

regards to the proposed development was facilitated through the following means and in this order:

- A Background Information Document (BID) containing brief information about the proposed facility was compiled (**Appendix E**) and circulated to relevant pre-identified authorities (stakeholders), and upon request to all new registered I&APs,
- Project Environmental Assessment notices were published in *The Namibian newspaper* (**14 and 24 May 2021**) and *New Era* (**12 and 26 May 2021**) - **Appendix F**, briefly explaining the activity and its locality, inviting members of the public to register as I&APs and submit their comments/concerns.
- Site notices (A3) were placed at the //Karas Regional Council notice board in Keetmanshoop (**Figure 27 and Figure 28** (clear copy of the notice)) to inform members of the public of the EIA process and register as I&APs, as well as submit comments. **The notices could not be placed at the site (Farm Skaapplaas) because the Farm is isolated, and no one would be able to see the notice at the Farm. Therefore, the frequented place in the area where the notice would be seen by the public was in Keetmanshoop at the Regional Council.**
- A public consultation meeting was scheduled for **09 June 2021** at Farm Skaapplaas outside Keetmanshoop. However, this meeting was a no show for members of the public or the neighbors.

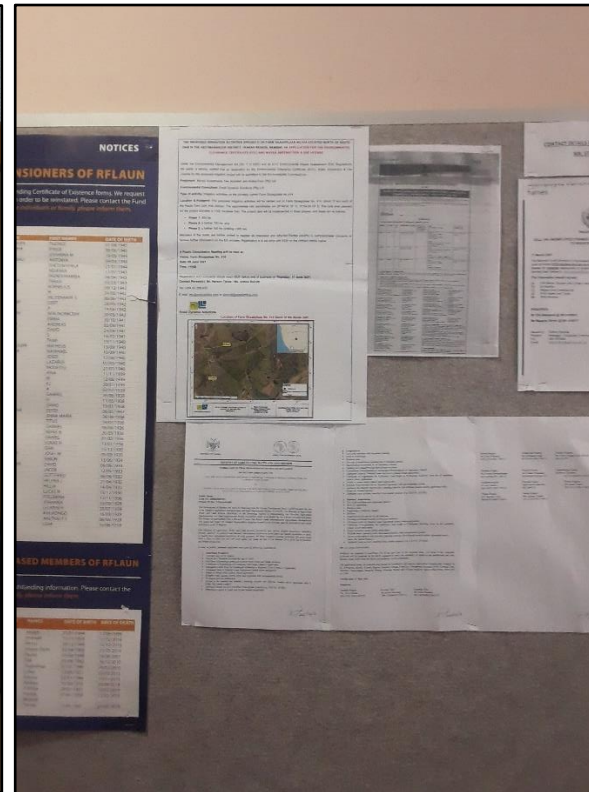
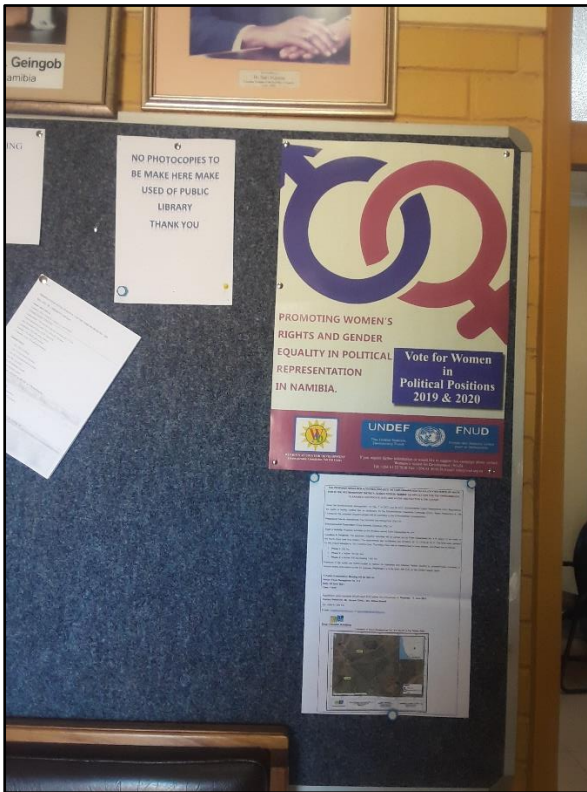
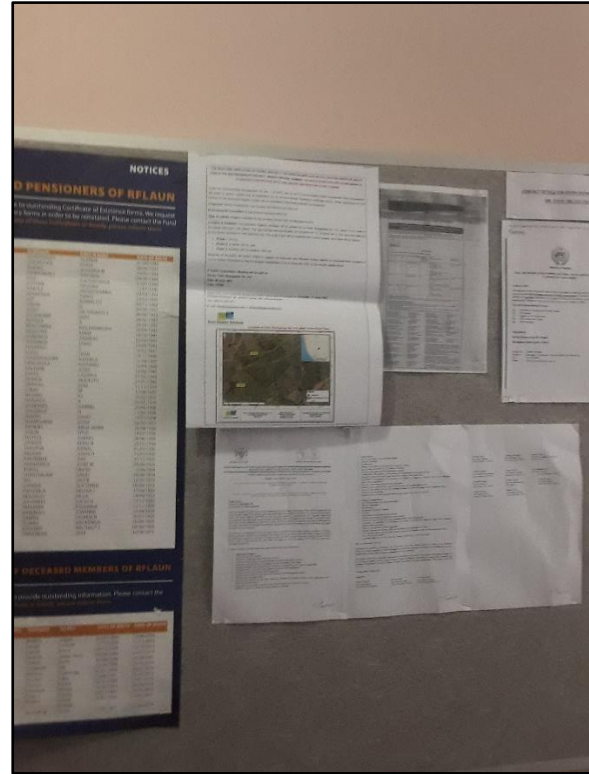
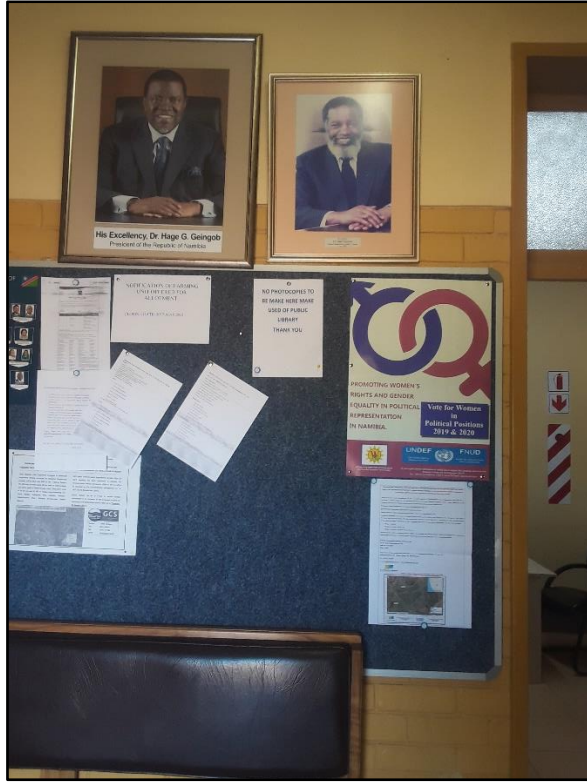


Figure 27: Public notices placed at the //Karas Regional Council

**THE PROPOSED IRRIGATION ACTIVITIES (PROJECT) ON FARM SKAAPPLAAS NO.414 LOCATED NORTH OF NAUTE DAM IN THE KEETMANSHOOP DISTRICT, //KARAS REGION, NAMIBIA: AN APPLICATION FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) AND WATER ABSTRACTION & USE LICENSE**

Under the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and its 2012 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, the public is hereby notified that an application for the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC), Water Abstraction & Use License for the proposed irrigation project will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner.

**Proponent:** Mandy Investments Two Hundred and Ninety-Four (Pty) Ltd

**Environmental Consultant:** Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd

**Type of activity:** Irrigation activities on the privately owned Farm Skaapplaas No.414


**Location & Footprint:** The proposed irrigation activities will be carried out on Farm Skaapplaas No. 414, about 10 km north of the Naute Dam (see map below). The approximate site coordinates are 26°49'00.16" S, 15°54'26.19" E. The total area planned for the project activities is 1300 hectares (ha). The project land will be implemented in three phases, and these are as follows:

- Phase 1: 300 ha,
- Phase 2: a further 700 ha, and
- Phase 3: a further 300 ha (totaling 1300 ha)

Members of the public are further invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to comment/raise concerns or receive further information on the EA process. Registration is to be done with EDS on the contact details below.

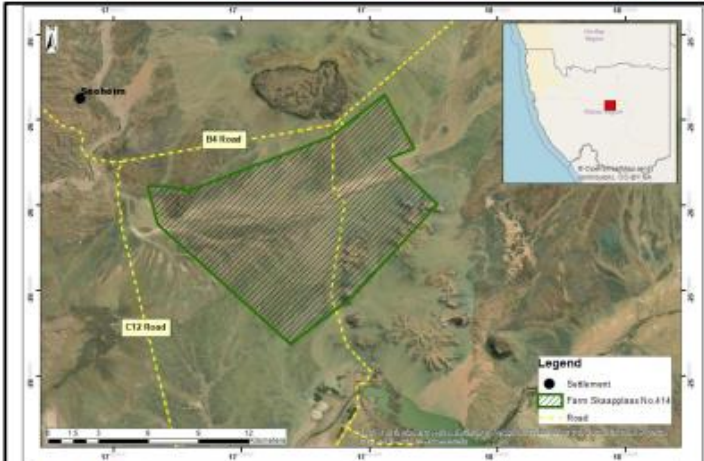
**A Public Consultation Meeting will be held at:**  
**Venue:** Farm Skaapplaas No. 414  
**Date:** 09 June 2021  
**Time:** 11h00

Registration and comments should reach EDS before end of business on **Thursday, 17 June 2021**.  
**Contact Person(s):** Mr. Nerson Tjelos / Ms. Althea Brandt  
 Tel: +264 81 259 530  
 E-mail: [info@edsnamibia.com](mailto:info@edsnamibia.com) or [abrandt@edsnamibia.com](mailto:abrandt@edsnamibia.com)



**Excel Dynamic Solutions**  
— SOLUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT —

**Location of Farm Skaapplaas No. 414 North of the Naute Dam**




 EXCEL DYNAMIC SOLUTIONS (PTY) LTD 112 ROBERT MUGARE AVE WINDHOEK	Mandy Investments Irrigation Scheme Project //KARAS REGION S.26.827 & E.17.804	COORDINATE SYSTEM: GCS WGS 1984 DATUM: WGS 1984 UNITS: DEGREE
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Figure 28: Photo of the A3 Public notice

### 6.3 Public Consultation Meeting

A public consultation meeting is one of the most important component of public consultation process as it brings the consultant and affected members of the public (particularly from the affected site area) together. The meeting is usually done in an interactive session form so that the community members or members of the public can express their opinions, give their concerns, and make suggestions to the proposed project.

A public consultation meeting was arranged for 11h00 (11am) on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2021 at the project site (Farm Skaapplaas No. 414). However, none of the members of the public, neighbours or representatives of the invited authorities came to the meeting venue. This is true because the EDS consultants spent the whole day at Farm Skaapplaas undertaking the site assessment (from 10h30 to 16h00). The Consultant assumed the meeting was a no show due to the following reasons:

- Lack of interest in the project because the project water supply is the Naute Dam (to be supplied via NamWater water supply line) and not the local aquifers (groundwater), hence not affecting the locals directly. From experience, public interest and concern in an area would be high if the water for the project would be abstracted water from an already low potential resource like boreholes in these dry parts of the country.
- The neighbouring properties to Farm Skaapplaas are more than 2 km away, therefore these neighbours might think that the project activities will be of no interest or have low interruption to and impact on their daily routines and livelihoods.
- Due to the global pandemic of the coronavirus, some people are not comfortable with attending meetings or be in gatherings that may compromise their health (fear of contracting the virus from interacting with other people from different areas).

### 6.4 Public Consultation Feedback

The only feedback received by EDS Consultants from newspaper adverts, emails sent to pre-identified and on request I&APs, letters (with BIDs) sent to the relevant national and regional authorities was acknowledgement of receipt.

The following chapter entails the potential impacts that are anticipated to be associated with the irrigation project activities, their description (for the negative/adverse impacts only), assessment and management/mitigation thereof to minimize their significance to the affected environmental features.



# Correctional officers deny assault on murder convict

■ Masia Amakali

Correctional officers who are being sued by a man convicted of murdering his girlfriend by stabbing and smothering her in Oshana, have denied assaulting him.

Armas Ekong Ndongo (30), a shipping \$570,000 in damages, for allegedly being assaulted by seven correctional officers while he was a trial awaiting sentence at the Okomo Correctional Facility.

However, the seven correctional officers deny assaulting him, but have admitted to using minimum force to restrain him.

The plaintiff was not assaulted as alleged, but minimum force was used in the circumstances to restrain the plaintiff, who was

aggressive," stated the officers.

According to their plea, Ndongo was aggressive by way of punching and kicking at them, and was not co-operative. They thus had to use minimum force on him.

The officers further deny to indicate that any injuries sustained by Ndongo were self-inflicted, and have asked him to prove all allegations he has levelled against them.

In reference to Ndongo's particulars of claim filed in the High Court, he said the correctional officers were conducting a search on 5 July 2017. When they reached his cell, they instructed him to undergo an interaction which he refused.

He narrated that the officers then started assaulting him when he refused to address



Hiding... murder convict Armas Ndongo. Photo: News24

"I was severely assaulted, and I was unable to the extent that I could not even walk or stand on my own," stated Ndongo.

After the alleged assault, he claims he was not taken to the hospital for medical attention. He lost his dignity at the hands of the officers, who had no right to assault him, and it has resulted in them

He has since also opened a

criminal case against the officers, and they have been charged with a count of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

Ndongo's suit hearing has been postponed to 7 June for a special plea before judge Herman Oosthuizen.

He is currently serving a 23-year jail term after he was convicted last year for murdering his girlfriend Miriam Nandaba, who died on 4

February 2014.

Ndongo's defence, led by counsel of Potlatch's Ruti Oshana West, with a suit would be withdrawn, and for that bid, he had requested to her to only by a piece of skin.

During the trial, he is revealed that Ndongo called to tell him he had killed his wife. The accused Ndongo also received a similar suit by Ndongo on the date of appeal.

The suit eventually got to the police, and they all in the grid system. Ndongo's father testified that he visited at the police station after his arrest. During his visit, Ndongo confessed to the murder.

During his section 139 plea, the Okomo Magistrate's Court admitted guilt. Ndongo is now being held in a cell after he gathered with another who it was his testimony that he stabbed Ndongo before visiting her. After the heinous crime, he fled the scene with the 7 cellular phone, but was in Epoko village.

# All alleged killers of elderly Koes farmers deny guilt

■ Roland Routh

The three men charged with the brutal murder of elderly farmer Gertus Botha (78) and his 80-year-old wife Inezus Alena (80) at their farm Lindeshof near Koes in the Kooxmanahoop district, on Monday denied they were responsible for the murders.

Although Julius Frederik Arndt (42), Andries Afrikaaner (39), and Johannes Christiaan (38) admit they were on the farm that fateful night, they all deny responsibility for the murders.

Each had a different story to tell in statements they made to magistrate Pieterdina Christiaan in Kooxmanahoop the day after they were arrested.

They face two counts of murder, two counts of housebreaking with intent to rob and robbery with aggravating circumstances, one count of rape, alternatively violating a dead body, conspiracy to commit robbery with aggravating circumstances and/or murder and/or rape, and housebreaking with intent to steal and theft.

According to the State, the accused acted with a common purpose at all material times.

It is alleged that the three accused broke into the

house of the deceased during the late night hours of 1 February 2018 and stole at least R550 cash, one motor cycle, a television, a tyre pump and a bulb.

After the deceased discovered the theft, they arranged for burglar bars to be installed at their residence. But before this could be effected, the accused returned the very next night and gained entrance by breaking open windows or doors, the indictment reads.

During the ransacking of the residence, it is alleged, they came across the elderly couple and murdered Gertus by hitting him with a piece of iron and shooting him in the mouth with a rifle that belonged to the deceased. Thereafter, it is said, they raped the elderly woman, or alternatively had intercourse with her dead body after they strangled her several times and strangled her with a shoelace.

In his statement, Arndt admitted that they broke into the house of the elderly couple, and that he stole several items from the house, including photo frames and jewellery, and that he "took" the motor vehicle and drove to Armas with it, where he was arrested. At that stage he was alone, he stated.

He, however, categorically denied that he killed the deceased person.

He further said that while he was looking for items to steal in the office, he heard a gunshot. Afrikaaner then came running with a rifle in his hands, and upon enquiry as to what he was doing with the rifle, Afrikaaner said, "Yes, I killed both of them."

Afrikaaner, for his part, said he was outside the house when he heard gunshots, and he went to see if Arndt wasn't shot. When he looked inside the window, he saw the old man lying on his back with the rifle in his hand. He then entered through the window and picked up the rifle, but it was locked. He then went to look for Arndt and found him a room where he was being strangled the old lady with a black rope.

"I then said to her, you already shot the husband, but he refused," Afrikaaner stated, adding that afterwards, he ran home.

Similarly, Christiaan admit he was at the house, but did never entered the house. He is because the other two were in it he ran back to Koes.

He further claimed that when Afrikaaner again, the latter told made big R500. But did not of

The matter is continuing Arndt is represented by Thina Afrikaaner by Linas, Sanna Christiaan by Tania Mhanda,

Marthinus Olivier is pro with high court judge Daus on the bench.



It wasn't me... Julius Arndt, Andries Afrikaaner and Johannes Christiaan during a previous appearance in the Kooxmanahoop Magistrate's Court. Photo: Mafeseng News

**NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

**APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATE AND WATER USE LICENSE FOR IRRIGATION PROJECT ON FARM BRANDELSKOP 44 LOCATED SOUTH OF AGULHAS BAY IN THE KOOXMANAHOOP DISTRICT, KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE**

Under the Environmental Management Act, No. 101 of 2002, the proposed irrigation activities on Farm Brandelskop 44 require an Environmental Certificate and a Water Use License from the Ministry of Environmental, Forestry and Fisheries, as well as the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries respectively before commencement.

**Best Practice Description:** The Project is located on Farm Brandelskop 44 (approx. 100 km<sup>2</sup>) in the 2018/19 season. The project proposes to develop irrigation infrastructure, comprising channels, pumping stations, distribution points, etc., to facilitate the cultivation of crops. The irrigation system is estimated to cover approximately 1200 ha in total, with the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of irrigation covering ca. 300 ha in 2021, 2022 and 2023.

**Proposed:** Water Investment Trust (WIT) and Water Fund (WF) Ltd.

**Environmental Certificate:** David Gertsema (davidg@witi.co.za)

**Water Use License:** David Gertsema (davidg@witi.co.za)

Interested and Affected Parties are invited to comment or make further information on the SAJ process. Regulations regarding and comments should be forwarded to David Gertsema, Secretary (Pretoria) on the contact address below before or on 8 June 2021.

**Public meeting details:**  
Date: 22 May 2021  
Time: 14:00  
Venue: Farm Brandelskop 44  
Contact: Anne-Marie Steyn, WIT  
Email: [annemarie.steyn@witi.co.za](mailto:annemarie.steyn@witi.co.za), Tel: +27 81 358 530

**TENDER**

MTC hereby invites applications/qualified companies to apply for the following tender:

**MTC28-21-02**

**REQUESTING PROPOSALS FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS IN OLYMPIA AND OSHANA FOR MOBILE TELECOMMUNICATIONS LIMITED (MTC)**

**BIDDING DETAILS:** MAY 2021, ON MICROSOFT TEAM WORKS. The bid will be on MTC's website under the tender document.

**COMPULSORY SITE VISIT:**

Date: 20th May 2021	Date: 24th May 2021
Time: 08:00 to 12:00	Time: 10:00 to 12:00
Location: Olympia MTC Head Office Ground Floor, One of Head Office 2 (nearby to Sutherland, North West, Orange, Free State, Western Cape, Eastern Cape, Northern Cape)	Location: Oshana MTC Head Office Building (nearby to Sutherland, North West, Orange, Free State, Western Cape, Eastern Cape, Northern Cape)

Proposals should be submitted to the tender box above.

**CLOSING DATE:** Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021 by 14:30

Tender documents are available at [www.mtc.co.za](http://www.mtc.co.za)



## Namibia among top African business-concept giants

• TIMO SHIHEPO and NGHINOMENWA ERASTUS

THE Namibia Business School (NBS) 100 top a poll to fight in the Africa Business Concept Challenge, in which the school finished among the top five. The school's water-recycling system concept was ranked number five on the continent, among 34 institutions from 15 countries.

Team leader and project management coordinator at the Namibia Business School Franky Gonteb updated *The Namibian* last week.

The Africa Business Concept Challenge aims to promote responsible capitalism, investment, and to identify young people with the potential to be mentored.

The competition was held virtually from 12 April and the winners were announced last week.

The business concepts demonstrated the role of the academic world in leading innovation and shaping countries' economic paths.

Moreover, the call for African universities to embrace research and contribute to various breakthroughs is demonstrated through this challenge.

The Lagos Business School from Nigeria won the challenge by designing an aquatic sustainable fish-consumption system, and received US\$5 000 for this.

This school also took the second prize for its modular housing concept.

The Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology from Ghana took third place.

The NBS and the Botswana International University of Management, founded off the top five - in no particular order.

The competition challenged student teams to design a viable business concept that addresses a locally relevant problem related to sustainable development and Agenda 2063.

Agenda 2063 is Africa's blueprint and master plan for transforming the continent into a global powerhouse of the future.

The NBS, which falls under the University of Namibia, sent a team called Crystal Water, with four members, competed against over 80 student teams from 34 institutions across Africa for five weeks.

The team designed a system that retains water in soil, inspired by the need to reduce the devastating impact of drought in Namibia specifically and

southern Africa as a whole.

"It's basically a recycling system designed to keep the soil moist," team leader Franky Gonteb says.

He says the competition was exciting, yet nerve-racking, given the fast pace at which they had to deliver different tasks, but is happy with what the team did and the effort they put in. It was definitely a lesson learned. We are proud of the fact that we even defeated institutions from big countries, like South Africa," he says.

Other members of the Crystal Water team are Jacobina Haldonwa, Bigelo Pange-Dube, and Angelo Kloppers.

The team was mentored by Katrina Simon-Agolor, who also coordinates the project-management programme at the NBS.

Managers were appointed to guide teams and to enrich their learning experience. One of the tasks of the challenge was to build a community learning platform to provide mutual support.

"Most rewarding for me as an educator has been witnessing the deepening of their analytical skills around the product and the business," Simon-Agolor says.

NBS director Graham Whyte says the Africa Business Concept Challenge is a truly great initiative.

"The Namibia Business School was proud to be a competitor in this inaugural event, and for our Crystal Water team to have made it to the final five product concepts was indeed an honour," he says.

The competition required student teams to engage in a four-phased project-development process where ideas, products and/or services are put up for sale on a virtual stock market on the Peaps platform.

Projects were accepted on the basis that they define a challenge and/or a need, and demonstrate a business idea to address the challenge.

Apart from the US\$5 000 cash prize there were other benefits for participating in the competition, such as mentoring from experienced entrepreneurs, business professionals and leading academic faculty members, and networking opportunities with student teams from across the globe, as well as with experienced entrepreneurs and industry professionals.

The participants also got the opportunity to interact with high-calibre, experienced judges, who are accomplished entrepreneurs and industry leaders.

Furthermore, participants received personalised, individual feedback during the project-development process on the Peaps platform.

## GIPF builds treasury Eurobond redemption muscle

• NGHINOMENWA ERASTUS and LAZARUS AMUKESHE

THE government is set to provide the Government Infrastructure Pension Fund (GIPF) with bonds and treasury bills in exchange for foreign investments.

This move aims to help the treasury get US dollars to redeem November's maturing Eurobond of US\$500 million.

Martin Ashikoto, the treasury's director of debt management, recently confirmed this.

"A decision was taken to perform what we call debt-for-asset swap, whereby the government offers local assets, namely local bonds and treasury bills, denominated in Namibia dollars, to the GIPF. In exchange, the GIPF will retire its foreign currency assets, which are mainly invested in ZAR and USD. These could be in the form of US treasuries, for example," he said.

Through this deal, the treasury has managed to rebuild its sinking US dollar and South African rand funds to US\$480 million and R1.28 billion (USD926m) respectively as of last week Monday.

GIPF principal officer David Nayoma confirmed the arrangement over the weekend, saying it was not their first arrangement with the government.

He said asset allocation assessment has allowed the fund to do this, given its over-exposure in the South African equity market, and as the fund was still falling short of the 45% domestic asset requirement.

Nayoma, however, affirmed that the GIPF has not compromised on its expected return as it moves from foreign to local assets.

"The deal is done either at equivalent returns as foreign assets, or more," he said.

The government set up a sinking fund several years ago, dominated in rands and US dollars, which was tailor-made to the redemption of the Eurobond maturing in November.

However, last year the financially constrained government withdrew from its savings to fund Covid-19-induced expenditure.

Ashikoto told *Debtwire* that "Namibia had accumulated US\$420 million, but decided to draw US\$220m (NS\$1 billion) of these funds to cover expenses related to the pandemic".

Theoretically, government investment needed to yield returns through economic growth and increased taxation to repay this loan, but for the past five years the economy only managed a 1.1% growth in 2018.

As a result the government arranged a

debt-for-asset swap.

Fortunately the GIPF portfolio in South Africa was overvalued and they agreed.

The government has been enjoying external debt issuance, which assisted in an extended debt maturity profile for the country.

It has now created two spikes and pressures for the current year and for the 2025/26 fiscal year, when its Eurobonds of US\$500 million and US\$750 million will mature.

By the end of last year Eurobond debt stood at NS\$1.27 billion, accounting for 55.3% of the country's foreign debt.

The country spent NS\$3.7 billion last year on interest on foreign debts.

As a result of the swap, the government's total debt portfolio will remain elevated, but the currency composition will shift towards more domestic than foreign debt.

This would in return reduce the currency risk exposure, Ashikoto said.

The government has listed a bond programme on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange worth R7.7 billion, of which so far only R2.2 billion has been issued.

The intention is to use this platform going forward to print debt.

Email: [bottomline@namibian.com.na](mailto:bottomline@namibian.com.na)

### NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATE AND WATER USE LICENCE FOR IRRIGATION PROJECT ON FARM SHAPAPPAAS 414 LOCATED NORTH OF NAUTE DAM IN THE KEETMANSKOP DISTRICT, JHARAS REGION, NAMIBIA

Under the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007), the proposed irrigation activities on Farm Shapappaas 414 require an Environmental Clearance Certificate and a Water Use Licensing from the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism and the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform respectively before commencement.

**Brief Project Description:** The Project is located on Farm Shapappaas 414 (Growth Point: S 26°49'00.10" E 15°54'26.18"). The project proposes to develop irrigation infrastructure, comprising pipelines, balancing dam, abstraction pumps station etc., to facilitate the cultivation of crops. The irrigation system is estimated to irrigate approximately 1200 ha in total, with the 1st phase of irrigation starting on a 300 ha, 2nd phase, 100 ha and the 3rd phase, 802 ha.

**Propositor:** Mandy Investment Two Hundred and Ninety Four (Pty) Ltd

**Environmental Consultant:** Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd

Interested and Affected Parties are invited to comment or receive further information on the EIA process. Representations, comments and concerns should be forwarded to Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd on the contact details below before of on 3 June 2021.

Public meeting details:

**Date:** 02 May 2021 **Time:** 14:30 **Venue:** Farm Shapappaas 414

**Contact:** Rose Mufweni-Nelson Tjebba  
Email: [info@exceldynamic.com](mailto:info@exceldynamic.com) Tel: +264 81 259 530

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