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Gareth Bale

## Gareth Bale: Tottenham's on-loan forward plans to return to Real Madrid

**G**areth Bale says he plans to return to Real Madrid next season after his loan at Tottenham ends.

Wales captain Bale rejoined Spurs on a season-long loan in September but has a year left on his Real contract, which expires in the summer of 2022.

Bale, 31, is with Wales as they prepare for their opening World Cup qualifier away against Belgium on Wednesday.

"There's no distraction for me," Bale said when asked how his club future might affect his international form.

"I think the main reason I came to Spurs this year was to play football first and foremost.

"Going into the Euros I wanted to be match-fit. The original plan was to do a season at Spurs and after the Euros still have a year left at Real Madrid.

"My plan is to go back, that's as far I have planned."

At Real, Bale has won four Champions League titles, two La Liga championships, one Copa del Rey, three Uefa Super Cups and three Club World Cups.

However, a run of injuries, indifferent form and a deteriorating relationship with manager Zinedine Zidane had seen Bale become a marginal figure in Spain.

As a result, last September, he moved back to Tottenham, whom he had first joined as a 17-year-old from Southampton in 2007 for an initial payment of £5m.

Bale initially found playing time limited at Spurs but he has been in excellent form recently and has scored 10 goals in 25 appearances in all competitions this season.

## GOSSIP

**S**outhampton striker Danny Ings, 28, could be a target for Manchester City as a potential successor to Sergio Aguero. (Sky Sports)

Liverpool could benefit if Southampton do sell Ings as the Reds inserted a 20% sell-on clause in the deal when they sold the England international to them. (Mirror)

Manchester United could offer 23-year-old midfielder Donny van de Beek as a makeweight in potential dealings this summer. (90 min)

Newcastle United boss Steve Bruce is to give his players six days off, and some of his players are surprised the Magpies boss received support from the club as they battle relegation. (Mail)

Zambia forward Patson Daka, 22, who has scored 20 goals in 18 games at Red Bull Salzburg this season, is attracting interest from Manchester United, Manchester City, Liverpool and Arsenal. (Mail)

Wolves have their set sights on signing Sevilla's Argentina winger Lucas Ocampos, 26, for less than his £62m release clause. (Football Insider)

Arsenal believe Norway midfielder Martin Odegaard, 22, may be open to staying with them beyond the end of his loan spell from Real Madrid, which runs until the end of the season. (Times)

Brazil defender Thiago Silva, 36, is set to extend his contract with Chelsea by another year. (Express)

Turkish side Galatasaray have offered Crystal Palace's 30-year-old defender Patrick van Aanholt the chance to join them next season. (Mail)

AC Milan have reportedly joined Tottenham in the race to sign Fiorentina striker Dusan Vlahovic, 21, this summer. (La Repubblica via Teamtalk)

France defender Raphael Varane says he would like to be joined by Paris St-Germain striker Kylian Mbappe, 22, at Real Madrid, a player he considers to be "one of the best in European football". (Europe1 via Goal)

Aston Villa are planning to listen to offers in the summer transfer window for 24-year-old forward Wesley. (Football Insider)

Adam Armstrong, 24, is being perused by his former club Newcastle who are keen to bring the striker back to St James' Park from Blackburn Rovers. (Teamtalk)

Inter Milan are considering a move for Liverpool's Belgian striker Divock Origi, 25, to bolster their attacking line-up. (Calcio Mercato - in Italian)

### CALL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR MINERAL EXPLORATION ON EPL 7782

This notice serves to inform all interested and affected parties that an application for the environmental clearance certificate will be launched with the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No.7 of 2007) and the Environmental Regulations (GN 30 of 2012). The project will comprise of conventional mineral exploration activities on the granted license.

**Location:** The mineral license is located 10 km southwest of Karibib.  
**Proponent:** Blue Sky Mining cc

All interested and affected parties are hereby invited to register and submit their comments regarding the proposed project on or before **31/03/2021**. Details of public meeting will be communicated to registered parties. Contact details for registration and further information:

**Mr. N Amutenya.**  
**Email:** eia@impalac.com, **Tel:** 0856630598



#### NOTICE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Healthy Earth Environmental Consultants CC (HEEC) hereby gives notice to all potentially Interested and 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 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (GN 30 of 6 February 2012) for the following:

**PROJECT NAMES:** Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the establishment and operation of a date palm plantation and companion fruit trees at Velloorsdrift Farm, Velloorsdrift, Karasburg East Constituency, !Karas Region.

**PROJECT LOCATION:**

The proposed date palm plantation and companion fruit trees is located at Velloorsdrift Farm, approximately 100 Km South of Karasburg, within the Karasburg East Constituency, !Karas Region.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The project involves conducting an Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) for the establishment and operation of a date palm plantation and companion fruit trees at Velloorsdrift Farm, Velloorsdrift, Karasburg East Constituency, !Karas Region.

**PROJECT INVOLVEMENT:**

**Proponent:** Afro Holdings (Pty) Ltd. (Reg Nr: 2012/0607)  
**Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP):** Healthy Earth Environmental Consultants CC (HEEC)

**REGISTRATION OF I&APs AND SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS:** In line with Namibia's Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and EIA regulations (GN 30 of 6 February 2012), all I&APs are hereby invited to register and submit their comments, concerns or questions in writing via: Email: [askheec@gmail.com](mailto:askheec@gmail.com) on or before Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

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**PROJECT LOCATION:**

The proposed Erf No.150 is situated at Ekuku Proper approximately 5.3 Km north of Oshakati townlands, when using the C46 road from Oshakati to Okatana, in Oshana Region, Namibia.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

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**PROJECT INVOLVEMENT:**

**Proponent:** Mr. Eliphaz Noag Natangwe Mundjele

**Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP):** Healthy Earth Environmental Consultants CC (HEEC)

**REGISTRATION OF I&APs AND SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS:** In line with Namibia's Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and EIA regulations (GN 30 of 6 February 2012), all I&APs are hereby invited to register and submit their comments, concerns or questions in writing via: Email: [askheec@gmail.com](mailto:askheec@gmail.com) on or before Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

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## SHIIMI

From page 1

According to Shiimi, the budget focusses resources on three main domains that he described as essential for the next level of the new normal, namely providing for vaccine acquisition and health distribution needs, supporting economic recovery objectives, and ensuring continued provision of essential public services.

"The budget is presented under the theme 'Boosting Resilience and Recovery'. This theme is in resonance with the clarion call and the declaration by His Excellency the President for the year 2021 as the 'Year of Resilience', further summoning our resolve to insulate the capacity of the economy and the socio-economic structure, while supporting economic recovery from the fractures impacted by the pandemic," Shiimi noted.

Going into more details, Shiimi revealed the education ministry received N\$13.8 billion, or some 23.2% of total allocation while the higher education ministry was allocated N\$3.1 billion or 5.3% of total allocation, of which N\$851 million is for the University of Namibia, N\$488 million for the Namibia University of Science and Technology and N\$1.2 billion

for Namibia Students Financial Assistance Fund.

Meanwhile, the gender equality, poverty eradication and social welfare ministry was allocated N\$5.4 billion, or 9.2% of total allocation, mainly to fund social safety nets and to support the fight against gender-based violence.

The defence ministry allocation was reduced by N\$800 million to N\$5.4 billion, or 9.1% of total allocation to compensate for health defence during Covid-19.

Furthermore, the agriculture, water and land reform ministry was allocated N\$1.7 billion for multi-pronged investment in the sector, of which N\$465.3 million is for the water sub-sector.

"Further, in order to address the challenge of aging water infrastructure, the procurement process for the upgrading of Rundu and Oshakati water treatment plants has commenced with the support of AfDB financing. The government is also embarking upon implementing various projects in the water sector in the central and coastal areas in collaboration with the German government," said Shiimi.

Moreover, the finance ministry was allocated N\$4.7 billion, about 7.9% of total non-interest expenditure, of which N\$2.6 billion is allocated for the Public Service

Employee Medical Aid Scheme and N\$484 million is ring-fenced under PSEMAS for the procurement and distribution of the Covid-19 vaccine.

The public enterprises ministry was allocated N\$733.4 million or 1.2% to support strategic operations of some state-owned enterprises while the industrialisation and trade ministry was allocated N\$159.8 million.

As a result of increasing financing requirements, Namibia's public debt is projected to increase to about N\$140.8 billion or 76.2% of GDP in 2021/22 and is expected to remain elevated over the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF). Shiimi anticipates debt to stabilise at about 84.6% in 2025/26.

## 'Unsustainable debt'

Commenting on yesterday's tabling, local economist, Klaus Schade, is concerned that the budget deficit over the MTEF remains high and results in an increasing public debt ratio, saying, "There is no indication how government will reign in deficit."

Schade also mentioned that although PSEMAS has been under the spotlight for a number of years, no steps have been taken to reform it and instead it has been delegated to a committee now.

"The VAT zero-rating is not at all targeted and will benefit all women

for a short period of time until the potential price decrease is reversed by general cost increases. It also does not address accessibility. The increase in the tax-deductibility of pension fund contributions will only benefit the better off. Those in the highest income bracket will save more than N\$40 000 per annum, more than most Namibians earn per year. Those who need the support, do not benefit at all since they earn below the income tax threshold or because they cannot afford to spend this amount on a retirement fund. It increases income inequality instead of contributing to reducing inequality," Schade lamented.

Moreover, economic lecturer at the University of Namibia, Omu Kakujaha-Matundu, is worried about high and unsustainable levels of debt owing to sluggish economic growth.

"This was exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic during the 2020/21 financial year. The harsh economic times left the minister with no option, but to borrow more despite the high deficit and debt levels, during the current financial year. The projected deficit of 8.6% is the same difference as the 2020/21 9.7% deficit. The projected total debt of 76.2% of GDP surpasses our own targets and the SADC target by a very large margin. However, as long as the deficit or borrowed funds are

spend on job creating activities that causes economic growth, it is not a great sin" he commented.

Kakujaha-Matundu continued: "Should the deficit finance consumption as it is the case in this current budget, it will cause moderate growth in the short-term but might not provide the much-needed jobs. So, I think Namibians are in for a long haul. I don't foresee a relief in the hardship faced by both business firms and workers. Therefore, Namibians should brace themselves for the proverbial seven lean years."

Economics lecturer and MD of Twilight Capital, Mally Likukela, also expressed anxiety on how the deteriorating budget aggregates will be improved. "The silence on the maturing debts and the IMF loans raises concerns.

## SHANNON

From page 1

Madisia and Mulundu both face murder and defeating or obstructing the course of justice charges after the remains of Wasserfall - who had been missing for almost six months - were discovered in a shallow grave just outside Walvis Bay.

Earlier police reports indicated that Wasserfall was allegedly reported missing by Madisia, who is her close friend on 10 April.

The discovery of her remains, however, led to Madisia's arrest after police could positively place her at the crime scene through a car tracking system and text messages sent to the police and Wasserfall's father detailing the exact location of the shallow grave.

Madisia was allegedly assisted by Mulundu to dispose of the body after the murder. Mulundu was taken into custody on 7 November after he surrendered himself at the Narraville police station whereby he allegedly admitted to assisting his sister in disposing Wasserfall's remains. Lawyer Gilroy Kasper represents the siblings.

[edeklerk@nepc.com.na](mailto:edeklerk@nepc.com.na)

## UNRULY

From page 1

"It is despicable in my view that while the nation is having a myriad of socio-economic challenges, members of parliament are busy with petty issues," he said. "Parliament should be a platform where ideas are exchanged in an attempt to advance the interests of Namibians but unfortunately it has been turned into some haven for lawlessness and anarchy."

As for the parliamentary immunity, Tjirera said he is of the considered opinion that the immunity granted to the MPs is not absolute and should be read with other provisions of the law, especially the constitution which is the supreme law of the country.

"I hope that one day someone will test the parliamentary immunity in court for us to have a clear position. As for now, we can

simply hope that the MPs will rise above petty issues and address serious issues," said the outspoken Tjirera.

Political commentator Graham Hopwood is of the view that parliament should have procedures and rules which govern what is acceptable in terms of speech.

"I think the public expects there to be a robust debate but not insults and personal abuse. MPs together with the speaker's office need to sort this out soon," Hopwood said.

"If the privileges committee is not functioning then a meeting of chief whips and senior MPs from all parties should be convened to ensure reasonable and respectful standards of debate and exchange."

Another commentator Ndumba Kamwanyah said slandering each other is not parliamentary nor is it policymaking.

"Not only does it divert the parliamentarians

from their policymaking responsibilities but voters from being served in a dignified manner," Kamwanyah said.

"Just because South Africa or any other country is doing it does not mean Namibia should also do it. Namibia is a unique country and should create its own parliamentary culture and practice."

He also said there was no absolute to parliamentary immunity, therefore the voters and the public must develop a cancel culture towards those involved in unruly conduct.

Former Swapo MP Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana admitted parliamentary debates can be heated. However, she indicated there are rules about what members can and can't say. "Unbecoming language, insults, and accusations of dishonesty are banned from the House," she added.

Recently, justice minister Yvonne Dausab demanded

an apology from Landless People's Movement (LPM) MP Henny Seibeb for alleged defamation of character.

The threat for a defamation lawsuit follows statements allegedly made by Seibeb during a National Assembly debate in which he claimed that Dausab fraudulently completed an LLB degree for environment minister Pohamba Shifeta.

However, Seibeb has cited parliamentary immunity.

## 'Enough is enough'

Meanwhile, an irate Katjavivi on Tuesday warned the conduct of some MPs was seriously threatening the integrity and the decorum of the National Assembly.

"For too long, we have observed some members choosing the floor of this House to insult each other, calling each other all sorts of names and even to an extent of threatening each other physically," he said.

Katjavivi said he has

reached a point that the rules of the House must be strictly and actively observed and honoured by all. "I will instruct the systems controller to switch off the microphone of any member who stands up and/or starts talking without requesting the floor and so granted or acknowledged by the presiding member in terms of the rules quoted and any other relevant rule," Katjavivi told MPs.

"All of us are required to behave with the necessary respect and courtesy attached to the position we hold. This unbecoming behaviour of some members that have become a daily occurrence will no longer be tolerated."

[-ktjitemisa@nepc.com](mailto:-ktjitemisa@nepc.com).

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## CALL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR MINERAL EXPLORATION ON EPL 7782

This notice serves to inform all interested and affected parties that an application for the environmental clearance certificate will be launched with the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No.7 of 2007) and the Environmental Regulations (GN 30 of 2012). The project will comprise of conventional mineral exploration activities on the granted license.

Location: The mineral license is located 10 km southwest of Karibib.

Proponent: Blue Sky Mining cc

All interested and affected parties are hereby invited to register and submit their comments regarding the proposed project on or before 31/03/2021. Details of public meeting will be communicated to registered parties. Contact details for registration and further information:

Mr. N Amutenya.  
Email: [eia@impalac.com](mailto:eia@impalac.com),  
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SPORTS



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# Plans underway to improve VAR in Premier League - Times

**R**eferee chiefs are working on an action plan to improve the Video Assistant Referee (VAR) in the Premier League and any changes to the system will be passed on to match officials ahead of the new season, the Times reported on Friday.

VAR was brought into the league last season, but it is unpopular with many English top-flight managers following a number of contentious calls, with growing concern about the time to make decisions and the precision with which offside calls are judged.

Fans also feel it goes far beyond its original remit — to review the most glaring mistakes.

The VAR action plan, which follows a survey of managers, captains and sporting directors, will focus on two issues - improving consistency of decision-making on subjective calls and interpretation of marginal offside calls, the Times said.

“The purpose is to identify improvements to the VAR system and form a common understanding of where a VAR interpretation is expected and how changes can be made to increase consistency,”

clubs were told at a Premier League shareholders meeting.

“The results will inform the coaching and training of match officials during the close season and changes will take effect in season 2021-2022. “The PGMOL (will) present an action plan at the next shareholders’ meeting outlining changes and improvements for next season and beyond,” the newspaper said, referring to the Professional Game Match Officials Limited.

The 2021-22 Premier League season will begin on August 14 and end on May 22.

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**Proponent:** Blue Sky Mining cc

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**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR MINERAL EXPLORATION ON EPL 7782**

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**CALL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR MINERAL EXPLORATION ON EPL 7079 & 7082**

This notice serves to inform all interested and affected parties that an application for the environmental clearance certificate will be launched with the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No.7 of 2007) and the Environmental Regulations (GN 30 of 2012). The project will comprise of conventional mineral exploration activities on the granted license.

**Location:** The mineral licenses are located 158 km northwest of Kamanjab and covers the communal areas of Ondera, Otvani, Omas, Okazewana, Otjomaoru and Omivero.  
**Proponent:** Lilac Investment Group (pty) Ltd

All interested and affected parties are hereby invited to register and submit their comments regarding the proposed project on or before **22/03/2021**. Details of public meeting will be communicated to registered parties. Contact details for registration and further information:

**Mr. N Amutenya.**  
 Email: [eia@impalac.com](mailto:eia@impalac.com), Tel: 0856630598




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**Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP):** Healthy Earth Environmental Consultants CC (HEEC)

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**PROJECT INVOLVEMENT:**  
**Proponent:** Mr. Eliphas Noag Natangwe Mundjele  
**Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP):** Healthy Earth Environmental Consultants CC (HEEC)

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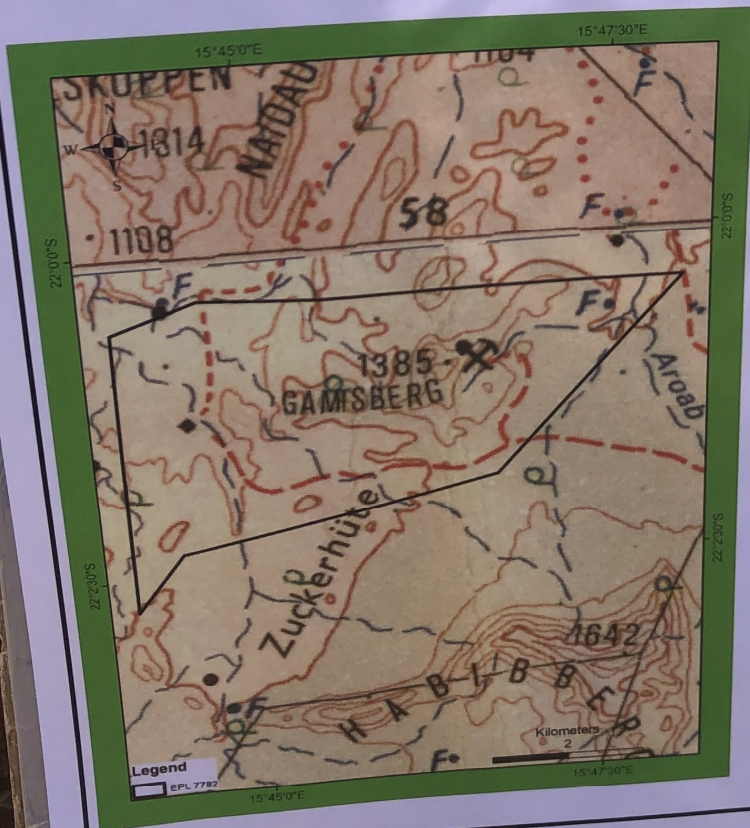




## CALL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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**Location:** The mineral license is located 10 km south of Karibib within the Erongo Region.

**Proponent:** Blue Sky Mining cc

**Project Description:** The project will comprise of mineral exploration activities (mapping, sampling, and drilling).

All interested & affected parties are invited to register and submit comments on or before **25/05/2021**.

Contact details: **Mr. N Amutenya, Email:** [eia@impalac.com](mailto:eia@impalac.com), **Tel:** +264856630598