

Stanford Historian Traces Colonial Origins of Conflict Diamonds in Namibia

• SANDRA FEDER

WHEN STANFORD historian Steven Press was trying to unearth hidden narratives about Germany's colonial activities in South West Africa's highly secretive diamond industry, he pursued that age-old maxim to "follow the money".

Steven Press is an assistant professor of history in the School of Humanities and Sciences. His new book, *Blood and Diamonds*, traces the devastating cost of diamond mining and German colonial domination in Namibia during the late 18th and 19th centuries.

Chasing that trail led to some disturbing discoveries about the full extent of Germany's ruthlessness as it pursued its economic aspirations in the African country now known as Namibia in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

In *Blood and Diamonds* (Harvard University Press, 2021), Press outlines how from 1884 to 1915, the German colonial government and its representatives perpetrated genocide against the indigenous Nama and Herero peoples while scouring the region for diamonds.

According to Press, Germany's ambition reshaped the global diamond market and continues to do so today. "While exploring what was going on in these German colonies, I saw an economic dimension and also a worldwide thread that hadn't been appreciated," said Press.

"Following the path of diamonds showed important connections to economic life in Europe and the United States, not to mention Africa, and that dynamic hadn't really been examined."

While German colonialism has been studied extensively before, it was generally thought to be an economic failure for the country, which left many scholars and politicians wondering why the German government kept pouring resources into its south west African colony.

What Press found, however, is that German colonial diamonds provided more economic gain than had previously been recognised.

COLONIAL LATECOMERS

Lasting roughly from 1884 to 1915, the German overseas empire had its signature holding in South West Africa. The colony was beset by mismanagement and a brutal military campaign that killed tens of thousands of indigenous people, many of whom perished in concentration camps.

Germany discovered diamonds in Namibia in 1908 but was searching for them prior to, and throughout, its genocidal activities there. Press paints a dark picture of a forbidding and unforgiving desert area called The Zone, the colony's richest diamond source.

African migrant workers lost their lives mining in The Zone's harsh, dangerous conditions, all of which were rendered deadlier by European greed and violence. Germany was late to the colonial stage, behind rivals France and Britain.

But noting that Germany was a powerful scientific and industrial nation, Press said he sought answers about the country's perceived economic underperformance in South West Africa.

What he found was a deliberate undercounting in terms of revenue produced by the German colony and new revelations about the ways the Germans capitalised on the burgeoning US diamond market.

The reason for their undercounting, Press said, was to enrich a few colonial companies and German elites at the expense of the German people.

Most Germans, let alone Namibians, never felt the impact of the extraordinary wealth obtained from colonial diamonds.

DIAMOND SCARCITY

The British had come into the diamond market ahead of the Germans and had constructed a false narrative about diamond scarcity, thus creating more



Photo: PuiShiau

Steven Press

demand. Stepping into this British-dominated market was a strategic move for Germany.

"That gave them a potential weapon against the British empire, economically speaking," Press said. "By being able to flood the market with their own diamonds, the Germans gained leverage."

The Germans made strategic alliances with the diamond cutters of Antwerp and took advantage of the consumer appetites of Americans, who embraced mass-marketed diamond engagement rings.

"By 1908, the United States accounted for 75% of world diamond demand, followed distantly by Britain, Germany and France," Press writes.

"Americans became consumers of 'blood' or 'conflict' diamonds, well before such concepts existed." Then as now, the diamond business was largely a secretive one. A lot of value was obscured and hidden, which made it difficult for Press to find both historical and current information on it.

He examined archives around the world – from the US to southern Africa to Europe – to piece together and triangulate numbers from the US market to reconstruct the value chain. For example, Press found that after the extraction of rough diamonds in Namibia, the price of an average diamond increased 20 times.

Such inflation started in Berlin, where a consortium of bankers slapped major markups on diamonds in exchange for the easy work of forwarding them to Antwerp for cutting.

In Antwerp, cut diamonds doubled in price and were shipped out to the United States. After dealing with importers, American jewellers finally sold diamonds to consumers after another price increase of 50%.

"By the time these diamonds ended up on someone's finger as an engagement ring, their price had risen in an extraordinary way," Press said.

BLOOD AND DIAMONDS

The title of Press's book is a nod to the idea of conflict minerals, or resources obtained at the cost of human life. In recent years, much of the world has used the term "blood diamonds" to describe diamonds extracted from war zones in places like the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The reality of the German colony in Namibia is of importance today as Europeans and Africans struggle with the aftermath of colonialism in terms of reparations and ongoing legacies, Press said.

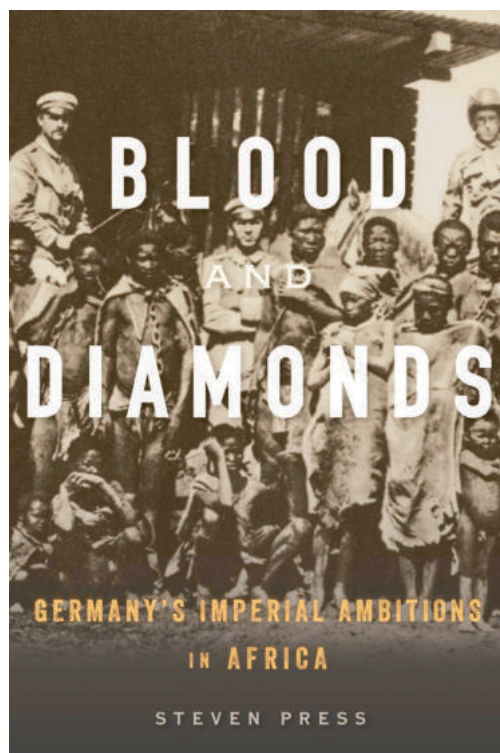
While today's consumers can be more selective about where their diamonds are sourced or choose not to buy them at all, Press asks what Americans should or will choose to do with all those diamond engagement rings accumulated over decades of European colonial rule.

The stones will continue to sparkle despite the darkness of their legacy.

"It's important to have a discussion about conflict commodities," Press said. "We want to buy things we feel good about, but what do we do with conflict resources we've had for 50 or 100 years? The stain of the blood, so to speak, never really goes away."

– news.stanford.edu

* Steven Press is an assistant professor of history in the School of Humanities and Sciences at Stanford University in the United States



From The Twittersphere



HERE, there and everywhere... That's April for you. Wind, words, whirlygigs, whispers, the wild and the winsome... Tweeps get down with the there and the where, and the wear and the tear...

@Ntjosh: Workers' Day being on a Saturday feels like capitalism is winning.

@Naffy101: Even in something as simple as greeting, I have an expectation. I expect you to greet me respectfully. If you are unable to do that because you're part of the "no expectation" *telitubbies*, *topopifa omhepo nena*.

@The_Zungu: Sick people are called patients because they must sit patiently and wait for the doctor...

@Mizz_JM: Binge-watching a medical series will have you randomly drifting in thought thinking you're a whole doctor. "She's crashing", "BP's dropping!", "page cardiology stat!"

@Kennyjr_10: Our culture is gone. Old Saying ... Think before you speak. New saying ... Google before you post.

Questions That Need Answers @Yeahitsaunee: "DM for price." What's so hard for you to just write the price down in your advert?

@MevrouS: Guys, do we have a shooting academy in Windhoek? If so, can you please recommend. Thank you.

@JacobZucks: What happened to vigos and guaranas?

#JustSaying

@SebbyJnr_Ndongi: People push you to react and once you react you are the bad person... make it make sense.

@_Shesoken: I swear, when you really having fun you forget about social media

@Call_me_Riah: Wow. You owe people money but you're coming on the TL to say s%*t.

@stacysinterlude: RIP to all the projects I overthought and never completed

@KeaMotlokwa: I really admire people who can just start. Like you get a dope a*s idea and you just start. No overthinking, no doubt, no procrastination! You just start? Yo, please teach me

@MaRianMe2m07: First love



@BeingRejoice: My grandmother in 1953. She pioneered the city girls' movement. She was the first woman to fall asleep at Swakopmund and wake up in Angola. I miss her.

will make you think you two will be together forever.

Go Figure!

@Ndeshy_Hakaye: Everyone must own a measuring tape 🙄🙄🙄

@Kanepweezy: Flying fish would make me happy rn

Overheard

@HTupopila: What's the job of influencers? <<< RT @Nuusiku_: To influence mos 🙄🙄🙄

@F_Nangula: I planted my own mango tree the day I found one mango for N\$22 in the shops... I am so happy to see it growing. <<< RT @Ms_Hilden: That's nice, wish I did earlier. The rate at which prices are going up, it is calling for own supply.

Think About It

@marshallk: "Do less, but better," said by designer Dieter Rams famously.

Passing Shots

@JessicaLoner_: You know what?! Just wig it today, and make sure you get through the day in one piece.

@nova_ndj: He hasn't asked for my bath water so he can freeze and use it as ice cubes for his drinks yet. Maybe I should just move on to someone who's actually interested

– Compiled by Jean Sutherland from twitter.com; you can follow me at @JeanNamibian

ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

Notice is hereby given to all potentially interested and/or Affected Parties (I&APs) that an application will be made to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (GN. No. 30 of 6 February 2012) for the following:

Proponent: Rosh Pinah Solar Park (PTY) Ltd.

Developer: Emesco Energy (Namibia) (PTY) Ltd.

Environmental Assessment Practitioner: Urban Green cc

Project Name: Rosh Pinah Solar Park.

Project Location: The proposed Rosh Pinah Solar Park is located on Farm Namuskluft No. 88, 2km east of Rosh Pinah, //Karas Region.

Project Background and Description: The Rosh Pinah Solar Park (PTY) Ltd. intends to develop, construct and operate a photovoltaic Solar Power Plant on an approximate 80ha portion of Farm Namuskluft No 88. The aim of the project is to supply renewable electricity along an existing 3.4km 66kV overhead power line to the nearby Rosh Pinah Zinc Mine.

Registration of I&APs and Submission of Comments: In line with the above mentioned legislation, all I&APs are hereby invited to register and submit their comments / concerns / questions (to be done in writing) to the office of Urban Green cc via the details given below. Information on the proposed project is available from the Urban Green cc office.

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION AND SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS IS 30 APRIL 2021

Contact: Brand van Zyl / Tel.: 061 - 300 820
Fax: 061 - 401 294
email: urbangreen@iway.na

NSX Overall (closed) • 1358,9 ▼ 0,80%



NSX Local (closed) • 438,57 ▼ 1,23%



JSE All Share (closed) • 66 370,00 ▼ 1,19%



Gold (closed) • US\$1732.85/oz ▼ 0,48%



Copper (closed) • US\$8901.00/t ▼ 1,02%



Company news

Discovery signs licensing deal with Sanofi.

5



INTERVIEW: **LUCAS LUNGAMENI, AMTA**

Farmers can sell faster through AMTA and will be able to know what is needed in the market and what you need to produce.



3

2494

New vehicle sales in the first quarter of 2021.

SIMONIS STORM (SS)



To visit the Market Watch Flipper website please scan the QR code with a QR reader or the MyInfo app

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Consumer, businesses confidence on the move

Namibia's new vehicle sales speeding

Total commercial vehicles sales accelerated both year-on-year and month-on-month by 23.8% and 22.3%, respectively.

PHILLEPUS UUSIKU

For the first quarter of 2021, Namibia's new vehicles sales increase by 12.3% when compared to the first quarter of 2020 amounting to 2494 units.

Similarly, new vehicle sales increased by 20.3% year-on-year at the end of March 2021 and marginally, 1.7% month-on-month, according to Simonis Storm (SS).

The 908 monthly sales units reached a 17-month high. The largest determinants for annual expansion were extra heavy, light commercial and passenger vehicles recording growth of 81.3%, 25.7% and 13.7% respectively.

The passenger vehicles category accelerated by 13.7% year-on-year and recorded a contraction of 13.1% month-on-month, with 357 units



Toyota replaced Volkswagen as the most popular passenger brand. PHOTO NAMPA/ REUTERS

sold in March 2021, SS added.

Sales to car rental agencies contracted 38.5% month-on-month as only 40 units were acquired by rental agencies compared to 65 units acquired in the previous month, nonetheless it is a notable expansion when compared to the 15 units acquired in the comparable period last year.

Similarly, an 8.4% year-on-year

contraction of passenger vehicles acquired through dealerships was recorded. The Toyota brand accounted for a third of total passenger vehicles sold, replacing Volkswagen brand as the most popular passenger brand for the month, SS pointed out.

Trend

Total commercial vehicles sales accelerated both year-on-year and

month-on-month by 23.8% and 22.3%, respectively.

"Noteworthy, is that this is the second consecutive month we are seeing an expansion in the annual growth rate in over a year and the first double digit growth since September 2020," SS pointed out.

Busses and heavy commercial vehicles subcategories were the only two categories to record contrac-

tions on an annual basis of 75% and 11.1%, respectively. Extra-heavy and light commercial vehicles subcategories recorded the largest increase in sales on an annual basis, expanding by 81.3% and 25.7%, respectively. Moreover, the largest growth rate was recorded in the month-on-month expansion of the medium-heavy commercial vehicles which posted 84.6%. "We expect these trends to foster business confidence levels, mainly through corporate instalment credit extensions," SS said.



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Simonis Storm (SS)

Employment affected relatively less than revenue

PHILLEPUS UUSIKU

The impact of the Covid-19 related regulations on employment was not as severe as on the company's revenue. According to the private sector development survey (PSDS) for 220/2021, over 600 businesses from all regions were surveyed, of which 55.9% of respondents indicated that there had been no change in the number of employees. This holds throughout all categories of companies in different sectors.

However, 36.1% of companies indicated that they had to reduce employment levels by between 50% and 100% and an additional 5.8% by up to 49%.

Only 1.6% of the total respondents increased employment by up to 25% and 0.7% of the businesses by more than 25%, the survey pointed out.

Employees of micro enterprises were most at risk of being laid off. The survey indicated that 41% of micro enterprises reduced the workforce by 50%. Enterprises in the small, medium and large categories indicated that they had to reduced their workforce each by 36.1%, 20% and 11.1%, respectively. Employees in the construction, accommodation and restaurant sectors faced



the highest risk to lose their jobs, while mine workers faced the lowest risk.

Revenue

Revenue of 40.1% of responding businesses dropped by 90%, while for a further 41% between 50% and 89%. Hence, 81.1% of businesses experienced a decline in revenue of at least 50%. 85.9% of micro enterprises experienced a decline in turnover of at least 50%. The main beneficiaries of the rising turnover were businesses operating for 10 years and more. A quarter of mining companies experienced an increase in turnover and 9.5% of agricultural business. Respondents from the transport, financial services and education sectors reported declining turnover with 90% of businesses in the education sector experiencing a drop between 50%, 100%, and 88.2% for the transport sector. As for the hospitality sector, 85.7% of the respondents also experienced a decline in turnover. Only 2% of respondents in the hospitality sector did not experience any change in turnover.

The survey was carried out by the Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade. Pictured is Lucia lipumbu the minister of the line ministry. PHOTO NAMPA

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mOshiwambo

the namibian

Tuma etumwalaka lyoye efupi nenge "sms" konomola ndji 99902, omanga inoo shanga etumwalaka lyoye, tameka noshitya Oshi opo ihe to landulithako "osms" yoye. Osms kehe ota yi gu N\$1.

Okanona ka si oshimpwininika mOngwediva

AAHOKANATHANI yomOngwediva oye li moluhodhi lwomwana gwoomwedhi ne ngoka a mana oondjenda ombaadhilila ongula yOmaandaha.

Aahokanathani mboka oomvalele dha Angola, Uaripi Shantiki (30) nomukulukadhi gwe Fatima Ashomukala (24), oya hokolola kutya oya li ashike ya thigi omwana naatekulu yaali, gumwe oku na omimvo 13 nomukwawo omimvo 12, omanga ya li ya ka teka omeya pokapomba ke li popepi.

Shantiki okwa hokolola kutya sho ya galuka nomukadhi oya dhimbulula kutya omwana okwa hulitha koshimpwininika omolwa oplastika ndjoka haya tula kombete yokanona.

"Anuwa aanona oya li taya dhana noya li ya fala okanona ketu ka ka kothe. Kombete nee hoka ohaku kala kwa yalwa oplastika ndjoka yi li le po okukelela uututo uuna okanona ka talalele opo etalasho kaali tute. Sho nee gumwe gomaatekulu a fala okanona ka ka

lale, okwa dhimbwa okuyalaka ko tango elapi nenge ekumbatha. Okanona okali ka lala egombe nokali ka nyengwa okufudha. Sho tweya kegumbo otwa adha nale a hulitha," osho Shantiki a hokolola ngaaka.

Okwa popi kutya omukulukadhi gwe opo ashike a galukile moNamibia okuza ko Angola oshiwike sha zi ko, konima sho a li a ka mona okamati kawo koshilongo shawo muDesemba gwomvula ya zi ko.

"Inandi kala nande ethimbo nomumwand-

je oshoka opo lwotango nde mu mono [sho omukulukadhi a galuka], nongashingeyi ke ko we. Oshinima tashi ehameke noonkondo," osho a popi ngaaka.

Omupopiliko gwopolisi yoshitopolwa shaShana, Thomas Aiyambo, okwa koleke onkundana ndjoka koThe Namibian, ashike okwa gwedha po kutya onkene ya li ya tega olopota pakuudha kombinga yoshiningwanima shoka, nomakonaakono gopolisi onkene taga tsikile.

Aakokele moshitopolwa shaMusati ya ninga iihakanwa yokatoo

OPOLISI yoshitopolwa shaMusati oya ndhindhlike aakokele oyendji oyo ya ninga iihakanwa yiilonga yiimbuluma mbyoka ya nika ukungeleledhi moshitopolwa shawo.

Aakokele yoomeme oyo ya konekiwa ya ninga oshihakanwa shomakotokelo, nokuyugwa iinima yawo.

Maakokele mboka ya ninga iihakanwa, unene oomboka opo ya yi miipundi yevululuko noya mona iimaliwa yawo yepenzelo notaya yugwa kookalyamupombo mboka taye ya kotokele nedhina lyopolisi.

Komanda gwoshitopolwa shaMusati, komufala Titus Shikongo, okwa popi kutya onkalo ndjoka ngashingeyi oya ninga oyindji moshitopolwa nonkene aakwashigwana otaya londodhwa ya kale ye li uupathi nongele hasho otaya ka kanitha iimaliwa nominaliko gawo okupitila miineya.

"Onkalo ndjoka yokatoo ngashingeyi oyi igalala, nuunene oya taalela mboka opo ya yi moshipundi shevululuko," osho Shikongo a popi ngaaka.

Okwa londodha nokukunkilila aakwashigwana ya kwate nawa oodokumente dhawo yo ya yande okukala aapulakeni ya kehe gumwe ngoka teya puyo nedhina lyopolisi, te ya lombwele omahokololo ga nika elongitho lyoshimaliwa.

Ngele oya tsakanene naantu yoludhi ndoka, kashi na nee kutya oya zala omizalo dhi li ngiini nenge ye na oodokumente dhomaukwatya gontumba ga pamba opolisi, Shikongo okwa kumagidha, ya kwatathane nopolisi meendelelo opo oshiningwanima shoka shi kale sha katukilwa onkatu mbala komiya dha shinana.

Shikongo okwa gwedha po nokukunkilila aakwashigwana ya kale aluhe ye na oonomola dhoongodhi dhoombanga dhawo opo ya kale taya vulu okutseyithila ombaanga mbala uuna ya mono omainyengo inaa ga yela ge na sha nuyelele woombaanga dhawo nenge oodokumente dhawo dhopambaanga.

MEtitano lya zi ko, lwopetata lyomugoyi, omukokele gwomimvo 60, otaku hokololwa a yugwa oshimaliwa she sha konda po-N\$100 000 kaalumentu yatatu mboka ye ya maandjawa taye mu lombwele kutya yo aanambeleva yopolisi. Pauyelele wa zi kuShikongo, aafekelwa mboka yatatu otaku hokololwa ya li ya yi kegumbo lyomukokele ngoka gomukulukadhi komukunda, taya popi kutya yo aanambeleva yopolisi, noyali ya zala uumaska wu na oshilimbo shopolisi yaNamibia. Okuza mpoka otaku hokololwa ya li ya lombwele nakuninga oshihakanwa a shaine oodokumente dhontumba noya li ye mu pula e ya pe oodokumente dhe ngaashi okatse koshilongo, ongodhi yopeke osho wo okaboba. Aafekelwa mboka otaku hokololwa ya li ya kutha ko oshimaliwa shoo-N\$107 457,02 shaa li papitikilo lya mwene.

Nakuninga oshihakanwa oye kuku Claudia Namalenga gwomomukunda Oshilulu. Kapu na ngoka a tulwa miipandeko sigo oompaka mekwatathano noshiningwanima shoka, nomakonaakono gopolisi otaga pula komeho.

Aakwashigwana ya londodhwa kombinga yokulya oshipahu

AAKWASHIGWANA yomiitopolwa yomonooli yoshilongo moka mwi iteyelwa koshipahu, oya indilwa ya yande okulya oshipuka shoka.

Iinduwa yoshipahu oya ndhindhilikwa miitopolwa ngaashi yaHangwena, mOmusati, mOshana osho wo mOshikoto, notayi hanagula uulithilo osho wo omapya.

Aakalimo yomomidhingoloko moka mwa monika oshipahu otaya kambadhala mpoka taya vulu ye shi tidhile kokule okupitila mokuninga omakudhilo ngaashi okudhenga omandoloma, okuhakela omake osho wo okufika omatayela.

Etukuko lyoshipahu ndyoka tali tyakaleke iitopolwa monooli otali tongononwa koyendji onga etukuko lyoshipahu inaali monika nale.

Aakwashigwana yamwe mboka ye li miitopolwa ya tumbulwa pombanda notaya dhengwa komukaga, oya tameka nale oku shi likola yi itekule.

Oswald Mwanyangapo, ngoka oye omunambeleva omukuluntu ta kwathele moshimpungu shepombelo lyiipuka muuministili wUunamapya nUuniimuna, Omeya nEtendululo lyEvi, okwa londodha oshigwana kombinga yokulya oshipahu, ta popi kutya oshindji osha pombelwa nomuti kuuministili, nonkene omuti ngoka oyu na uuzigo mboka tawu vulu okukala wa nika oshiponga molutu lwomuntu.

Aaniimuna oyendji, nayo oya londodhwa ya yande okulitha iimuna yawo momidhingoloko ndhoka dha pombelwa, molwaashoka otashi vulika uunapelo wu kale natango wa gumwa komuti ngoka.

"... otagu vulu okudhipaga mbala iimuna. Aakwashigwana naya iyuthe owala komalombwelo yo ya yande okuya momidhingoloko moka. Osha nika oshiponga noonkondo kuundjolowele wawo osho wo wiimuna yawo," osho Mwanyangapo a popi ngaaka.

Oshipahu otaku hokololwa shi na ondjele yi li nawa yiipalutha, ashike, molwashoka osha pombelwa oshi na omuti ngoka tagu vulu okukala gwa nika lela oshiponga kuundjolowele womuntu.

Aakwashigwana yamwe oya tameka okukwata oshipahu taye shi gongele noku shi pa po oondjuhwa dhawo.

Meme Selma Matheus, gomomudhingoloko gwaShigambo moshitopolwa shaShikoto, okwa popi kutya oshipahu osha kala nale hashi liwa, noshi na uutoye hawu tokola elaka.

"Ando okwa li halondodho omolwa omuti ngoka gwa pombelwa [oshipahu], ando ngashingeyi otatu li ashike twa man-



OSHIPAHU ... Aakalimo yamwe monooli yoshilongo otaku hokololwa ya tameka okulya oshipahu shoka tashi yonagula omapya nuulithilo wawo, ashike, uuministili wuunamapya nuuniimuna owa londodha aakwashigwana oshoka otashi vulika shi ya etele uupyakadhi wuundjolowele molwashoka osha pombelwa.

Ethano: Lya Gandjwa

guluska," osho a popi ngaaka.

Aanambeleva yuunamapya oya andjag- 5 000. anekwa miitopolwa ya tumbulwa metetekelo, opo ya pombele oshipahu shoka, nopomahala ogendji otashi monika sha sa nale.

Iiwiki iyali ya piti, oshipahu shoka osha li sha monika moshikandjohogololo shaNgenga moshitopolwa shaHangwena popepi ashike noongamba dhaNamibia na Angola, nosha li sha tambukile momudhingoloko gwaKalungo – moshitopolwa shaMusati.

Lwanima iinduwa yoshipahu okwa li yi ihana niitopolwa ya yooloka. Otaku fekelwa kutya oshipahu shoka shi li miitopolwa yomonooli osha zi poshishiindalongo Angola.

Omwedhi gwa zi ko onzokundaneki ndjika oya kundanekele kutya miitopolwa iyali yaKavango, okwa li mwa tukuka oshipahu shoka shi li sha yonagula omapya gaakalimo, osha li wo natango sha lopotwa momukunda Elavi moshitopolwa shaShikoto.

MuAuguste omvula ya zi ko, oshipahu osha li sha lopotwa moshitopolwa shaZambezi, no-

sha li sha hanagula omapya ge li poohekta 5 000.

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Registration of I&APs and Submission of Comments: In line with the above mentioned legislation, all I&APs are hereby invited to register and submit their comments / concerns / questions (to be done in writing) to the office of Urban Green cc via the details given below. Information on the proposed project is available from the Urban Green cc office.

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION AND SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS IS 30 APRIL 2021

Contact: Brand van Zyl / Tel.: 061 - 300 820

Fax: 061 - 401 294

email: urbangreen@iway.na

MEDIA RELEASE

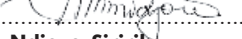
DATE: FRIDAY, 16 APRIL 2021

AMENDMENT OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET) LEVY REGULATIONS

- The Namibia Training Authority wishes to draw the attention of its stakeholders - more particularly registered employers who pay the VET Levy on a monthly basis - to amendments of regulations in the following Government Notices:
 - No. 66 - Regulations Relating to Use of the VET Levy for Funding VET Programmes and Projects and for Providing Technical and Financial Assistance: VET Act, 2008; and
 - No. 67 - Imposition of VET Levy on Employers: VET Act, 2008

"Notice No. 66"	"Notice No. 67"
<p>A: Amendment of Regulation 1 – Clarification of Definition of Training: Regulation 1 of the Regulations is amended by the substitution for the definition of 'training' of the following definition – 'training' means training which is related to vocational training provided by a private vocational training provider accredited by the Namibian Qualifications Authority or a state- owned training centre, including certificates and diplomas up to NQF Level 6.</p>	<p>A: Enforcement of Date of Vet Levy Payment: The VET Levy must be paid to reflect in the NTA's National Training Fund Account on/ before the 20th of each month.</p>
<p>B: Amendment of Regulation 4 – ETG Claim Resubmission & Claim Forfeiture Regulation 4 is amended by – (a) the substitution for subregulation (5) of the following subregulation: "(5) If the NTA rejects an application in terms of subregulation (4)(b), the employer concerned may resubmit the application to the NTA within six months from the date of rejection if the employer meets the eligibility criteria referred to in regulation 3(1)."; and Regulation 4 is amended by – (b) the addition of the following subregulation after subregulation (5): "(6) An employer who fails to resubmit an application in terms of subregulation (5) or resubmits an application and such resubmitted application is rejected by the NTA, the employer forfeits the funds it is entitled to claim under this regulation."</p>	<p>B: Clarification of Definition of Remuneration: Remuneration as defined in Part I of Schedule 2 of the Income Tax Act, 1981 (Act No. 24 of 1981)</p>
	<p>C: Enforcement of Submission of Payroll Evidence: The revised Regulations provide for the imposition of a N\$250 penalty on every late monthly submission/ declaration and make it compulsory for employers to submit payroll evidence with monthly declarations. The revised Regulations include a form/ template in this regard.</p>
	<p>D: Introduction of Cut-off Periods for Amendment of Declarations: Employers can amend declarations, dating back to 2014. The revised Regulations provide for (a) the introduction of a cut-off date for amendments of monthly declarations; and (b) a 6-month grace period, from date of gazetting to be granted for employers who want to amend declarations from prior years. Thereafter, amendments will only be allowed within the 'current' financial year.</p>

- Published by the Minister of Higher Education, Technology and Innovation, Hon. Dr. Itah Kandjii-Murangji, in the Government Gazette of 1 April 2021 (Edition No. 7498), these amendments are the result of intensive consultations with Government and industry stakeholders and repeal Government Notice No. 6 of 27 January 2014; No. 248 of 14 October 2016; and No. 290 of 5 November 2018.
- The NTA encourages VET Levy-paying employers and other stakeholders to acquaint themselves with these amendments, which have the streamlining of administration and related processes and enhanced efficiency and transparency, as overarching objectives.
- The NTA wishes to acknowledge the important and active participation of its National Training Fund Council and its esteemed industry and employer body stakeholders throughout the consultative and engagement process and trusts that these amendments will better position the VET Levy programme in living up to its value proposition as a 'partnership with employers'.
- The full Government Gazette document can be accessed under the 'Downloads' section on the NTA website via the following hyperlink: <https://www.nta.com.na/legislation-legal-policies/>

SIGNED: 
Muvatera Ndjoze-Siririka
Acting Chief Executive Officer

About the Namibia Training Authority:

The Namibia Training Authority was established in line with the Vocational Education and Training Act, 2008 (No.1 of 2008). The NTA endeavours to ensure a sustainable skills delivery system under which quality vocational and technical skills are imparted to young Namibians through Vocational Education and Training programmes, which meet the current and emerging needs of industries in our nation's economy.

About the NTA's Vocational Education and Training (VET) Levy:

The imposition of the VET Levy is provided for under Section 35 of the VET Act of 2008, which requires a Levy to be paid by employers for the purpose of facilitating and encouraging VET programmes. All levies collected by the NTA are disbursed in line with the following allocations: (a) 35% for Key Priority Training Grants; (b) Up to 50% for Employer Training Grants; and (c) Up to 15% for the NTA's Administration Costs.

For media enquiries, contact:

Mr. Mornay Louw
Manager: Corporate Communications, Marketing & Advocacy
Namibia Training Authority
Tel: (061) 207 8502, mlouw@nta.com.na



Ferrodrill Namibia an equal opportunity employer is looking to fill the following position:

VACANT POSITION: DIESEL MECHANIC

Qualifications and Experience requirements:

- At least 5 years work experience as a Diesel Mechanic
- Good management and communications skills
- Independent self-starter
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- References must be supplied on CV and references will be checked
- Namibian Citizen
- Willing to stay on drilling site

Competitive salary package

If you are interested and meet the qualification and experience criteria, please forward your detailed CV to: creditors@fdn.com.na or fax to +264 61 306902

Application closing date: 30 April 2021

NB: Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and no documents will be returned.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

Notice is hereby given to all potentially interested and/or Affected Parties (I&APs) that an application will be made to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (GN. No. 30 of 6 February 2012) for the following:

Proponent: Rosh Pinah Solar Park (PTY) Ltd.

Developer: Emesco Energy (Namibia) (PTY) Ltd.

Environmental Assessment Practitioner: Urban Green cc

Project Name: Rosh Pinah Solar Park.

Project Location: The proposed Rosh Pinah Solar Park is located on Farm Namuskluft No. 88, 2km east of Rosh Pinah, //Karas Region.

Project Background and Description: The Rosh Pinah Solar Park (PTY) Ltd. intends to develop, construct and operate a photovoltaic Solar Power Plant on an approximate 80ha portion of Farm Namuskluft No 88. The aim of the project is to supply renewable electricity along an existing 3.4km 66kV overhead power line to the nearby Rosh Pinah Zinc Mine.

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KOERANTPAPIER
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VACANCY

The Development Bank of Namibia has the following vacancy:

MANAGER: FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING

Find more information at <https://www.dbn.com.na/careers>

The closing date for applications is Friday, 30 April 2021.



Development Bank of Namibia

Expect more.