



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

**STATEMENT BY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE DR. SAARA
KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA,
PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA
AT THE**

LAUNCH OF THE SDG INDICATOR FRAMEWORK AND DATA PORTAL

SAFARI HOTEL

**20 July 2022
08H00**

Director of Ceremonies

Hon Obeth Kandjoze, Director-General of the National Planning Commission

Members of Parliament present

Members of the Diplomatic Corp

Ms. Ndiyakupi Nghituwamata, NSA Vice Board Chairperson

Mr. Alex Shimuafeni, Statistician-General of NSA

Senior Government officials

Dr. John Stytler, Project Leader – GIZ

Members of the media,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Very Good morning!

1. It is my pleasure to officiate at the launch of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) indicator Framework and Data Portal for Namibia to measure progress towards the 17 goals and 169 targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to capture data to monitor and evaluate the implementation.

2. The availability of timely and quality data impacts on the effectiveness with which our developmental Agenda is implemented.

I, therefore, would like to commend the National Planning Commission and the Namibia Statistic Agency for the efforts that went into developing these measuring tools that we are launching today.

3. The purpose of these tools is to measure our developmental efforts , in line with the decision taken at the 2015 UN Summit in New York, where leaders of 193 countries

committed to implement the post - 2015 development agenda with 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets.

By committing to these Goals, countries have agreed to align national priorities in a clear and transparent measures to overcome global development challenges.

4. Namibia is implementing the Agenda 2030 through the Harambee prosperity plan II, the National the 5th National Development Plan (NDP5) as cascaded into respective sectoral plans and our first National indicator Framework launched in 2019. The framework will be updated after every two years.
5. The version of the framework that is being launched today presents the first update of the SDGs-NDP5-Indicator Framework of 2019 and it complements Namibia's Second Voluntary National Review Report on the Implementation of the SDGs towards Agenda 2030.
6. Judging from the current SDG portal, it is evident that Namibia has achieved significant milestones since the SDGs came into effect in January 2016. Amongst the milestones are:
 - The publication of the SDGs Baseline Report (which was also published in Braille Language);
 - The SDGs Indicator Framework and the two Voluntary National Reports (which were also presented at the UN High Level Political Forum);
 - The launch of the SDGs Data Portal and Data Hub; as well as
 - The mainstreaming of SDGs into national planning.

7. Namibia has also done very well in terms of SDG Goal 16 which deals with Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. The Country has enjoyed peace and stability since independence. Further, the Country is well established as a democracy with strong and credible governance institutions and systems, which are a prerequisite for socio-economic development.

In terms of socio-economic development, however, we note with great concern the erosion of some of our progress by Covid-19.

We are, therefore, now challenged to both regain the progress lost due to Covid-19, and pick up speed to be on track to meet our SDG goals .

8. I am pleased to note that the NSA is working towards the implementation of Data Management Systems and Skilled Statisticians in the National Statistical System (NSS). This is the ensemble of statistical organisations and units within a country that jointly produce statistics on behalf of the national government.

9. The availability of timely and quality data impacts on the monitoring and evaluation. Therefore, Government is committed to strengthen support to statistical systems in the country, in order to maintain a comprehensive national indicator framework driven by specific and measurable national policy priorities.

10. We live in a world of changes so profound and rapid that no country can stand alone. The world's interlinked threats and challenges require everyone to share the responsibility and contribute to a common vision, hence the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a framework to guide global development for the subsequent fifteen years.

11. The SDGs constitute the world's most ambitious set of development goals which speak to many common concerns of countries, at all levels of development, whether youth unemployment, widening inequalities, increasing natural disasters and threats from climate change, loss of biodiversity or weaknesses in social coherence, management of the state, as well as violence and conflict in different parts of the world. All these areas of concern are captured in the SDGs.

12. It is against this background that our Vision 2030, National Development Plans and the Harambee Prosperity Plan, continue to prioritize the implementation of the targeted programs in order to enhance service delivery, contribute to economic recovery and engender inclusive growth.

The aim is to ensure that Namibia is poised to respond to domestic socioeconomic challenges and global opportunities, during and after the covid-19 pandemic.

13. In order to be successful in achieving the SDGs, and to make sure that nobody is left behind, the Government promotes coordination and cooperation with communities and other stakeholders. It is only by working together that we will be able to find sustainable solutions.

14. As per the SDG Goals, Government's overarching aim is to reduce poverty, hunger and inequality, achieve more decent work and economic growth, quality education, affordable and clean energy, improved industry, innovation and better infrastructure , in order to provide our citizens with a better life.

The Government continues to strive to ensure that no one is left behind, and indeed, we can only succeed in that if we all pull in the same direction in the spirit of Harambee Prosperity Plan II

15. We appreciate that nothing great is achieved in isolation, and that we can only achieve great progress in unity. Let us therefore all hold hands and move forward in the same direction.

We are pleased to note that NSA is committed to ensure availability of timely, reliable and relevant data.

We, as leaders, are committed to ensure that our plans are evident based by using the data provided by NSA to plan and to monitor the implementation of and evaluate the impact of our plans.

We appreciate the support of our development partners in all these endeavours as well as their presence here today.

16. With these few words, it is now my pleasure to officially launch the SDG Indicator Framework and the Data Portal that will be demonstrated to you all in a few minutes.

I thank you