meat and fish products
- Serves as gateway to landlocked neighboring countries, i.e. Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana.
- Member of UN, AU, ILO, SADC, SACU, and supported by Int. and Regional bodies.
## Namibia in Facts and Figures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gross National Income</strong></td>
<td>74,989 Mil</td>
<td>78,403 Mil</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gross National Disposable Income</strong></td>
<td>85,602 Mil</td>
<td>87,431 Mil</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Final Consumption GDP</strong></td>
<td>65,234 Mil</td>
<td>69,073 Mil</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Inflation Rate</strong></td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GDP Growth Rate</strong></td>
<td>-0.4%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
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Historical Overview

• The system used is Pay as You Go
• Current workforce subsidize current retirees
• Pre Independence Era – Colonization Apartheid
• Legislative framework skewed
• Private Pension for whites only up to 1971
• Social Pensions Act, Act 37 of 1973
• Children’s Act, Act 33 of 1960
• Child Status Act of 2006
• Means Tested Grants
• Gross inequalities in Grants and Services
  • N$ 382 Whites,
  • N$ 135 Coloureds
  • N$55 for rest (Bantustan)
Historical Overview

- 1990 Attainment of Independence with constitutional rights Article 95 (f)
- 1992 Introduced National Pensions Act
- 1994 All Grants Equalized to N$ 135
- Sub economic housing units for whites only—payment of 4% of income at retirement age 60
- 1982 Remission of Rent program was introduced where the municipal bills of only those elderly/ needy people as identified by the authority living in police zones benefited
  - a percentage as determined was paid
- Discontinued in 1997 due to gross inequality
Historical Overview

• Government introduced policy to grow grants with increase of GDP, providing enough Fiscal space and at the rate recorded (0.5%)
• Aligned with the National Development Plan
• In 1996 the grant increased to N$ 160
• In 2000 the grant increased to N$ 200
• In 2002 the grant increased to N$ 250
• In 2004 the grant increased to N$ 300
• In 2006 the grant increased to N$ 370
• In 2008 the grant increased to N$ 450
• In 2010 the grant increased to N$ 500
• In 2012 the grant increased to N$ 550
• In 2013 the grant increased to N$ 600
• In 2015 the grant increased to N$ 1 000
• In 2016 the grant increased to N$ 1 100
Legislative Framework

- **Article 95 (f) of Constitution**
  
  “the State shall ensure that senior citizens are entitled to and shall receive a regular pension, adequate for the maintenance of a decent standard of living and the enjoyment of social and cultural opportunities”.

- **NATIONAL PENSIONS ACT (10 of 1992)**
  
  *To provide for national pensions to be paid to aged, blind and disabled persons and to provide for matters incidental thereto.*
Social Welfare/ Protection Programs

- Old Age Grant
- Disability Grant
- Funeral Benefit
Old Age Pension (OAP)

• Amount:
  – N$1 100 per month

• Requirements:
  – 60 years +
  – Namibian citizenship / permanent residents if not born in Namibia
  – Applicant must reside in Namibia
  – Funeral benefits for beneficiary Old Age and Disability to in kind N$3 000.00
• **Documents needed from applicant (OAP):**

**Certified copies:**

- *Birth certificate*
- *ID document*
- *Marriage certificate, when applicant is a married woman*

**Interim only**

- If not then
  - Baptismal card
- If not then
  - Proof of ID application
- If not then
  - Certificate by church/traditional leaders

- *Namibian citizenship / permanent residents if not born in Namibia*
Disability Grant (DG)

- **Amount:**
  - N$1 100 per month

- **Requirements:**
  - 16 years or above and medically diagnosed by a State doctor as being temporarily or permanently disabled (blind people included)
  - Persons with full-blown AIDS as certified by a medical doctor (CD4 count of less than 200)
  - Namibian citizenship / permanent residents if not born in Namibia
  - Applicant must reside in Namibia
• Documents needed from applicant (DG):

**Certified copies:**

- * Birth certificate
- * ID documents
- * Marriage certificate, when applicant is a married woman
- * Medical Report by State doctor

**Interim only**

- If not then Baptismal card
- If not then Proof of ID application
- If not then Certificate by church/traditional leaders

* Namibian citizenship / permanent residents if not born in Namibia
Funeral Benefit

• Premium of N$ 16.25 per person insured is paid monthly to the Insurance Company
• Value:
  – N$3 000
• Requirements:
  – Must be a recipient of Old Age or Disability Grant
• The Package include:
  – A standard Citizen Coffin
  – A Grave site (nominal cost)
  – Programme for the Funeral Service
  – Burial & Preparation Services
  – Transport within Regions
  – The Undertaker will guide and help you through the whole process
• **Documents needed from applicant (FB):**

  *Certified copies:*

  * ID document of applicant

  * Death Certificate of beneficiary

  * ID of beneficiary

  * Pension Card Beneficiary
Cash Payout System

- Recipient gets a Smart Card (Includes the recipient fingerprint, photo and ID number as well as a history of payouts)
- Payment by biometric verification process
- The recipient can authorize one person (Procurator), who can collect the grant on the recipient’s behalf
- The money needs to be collected at least every 3 months or else the payout is stopped
Post Office

• Recipient may choose to receive direct payment via RIPOSTE system over the counter
• Recipient gets a Smart Card (Includes the recipient pin code, photo and ID number as well as a history of payouts) enhance purchases at selected retail stores
• The recipient can authorize one person (Procurator), who can collect the grant on the recipient’s behalf
• The money needs to be collected at least every 3 months or else the payout is stopped
Banks

- Direct transfer to beneficiary’s bank account on a monthly basis
- The money needs to be collected at least every 3 months or else the payout is stopped
Institution

- One single cheque printed for all beneficiaries residing or receiving care giving service at institutions
- Head of institution responsible for transferring payment to each individual
- The money needs to be collected at least every 3 months or else the payout is stopped
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>OLD AGE Grants</th>
<th>Disability Grants</th>
<th>Funeral</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>143,007</td>
<td>27,312</td>
<td>170,319</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>147,756</td>
<td>29,838</td>
<td>177,594</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>152,272</td>
<td>31,663</td>
<td>183,935</td>
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Initiatives

• Registration of Ovatue people in Epupa area since 2008
• Registration of San people in Tsintsabis, Tsumkwe and Gam
• Registration of the San people in Omauni Ohangwena Region.
• Establishment of more pay points in designated areas
• Coordinated activities with Ministry of Home Affairs to register for national documents
• Involve in plan of OPM for indigenous people
Challenges

- Fragmented Social Welfare/Protection services
- Duplication/mandate shifted yet activity still carried out at old entity
- Perceptions about social welfare/protection - significance
- Dissolution - staff members
- Policy legal and regulatory framework
- Funding
- Transport/reaching the isolated
Conclusion

• Taking people to the top is what good leaders do. Lifting people to a new level is a requirement for effective leadership.

• If you are alone, that means nobody is following you and if nobody is following you, you are not leading.

• “There is only one thing more painful than learning from experience, and that is not learning from experience”. (Archibald MacLeish, Poet)
Together we can make a difference