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Namibia's 216-point climate plan

Environment minister discusses commitment at COP31 in Antalya, Türkiye

From hydrogen-powered trains and electric vehicles to desalination, renewable energy and climate-resilient farming, Namibia has outlined 216 actions across 13 sectors and priority areas to be pursued through 2035.



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COVER STORY

Inside Namibia's 216-point climate plan

Namibia has outlined 216 climate actions aimed at transforming electricity generation, transport, agriculture, water supply, public health and industrial production by 2035, in a programme that includes hydrogen-powered trains, electric vehicles, desalination plants and climate-resilient farming.



The proposals form part of Namibia's Third Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0), a 133-page climate plan launched in September 2026 and submitted to the United Nations climate secretariat on 28 October.

The document identifies 72 measures and 216 actions across 13 sectors and priority areas, with 2030 serving as an interim milestone and 2035 as the principal target year.

Although prepared under the Paris Agreement, the programme extends beyond emissions reduction into national development, including electricity security,



industrial production, transport infrastructure, food security and healthcare.

Speaking at COP31 in Antalya, Türkiye, on 10 November, environment minister Indileni Daniel said Namibia intended to use its renewable energy resources to diversify the economy and create employment.

"We are determined to harness these assets responsibly to advance the energy transition and to diversify our economy, build new industries and create opportunities for our people," Daniel said.

Transport is among the sectors facing substantial changes under the plan.

The NDC proposes that electric and hybrid vehicles account for 15% of new light-vehicle imports by 2030, supported by charging infrastructure and fiscal incentives.

Rail transport is also included, with a proposed hydrogen-diesel locomotive pilot on the Walvis Bay–Windhoek route intended to test whether the technology could eventually be introduced more widely.

Any conversion of the existing locomotive fleet would depend on the results of the trials.

The plan further identifies a target of 50% sustainable fuel blending for domestic aviation by 2030, alongside the exploration of hydrogen, ammonia and biofuels for maritime transport.

At Walvis Bay and Lüderitz, proposed interventions include shore-side electricity supplies for vessels and solar generation at port facilities to reduce emissions.

Electricity and industrial production

Energy accounts for 15 measures and 57 actions, making it the largest emissions-reduction component by number of actions.

The programme prioritises solar and wind generation, electricity storage, transmission infrastructure and energy efficiency, while identifying an ambition to reduce Namibia's dependence on imported electricity to below 30% by 2030.

It also links renewable energy development to the establishment of industries capable of manufacturing products using cleaner electricity.

Projects identified include Hylron's Oshivela green-iron facility, Cleanergy's hydrogen operations near Walvis Bay and proposed green ammonia developments associated with Hyphen Hydrogen Energy, Zhero Molecules and the Dâures Green Hydrogen Village.

Hylron's initial production objective is approximately 15,000 tonnes of direct reduced iron annually, while Hyphen's proposed development near Lüderitz envisages producing about two million tonnes of green ammonia a year.

These developments remain at different stages, ranging from demonstration operations to major proposed investments.

The NDC also considers nuclear electricity generation as a longer-term option, proposing feasibility studies, regulatory development and institutional preparations. It does not, however, establish an approved nuclear power station project.



Desalination and water security

Water security is another major priority, with the plan proposing a National Water Master Plan, rehabilitation of existing infrastructure and expanded alternative water supplies.

Desalination features prominently, including coastal facilities treating seawater and inland systems capable of processing saline groundwater.

The programme identifies additional desalination capacity as an implementation objective, with NamWater and the ministry responsible for water expected to play leading roles.

It also refers to the Erongo SUNAM desalination initiative, for which approximately N$2.1 billion was being mobilised when the document was prepared.

Other proposed interventions include wastewater recycling, rainwater harvesting, improved water-resource management and restoration of riverbank protection zones.

Agriculture and food security account for 11 adaptation measures and 24 actions, while agriculture, forestry and other land use contribute another four emissions-reduction measures and 20 actions.

The programme responds to recurring droughts, declining grazing conditions and pressure on livestock and crop production.

Proposals include developing climate-resilient livestock, improving animal disease prevention and treatment, establishing fodder banks and strengthening veterinary infrastructure.

The NDC also envisages improved irrigation, agricultural technologies and access to production inputs.

Land restoration is another priority, with measures addressing bush encroachment, soil degradation, uncontrolled fires and deteriorating rangelands.

Urban agriculture is included as a means of improving food security in growing settlements.

Health, settlements and coastal protection

The plan identifies rising temperatures, water shortages, flooding and changing disease patterns as threats requiring stronger public health systems.

Proposed interventions include climate-resilient health facilities, improved disease surveillance, early-warning systems and stronger malaria and other vector-borne disease control.

A National Health Adaptation Plan is envisaged to guide preparations for climate-related health risks and protect essential healthcare services during emergencies.

Urban settlements and infrastructure are also covered, particularly measures to reduce flood exposure and strengthen protection against extreme weather.

Coastal communities face additional risks from sea-level rise and erosion, prompting proposals to protect settlements, economic infrastructure and marine ecosystems.

The programme further addresses fisheries, aquaculture and mariculture, recognising their importance to employment, exports and food security.

Of the 216 actions, 106 relate to emissions reduction and 110 to adaptation.

Emissions reduction covers energy, agriculture and land use, industrial processes and waste, while adaptation includes water, agriculture, health, biodiversity, fisheries, infrastructure, coastal protection and urban settlements.

"Our people are already experiencing the consequences of a changing climate through recurring droughts, floods, rising temperatures and pressure on water, food systems and livelihoods," Daniel said.

The NDC estimates implementation costs at approximately US$14.07 billion, with substantial financing, technology and capacity-building support expected from international partners.

An updated implementation strategy is intended to translate the commitments into projects, assign responsibilities and establish systems for monitoring progress.

At COP31, Daniel urged Namibia's delegation to pursue practical partnerships rather than allowing discussions to end without concrete commitments.

"We have not travelled from Namibia to Antalya to merely participate in discussions. We are here to build partnerships and advance practical cooperation," she said.

She also instructed delegates to document commitments, identify responsible officials and agree on follow-up arrangements before leaving Antalya.

"Where possible, record the commitments made, identify responsible focal points and agree on follow-up actions before leaving Antalya," Daniel said.

The scale of the programme means its implementation will depend on financing, institutional coordination and the ability to convert the 216 proposed actions into functioning infrastructure, industries and public services before 2035.



NamPower braces for 40% surge in electricity demand by 2033

Namibia's electricity demand is projected to increase by about 40% between 2027 and 2033, placing growing pressure on the country's power generation and transmission infrastructure as NamPower prepares to expand domestic electricity production and reduce dependence on imports.

The national power utility expects annual electricity demand to rise from approximately 4,600 gigawatt-hours (GWh) in 2027 to 6,500 GWh by 2033, according to its medium-case forecast outlined in a presentation titled Powering Namibia's Energy Transition.

The projected increase of 1,900 GWh comes as Namibia continues to import approximately 47% of its electricity, exposing the country to regional supply conditions and electricity price fluctuations.

NamPower's presentation outlines the generation, storage and transmission investments required to meet growing electricity demand, accommodate industrial expansion and strengthen the reliability of the national grid.

The utility currently has approximately 565 megawatts (MW) of installed generation capacity against maximum electricity demand of about 700 MW.

Its electricity supply portfolio comprises 2,176 GWh from its own generation, representing approximately 45% of electricity supplied, and 2,234 GWh from import power purchase agreements, accounting for another 46%.

Independent power producers operating under renewable energy feed-in tariff arrangements and other agreements contribute 357 GWh, or approximately 8%, while purchases from the Southern African Power Pool account for the remaining 1%.

Despite its dependence on imported electricity, NamPower reports transmission system



availability of 99.8%.

The utility identifies rising industrial consumption, variable renewable energy production, seasonal hydropower availability and transmission constraints as major challenges.

Increasing solar generation also presents a balancing problem, with electricity surpluses possible during daylight hours while demand remains high in the evenings.

NamPower has set strategic objectives of achieving 80% electricity self-sufficiency by 2028 and increasing the renewable energy share to 70% by 2030.

N$1.52 billion solar investment

Among the projects under construction is the 100 MW Rosh Pinah solar photovoltaic plant in the //Kharas Region, with an engineering, procurement and construction contract valued at N$1.52 billion.

According to NamPower, the plant is expected to begin commercial operations in April 2027, with financing provided through Germany's KfW Development Bank and NamPower.

The project is being developed by a joint venture involving China Jiangxi International Economic and Technical Cooperation Company and Chint New Energy Development.

Another major investment is the 40 MW Otjikoto biomass power project, which will generate electricity using wood chips harvested from encroacher bush species.

The plant is designed to produce approximately 300 GWh annually and is expected to become operational during the fourth quarter of 2027.

NamPower identifies potential financing of up to €100 million from the

French Development Agency, alongside €25 million from the Mitigation Action Facility, €3 million from the French Fund for Global Environment and N$400 million from the Namibian government.

The biomass project is expected to create 300 construction jobs, 97 operational positions and at least 1,115 jobs associated with harvesting activities.

Battery storage expansion

Electricity storage is another important component of NamPower's strategy as the utility seeks to accommodate more renewable energy without compromising supply reliability.

The 51 MW Omburu battery energy storage system, with a storage capacity of 51 megawatt-hours, is scheduled to begin commercial operations in December 2026.

The project is supported by a €20 million grant from KfW, while NamPower is contributing approximately N$100 million towards technical assistance, interconnection and tax-related costs.

The system is intended to manage fluctuations in electricity supply and improve the integration of renewable generation into the national grid.

Further storage development includes the proposed 45 MW Lithops battery system, designed to provide two hours of storage and scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2028.

NamPower also identifies opportunities for more than 150 MW of standalone and behind-the-meter battery storage, allowing surplus daytime solar electricity to be used during periods of higher evening demand.

The utility's longer-term generation pipeline includes the proposed 430 MW Baynes hydropower project, a



300 MW wind development and more than 250 MW of flexible liquefied natural gas or gas-fired generation.

These remain strategic proposals rather than projects with confirmed construction commitments.

NamPower also identifies the possible conversion of the Van Eck power station into a 75 MW energy storage facility.

Transmission infrastructure

Expanding electricity generation will require corresponding investment in transmission infrastructure to move power from generation sites to consumers.

NamPower is planning a 270-kilometre, 400-kilovolt transmission line between Omatando near Ongwediva and Otjikoto near Tsumeb to strengthen electricity transfer between northern Namibia and the central grid.

The proposed Angola–Namibia Transmission Interconnector, known as ANNA, would establish a new electricity trading corridor between Kunene in Namibia and Cahama in Angola.

The project includes a 160-kilometre, 400-kilovolt transmission line, approximately 30 kilometres of which would be located in Namibia.

NamPower says the interconnector would allow electricity imports when required while creating opportunities to export surplus generation.

Another major investment involves constructing a second 400-kilovolt circuit between Auas near Windhoek and Kokerboom near Keetmanshoop.

The approximately 460-kilometre project is targeted for completion in 2028 and is intended to strengthen electricity supply to southern Namibia while accommodating additional renewable energy generation.

The second circuit would also reduce dependence on a single transmission line and create additional capacity for electricity from developments such as Rosh Pinah solar and Diaz wind.

Financing and future demand

NamPower identifies international partnerships and concessional financing as important to implementing its expansion programme.

The utility reports approximately N$900 million in grant funding associated with battery storage and biomass developments, which it says has helped reduce the cost and risks of introducing new technologies.

Its medium-case forecast indicates that annual electricity consumption could exceed 7,000 GWh by 2050, suggesting that the need for additional generation and transmission capacity will extend well beyond the current investment programme.

The immediate challenge is to bring new electricity generation, storage and transmission infrastructure into operation quickly enough to meet rising demand while reducing exposure to imported power.

Although several projects have entered construction or have scheduled commissioning dates, the timing, financing and development of the larger strategic investments will determine how much additional electricity capacity becomes available over the coming years.

COP31

Namibia's hydrogen ambitions turn towards industrial production

Namibia's green hydrogen ambitions are extending into iron manufacturing, ammonia production and heavy transport, as emerging projects demonstrate how the country could use renewable energy to develop industrial products rather than concentrate exclusively on hydrogen exports.

The shift towards industrial applications is taking shape through Hylron's Oshivela green-iron facility, the CMB. Tech-linked hydrogen development near Walvis Bay and larger proposed projects intended to manufacture ammonia and other hydrogen-derived products.

These developments are unfolding alongside a broader international effort to ensure that the transition to cleaner energy also creates manufacturing opportunities, particularly in developing economies.

Speaking during a presentation on the Global Green Industrialisation Agenda at COP31 in Antalya, Türkiye, on 13 November, United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) energy transition specialist Dr Christopher Hope outlined an international approach that links industrial development with the transition to lower-carbon production.

Hope identified three interconnected dimensions of green industrialisation: reducing emissions from existing industries such as steel and cement, expanding the manufacture of clean-



energy technologies, and ensuring that future industrial growth is environmentally sustainable.

His presentation addressed UNIDO's global industrialisation agenda rather than announcing a new Namibian government policy. However, the industrial applications he discussed are relevant to Namibia's efforts to establish manufacturing activities around its renewable energy and green hydrogen resources.

At the centre of those ambitions is the question of how hydrogen will be used. It can be exported as an energy product, converted into commodities such as ammonia, or used locally in industrial processes that manufacture products for domestic and international markets.

Green iron enters the picture

Hylron's Oshivela facility in the Erongo Region is one of Namibia's most tangible examples of hydrogen being used in industrial production.

The facility, inaugurated in April 2025, uses green hydrogen in the direct reduction of iron ore, replacing the coal traditionally used in the process.

Its initial planned production capacity is approximately 15,000 tonnes of green iron annually, with longer-term ambitions to expand production to as much as one million tonnes a year.

The project connects renewable electricity generation with mineral processing and could allow Namibia to participate in international markets for lower-carbon iron and steel products.

That possibility received further attention on 10 November 2026, when Mercedes-Benz and Hylron announced an agreement to examine industrial-scale green-iron production for automotive manufacturing.

The agreement builds on earlier technical work involving hydrogen-based iron production and its potential use in vehicle components.

It is not a commercial supply contract, and the proposed expansion remains subject to further technical and commercial assessment.

Nevertheless, the engagement illustrates how iron processed in Namibia using green hydrogen could eventually enter international automotive manufacturing supply chains.

The industrial benefits would depend partly on how much processing takes place locally. Producing direct reduced iron represents a manufacturing step, but further steelmaking and the production of finished components could still occur outside Namibia.

Hydrogen for transport

A second industrial application is emerging around Walvis Bay, where CMB.Tech and its partners have developed hydrogen production and refuelling infrastructure.

The facility is designed to demonstrate the use of renewable hydrogen in heavy transport and related applications, including vehicles and generators.

Further applications in maritime and rail transport are also being explored.

Unlike green-iron production, where hydrogen is used as an input in mineral processing, the Walvis Bay development demonstrates its potential as a fuel for equipment and transport operations.

This creates opportunities for hydrogen production to become connected to Namibia's logistics and transport industries.

The two projects featured during the African Green Industries Summit held in Swakopmund in September 2026.

According to a review of the summit presented at COP31, delegates visited Hylron and CMB.Tech to examine practical applications of green hydrogen, renewable energy and lower-carbon industrial production.

The visits formed part of wider discussions covering manufacturing, critical minerals, electricity security, water infrastructure, transport and investment.

Ammonia production represents another major

proposed industrial use of Namibia's green hydrogen resources.

The planned Hyphen project near Lüderitz intends to use renewable electricity to produce hydrogen, which would then be combined with nitrogen to manufacture green ammonia.

The project has outlined plans to produce approximately two million tonnes of green ammonia annually, although commercial-scale production has not yet commenced.

Ammonia can be used in fertiliser manufacturing and other industrial processes. It can also be exported as a hydrogen-derived commodity.

The project therefore illustrates another aspect of Namibia's emerging industrial strategy: hydrogen can be converted into a product within the country even when the principal market for that product is overseas.

However, producing ammonia for export is different from establishing downstream industries that manufacture fertilisers or other finished products locally.

The extent of domestic value addition will depend on which production stages are developed in Namibia and which are undertaken in importing countries.

A similar distinction applies to green iron, where local processing could supply international steelmakers without necessarily establishing a complete steel manufacturing industry in Namibia.

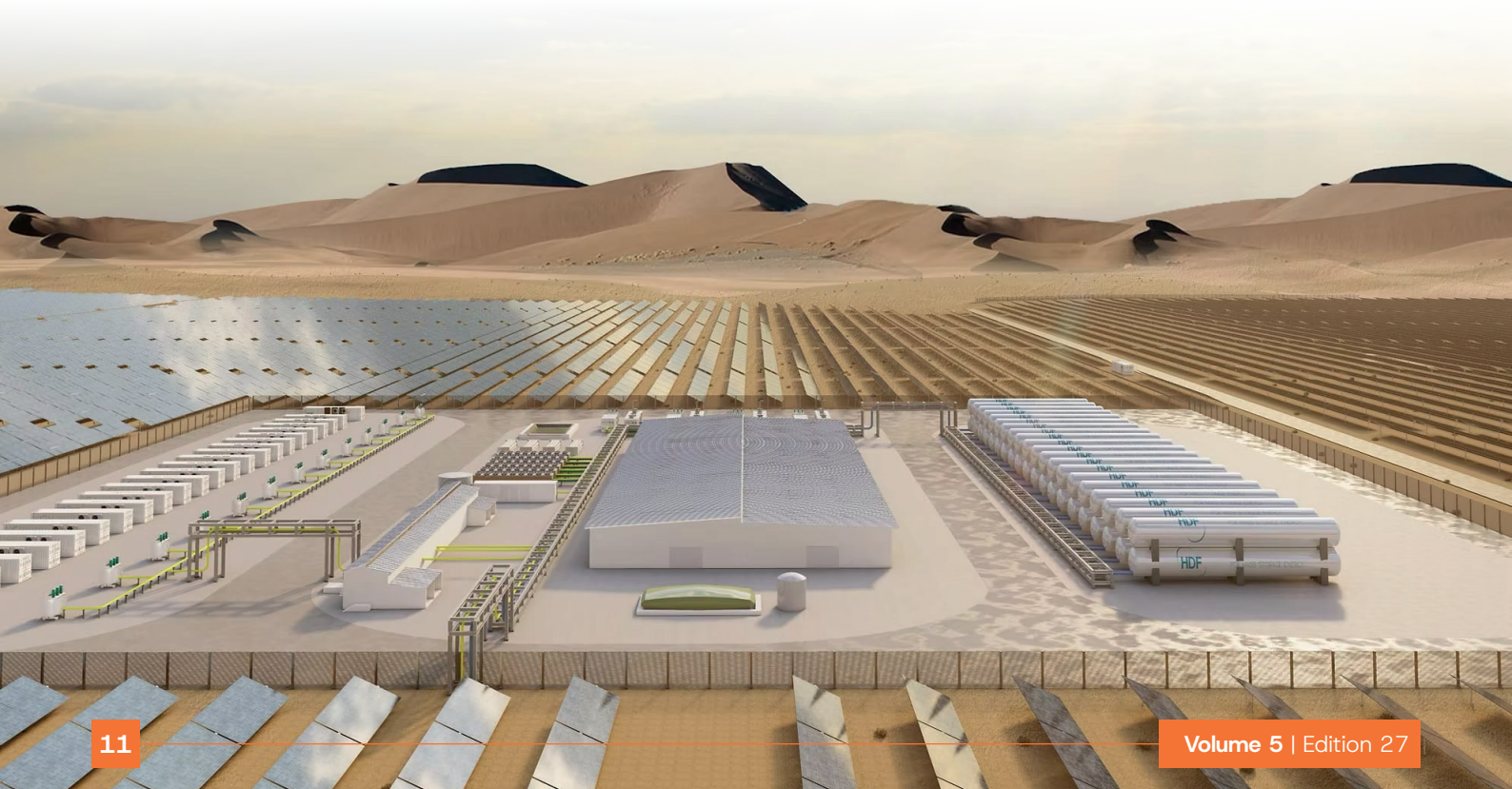
UNIDO places manufacturing at the centre

Hope's presentation at COP31 placed these industrial questions within the wider Global Green Industrialisation Agenda, developed following the Belém Declaration adopted during COP30 in Brazil.

The initiative seeks to strengthen international cooperation on industrial development, financing, technology, manufacturing and the creation of markets for lower-carbon products.

According to the presentation, existing international efforts have concentrated heavily on reducing emissions from established industries, while providing insufficient attention to manufacturing clean-energy technologies and supporting sustainable industrial growth.

The new agenda seeks to broaden that approach,



particularly for emerging markets and developing economies.

It identifies steel, cement, fertilisers, hydrogen and road transport among the sectors requiring coordinated international action.

The programme also proposes greater support for industrial policy development, investment mobilisation, technology and the establishment of markets for cleaner industrial products.

Namibia is among ten governments represented on the agenda's oversight group, which is co-chaired by Egypt and the United Kingdom.

The group will provide strategic guidance on implementation, coordinate participating institutions and help identify priorities for international cooperation.

Namibia's participation provides an opportunity to contribute to discussions about the industrial policies, financing arrangements and technologies needed to support green manufacturing.

It does not, however, constitute a financing commitment to Namibian projects or establish new domestic hydrogen-use requirements.

The industrial focus is also reflected in the African Green Industries Summit, where discussions have examined the development of sustainable Power-to-X markets.

A masterclass organised with Fraunhofer IEE and HySecunda considered the technologies, commercial arrangements and investment opportunities associated with producing hydrogen-derived products.

Power-to-X technologies use electricity to manufacture hydrogen and other fuels or industrial products, creating potential connections between renewable energy generation and manufacturing.

Although Namibia has begun demonstrating industrial applications of green hydrogen, the sector remains at different stages of development.

Hylron's Oshivela facility provides an example of hydrogen-based mineral processing, while the Walvis Bay development demonstrates its use in transport.

Larger ambitions, including expanded green-iron production and commercial-scale ammonia manufacturing, still depend on investment, infrastructure, market demand and further project development.

Namibia's Third Nationally Determined Contribution identifies green hydrogen and industrial development among the activities intended to support its climate and economic objectives.

The requirements extend beyond hydrogen production itself. Industrial projects need reliable electricity, water supplies, transport infrastructure, skilled workers and access to markets.

These challenges were among the issues examined during the September African Green Industries Summit, where discussions focused on financing, investment readiness, infrastructure requirements and policy frameworks.

The developments nevertheless show that Namibia's green hydrogen ambitions are no longer confined to establishing renewable energy generation and hydrogen production facilities.

The emerging projects are exploring how hydrogen can be used to process minerals, manufacture industrial commodities and support transport operations.

Hylron's engagement with Mercedes-Benz offers one possible connection to international manufacturing, while ammonia production and hydrogen-powered transport represent other industrial applications.

The longer-term economic significance of these developments will depend on how many industrial activities are established within Namibia, the scale at which they operate and the value they generate locally.



DBN seeks US$750m for climate projects by 2029

The Development Bank of Namibia (DBN) is seeking to mobilise US$750 million in climate financing between 2027 and 2029, including US$340 million from private investors and development finance institutions, to support renewable energy, water security, agriculture and climate-resilient infrastructure projects.

The proposed financing package, outlined in the bank's COP31 investor and partnership presentation, would combine funding from the Green Climate Fund (GCF), DBN, development finance institutions and private investors to support three climate investment programmes.

According to the presentation, DBN is proposing to mobilise US$250 million from the GCF, provide US$150 million through its own financing arrangements and attract US$240 million in private capital.

A further US$100 million would be sought from development finance institutions and other climate funds, while US$10 million is earmarked for project preparation grants, feasibility studies, environmental safeguards and transaction advisory services.

The bank is specifically seeking US$340 million from development finance institutions and private investors as part of the proposed financing structure.

The US$750 million represents a fundraising target rather than money already secured, with DBN seeking partners to help develop investment programmes, structure transactions and provide financing commitments.

The initiative follows DBN's accreditation by the GCF on 2 July 2025 as a Direct Access Entity, enabling it to submit funding proposals for medium-sized climate programmes valued between US$50 million and US$250 million.

The bank subsequently cleared its post-accreditation conditions in November 2025, allowing it to progress towards preparing investment proposals.

DBN has also secured approval for a US$1 million readiness programme covering 24 months, with implementation beginning in

July 2026.

The readiness programme is intended to strengthen the bank's institutional capacity to identify, prepare and structure climate investments that meet the GCF's financing requirements.

According to the presentation, DBN had screened expressions of interest for potential projects by September 2026 and commenced project pitching.

The next stage involves preparing investment concepts and applications for project preparation funding, before advancing suitable proposals towards financing approval.

The bank's strategy centres on three programmes intended to combine individual projects into larger investment packages capable of attracting concessional and commercial capital.

The first, Integrated Water–Food–Energy Systems (I-WAFES), will focus on water security, water reuse, climate-smart agriculture, renewable-powered water infrastructure and resilience measures for vulnerable communities.

The second, Green Energy Transition and Efficiency (GETEP), will support distributed and utility-scale renewable energy generation, electricity storage, grid

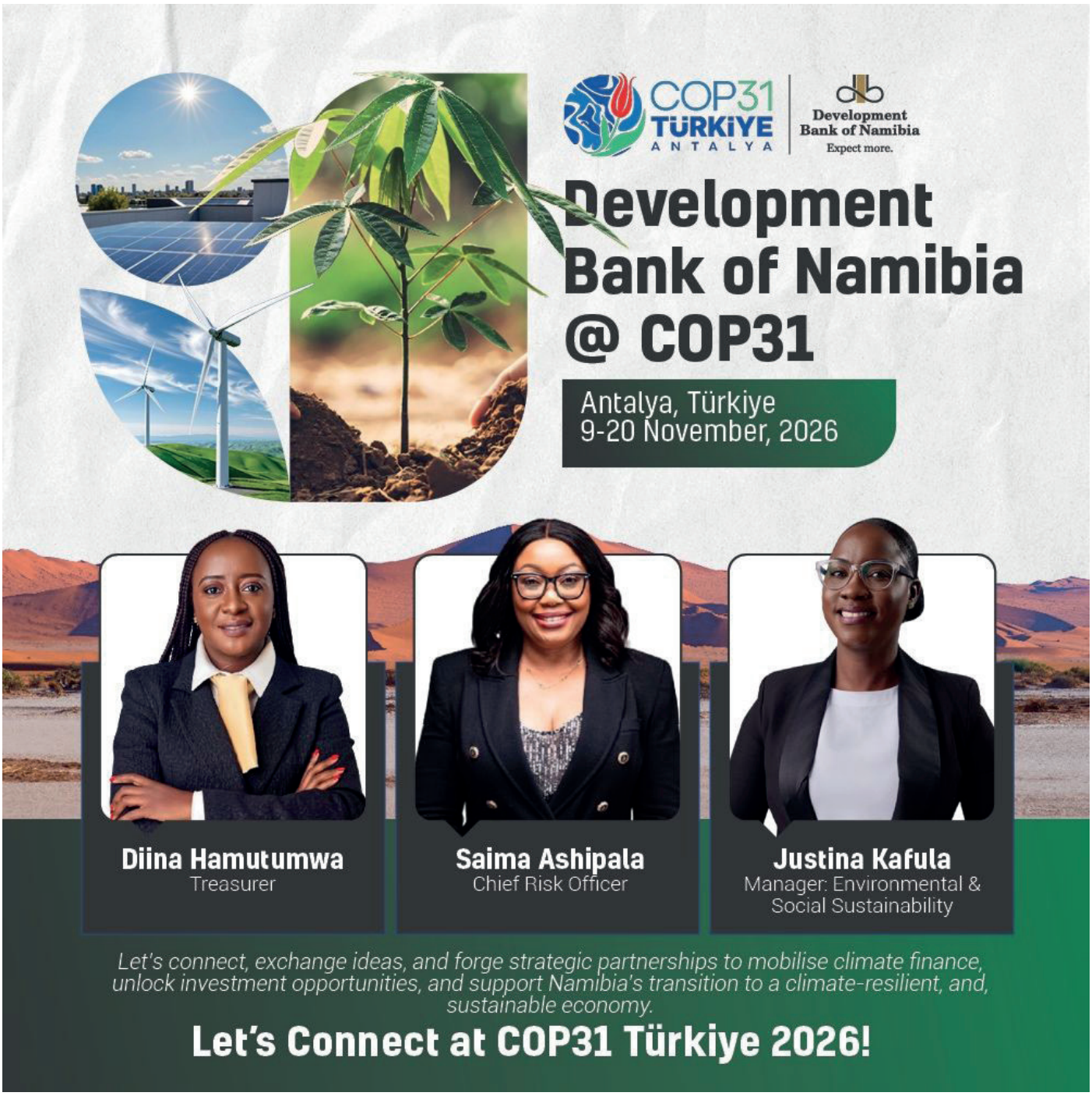


integration, energy efficiency and green industrial value chains.

The third, Climate-Resilient Sustainable Infrastructure (CRISP), will concentrate on municipal infrastructure, flood-resilient roads, wastewater management, circular economy projects and low-carbon transport.

DBN intends to structure the programmes through blended finance, combining concessional funding with commercial loans, equity, guarantees and grants.

Under the proposed



model, GCF financing could provide subordinated debt, guarantees, grants or equity, while DBN would contribute senior or parallel debt and local project structuring.

Development finance institutions would provide long-term lending, risk-sharing arrangements and technical assistance, while private investors could participate through commercial debt, equity, bonds and refinancing.

The bank believes its existing relationships with state-owned enterprises, municipalities, private developers and small and medium-sized enterprises will help identify projects suitable for climate financing.

It also intends to provide local oversight, financing arrangements, implementation support and reporting under its GCF accreditation.

The financing proposal comes as Namibia faces substantial investment requirements to meet its climate commitments.

Namibia's updated nationally determined contribution, NDC 3.0, estimates that implementing its climate commitments will require approximately US$14.07 billion by 2035, including US$6.42 billion for emissions mitigation and US$7.65 billion for climate adaptation.

Approximately 88% of the required financing is conditional on international support, illustrating the country's dependence on external funding to implement much of its climate programme.

DBN's proposed financing initiative is intended to contribute towards these requirements by mobilising international capital for projects aligned with Namibia's national development and climate priorities.

The bank's presentation identifies national objectives that include creating 30,000 green jobs by 2030, expanding renewable energy capacity to 700 megawatts and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2035.

Projects seeking financing will be expected to demonstrate measurable climate benefits, financial viability, alignment with national development priorities and the ability to attract additional investment.

DBN is also seeking partners willing to participate in project preparation, feasibility studies, environmental and social safeguards, transaction structuring and the development of financing agreements.

The bank wants prospective investors to progress from initial engagement towards indicative capital allocations, term sheets and co-financing commitments that can support applications to the GCF.

However, the presentation does not identify individual projects that have received approval under the proposed programmes, nor does it disclose signed investor commitments towards the US$750 million target.

GCF accreditation also does not constitute approval of the proposed US$250 million financing contribution, which would require separate project or programme applications and assessment.

DBN's immediate task will therefore be to convert its accreditation, project pipeline and investor engagements into financing agreements capable of supporting implementation.

The bank's proposed US$750 million mobilisation programme represents an attempt to establish a financing platform for Namibia's climate investments, with its success dependent on securing partners, preparing bankable projects and obtaining the necessary funding approvals.

COP31

Namibia cuts climate funding estimate by US$5.28bn ahead of COP31

Namibia reduced its estimated climate investment requirement by US$5.28 billion in just over a month, from US$19.35 billion in August to US$14.07 billion in September 2026, before taking its revised financing programme to the COP31 climate conference in Türkiye.

The reduction follows a period of substantial increases in Namibia's climate-financing estimates, which rose from US$5.33 billion in 2021 to US$15.065 billion in 2023, before reaching US$19.35 billion in the draft Third Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0) presented during stakeholder consultations in August.

The final NDC 3.0, launched on 25 September, puts the country's climate investment requirement at US$14.07 billion through 2035, nearly US$1 billion below the 2023 estimate but still US$8.74 billion above the figure reported in 2021.

The figures reflect successive revisions to Namibia's climate commitments, with changes in the scope, implementation periods and costing of proposed measures.

The most striking change between the August draft and the final document concerns the allocation of funding between measures intended to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions and those designed to help the country adapt to climate change.

The August draft allocated US$18.99 billion to mitigation and US$366.6 million to adaptation, according to figures reported during consultations in Otjiwarongo.

The final NDC reduced the mitigation allocation to US$6.42 billion while increasing adaptation requirements to US$7.65 billion.

This represents a reduction of approximately US$12.57 billion in estimated mitigation expenditure and an increase of about US$7.28 billion in adaptation costs.



The available information does not establish whether the changes resulted from revised project costs, changes to the measures included in the programme or adjustments to the costing methodology.

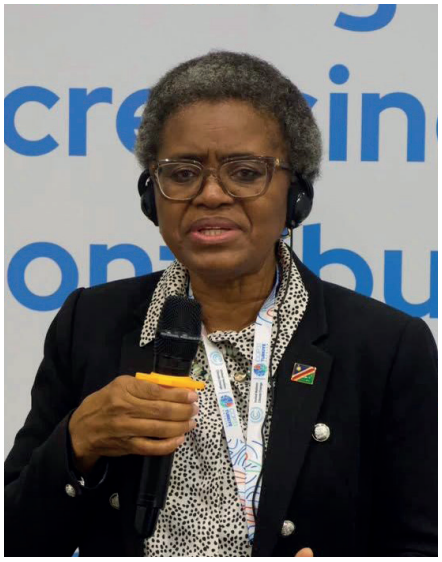
Consequently, the US$5.28 billion reduction cannot be interpreted as a saving on an unchanged programme.

Despite the lower estimate, Namibia's dependence on international support remains substantial.

The final NDC classifies approximately US$12.42 billion, or 88% of its total implementation requirement, as conditional on international climate finance, technology transfer and capacity-building assistance.

The remaining US$1.66 billion, representing approximately 12%, is classified as unconditional.

In comparison, the 2023 NDC estimated that US$13.5585 billion



of its US$15.065 billion programme would depend on international support.

The August 2026 draft classified US$14.71 billion as conditional and US$4.28 billion as unconditional.

Although the final revision reduced the estimated amount requiring international support, it increased the proportion of the programme classified as conditional.

Environment, forestry and tourism minister Indileni Daniel presented Namibia's revised investment requirements at the opening of the country's pavilion at COP31 in Antalya, Türkiye, on 10 November.

Daniel said the US$14 billion investment pathway covered 72 measures and 216 actions across 13 sectors, including renewable energy, green hydrogen, climate-resilient agriculture, water security and biodiversity conservation.

"We have not travelled from Namibia to Antalya to merely participate in discussions. We are here to build partnerships and advance practical cooperation," Daniel said.

The minister said Namibia was seeking partnerships with investors, development finance institutions, climate funds and technology providers to translate its climate commitments into projects that could support economic development, employment and stronger communities.

Her comments followed the September launch of NDC 3.0, when she emphasised the country's dependence

on international financial and technical assistance.

"Conditional does not mean optional," Daniel said at the launch.

She explained that conditional measures represented what Namibia could achieve with sufficient international support.

The financing requirement covers a range of activities extending beyond renewable electricity generation and green hydrogen production.

Namibia's latest climate plan includes investments in agriculture, water resources, transport, industrial processes, forestry, biodiversity, health and settlements.

Adaptation accounts for US$7.65 billion of the final estimate, exceeding the US$6.42 billion allocated to mitigation.

This places considerable financial emphasis on protecting economic activities, infrastructure and communities against drought, water shortages, flooding and other climate-related risks.

Namibia's international financing drive is also reflected in efforts to attract investment into emerging green industries.

At the African Green Industries Summit held in Swakopmund in September, a project investment forum organised in collaboration with the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board brought together project developers, investors, financial institutions and development partners.

The forum was intended to showcase bankable green industrial projects, facilitate investment discussions and identify financing opportunities.

Leadership roundtables examined access to finance, investment readiness, infrastructure requirements, carbon regulations and policy frameworks.

The discussions covered industries associated with renewable energy, green hydrogen, critical minerals and manufacturing.

However, the summit's subsequent review did not disclose the value of financing commitments arising from the investment forum or identify projects that secured funding through the engagements.

The distinction between investment requirements and secured financing is also important when assessing Namibia's national climate commitments.

The US$12.42 billion conditional component represents the estimated cost of measures dependent on international support. It is not, by itself, a verified figure for financing still outstanding.

Namibia's successive climate plans demonstrate how substantially its investment estimates have changed, even as the country continues to seek external assistance to implement its commitments.

The latest revision leaves two important questions: what prompted the US$5.28 billion reduction between the August draft and September's final document, and how much financing Namibia can mobilise to implement the revised programme by 2035.

Daniel's appeal at COP31 places those questions at the centre of Namibia's efforts to turn its climate commitments into funded projects.

RIB Industries



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COP31

Namibia joins 10-country group overseeing global green industrialisation agenda

Namibia has been named among 10 countries represented on the Oversight Group of the Global Green Industrialisation Agenda (GGIA), a United Nations-backed initiative intended to strengthen international cooperation on green manufacturing, clean energy technologies, industrial investment and the transition towards low-carbon production.

The country's inclusion places it alongside Australia, Brazil, Egypt, Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, Sweden, Türkiye and the United Kingdom in a group responsible for providing strategic direction to the initiative, which is being launched during the COP31 climate conference in Antalya, Türkiye, in November 2026.

The membership was disclosed in a presentation delivered on 13 November by Dr Christopher Hope, an energy transition specialist at the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), during an engagement on the African Green Industries Summit 2027.

According to Hope's presentation, the Oversight



Group comprises 10 government representatives and three institutional members, with Egypt and the United Kingdom serving as co-chairs.

The institutional members are the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Climate Champions and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development.

The group's responsibilities include determining priorities for the global industrialisation agenda, coordinating activities across international institutions, reviewing progress on sector-specific programmes and mobilising support for partnerships.

It will also provide guidance on the preparation of an annual report assessing the state of global green industrialisation and contribute to preparations for the next global assessment of progress under the Paris Agreement.

Namibia's participation comes as the international climate agenda increasingly places industrial development alongside emissions reduction, with greater attention being directed towards manufacturing, technology, investment and opportunities for developing economies.

The GGIA was developed following the Belém Declaration on Global Green Industrialisation, launched at COP30 in Brazil in 2025.

The declaration called for stronger international cooperation to help countries develop industries that use cleaner energy, reduce emissions and manufacture technologies needed for the energy transition.

Hope's presentation identifies gaps in existing international support, including fragmented research, limited coordination between institutions and

insufficient technical assistance for countries seeking to develop green industries.

It states that emerging markets and developing economies require international support on a much greater scale than currently available.

The GGIA is intended to address these shortcomings through a coordination mechanism supported by a secretariat hosted by UNIDO and guided by the country-led Oversight Group.

Its activities will cover three main areas: analysing and sharing information, connecting governments and industry stakeholders, and supporting the implementation of national and regional green industrialisation strategies.

The initiative will establish a central database of green industrialisation trends and indicators, publish annual progress reports and provide access to information about technical assistance, financing opportunities and capacity-building programmes.

It also aims to strengthen cooperation between governments, financial institutions, businesses, researchers and civil society organisations.

The agenda extends beyond green hydrogen and renewable electricity generation to include the decarbonisation of existing industries and the expansion of clean technology manufacturing.

Among the industrial sectors identified are steel, cement and concrete, fertilisers, buildings, road transport and hydrogen.

The presentation also identifies potential areas for further cooperation, including minerals required for the energy transition, chemicals, green industrial corridors, aviation, maritime transport and commercial road transport.

These areas are relevant to Namibia's industrial ambitions, particularly its efforts to develop renewable energy, green hydrogen and industries linked to mineral resources.

However, the presentation does not identify specific Namibian projects that will receive funding or technical assistance through the GGIA.

It also does not disclose financial commitments arising from Namibia's membership of the Oversight Group.

The initiative's governance structure gives participating countries a role in shaping its priorities, including decisions concerning work programmes, partnerships and the development of new areas of cooperation.

The Oversight Group is co-chaired by Egypt's Minister Plenipotentiary Dr Mona Elbahtimy, deputy assistant foreign minister for climate, environment and sustainable development, and Matt Toombs, director of international net zero at the United Kingdom's Department of Energy Security and Net Zero.

The GGIA is scheduled to feature in several COP31 engagements, including a heads-of-state event on 11 November and a dedicated launch session on 16 November.

A ministerial roundtable on green industrialisation is also scheduled for 16 November, while the initiative's first annual Global Green Industrialisation Dialogue is planned for 22 and 23 April 2027 in Vienna, Austria.

The dialogue is intended to bring governments, international organisations, industry representatives and financial institutions together to review progress, exchange national experiences and develop new partnerships.

Hope's presentation identifies the African Green Industries Summit as one of the regional engagements that could contribute to the broader international agenda.

Namibia's inclusion in the Oversight Group provides the country with a place in discussions on how international support for green industrial development should be organised, although the practical benefits will depend on subsequent programmes, partnerships and investment decisions.



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