**Republic of Namibia**

**KAS Factbook April 2015**

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Independence</th>
<th>21 March 1990 (national holiday)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>Windhoek (about 300,000 inhabitants)(^1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>Republic (bicameral system)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>member of the Commonwealth of Nations since 1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official Language</td>
<td>English (until 1990 also Afrikaans and German)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Namibia has 13 recognized national languages, including 10 indigenous African languages and 3 Indo-European languages. Most frequent mother tongues are: Oshiwambo (48.9%), Nama/Damara (11.3%), Afrikaans (10.4%).(^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>14 regions: Erongo, Hardap, Karas, Kavango-East, Kavango-West, Khomas, Kunene, Oshangwena, Okavango, Omaheke, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto, Otjozondjupa, Zambezi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Dr. Hage Geingob</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area</td>
<td>824,292 km(^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographical borders</td>
<td>Angola (north), Zambia (north-east), Zimbabwe (north-east), Botswana (east), South Africa (south), Atlantic Ocean (west)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>2,127,013(^3), 38.4% urban(^4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population growth rate</td>
<td>0.67% (2014 est.)(^5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment rate</td>
<td>Total: 29.6 %, Youth (15-34 years): 41.7%(^6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currency</td>
<td>1 Namibia Dollar (NAD) = 1 South African Rand (ZAR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 NAD ≈ 0.077 EUR, 1 EUR ≈ 12.98 NAD(^7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>80%-90% Christian (at least 50% Lutheran), 10%-20% indigenous beliefs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**History – Colonialism and Independence**

The “Scramble for Africa” began in the Age of Colonialism at the end of the 19th century. At the 1884/85 Congo Conference in Berlin, Namibia became a German colony known as “Deutsch-Südwestafrika“. During the First World War, the German “Schutztruppe” surrendered in the 1915 battle against the South African army. Thereupon Namibia became a mandated territory of South Africa in 1920. In 1966 the UNO – in the capacity of the League of Nation’s successor – withdrew the mandate. But the South African government did not accept this and continued – despite international protests – illegally administrating the territory as its fifth province. Eventually the long winded liberation struggle of the 1960s founded South West Africa People’s Organization (SWAPO) lead to the nation’s first free elections and drove Namibia into independence in 1990. Sam Nujoma became the nation’s first president. Walvis Bay, Namibia’s only deep water harbour – that is responsible for the entire oversee trade – remained South African until 1994.

**State and Politics**

**Judiciary**

The Namibian Constitution of 1990 is considered one of the most modern in the world. The judiciary in Namibia is independent. The courts’ structure is made up of a three tier hierarchy: the Supreme Court, the High Court and the Lower Courts. The highest court of appeal is the Supreme Court. The Magistrates’ Courts (part of the Lower Courts) have civil and criminal jurisdiction with certain restrictions and limitations in respect of the seriousness of the offence, the nature of punishment, and territorial jurisdiction. Prior to 1990, the courts of Namibia were an extension of the judicial system of South Africa. Today, South African jurisdiction, Roman-Dutch law and Namibian jurisdiction form the basis of the Namibian common and customary law.
Hierarchy of the Judiciary

**Supreme Court**
Chief Justice: Mr. P.S. Shivute  
Deputy Chief Justice: Mr. P.T. Damaseb  
Judges: Mr. S.S. Mainga, Mr. D. F. Smuts  
Chief Registrar: Ms. E. Schickerling  
Deputy Chief Registrar: Ms. N. Tjahikika  
Assistant Registrar: Mr. J. Libana  
Judges’ Research Assistant: Ms. Y. Hussellmann  
Special Assistant to the Chief Justice: Ms. M. Viljoen

**High Court**
Judge President: Mr. P.T. Damaseb  
Judges: Mr. E. Hoff, Mrs. K. van Niekerk, N. Ndaumenap, Mr. J.C. Liebenberg,  
Mr. N.N. Shivute, Ms. M. Tommasi, Mr. A Sibleka, Mr. H. Geier, Mr. S. Ueitele,  
Mr. M. Cheda, Mr. H. January  
Chief Registrar: Ms. E. Eschickerling  
Deputy Chief Registrar: vacant  
Assistant Registrars: Mr. H. Olivier, Mr. I. Shikuambi, Ms. R. Ikuambi  
Judges’ Research Assistants & Assistant Registrars: Ms. L. Amunda, Ms. K Amkongo, Ms. N. Sikongo, Mr. S. Kandunda

**Northern Local Division in Oshakati**
Assistant Registrars: Ms. W. Theron, Ms. F. Kambo

For the latest updates please contact Chief Registrar High & Supreme Court of Namibia

**Legislative**
In Namibia the legislature consists of two chambers, the *National Assembly* and the *National Council*. The *National Assembly*’s 96 members are elected by direct poll. Up to eight delegates are nominated by the president for their special expertise and skills; however, they do not have the right to vote within the *National Assembly*. The legislative period is five years. The *National Council* contains 26 members and is comparable to a senate. From each of the 13
regions, two delegates are sent to the National Council for a period of five years. Furthermore, there is a Regional Council in each region, which is also elected for five years.

**List of parties that are currently accredited with the Electoral Commission of Namibia**

1) APP All People’s Party  
2) CDV Christian Democratic Voice Party  
3) CoD Congress of Democrats  
4) DPN Democratic Party of Namibia  
5) DTA DTA of Namibia  
6) MAG Monitor Action Group  
7) NDP National Democratic Party of Namibia  
8) NEFF Namibia Economic Freedom Fighters  
9) NUDO National Unity Democratic Organisation of Namibia  
10) RDP Rally for Democracy and Progress  
11) RP Republican Party of Namibia  
12) SWANU Swantu of Namibia  
13) SWAPO SWAPO Party of Namibia  
14) UDF United Democratic Front of Namibia  
15) UPM United People’s Movement  
16) WRP Worker Revolutionary Party


**National Assembly: Election results (in %)**

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWAPO</td>
<td>57.3</td>
<td>72.7</td>
<td>76.3</td>
<td>76.1</td>
<td>74.29</td>
<td>80.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DTA</td>
<td>28.6</td>
<td>20.4</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>3.13</td>
<td>4.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CoD</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>0.66</td>
<td>0.38</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UDF</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>2.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUDO</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>3.01</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAG</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>0.81</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.58</td>
<td>0.34</td>
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<tr>
<td>SWANU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.62</td>
<td>0.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RP</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.81</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APP</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.33</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RDP</td>
<td>11.16</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WRP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.71</td>
<td>1.65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8 Before the second amendment of the Constitution in 2010 it was six years (see the Constitution of Namibia, Article 70).
10 The number of seats was increased from 72 to 96.

Turnout of voters (in %)

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<tbody>
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<td>Presidential election</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>96.5</td>
<td>xx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Assembly</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Council</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>xx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Authorities</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>xx</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Executive

President  Dr. Hage Geingob

The presidency is limited to two terms of five years each.

Deputy President  Dr. Nickey Iyambo

Prime Minister  Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila

Deputy Prime Minister  Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah

Results of the presidential elections (in %)

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sam Nujoma (SWAPO)</td>
<td></td>
<td>74.46</td>
<td>76.84</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hifikepunye Pohamba</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>76.45</td>
<td>75.25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(SWAPO)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>86.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hage Geingob (SWAPO)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mishake Muyongo (DTA)</td>
<td></td>
<td>23.08</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katuutire Kaura (DTA)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9.63</td>
<td>5.12</td>
<td>2.98</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McHenry Venaani (DTA)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justus Garoëb (UDF)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.02</td>
<td>3.83</td>
<td>2.37</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henk Mudge (RP)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.95</td>
<td>1.16</td>
<td>0.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuaima Riruako (Nudo)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4.23</td>
<td>2.92</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asser Mbai (Nudo)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Ulenga (CoD)</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>7.28</td>
<td>0.72</td>
<td>0.39</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hipido Hamutenya (RDP)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10.91</td>
<td>3.39</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usutuaije Maamberua</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(SWANU)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ignatius Shixwameni (APP)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosie Pretorius (MAG)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

List of Ministries, current Ministers and Vice Ministers (April 2015)

Under President Geingob a number of ministries has been renamed, split or newly created. The Ministry for Veteran Affairs has been abolished. The following position were upgraded to ministerial positions:

Minister in charge of the National Planning Commission: Tom Alweendo
Minister of the Presidency: Frans Kapofi
Minister of the Vice President’s Office: Royal /Ui/o/oo, Alexia Manombe-Ncube
Minister of the Office of the Prime Minister: Christine //Hoebes,
Minister of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Peya Mushelenga, Maureen Hinda

1) Ministry of Finance: Calle Schlettwein, Natangwe Ithete
2) Ministry of International Relations and Cooperations and Deputy Prime Minister:
   Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah
3) Ministry of Safety and Security: Charles Namoloh, Daniel Kashikola
4) Ministry of Works and Transport: Alpheus !Natuseb, Kilus Nguvauva, James Sankwasa
5) Ministry of Environment and Tourism: Pohamba Shifeta, Tommy Nambahu
6) Ministry of Justice: Dr. Albert Kawana, Lidwina Shapwa
7) Ministry of Defence: Penda ya Ndakolo, Billy Mwaningange
8) Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration: Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana, Erastus Uutoni
9) Ministry for Public Enterprises\(^{11}\): Leon Jooste, Engel Nawatiseb
10) Ministry of Higher Education, Training and Innovation\(^{12}\): Dr. Itah Kandjii-Murangi, Dr. Becky Ndjoze-Ojo
11) Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture: Katrina Hanse-Himarwa, Anna Nghipondoka
12) Ministry of Urban and Rural Development: Sophia Shaningwa, Derek Klazen, Sylvia Makgone
13) Ministry of Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare\(^{13}\): Bishop Zephania Kameeta, Rev. Aino Kapewangolo
14) Ministry of Health and Social Services: Dr. Bernard Haufiku, Juliet Kavetuna
15) Ministry of Land Reform: Utoni Nujoma, Bernadus Swartbooi
17) Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation: Erkki Nghimtina, Alpheus Muheua
18) Ministry of Mines and Energy: Obeth Kandjoze, Kornelia Shilungu
19) Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service: Jerry Ekandjo, Agnes Tjongarero
20) Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry: John Mutorwa, Anna Shiweda
21) Ministry of Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development: Immanuel Ngatjizeko, Pieter van der Walt
22) Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources: Bernhard Esau, Samuel Ankama
23) Ministry of Information and Communication Technology: Tjekero Tweya, Stanley Simataa

Agencies (equated to ministries) are:

- The Namibia Central Intelligence Service: Ben Likando (Director)
- Electoral Commission: Prof. Paul John Isaak (Director of Elections)
- Anti-corruption Commission: Paulus Kalomho Noa (Director)

\(^{11}\) New ministry.
\(^{12}\) Split into two.
\(^{13}\) New ministry
Economy

Nearly twenty-one years after independence, Namibia still remains dependent on its most important economic partner, the Republic of South Africa. About half of the population lives on subsistence farming, but this sector only forms about one tenth of the GDP. Mining and processing of minerals is another important industry, but it only employs 3 percent of the population. Meanwhile, Namibia is the fifth largest producer of uranium in the world. Despite the comparably high income per capita for this region, the wealth distribution is extremely uneven in Namibia.

Economic Data

Composition of GDP (first half 2014)

- Agriculture: 23%
- Fishing: 11%
- Mining, quarrying: 6%
- Manufacturing: 6%
- Electricity, water: 5%
- Construction: 19%
- Wholesale, retail trade: 4%
- Hotels and restaurants: 10%
- Transport, communication: 11%
- 2% not specified

GDP composition by end use

- Household consumption: 30%
- Government consumption: 13%
- Investment in fixed capital: 21%
- Investment in inventories: 11%
- Exports of goods and services: 13%
- Imports of goods and services: 0%
Business Climate Index


Foreign trade

Trade Partners Export

Namibia exports most of its products in the region. Furthermore it mainly ships to Western Europe, North America and China.

International Trade Centre,

Export of natural resources

Namibia is rich in natural resources. There is a huge quantity of ore and minerals. The famous diamond “Sperrgebiet” can be found in the Namib desert along the Atlantic coast-line. The exploitation of uranium is the second most important portion of the mining sector. In 2006, the Rössing mine near Swakopmund contributed approximately 7% to the worldwide uranium extraction.14

Official Development Assistance

The top five donors are the USA, Germany, and the European Union (figures in Mio USD).


**Tourism**

Due to its dry climate, Namibia is an ideal destination for tourists. German tourists are especially attracted by the Namibian history as well as the fact that some local people still speak German in many places and also that there are many German Namibians living permanently in Namibia.

Society and Stage of Development

Namibia is a sparsely populated country. Centres are the Khomas Region with the capital city Windhoek, the so called O-regions in the North and the coast in Erongo region.

Globally, Namibia is a country with a medium development level (upper middle income country). In fact, it is a country with large social inequalities. According to the Gini coefficient – a measure of income and wealth distribution among the population – in the 1990s, Namibia denoted the highest income disparities in the world.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Human Development Index (2010)</th>
<th>Namibia 0.624 (rank 127)</th>
<th>Germany 0.911 (rank 6)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gini-Koeffizient (2010)</td>
<td>Namibia 63.9</td>
<td>Germany 28.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ibrahim Index of African Governance (2013)</td>
<td>Namibia 70.3 (rank 4 in Southern Africa)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15 The World Bank’s main criterion for classifying economies is gross national income (GNI) per capita. Based on its GNI per capita, every economy is classified as low, lower middle, upper middle ($3,946 to $12,195), or high income.
16 The HDI measures development by combining indicators of life expectancy, educational attainment and income. The HDI sets a minimum and a maximum for each dimension, called goalposts, and then shows where each country stands in relation to these goalposts, expressed as a value between 0 and 1. UNDP Human Development Report 2014, http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/NAM (06.04.2015)
18 The Ibrahim Index measures the delivery of public goods and services to citizens by government and non-state actors in African countries, using indicators like safety and rule of law, participation and rights, sustainable economic opportunity, and human development (score out of 100). The countries of Southern Africa are: Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar,
**Namibia compared to other countries in Southern Africa**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>SI</th>
<th>Rank</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>7.09</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mauritius</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
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<tr>
<td>Namibia</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
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<td>Swaziland</td>
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<td>Zambia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
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Mo Ibrahim Foundation, http://www.moibrahimfoundation.org/publications-archive (04.06.2015)

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**The BTI is a ranking of 128 developing and transforming countries referring to their political and economic development (Status-Index, SI) and the outcome of reform strategies of governments to achieve rule of law, democracy and social market economy (Management-Index, MI).**

Demographic Development and Socioeconomic Factors

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Live expectancy at birth</td>
<td>51.85 Jahre</td>
<td>22.8 Jahre</td>
<td>45.64 deaths/1,000 live births</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average age</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infant mortality rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Fertility Rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infant mortality rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Obesity - adult prevalence rate</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Literacy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>88.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Employment and Unemployment

In 2013 the unemployment rate was 29.6%. Especially the youth is affected by unemployment.

The data is based on the broad definition of unemployment. „The broad measure of unemployment regards all those without jobs, who are available for work and looked or did not look for work.” (Namibian Labour Force Survey 2008)
Third National Development Plan (NDP3)

The National Planning Commission launched a development campaign themed “Vision 2030”. In this regard the Third National Development Plan (NDP3) aims to implement the recent Vision 30 development goals. These are: creating “prosperity, harmony, peace and political stability”\(^{21}\) for the Namibian people.