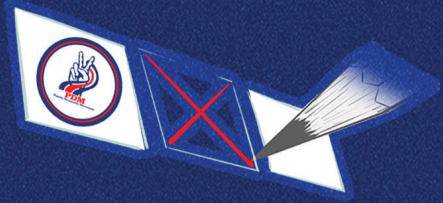




ELECTION MANIFESTO 2024



A Brighter Tomorrow:

**The PDM's Plan to Create Jobs, Build
Homes, Expand Agriculture and
Secure a Better Future**

APPOINTMENT







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FOREWORD

BY THE PRESIDENT

As the leader of the Popular Democratic Movement (PDM), I am honoured to present our comprehensive plan to transform the future of Namibia. Grounded in an ten-prong approach encompassing Agriculture, Addressing Unemployment, Housing, Healthcare, Education, Development and Promotion of Arts, Culture and Sports, Improved Governance, Economy, Infrastructure Development, and Environmental Sustainability, our vision is built upon the unwavering belief in the potential of Namibia and its greatest natural resource—its people.

The 2024 Presidential and National Assembly election presents Namibia with a unique opportunity to usher in a new administration and extricate our beloved nation from the scourge of lack of housing, skyrocketing rates of unemployment, the ever-increasing cost of living, maladministration, and corruption that have regrettably become normalized under the SWAPO party's administration. Only the PDM possesses the size, experience, and demonstrated track record of good governance to serve as the anchor for a stable and successful government.

As the leader of the PDM, I have demonstrated inclusive, transformational, and effective leadership capabilities. These are the guiding ethos that will inform my tenure as the head of state, should the PDM be entrusted with power. I urge all Namibians to cast their vote for the PDM, as we pledge to revolutionize and mechanize our agricultural sector, making it a robust vehicle for development. Unemployment will be effectively addressed through innovative legislative measures that ensure all Namibians seeking gainful employment will be put to work.

Furthermore, the PDM will strive to develop highly competitive manufacturing industries and value-added resource extraction sectors, deepening our economic base by unlocking stagnant capital in rural areas.

We are committed to providing free education from lower to upper primary levels, as well as universal healthcare for all Namibians. Our plan also prioritizes infrastructure development to drive economic growth and improve the quality of life for all citizens. Additionally, we will prioritize sustainable environmental management practices, youth empowerment initiatives, gender equality, social welfare, transparency, and accountability in governance, fostering positive international relations, and robust crisis management and disaster preparedness strategies.

This election is arguably the most urgent we have faced, and a vote for the PDM is a vote for a future that we can all be proud of. I implore you to vote for the PDM and give us a chance to work with you in shaping a brighter, more prosperous future for Namibia.

Vote for the PDM. Give us a chance. Work with us.

Sincerely,



McHenry Venaani President of the Popular Democratic Movement



#VOTE PDM FOR CHANGE

#PDM IS THE CHANGE





OUR TOP PRIORITIES AS GOVERNMENT

1. Reduce the unemployment rate to 11% by 2029 through our 'One Constituency- One Factory' policy intervention.
2. Fix the economy and slash government debt to at least 50% of GDP by 2029 to secure our fiscal sustainability.
3. Trim the Executive to only 15 Ministers and 4 Deputy Ministers to drastically reduce government expenditure and avail more resources to our people.
4. Reduce the Urban Housing backlog to only 30% by 2029 through our One Namibian - One Plot policy intervention.
5. Increase the budgetary allocation for Agriculture to 10% in line with the Malabo Protocol to achieve agricultural modernisation and mechanisation.
6. Tackle corruption and crime by tightening legislation and improving our policing service.
7. Renegotiate all government agreements pertaining to our natural resources in good faith to ensure that government is the majority shareholder in all deals pertaining to our mineral resources for the benefit of current and future Namibian generations.
8. Enact legislation to compel that up to 50% of all natural resources undergo local value addition.
9. Implement a comprehensive social welfare programme for unemployed Namibians between the ages of 21 and 59, of which benefits shall be determined in-line with the annual performance of the economy.
10. Secure the Energy Sustainability Factor.
11. Aggressively invest in desalination for the benefit of farming and food security, particularly in the coastal regions.
12. Introduce Universal Healthcare Coverage (UHC) for all Namibians through the imposition of tax calculated by tax brackets and by employing a primary healthcare approach.
13. Improve the current Basic Education curriculum across the board and address infrastructural deficits in schools, including challenges faced by teachers.
14. Ensure the inclusive sustainability of NSFAF through the allocation of a substantive fishing quota to the Fund.
15. Build state of the art multi-purposes sports centres in Windhoek, Swakopmund, Keetmanshoop, Oshakati, Rundu, Katima Mulilo, Opuwo, Otjiwarongo, Gobabis and Mariental by 2030.
16. Enact legislation to assist our creative in the Arts and Culture industry with capital.
17. Renew Genocide negotiations with the German government with the view to achieve genuine atonement through reparations and forgiveness for the atrocities of the 1904-1908 Genocide in Namibia.



PDM MANIFESTO 2024

#giveusachanceworkwithus



GOVERNANCE

1. OUR REDUCED CABINET



PRESIDENT MCHERRY VENAANI

PRIME MINISTER ✓

NO VICE PRESIDENT ✗

NO DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ✗



MINISTERS

1. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
2. DEFENCE
3. FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING
4. EDUCATION, SCIENCE, SPORTS & CULTURE
5. HEALTH, GENDER & SOCIAL SERVICES
6. HOME AFFAIRS & NATIONAL SECURITY
7. JUSTICE AND ATTORNEY GENERAL
8. AGRICULTURE, WATER & LAND REFORM
9. ENVIRONMENT, TOURISM & FISHERIES
10. HOUSING LOCAL & REGIONAL GOVERNANCE
11. MINES, ENERGY, WORKS & TRANSPORT
12. TRADE SMES & INDUSTRY
13. YOUTH & EMPLOYMENT CREATION
14. INFORMATION, RESEARCH & DIGITAL ECONOMY
15. COORDINATION, EVALUATION & IMPLEMENTATION IN PRIME MINISTER OFFICE



DEPUTIES

1. FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING
2. EDUCATION, SCIENCE, SPORTS & CULTURE
3. HOUSING, LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNANCE
4. HEALTH, GENDER AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS



15 SEATS



JOBS

2. OUR PLAN TO REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT TO 11% BY 2029

Namibia faces a catastrophic unemployment crisis in general and youth unemployment emergency in particular. The country stands out in Southern Africa with one of the youngest and fastest-growing populations. A significant 62% of the country's working-age adults are between the ages of 15 and 34, an age group broadly defined as "youth." Projections indicate that the number of 15 to 24-year-olds will have doubled by 2045 (Ighobor, 2013). This youthful demographic represents an immense potential resource for national development. However, without adequate job opportunities, this potential remains untapped, posing a significant challenge to the nation's socio-economic growth.

The growing youth population can be a powerful driver of innovation, economic expansion, and cultural enrichment. Yet, the current job market is ill-equipped to absorb this burgeoning workforce, leading to high unemployment rates and underemployment among young people. Addressing this issue requires comprehensive strategies that encompass education, skills training, and the creation of sustainable job opportunities.

To harness the potential of Namibia's youth, it is imperative to develop policies that stimulate job creation, support entrepreneurial ventures, and ensure access to quality education and vocational training. By investing in our youth, we can transform this demographic challenge into an opportunity for growth and prosperity, ensuring that Namibia's future is bright and inclusive for all its citizens.

The PDM Government's Commitments to Address Unemployment:

The PDM government is committed to transforming Namibia's employment landscape through a series of strategic initiatives aimed at stimulating economic growth and creating sustainable job opportunities across all regions.

2.1. ONE CONSTITUENCY - ONE FACTORY

- As part of our decisive policy interventions to decrease unemployment to 11% by 2029, the PDM government will establish at least one manufacturing or processing industry in all 121 constituencies in Namibia as growth poles that would accelerate the development of those areas and create jobs for our youth.
- This will be a private sector driven initiative, with government playing a facilitatory role in "terms" of enacting friendly legislation for this private sector driven initiative.
- This initiative will consider tax rebates and incentives to make industries more competitive.
- We envisage transforming the structure of the economy from one dependent on production and the export of raw materials to a value added industrialised economy driven primarily by the private sector.
- We must banish the spectre of young and able-bodied young men and women who leave our rural areas in search of mirage jobs in urban areas. We envision the youth in every constituency developing its niche market and creating jobs for themselves by producing both for export and local consumption and thus reducing rural-urban migration.
- Our long term goal is to make Namibia a hub for Southern Africa.



The growing youth population can be a powerful driver of innovation, economic expansion, and cultural enrichment





2.2. SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- The PDM government will designate all 13 regions outside the Khomas region as special economic zones. Investors in these zones will receive benefits such as tax incentives and government subsidies, provided they can create and sustain a minimum of 100 jobs per business. This initiative aims to stimulate the growth of rural economies and infrastructure, thereby reducing rural-urban migration in regions such as Zambezi, Kavango West, Kavango East, Omusati, Oshana, Ohangwena, Oshikoto, Otjozondjupa, Omaheke, Erongo, Hardap, Kunene, //Karas.

2.3. PROMOTING LOCAL PROCUREMENT

- To boost local industries, the PDM government will mandate that at least 80% of goods and services procured by the state come from local manufacturers. This policy will create a sustainable market for local goods, protect emerging domestic industries, and generate jobs.

2.4. VALUE ADDITION FOR NATURAL RESOURCES

- The PDM government will require that up to 50% of all natural resources undergo local value addition. This will stimulate the development of secondary and tertiary industries across all 14 regions, creating thousands of jobs and benefiting youth and rural communities.

2.5. AGRO-FISHING VENTURES FOR COASTAL COMMUNITIES

- The PDM government will promote agro-fishing joint ventures in coastal areas by granting fishing rights to youth-led businesses. This initiative aims to provide these communities with a reliable source of income and livelihoods.

2.6. LOCALLY SOURCED CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

- The PDM government will ensure that all materials used in state construction projects are locally produced, except in cases where local production is not feasible. This policy will support local industries and create jobs.

2.7. SUPPORT FOR SMEs

- The PDM government will provide state support to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to foster their growth and economic contribution. Legislation will be enacted to ensure that SMEs supply key industrial inputs and services to larger corporations.



The PDM government will promote agro-fishing joint ventures in coastal areas by granting fishing rights to youth-led businesses





2.8. PROTECTION AND FORMALIZATION OF STREET VENDORS

- The PDM government will safeguard the rights of street vendors and promote policies to formalize the informal market. This will enable traders to operate in safe and clean environments without fear of police harassment.

2.9. MARKET INFRASTRUCTURE FOR STREET VENDORS

- The PDM government will prohibit the confiscation of street traders' goods and will construct markets with secure storage facilities in trading zones. This will provide a secure and organized environment for street vendors.

2.10. REFORM OF THE PROCUREMENT ACT FOR JOB CREATION

- The PDM government will amend the Procurement Act of Namibia to mandate that at least 80% of all agricultural goods procured by the state be produced locally. This reform will stimulate growth in the agricultural sector, Namibia's second-largest employer.

2.11. LOCAL FOOD PROCUREMENT FOR STATE INSTITUTIONS

- The PDM government will amend the Procurement Act to ensure that 100% of the food procured by the state for schools, hospitals, prisons, and other institutions is locally sourced from previously disadvantaged farmers. Additionally, a minimum of 50% of this procurement will be from women and youth farmers. These commitments reflect the PDM government's dedication to creating a robust and inclusive economy that creates jobs and harness the potential of Namibia's youth, and ensuring sustainable development across the nation.





ECONOMY AND FISCAL POLICY

3. OUR PLAN TO FIX THE ECONOMY AND REDUCE GOVERNMENT DEBT TO 50% OF GDP BY 2029

The current state of the Namibian economy is unsustainable. Low economic growth entrenches poverty and inequality. High income inequality aggravates social fragmentation and poses a risk to economic growth. Inequality is on the rise, according to a World Bank report indicating that Namibia's Gini coefficient stood at 59,1, ranking as the second-most unequal country in the world.

The high public debt represents an impediment to sustainable economic growth and employment creation in the economy. The huge debt stock has reduced the availability of both local and external resources for health-related investments.

The development of an all-inclusive economy is an absolute priority. Our economic strategies are geared towards growing the economy, and through that, ensuring that more people participate in the economy.

A 21st century economic model is essential to us, one that is driven by knowledge, value addition and industrialization, an economic model that will create jobs by modernizing the Agricultural Sector to increase food security and productivity, transform our education system to produce capable, confident and skilled human resources that will feed an expanded economy.

We need to transform Namibia into a good society that provides all Namibians with a good life. Many of our nation's citizenry go about their lives every day with too many challenges to enable them to live comfortably. Our education system is too weak to provide for the labour demands, our health infrastructure is in bad shape; hospitals often lack water, sanitation in shanty towns is nearly non-existent. The structure of our economy has not been able to achieve needed growth. The world around us is rapidly changing and we are lagging behind.

Development occurs through well-conceived and executed plans and policies that conform to the changing needs of our society. Currently our nation's development agenda has become wishful thinking instead of a clear vision. We will not achieve Vision 2030 under the current way of doing things.

Our raison d'etre is to transform Namibia into a modern nation with an attractive quality of life and a strong economy that is business and development focused. We are aware that this transformation requires men and women of strength and courage to provide firm and strong leadership.

We envision a free and open Namibia that offers opportunities for all, a vision all Namibians can relate to. To this end we have a team of capable and talented leadership to implement this programme of transformation. To turn around our economy into an upward trend, the PDM government will implement the following interventions:

3.1. SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

- Our economic plan for Namibia is a plan to live within our means and to get the budget back under control. Our nation's net debt makes Namibia vulnerable to economic shock and gives us less protection in the event of another global financial crisis.
- It is our firm commitment to get the budget under control and put Namibia on the path to real prosperity. Sound budget management means a sustainable surplus over the medium term because governments have to live within their means if they wish to bequeath a tomorrow to future generations - a better-off generation as opposed to worse off one. We shall manage the economy and budget responsibly to ensure our children are not burdened by unsustainably high taxes and left with an unfair legacy.



Our plan is designed to make Namibia more productive and to make our economy more competitive, because it is the key to building a better future with better prospects for all our people





To this effect, the PDM government will:

- Establish a national audit to identify savings and efficiencies in areas of Government, to reduce government debt.
- End government waste and ensure better value for money in government programmes.
- Review the performance of State Owned Enterprises, limit bail outs and reform the high wage bills that characterise them.
- Strategically sell assets that are not core functions of government and decrease the burden of state involvement in business thereby opening up space for the private sector.
- Restore prudent financial management for structural integrity to the budget.
- Reduce expenditure by fixing the overlap and duplications between various Government programmes - thus reducing the bloated civil service, with the emphasis on natural attrition.
- Deliver a more effective and responsive public service focused on your needs.

3.2. REFORM OUR FISCAL POLICY

- The tax policy of the PDM which is based on the principles of justice, neutrality, understandability and ease of administration will be supported by monetary and fiscal policies aimed at creating a sound macroeconomic environment, conducive to stability of the balance of payment and prices, to sustain economic growth and to achieve the highest possible rate of employment and economic stability.
- The PDM assigns a high priority to all social services with a view to address social inequalities. We regard the redistribution of wealth through prudent and targeted government expenditure as an important component of our fiscal policy. We will accordingly address socio-economic problems aggressively without abandoning fiscal discipline and in such a manner as not to impair the growth of our economy.

3.3. BOOSTING PRODUCTIVITY AND SECURING GREATER PROSPERITY

- In a competitive global economy, standing idle is never an option. Hence, the PDM government will immediately take necessary decisions to boost the growth of productivity and encourage world best practices to modernise and transform Namibia's competitiveness in business and industries for the 21st Century.
- Our plan is designed to make Namibia more productive and to make our economy more competitive, because it is the key to building a better future with better prospects for all our people.

To this effect, the PDM government will:

- Make public institutions more cost effective and responsive.
- Cut government red tape to allow businesses to become more productive and devote their energy to business and growth of the economy.
- Improve competition rules for competitive forces to drive productivity growth.
- Rebalance workplace relations to reduce union militancy in the workplace and encourage better pay for better work.
- Implement a national minimum wage by narrowing the high gini-coefficient gap in consultation with stake holders.



- Promote greater value from infrastructural spending so that every dollar of spending will contribute to real economic growth.

3.4. DEVELOP NAMIBIAN MULTI-NATIONALS

- We believe in rewarding good business performers that provide impetus for jobs and global competitiveness.
- Therefore, the PDM government will assist Namibian multi-national companies to allow them to compete on the global front as some of our companies such as Namibia Breweries already do. Supporting such companies will mean more taxes and jobs for our economy. We shall make deliberate efforts to allow Namibia to enter the global markets.

3.5. MAXIMISING OUR TOURISM INDUSTRY

The PDM maintains its policy position that the development of a vibrant tourism industry should be a top priority of any government. Tourism in Namibia has demonstrated significant growth and is a key component of the country's economy. The tourism industry has perhaps a greater potential than any other single industry, both directly and indirectly via its multiplier effects, to support at least two of our main objectives i.e. economic growth and job creation.

The PDM recognises the importance of the tourism industry to the Namibian economy. However, it is the PDM's contention that the specific targets established on tourism require a greater appreciation by the current government. The support rendered to the tourism sector has to shield the industry, especially from shocks that can emanate from phenomena's such as Covid-19.

To this effect, the PDM government will:

- Provide greater support to the tourism sector through the provision of adequate and bulk infrastructure.
- Ensure that tourists are provided with a safe and secure environment, free from crime and disease to the furthest extend possible.
- Facilitate development, especially amongst previously disadvantaged communities and small, medium and micro enterprises through inter-alia, the:
 1. The establishment of clear parameters for development in conservancies.
 2. Identification of suitable sites.
 3. Facilitation of development funding opportunities.
 4. Assistance with the promotion of development opportunities to investors.
 5. Alignment of tourism development with national source-economic objectives.
 6. The protection of workers in the tourism from exploitation through the adherence to minimum wage requirements and other legislative protectives measures.

3.6. CAPACITY BUILDING HELPS SMALL BUSINESSES CREATE JOBS FOR GROWTH

- We have an economic plan to help small businesses grow and create stronger job growth. Small and Medium Enterprises employ almost half of the national workforce thus by promoting the SME sector we will unleash the potential of small businesses to grow and create more jobs by lowering taxes and reducing business costs.

To this effect, the PDM government will:

- Deliver a modest company tax cut funded from savings in the budget.
- Stop small businesses from paying 7% more for electricity and 5% more for water to boost ease on growth.



- Reduce the red tape that makes it hard to establish a business in Namibia with a specific focus on a streamlined small business regulatory system for registration as well labour registration.
- Reform the procurement policy to lower the cost of bidding and make the process more accessible.
- Divide tenders into smaller contracts to allow small companies to compete and receive such contracts thereby allowing greater participation.
- Provide particular support for our SME's to enter and compete in the oil and gas industry.

3.7. SOCIAL WELFARE

The significant majority of Namibians have no social protection against the harsh realities of unemployment and economic variables. This means that the average Namibian is exposed to various indicators of multidimensional poverty. It is our strongly held view that the State should intervene to ensure those who suffer from the shocks of unemployment be assisted through social welfare. To this effect, the **PDM government will:**

- Implement a comprehensive social welfare programme for unemployed Namibians between the ages of 21 and 50 of which benefits shall be determined in-line with the annual performance of the economy.
- All other existing social welfare benefits, including old age pensions, will be increased to reflect the current reality of inflation.

3.8. JOBS FOR YOUTH NOW

According to the preliminary findings of the 2023 Population and Housing Census conducted by the Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA), Namibia's population of 3 million comprises of 2.1 million young people. This is why the PDM will prioritize and empower the Namibian youth.

The future of our country lies in the young of our society. The PDM considers young people as the most productive asset of the Nation who can make it possible for our economy to achieve our intended double digit growth.

All sectors dominated by youth are doing exceptionally well. Namibia is the one of the youngest countries to gain independence and this necessitates that our policies must be based on a judicious mix of experience, energy, and 'Youth inclusivity', so that the youth become an integral part of the development process.

We commit to reviewing and revising policies to seek the participation of the youth in decision-making and nation-building processes and to actively encourage the youth to participate in decision-making bodies.

The PDM government will:

- Establish a Youth Venture Capital Fund by allocating a percentage of national revenue annually to help youth with bankable project plans to receive funding, mentoring and-coaching without any collateral.
- Enhance youth-specific affirmative action on Government procurement to 25% so as to mainstream the participation of youth-run business in economic development.
- Initiate a 'Young Leaders programme' in all sectors to recognize, reward and involve these exceptionally talented youth to serve as role models and mentors for others.

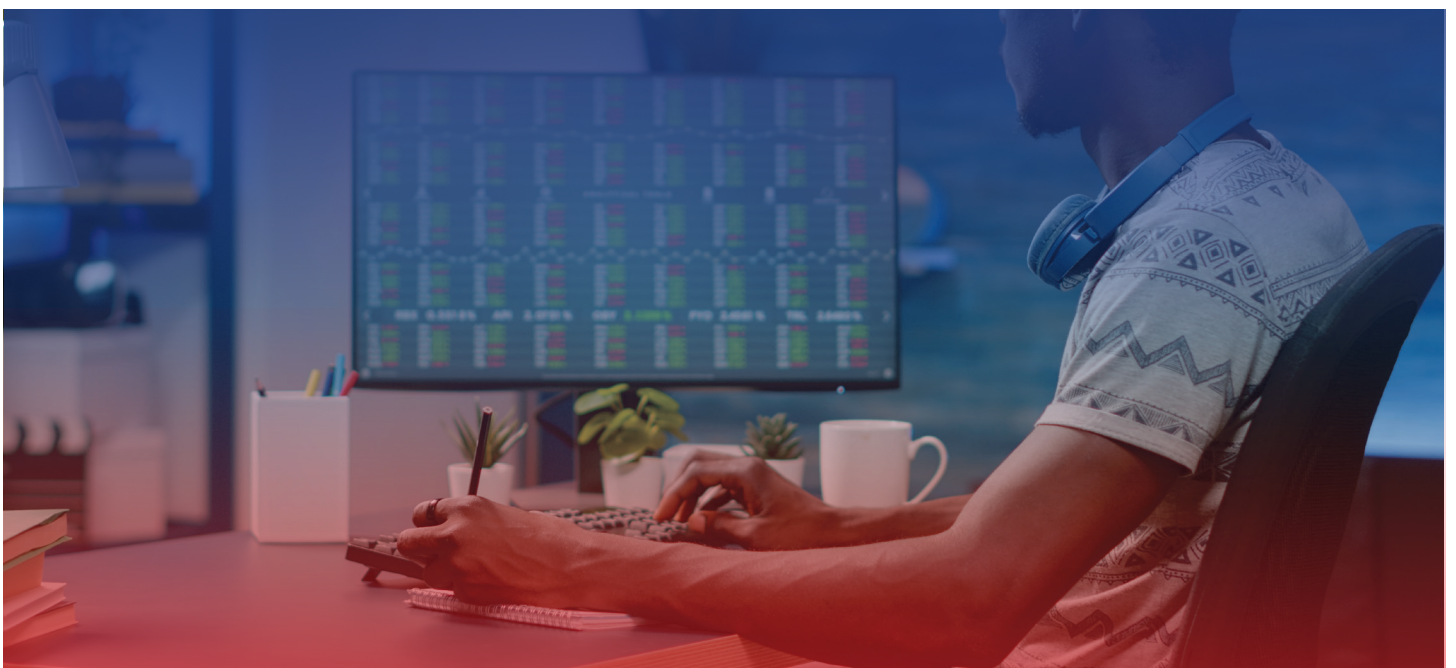


- Introduce a nation-wide constituency level incubation and accelerator programme to encourage innovation and entrepreneurship.
- Relax all barriers imposed by the Namibia Revenue Agency (NAMRA) on young entrepreneurs, particularly those who operate 'Order With Me' enterprises.
- Allocate a percentage of national revenue annually towards establishing a Youth Enterprise Capital Fund to enable youth to access business financing interest free either individually or in groups without traditional collateral requirements with a strong training and mentoring to ensure viability and corruption free process.
- Break the No-Experience-No-Job cycle as many employers require experience from graduates and unemployed youth. We will in-turn encourage employers to provide on the job training to the youth.
- Create special training programmes for school dropouts to enable them to obtain the necessary skills and expertise required by potential employers.
- Relax all barriers imposed by the Namibia Revenue Agency (NAMRA) on young entrepreneurs, particularly those who operate 'Order With Me' enterprises.

3.9. THE DIGITAL ECONOMY

The past five years have seen a rapid increase in the dominance of the digital economy, especially as it concerns AI in relation to the digital economy. It remains our firm view that the global economy is rapidly becoming technology driven. Every aspect of human social, political and economic activity is becoming rooted in information generated by the online activities of people and machines.

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) is seen as an economic growth multiplier, particularly because it facilitates knowledge exchanges, including effective functioning of regional multinational value chains that include goods and services. ICT enables international commerce to function efficiently and reliably; it enables governments to offer online interaction with citizens, facilitates knowledge and cultural exchanges between communities and nations, and provides access to a world of opportunities.





ENERGY

4. OUR PLAN TO SECURE THE ENERGY SUSTAINABILITY FACTOR

Namibia's domestic electricity supply has failed to keep pace with rising demand, and the country generates less than half of the energy it consumes. If present trends continue unchecked, we could face a genuine energy crisis. But that crisis can and should be averted, for we have the capacity and the resources to meet our energy needs if only we take the proper steps—and take them now.

We should not be misled into pessimistic predictions of an energy disaster. But neither should we be lulled into a false sense of security. The PDM strongly believes in examining our country's circumstances realistically, carefully weighing the alternatives—and then moving forward decisively.

Hence, in determining how we should expand and develop our energy resources, we must take into account not only our economic goals, but also our environmental goals and our national security goals. Each of these areas is profoundly affected by our decisions concerning energy. PDM's message on energy policy proposes a number of specific steps to meet our projected needs by increasing our supply of clean energy in Namibia. **These steps include:**

- Renegotiate all existing oil deals to ensure that government is the majority shareholder for the benefit of current and future Namibian generations.
- Expanded research and development to obtain more clean energy in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- Increased availability of energy resources;
- Increased efforts in the development of green hydrogen, and oil exploration.
- A new government agency (or capacitate the existing ones) to plan and manage our energy programs. Namibia is the third-largest producer of uranium in the world and the largest producer of Uranium from mining in Africa. Therefore, the **PDM government will take steps to:**





- develop uranium enrichment capacity for the production of fuels for nuclear power plants;
- Standardize nuclear power plant designs, and;
- Ensure an enviable safety record.

We will take other decisive actions to increase and encourage better conservation of energy and ensure that Namibia will always have the power needed to fuel its prosperity. In developing and carrying out a more comprehensive, integrated national energy policy, the **PDM government will:**

- Develop an industrial policy that will enhance in-house capacity for the use of solar panels to generate electricity for households across the country.
- Increase domestic production of all forms of energy;
- Act to conserve energy more effectively;
- Strive to meet our energy needs at the lowest cost consistent with the protection of both our national security and our natural environment;
- Reduce excessive regulatory and administrative impediments which have delayed or prevented construction of energy-producing facilities;
- Act in concert with other nations to conduct research in the energy field and to find ways to prevent serious shortages; and
- Apply our vast scientific and technological capacities—both public and private—so we can utilize our current energy resources more wisely and develop new sources and new forms of energy.

The effort to increase domestic energy production in a manner consistent with our economic, environmental and security interests should focus on the following areas:

- Encouraging domestic exploration;
- Importing to meet our energy needs;
- Conserving energy;
- Research and development;
- International cooperation;

Common sense clearly dictates that as we expand the types and sources of energy available to us for the future, we must direct equal attention to conserving the energy available to us today, and we must explore means to limit future growth in energy demand. We must develop a national energy conservation ethic. Industry can help by using energy more efficiently.

All workers and consumers can help by continually saving energy in their day-to-day activities. The PDM Government at all levels will, therefore, have an important role to play, both by conserving energy directly, and by providing leadership in energy conservation efforts. More importantly, by eliminating regulations and by ensuring that the costs of adequate environmental controls are equitably allocated, we can move toward more efficient distribution of our resources.



CORRUPTION, POLICING AND CRIME PREVENTION

5. OUR PLAN TO ERADICATE CORRUPTION

Namibia has a systemic corruption problem. Those connected to the ruling political establishment have plundered the resources of this country, and have disadvantaged those who need it most, the poor and downtrodden.

The Fishrot scandal, whereby politicians partnered with their business partners to loot our fishing industry, is one such example of the systemic corruption problem we have in this country.

Therefore, the PDM government will have a ZERO TOLERANCE FOR CORRUPTION approach, and will tighten legislation to this effect in regards to the Anti-Corruption Commission. Therefore, the

PDM government will:

1. Amend Article 94A (5) of the Namibian Constitution

- Article 94A (5) of the Constitution will be amended to empower the National Assembly to nominate and appoint the Director and Deputy Director General of the Anti-Corruption Commission, and take away the power of the President to nominate these two functionaries completely.
- This will ensure that the Director and Deputy Director of the ACC owe no allegiance to the President, but only to the people of the Namibia.

2. Amend legislation to increase sentences for white collar crime

- Various legislation will be amended to facilitate the increase of sentences for white collar crime.
- This will be done in efforts to deter corrupt practices in the public and private sector and defeat the notion that white collar crime is of a less serious nature.
- Operationalise the Witness Protection Act, 2017 (Act 11 of 2017) in order to protect whistleblowers of corruption.

3. POLICING AND CRIME PREVENTION

In order to beef up policing and prevent crime, the PDM government will:

- Fill up to 90% of the approved policing structure within the Namibian Police (NAMPOL).
- Implement a comprehensive a crime strategy to ensure that criminals are swiftly arrested, tried, convicted and sentenced.
- Enhance the training of police officers to ensure that investigations result in successful convictions.
- Decentralise policing powers from national to regional and local authorities.
- Create specialised courts and police units to deal with corruption, sexual and gender-based violence, gangs and drugs.
- Ensure the independence of the Judiciary.
- Create public awareness for individuals and businesses to adopt good cyber security practices and train and source skilled technicians and engineers to fully implement cybercrime laws.



AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

6. OUR PLAN FOR AGRICULTURAL MODERNISATION AND MECHANISATION

The PDM is steadfast in its conviction that agriculture serves as the linchpin of Namibia's journey towards prosperity, offering a pathway to address systemic inequities, empower marginalized communities, and foster sustainable growth. By harnessing Namibia's agricultural prowess, we possess the means to not only secure food sovereignty but also to emerge as a regional powerhouse in agricultural innovation and commercialization.

Namibia's agricultural landscape is replete with untapped potential awaiting cultivation. Accordingly, the PDM believes that it is incumbent upon us, as custodians of this fertile legacy, to cultivate an environment conducive to agricultural advancement, unlocking the latent wealth and opportunity embedded within our soils.

Through pragmatic policy formulation, stakeholder collaboration, and transparent governance, the PDM pledges to galvanise Namibia's agricultural sector, ensuring that every citizen reaps the dividends of an agricultural revolution through the following interventions:

6.1. ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY

Namibia's battle against food insecurity persists, with approximately 22% of the population experiencing acute food insecurity (Namibia Statistics Agency, 2021). The PDM commits to implementing targeted interventions to address this urgent issue through:

- Expanding access to affordable agricultural inputs and technologies for smallholder farmers, particularly in rural areas where food insecurity is most acute.
- Establishing community-based food storage and distribution networks to mitigate post-harvest losses and ensure food reaches vulnerable populations.
- Promoting sustainable and climate-resilient farming practices to enhance agricultural productivity and safeguard food security in the face of climate change-induced challenges.

6.2. AGRICULTURAL MODERNISATION

Namibia's agricultural sector is ripe for modernisation, yet outdated farming techniques and limited access to resources hinder its full potential. The PDM government will spearhead agricultural modernisation through:

- Investing in agricultural research and development to foster innovation, improve crop yields, and enhance resilience to pests and diseases.
- Facilitating access to credit, mechanization, and irrigation technologies for smallholder farmers, empowering them to adopt modern farming practices and increase their productivity.
- Promoting public-private partnerships to leverage private sector expertise and resources in driving agricultural innovation, value addition, and market linkages.

6.3. WELFARE OF FARMERS

The welfare of Namibia's farmers lies at the core of our agricultural manifesto. Smallholder farmers, in particular, face numerous socio-economic challenges, including limited access to markets and resources. The this end, the **PDM government will:**



Investing in agricultural research and development to foster innovation, improve crop yields, and enhance resilience to pests and diseases



- Introduce legislation to lower barriers for small-scale farmers to access supply contracts from large-scale chain stores, ensuring fair and transparent procurement practices.
- Establish a pension scheme for marginal as well as smaller scale farmers in an effort to ensure social security upon them reaching 60 years of age.
- Enhance extension services and agricultural training programs to build the capacity of farmers in modern agricultural practices, financial management, and marketing strategies.
- Establish a voluntary enrolment risk mitigation insurance scheme for rural farmers. In tandem with the insurance scheme, the PDM advocates for comprehensive capacity-building and educational programs aimed at enhancing farmers' understanding of agricultural risks and insurance principles. These mechanisms may include indemnity payments for crop losses, coverage for input costs, and assistance with replanting efforts following natural disasters.
- Advocate for policies that protect land rights and tenure security for smallholder farmers, promoting equitable access to land resources and fostering long-term agricultural investments.

6.4. DEVELOPMENT OF AGRI-ALLIED SECTORS

Agriculture does not exist in isolation. It is intrinsically linked to various allied sectors that contribute to its growth and sustainability. The PDM recognises the importance of nurturing these sectors by:

- Allocating a minimum of 10% of Namibia's annual budget to agriculture, in line with the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth. This increased budgetary allocation will provide the necessary resources to drive agricultural development, enhance productivity, and promote rural development.
- Promoting value addition and agro-processing industries to unlock the full economic potential of Namibia's agricultural produce and create employment opportunities along the value chain.
- Investing in rural infrastructure, including roads, storage facilities, and market centers, to improve market access, reduce post-harvest losses, and stimulate economic growth in rural areas.

6.5. IMPROVING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Water scarcity poses a significant challenge to agricultural development in Namibia. Due to its unique geography and climate, Namibia is particularly susceptible to water scarcity. As a result of the country's arid environment and unpredictable rainfall patterns, water is becoming increasingly limited. To achieve this, the **PDM government will:**

- Develop desalination plants along the coast to create a water supply line for inland Namibia, ensuring reliable water access for agricultural activities.
- Construct earth dams in all villages to improve catchment capacity and facilitate water storage for agricultural and domestic use.
- Install water points within 100 meters of communities, particularly in areas prone to Human-Wildlife Conflict, to ensure easy access to potable water and mitigate conflict.

6.6. EMPOWERING WOMEN AND YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE

Women and youth constitute a significant portion of Namibia's agricultural workforce and hold immense potential as agents of change. **The PDM government will:**



- Implement gender-sensitive policies and programs to promote women's access to land, resources, and agricultural training opportunities.
- Establish youth-focused agricultural initiatives, including mentorship programs, vocational training, and entrepreneurship support, to attract young talent to the agricultural sector.
- Create conducive environments for women and youth participation in decision-making processes, farmer organizations, and agricultural value chains to ensure their voices are heard and their contributions recognised.

6.7. PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE LAND USE PRACTICES

The PDM recognises the importance of sustainable land management in ensuring the long-term viability of agriculture. To this end, the **PDM government will:**

- Implement land-use planning initiatives that balance agricultural development with environmental conservation and biodiversity protection.
- Promote agroforestry and sustainable land rehabilitation programs to combat desertification, soil erosion, and land degradation.
- Advocate for the adoption of conservation agriculture techniques, such as minimum tillage and cover cropping, to improve soil health and water retention.

6.8. EMPOWER FARMERS' COOPERATIVES (FCS) AND FARMERS' ASSOCIATIONS (FAS) WITH SUBSIDISED FUNDING

The PDM government will:

- Ensure that FA's & FC's are subsidised with necessary new technologies machineries/equipment and tools at Constituency level.
- Ensure that FA's & FC's assist farmers on time with needed machineries/equipment and tool at affordable rate/price in order to improve their livelihood and increase farming income through value additions (Agro-processing) to their produces.
- Secure funds for the FA's & FC's for timely production of enough fodder throughout the year for livestock as a drought mitigation measure. This will assist government to be prepared and spend less resources during drought periods while keeping livestock marketing prices at auctions at a maximised price.
- Ensure that all regions through FA's & FC's have sheds and silos for dry storage of cereals, legumes and cold storage rooms and hubs for perishables (fruits/veggies) for collection to the markets.





HOUSING AND LAND REFORM

7. OUR PLAN TO DEAL WITH THE URBAN HOUSING CRISIS

The housing crisis severely hampers the social upward mobility of Namibians, particularly in urban areas. Corrugated iron sheets have become the common building materials for our people to put a roof over their heads. And too often these are rudimentary, ramshackle structures where people live a life of indignity in the modern world of the 21st century.

Thus we will roll out a massive Low Cost Housing programme to ensure that by 2029, the urban housing backlog is reduced to 30%. It will be an innovatively designed scheme that merges various existing programmes and also encourages growth of the housing sector by appropriate policy interventions and credit availability including interest subventions, where necessary.

We shall further develop a mechanism that builds social housing units on a massive scale to ease the burden of rentals and allow young professionals to access affordable housing. We will provide a housing loan guarantee fund to assist low and middle income first time home buyers to access loans for decent shelter.

Our proposed programme will further ensure that these houses are equipped with the basic facilities of toilet, piped water supply, electricity and proper access. To achieve this, the **PDM government will:**

- Prioritise all our resources towards this goal
- Establish an Urban Land Resettlement scheme to benefit urban hunger for serviced land and put equity in the hands of the poor
- Provide a housing subsidy for first time home buyers
- Introduce a programme that encourages employers to provide housing allowances to their employees

7.1. ONE NAMIBIAN – ONE PLOT POLICY

Namibians can never be made to continue to be tenants in flats in their own country. Those who live in informal settlements cannot be made to suffer the continued deprivation of their dignity as if they are refugees in the land of their birth, the land bequeathed to them by their ancestors. The urban poor need to be given ownership of free plots on which to erect decent structures. On this premise the PDM believes that every informal settlement dweller over the age of 21 who falls into a lower income category (receiving less than N\$4,500 per month) must qualify for a small plot.

Most of this work of bringing back the dignity of our people through the allocation of one plot for every adult Namibian will primarily take place at the regional and local levels. Central government will provide moral and financial support, but the planning and implementation of activities to this end will be done at the regional and local level.

The PDM will thus provide the urban poor with free erven through the 'One Namibian, One Plot' policy which is a clear commitment by the PDM to equitable land reform and sustainable solution to lack of housing. To implement the 'One Namibian – One Plot' policy, the **PDM government will:**

- Transform informal settlements into formalized areas of human settlement with developed land and title deeds given to the owner.
- Provide for land expropriation in local authorities with just compensation.



- Provide funds from central government to pave way for town growth while providing compensation to those relocated in the process.
- Remodel shanty towns by electrification through renewable models.
- Provide sanitation through a One Family – One Toilet scheme.

7.2. RENT CONTROL

Namibia has one of the highest rent prices in the world. On average, Namibians spent over N\$7000 on rent in 2023, a terrifyingly high figure. It has become clear that prices in the renting market have gone out of control, and measures need to be put in place to protect tenants. To this effect, the PDM government will, without delay, table the Rent Control Bill and operationalise the Rent Control Board which will control renting prices as well as investigate complaints between tenants and landlords.

7.3. LAND REFORM

A PDM government is of the strong held view that in order to sustain and preserve the capacity of land production, security of tenure is paramount. It remains our position that we believe in giving the rural population equity in their hands by providing collateral in all existing properties in rural areas to stimulate mechanised farming and double our economic base. **The PDM government will:**

- Develop virgin land with fencing and water infrastructure.
- Resettle the urban poor on urban land to give equity to the poor and reduce land hunger.
- Develop commercial land on 15 years leasehold create more farmers.
- Conduct regular audits of resettlement farms infrastructure and enforce punitive measures for deliberate vandalism of property.
- Increase stock and the implementation of loans to assist farmers in achieving productivity.
- Provide incentives to ensure that productivity is optimized.
- Develop the existing diverse systems of land tenure towards an evolutionary process which should culminate in a leasehold, and ultimately, a freehold system.

This strategy is specifically aimed at:

- Addressing and ameliorating constraints in the subsistence sector.
- The maturing of subsistence farming into commercial production.
- Populating newly developed areas with commercial farmers who are equipped with the necessary skills to be ultimately successful.
- The evaluation of farmers after a probationary period before the allocation of land.
- The settlement or resettlement of farmers on an economic basis.
- The active involvement and cooperation of the local population in planning and implementing programmes. **The PDM government will further initiate a commercial farm land resettlement programme by:**



- Allocating unused land that is in the hands of the state to assist potential farmers.
- Finalise outstanding land claims and reopen the window for further applications and claims.
- Allocate specific support for modern agriculture and other developmental initiatives to redress the imbalances of the past.
- Create training infrastructure through which learners will be encouraged to study agricultural sciences at schools.
- Support land expropriation with just compensation.
- Place a moratorium on the sale of agricultural land to foreigners.



We will provide a housing loan guarantee fund to assist low and middle income first time home buyers to access loans for decent shelter



HEALTH

8. OUR PLAN TO SECURE EQUITABLE, AFFORDABLE AND QUALITY HEALTH CARE FOR ALL NAMIBIANS

Some key facts related to Namibia:

In conforming to the global society, the PDM believes that good health is a precondition to sustainable and economic development and should respond to the target of the Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG 3): 'Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages'.

The majority of the health care budget is spent on curative care (62%), whilst expenditure on Primary Health Service is at about 24% and this compromises preventative health measures. The allocation to Primary Health Care which is the cornerstone of health services and focuses on preventative care should be the priority in any country.

The PDM government will counteract this anomaly and refocus on increasing the allocation of the budget towards sustainable investments in primary healthcare services, including increasing the number of health centers and clinics to implement a primary healthcare approach.

The PDM Government is cognisant of the importance of improving Health financing to fuel primary health care (PHC) as the engine for achieving good health and universal health coverage. The PDM government intends to ensure that people are at the center and to ensure that health inequities are addressed.

The PDM government will improve the public health system by strengthening comprehensive Primary Health Care focusing on a people-centered approach, provision of quality health care services and ultimately ensuring the achievement of universal health coverage.

Furthermore, the PDM will ensure equitable domestic financing for public health to respond to the Abuja Declaration of allocating 15% of the national budget to improve health. The PDM government's approach will be based on the Alma-Ata Declaration of 1978 to health care which is based on the pillars of prevention, promotion and education on healthcare.

8.1. THE PDM'S STRATEGIC HEALTH PRIORITIES FOR NAMIBIA ARE:

1. Strengthening the health system – to improve performance and provide quality health services that are efficient and equitable.
2. Combating the high burden of major communicable and non-communicable diseases, especially among poor and marginalized communities.
3. Improving maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health; and adopting the Health in All Policies (HiAP) approach and promoting a safer and healthier environment – by enhancing health promotion and reducing major risk factors and the socio-economic determinants of health.
4. The establishment of Public Palliative Care, Rehabilitation, and Mental health facilities to promote dignified care.

In conforming with the global society, the PDM believes that good health is a precondition to sustainable and economic development and should respond to the targets outlined in the Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG 3): 'Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages'. We resolutely advocate for universal health coverage for all Namibians. **The PDM government will ensure that:**

- All people have access to the full range of quality health services they need, when and where they need them, without any financial hardship.



At 65 deaths per 100 000 live births, maternal mortality is substantially higher than the average for the rest of Africa of 210 deaths



- Cover the full continuum of essential health care services, from health promotion to prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and palliative care across the life course.

We remain cognisant that:

- There is a distinct division in the quality of healthcare received by those who rely on the public healthcare system and those who pay for private healthcare services. The PDM government will address this inequality by building health facilities especially the Primary Health Care Clinics and Health Centers within the World Health Organization (WHO) recommended 5 km radius for optimal access, especially in the rural areas.
- Protecting people from the financial consequences of paying for health services out of their own pockets reduces the risk that people will be pushed into poverty because the cost of needed specialised health services and treatments requires them to use up their life savings, sell assets, or borrow – destroying their futures and often those of their children.
- The PDM government will upgrade hospitals in each district in Namibia to ensure that there are specialised hospitals with a minimum of 250 beds, open 24 hours a day, outpatient departments with internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics, gynecology and general surgeons, trauma teams, mental health and drug detox and rehabilitation centers and other specialized services.

Confronting these and other sad realities, the PDM government will:

- Foster multilateral and donor cooperation, professional ties with other developed countries, research and product development across the board in the health and medical field to improve the capacity of Ministry of Health, Gender and Social Services staff at regional, district and facility level to develop and implement improved health policies and strategies.
- Adopt a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach to health that combines three core components:
 1. Multisectoral policy and action;
 2. Empowered people and communities; and
 3. Primary care and essential public health functions as the core of integrated health services.

A PHC approach can help Namibia equitably maximize the level and distribution of health and well-being by focusing on people's needs and preferences (both as individuals and communities) as early as possible along the continuum of care:

- From health promotion and;
- Disease prevention to;
- Diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation and;
- Palliative care – and as close as possible to people's everyday environments.

To deliver on our promises, the PDM government will:

- Seek Public-Private Partnerships in the health sector to improve the incentives in health and pool resources needed to improve the provision of health services.
- Ensure continuous comprehensive in-service training for Health Care workers to keep abreast of emerging diseases and global changes in the health sector including the recruitment of more medical professionals in specialised health disciplines.



- Establish at least 6 mental health facilities and rehabilitation centers in 6 regions.
- Establish a National Prescription Registry that will allow patients to collect repeat prescriptions at any pharmacy in the country. This will be done by establishing a single access point for accessing a medication registry. PDM government will ensure the establishment of contracts with private pharmacies to ensure smooth buyout of medication that is not available in state pharmacies. This will allow state patients to collect medication without cost and to adhere to treatment regimes.
- Ensure that the high number of unemployed trained Enrolled Nurses and caregivers are employed at the established public palliative facilities and in addition, it will fully integrate Community Healthcare Workers as full-time employees of the public health sector who will be responsible for the provision of quality healthcare in every community.
- Mandate that all rehabilitation products are manufactured outside of Namibia, the PDM will introduce local Community- Based Rehabilitation non-governmental organisation manufacturing for appropriate rehabilitation assistive products such as mobility devices/ aids (e.g., crutches, walking sticks/canes, walking frames/walkers)
- Make it easier for people living with disabilities to access these healthcare interventions, including occupational therapy and mobility support services.
- Foster partnerships with food producers, retailers, and food banks to increase access to nutritional food for those struggling with food insecurity and reduce malnutrition.
- Work towards ensuring that all health departments in public hospitals and clinics employ at least one healthcare professional who is competent at sign language communication. We will allocate resources for the training and certification of existing healthcare staff in sign language to ensure that clinics and hospitals can comply with this provision.
- Build and maintain a state-owned healthcare equipment company to manufacture healthcare equipment, commodities and diagnostics.
- Establish a medical fellowship program with fellow African countries to foster academics, research, innovation, and skills exchange.
- Prioritise a conducive residential environment and provision and improvement of lodging for healthcare workers worker away from their place of residence.
- Ensure that each health facility has a backup electricity supply by 2026 to maintain the proper functioning of cold chain equipment and vaccine efficacy.

8.2. SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND STOCK OUT

The PDM Government will:

- Introduce a dedicated Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy and commit to improve the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and adolescents.
- Ensure that access to improved access to the full range of contraceptives for all people especially for adolescents and young people in the location of their choosing is always improved and available
- Ensure that there is no stockout of essential commodities, medication and contraceptives to ensure that the unmet need for family planning for women are decrease.
- Regularise and fully integrate Community Healthcare Workers as full-time employees of the State who will be responsible for provision of quality healthcare in each and every community.



- Work with the Namibia Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) and maximally utilize other platforms of mass media communication to produce health education content to be aired on all NBC platforms. Health programming across multi-media platforms must be utilised to reach people in all social spaces and ensure that the learning, visual and hearing tools and aids for people with disabilities are taken into account when producing health content.
- Build 24-hour integrated post-sexual trauma centers in all district hospitals for urgent medical, forensic, psychological and social assistance, directly linked to policing and detective directorates.
- Ensure consistent resourcing and financing of comprehensive care with clear referral pathways to specialized services and other multi sectoral services, including financial and legal support, safe accommodation, and ensuring accountability and redress.

The right to health relies on many other human rights. When all people have access to food, water, and sanitation; housing; education; and safe and affordable healthcare without any discrimination, we can only then realize our right to health.

Namibia is blessed with a stable democratic political environment, which lays the foundation for effective planning and implementation of health and other development programmes. In view of the many environmental, demographic and economic challenges, the PDM will champion the high-level political commitment to provision of equitable access to health services, as well as other developmental goals.

The PDM's strategic health priorities for Namibia are:

1. Strengthening the health system – to improve performance, and provide quality health services that are efficient and equitable;
2. Combating priority diseases – to reduce the burden of major communicable and non-communicable diseases, especially among poor and marginalised communities;
3. Improving maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health; and adopting the Health in All Policies (HiAP) approach and promoting a safer and healthier environment – by enhancing health promotion and reducing major risk factors and the socio-economic determinants of health.

The PDM strongly believes that that health is a precondition for and an outcome and indicator of the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. We resolutely advocate for universal health coverage.

The PDM government will ensure that:

- All people have access to the full range of quality health services they need, when and where they need them, without financial hardship.
- It covers the full continuum of essential health services, from health promotion to prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and palliative care across the life course.

We remain cognisant that:

- The delivery of these services requires health and care workers with an optimal skills mix at all levels of the health system, who are equitably distributed, adequately supported with access to quality assured products, and enjoying decent work.



**Build and maintain
a state-owned
healthcare
equipment company
to manufacture
healthcare
equipment,
commodities and
diagnostics**



While also recognising that:

- Protecting people from the financial consequences of paying for health services out of their own pockets reduces the risk that people will be pushed into poverty because the cost of needed services and treatments requires them to use up their life savings, sell assets, or borrow – destroying their futures and often those of their children.

Some key facts related to Namibia

- At 65 deaths per 100 000 live births, maternal mortality is substantially higher than the average for the rest of Africa of 210 deaths.
- The availability of antenatal care also lags behind the rest of Africa, while the incidence of tuberculosis and mortality resulting from non-communicable diseases both exceed the averages for the rest of Africa.

Confronting these and other sad realities, the PDM government will:

- Work closely with the World Health Organization (WHO) and other stakeholders to secure funding from the Global Fund to fight TB, HIV and Malaria for a comprehensive HIV, TB and malaria prevention and control programme, and support training to improve the capacity of Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS) staff at regional, district and facility level to develop and implement health policies and strategies.
- Adopt a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach to health that combines three core components:
 1. Multisectoral policy and action;
 2. Empowered people and communities; and
 3. Primary care and essential public health functions as the core of integrated health services.

A PHC approach can help Namibia equitably maximize the level and distribution of health and well-being by focusing on people's needs and preferences (both as individuals and communities) as early as possible along the continuum of care –:

- From health promotion and
- Disease prevention to
- Diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation and
- Palliative care – and as close as possible to people's everyday environments.

To deliver on our promises, the PDM government will ensure:

- Public-Private Partnerships in the health sector.
- That health facilities are built in all required and relevant areas.
- Provision should be made for mental health facilities and rehabilitation centers in each region.
- Investment in science/scientists should be made to manufacture medicine locally.



- Policy should be crafted that speaks to better patient engagement by health professionals.
- Strict measures should be put in place to monitor and control behavior of medical staff.
- Government should ensure means to collaborate with other organizations, such as cancer associations, etc.
- Implementation/enhancement of technology should be made to gain access and information on patient diagnosis.
- Medical equipment should be upgraded.
- Pre and post counselling should be provided to patients at health care facilities.
- A policy should be put in place that includes police officers to be allotted at health care facilities.
- The Ministry of Health should collaborate with regional councillors for training programs for communities in first aid.
- Health facilities should be established in large constituencies.
- More ambulance drivers should be employed.
- The appointment of doctors and nurses should be decentralized to regional offices.
- A community outreach programme for doctors needs to be established.
- Adolescent friendly services need to be established by providing in-service-training to relevant parties.
- Incentive scheme to be created for physical health and wellness in order to motivate citizens to keep themselves healthy.
- Salaries, housing, transport, etc. of nurses need to be reviewed.
- Specialist services should be decentralized to all region's referral hospitals
- Public health education to patients and the broader communities should be established.
- Promote patient charts - rights and responsibilities of patients and nurses.
- Financial assistance policy to be reviewed and upgraded regarding impaired patients.

The PDM government will strive for the advancement universal health coverage, addressing health emergencies and promoting healthier populations, in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all, at all ages.





EDUCATION

9. OUR PLAN TO FIX OUR BROKEN EDUCATION SYSTEM

Education is a constitutional right, a basic human right, a strategic priority and the best possible vehicle to empower all Namibians and to develop our country.

The advancement of human civilization is significantly influenced by education. Since the beginning of time, the way that people learn has changed significantly over time and continues to do so as a result of developing technology. This is why we shall implement and embrace modern education to ensure that online learning platforms are also embraced like traditional learning in classrooms.

We will also further ensure that modern education fosters critical thinking, life skills, value education, analytical skills and decision-making skills in learners. Our efforts in education will continue to be oriented towards ensuring a global, scientific, outcome focused, knowledge-oriented, accessible, inclusive and student-friendly education system.

We will establish a National Commission on Education to report in one year on the state of education and the reforms needed. Based on the report, we will implement a National Education Policy to meet the changing dynamics of the population's requirements with regard to quality education, innovation and research, aiming to make our nation knowledge based by equipping its students with the necessary skills and knowledge and to eliminate the shortage of manpower in science and technology.

Some harsh realities of our broken education system in Namibia:

- At least 75% of the pupils who wrote the ordinary level Grade 11 National Examinations in 2023 did not qualify to proceed with tertiary education or Grade 12.
- As of February 2023, Namibia has a serious classroom shortage of 2 837. This shortage hurts the teaching and learning process at our public schools. It further encourages overcrowding at schools, where 40 to 70 learners can be found in one classroom.
- As of October 2023, there are 653 schools in the country with no electricity and 167 of these public schools are in the Kavango East region.
- As of July 2022, only 500 out of 1722 public schools have ICT infrastructure.
- Inadequate foundational learning at early childhood and pre-primary level that hampers literacy and numeracy among learners.
- School dropout rates in Namibia is high. More than 30 000 learners did not return to school since the year 2020.

Informed by this crisis, the PDM government will implement the following interventions:

9.1. PRE-PRIMARY, PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION:

The PDM government will:

- Implement strong financial, human resource and infrastructural investments at early childhood and pre-primary level that will lay a strong foundation for all learners.
- Endeavor to achieve equity in school education by running double school intake programmes with morning and afternoon classes, and further emphasis will be placed on quality of learning.
- Identify learning outcomes for all classes and our priority will be to ensure that children achieve these learning outcomes.



- Focus on teacher training and capacity building as key factors in achieving the required learning outcomes. Teacher Continuous Professional Development will also be implemented.
- Consider it our duty to provide a conducive environment for talented children in our country to encourage them to unleash their talents. For this, we will initiate a National Student Exchange Programme to bring together such children for a certain period in a year in one place from all over the country and provide them with facilities and resources to allow them to excel. This would instill a culture of lateral thinking and innovation among them.
- Establish National Institutes of Teachers' training. These institutions would provide four year integrated courses that would set the standards for quality teachers in our schools.
- Cascade this to regions to replicate this model as it is our firm belief that quality teachers lay the foundation of quality learning.
- Use technology in classrooms and in impacting education. We will move ahead to provide small classes for learners. To begin with, we will initiate this process in secondary classrooms.
- Make investments in school infrastructure a priority to ensure that all schools that offer science subjects have well equipped laboratories and libraries for every school in Namibia.

9.2. HIGHER EDUCATION

To improve our higher education system, the **PDM government will:**

- Ensure the inclusive sustainability of NSFAP through the allocation of a substantive fishing quota to the Fund.





- Enhance the pivotal role of teachers by reworking the work culture of teacher-training institutions with steps to ensure accountability for institutions of higher learning.
- Ensure to raise the standard of education and research, so that Namibian universities become at par with the top global universities and find their place in the global league.
- Restore the credibility of the regulatory bodies to prevent the mushrooming of private tertiary institutions of higher learning and the duplication of courses.
- Ensure that the appointment procedures to senior positions will be made transparent; merit and ability will be the sole criteria.
- Ascertain that the legislating of the Apprenticeship Act to facilitate our youth to earn while they learn.
- Implement policies and strategies to allow for the effective running of the Namibia Students Financial Assistance Fund (NSFAF) and to ensure that funding is done in a sustainable manner.
- Review the cut-off point for parental incomes to ensure that students who receive funding are indeed 'needy' students and therefore cannot rely on the little their parents make.
- Strengthen loan recovery mechanisms to ensure that students who are in a position to payback the loans do so accordingly.

9.3. VOCATIONAL TRAINING

To harness skills in our vocational sector, the **PDM government will:**

- Set up Massive Open Online Courses and distance learning teaching classrooms to make it convenient for working people and housewives to further their education. Correspondence courses will be started in new domains for self-employment such as family run businesses, entrepreneurship and innovation and these courses will be provided for free to women..
- Run short term courses, in the evenings, focusing on employable skills.
- Set up Centers of Excellence in various sectors in partnership with the various industries.
- Ensure industry responsive manpower, we will bring together industries, universities and government.
- Promote vocational training on a massive scale. Rigid segregation of formal education and skills development will be broken; a mechanism will be established to give vocational qualifications academic equivalence.
- Create institutional mechanisms to refresh and upgrade abilities through continuing education to make them employable.
- Focus on need based skills development and employability thus making our youth employable even in the most sophisticated jobs.
- Ensure greater practical and research training encouraging real world experience through internships and apprenticeships.



9.5. PROTECTION OF TEACHERS

Teachers play a fundamental role in our society by moulding leaders of tomorrow. Therefore, the PDM government will:

- Increase the salary and benefits payable to teachers informed by economic indicators.
- Fundamentally transform the living conditions of teachers at teacher homes through investment in teacher homes.
- Increase the bush allowance for student teachers to maximise teaching talent in our rural areas.

The PDM government will further champion the following in the Education Sector:

- Review and revise the education on system, the salary structures associated with teaching staff and most importantly, address the shortfall of faculty and related issues in the country.
- Make the system people-friendly and restoring the credibility of the system.
- Increase public spending on education and involving the private sector to further enhance this.
- Introduce a policy performance audit to provide real time information.
- Strengthen and expand the literacy programmes to eradicate illiteracy entirely.
- Universalise secondary school education and skills development through functional schools with particular focus on rural and marginalized communities.





- Provide free tertiary education to students and vocational teaching.
- Provide girls with all possible help like providing free sanitary pads, to enable them to continue and complete their education.
- Provide every learner with a solar laptop to prepare committed and performing teachers.
- Optimise the utilisation of physical and manpower resources.
- Institute a mechanism for close interaction between industry (including SME), academia and community.
- Do a needs assessment to identify future needs across sectors, and the using this to develop appropriate courses for higher education, to ensure that the economy gets the required human resources.
- Build more schools to make education accessible to many disadvantaged learners, especially in rural and remote areas.
- Ensure that every learner has a textbook, and drastically reduce the Teacher to Learner Ratio to 1:35 in primary schools and 1:30 in secondary schools.
- Ensure all schools have access to electricity, water and decent sanitation facilities.
- Implement a comprehensive school feeding programme in all primary and secondary schools.



SPORTS, ARTS AND CULTURE



10. OUR PLAN TO DEVELOP AND PROMOTE SPORTS, ARTS AND CULTURE

Sports, Arts and Culture serve as the soul of a nation, reflecting its values, aspirations, and collective memory. In Namibia, where cultural diversity is celebrated as a source of strength and resilience, investing in these sectors holds immense potential to foster social cohesion, stimulate economic growth, and empower communities across the country. In the mosaic of our nation's identity, the threads of arts, culture, and sports have weaved together to form the vibrant fabric of our heritage, creativity, and unity.

Namibia, with its diverse cultures, landscapes, and talents, stands at the threshold of a new era—a time when harnessing the power of arts, culture, and sports becomes not only a cultural imperative but also a strategic vehicle for national development and cohesion. With this in mind, the PDM government is dedicated to the development and promotion of Arts, Culture, and Sports in Namibia.

By recognizing the transformative power of these sectors and committing to bold initiatives that nurture talent, preserve heritage, and provide opportunities for all, the PDM reaffirms its commitment to building a prosperous, inclusive, and culturally vibrant Namibia.



For the development and promotion of our Sports, Arts and Culture industries, the **PDM government will implement the following interventions:**

10.1. INCREASED BUDGET ALLOCATION

- Proportionally increase the budget for Sports, Youth, and Culture to meet the growing needs of these sectors. This financial commitment reflects our recognition of the transformative impact that arts, culture, and sports can have on national development and cohesion.

10.2. ACCELERATE THE BUILDING OF SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE ACROSS THE COUNTRY

- Build 10 state of the art multi-purpose sports centres in Windhoek, Swakopmund, Keetmanshoop, Oshakati, Rundu, Katima Mulilo, Opuwo, Otjiwarongo, Gobabis and Mariental by 2030.
- This will fill the critical gap the country currently experiences with stadium and other sports facilities.

10.3. ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL SPORTS EDUCATION BOARD

- Establish a National Sports Education Board to nurture the development of sports talents from grassroots to elite levels.
- This board will provide training, coaching, and support services to aspiring athletes across Namibia, ensuring equitable access to opportunities and resources.

10.4. CONSTRUCTION OF ARTS AND CULTURE CENTERS

The PDM government will spearhead the construction of Arts and Culture Centers in strategic locations across Namibia. These centers will serve as hubs for artistic expression, cultural exchange, and community engagement, providing platforms for artists and cultural practitioners to showcase their talents and preserve Namibia's rich cultural heritage. **The PDM government will also:**





- Establish cultural preservation programs and initiatives to safeguard Namibia's diverse cultural heritage, including traditional knowledge, languages, rituals, and artifacts.
- Support community-based cultural heritage projects and initiatives that empower local communities to preserve and promote their cultural identities.
- Collaborate with indigenous communities and traditional leaders to document and revitalize indigenous knowledge systems and cultural practices.

10.5. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS EMPOWERMENT:

The PDM government will advocate for the amendment of intellectual property rights laws to empower cultural creators and protect their rights.

This includes enhancing copyright protections, promoting fair compensation for artists, and facilitating access to legal resources for intellectual property rights enforcement. **This also includes the:**

- **Review of Contracts for Artists:** Recognizing the vulnerability of artists to exploitative contracts, the PDM will conduct a comprehensive review of existing contractual practices in the arts and culture sector. This includes addressing issues such as unfair remuneration, rights ownership, and contractual transparency to ensure that artists are treated fairly and equitably.
- **Empowerment of Rural Artists:** Rural artists represent a wealth of untapped talent and cultural heritage. The PDM government will implement targeted initiatives to empower rural artists, including skills development programs, access to funding and resources, and support for community-based arts initiatives. By investing in rural arts and culture, we aim to amplify diverse voices, promote cultural diversity, and foster inclusive development across Namibia.

10.6. DEVELOPING CULTURAL TOURISM INITIATIVES

The PDM government will develop and preserve our heritage trails to showcase Namibia's cultural diversity and attract domestic and international visitors. Moreover, the PDM government is committed to supporting the growth of creative industries, including music, film, literature, fashion, and design, through capacity-building, market access, and promotional activities.

This will be done through the facilitation and establishment of cultural entrepreneurship hubs and incubators to support aspiring artists and cultural entrepreneurs in developing sustainable livelihoods.

10.7. INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL EXCHANGE AND COLLABORATION:

Facilitate cultural exchange programs, artist residencies, and collaborative projects with international partners to promote cross-cultural dialogue, mutual understanding, and artistic innovation.

- Supporting Namibian artists, cultural practitioners, and sports personalities to participate in international festivals, exhibitions, competitions, and training programs, enhancing their visibility and networks on the global stage.
- Fostering partnerships and cooperation with international organizations, embassies, and cultural institutions to leverage resources and expertise for the development of Namibia's arts, culture, and sports sectors.



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

11. OUR FOREIGN POLICY

The PDM government will advance the tenets of a multipolar world, where all nations are mutual partners for benefits. It is our firm view that all nations in the world can co-exist on the principles of multipolarity and mutual respect. To this effect, the **PDM government will:**

11.1. PROMOTE MULTILATERALISM

- International organisations provide opportunities for global players to engage in global challenges that require coordinated action international platforms. Namibia under our leadership will play an important role on an equal footing in the setting of the rules of international security and the global economic order that benefits all.
- We will maintain our sovereign independence while engaging the powerful nations and partners without deferring to them. We shall further deepen our multilateralism.

11.2 COMMIT OURSELVES TO SADC

- Our government will persistently pursue a role of promoting peace and stability to ensure the economic and social development of the countries in SADC.
- We will promote dialogue and negotiations as means of settling disputes and resolving conflicts.
- We will work towards realizing the advantages of expanded markets for inter-regional trade and economic co-operation.
- We will work towards the realization of the SADC objectives, notably the free movement of goods and services.

11.3. SUPPORT AND STRENGTHEN THE AU

- We will work to make the African Union work more efficiently, purposefully and robustly for the general advancement of Africa and all its people.
- We will support the genuine aspirations of all African States regarding the realisation of African developmental objectives, especially the realisation of an Africa Economic Community.
- We will rigorously pursue both down and upstream benefits in the launched Africa Continental Free Trade Area by developing a well-crafted Namibian Commodity Policy to leverage benefits.

11.4. DEEPEN RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

- The PDM government will not falter in our support for the United Nations and its agencies, particularly the World Trade Organisation, World Bank and the IMF.
- We will commit ourselves towards a strong, democratised UN structure to address skewed world affairs. We will work hard to create a climate of new ideas that advance humanity and ensure a conflict free world, debt relief, international finance, health improvement and market access in developing nations.



11.5. PROMOTE SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

- Our government will promote south-south cooperation in areas of trade.
- Our missions in countries of the south will be empowered to pursue economic contacts that will enhance trade and investment in science and technology. Their expertise in various areas will be tapped for our nations' economic benefit.



Our government will persistently pursue a role of promoting peace and stability to ensure the economic and social development of the countries in SADC



11.6. REESTABLISH GENOCIDE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT

The first Genocide of the 20th century took place in Namibia between 1904-1908, inflicted by the Germans led by Lotha Von Trotha. To this day, the Germans are yet to properly atone for these atrocities, and the draft Joint Declaration concluded between the Namibian and German government in 2021 falls terribly short in-lieu of the tenets of atonement. Therefore, the PDM government will reestablish these negotiations with the view to:

- Get a deal that properly atones for the 1904-1908 Genocide.
- Which comes with an unconditional apology and;
- A quantum which offers genuine reparations for the communities, and not the lousy and disrespectful N\$18 billion over a period of 30 years put on the table by the German government.





SECURE YOUR FUTURE

Now is the time to secure your future, that of your family, and that of Namibia, The time has come to reject 34 years of misgovernance by the ruling elite, and vote for a transparent and efficient government of the PDM.

***It is only the PDM that can
TAKE NAMIBIA FORWARD.***

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2024



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