



Ministry of Urban and Rural Development

E-Newsletter

January - March 2025



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**NKURENKURU
INAUGURATES AN
EXPO HALL, OPEN
MARKET, AND A FIRE
STATION**

**NHE FINANCES SOAR
AFTER YEARS OF
STRUGGLES**

**MR. SHINOHAMBA
HANGS UP HIS TOOLS,
AFTER DECADES OF
PUBLIC SERVICE**

GOVERNMENT HANDS OVER 64 NHE HOUSES IN ONDANGWA



Mr. Nghidinua Daniel handing over keys to the beneficiary.

ONDANGWA- The Executive Director of the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development Mr. Nghidinua Daniel, officiated the handover of 64 National Housing Enterprise (NHE) houses in Ondangwa, on 06 March 2025.

Mr. Daniel, speaking on behalf of the Minister of Urban and Rural Development, Hon. Erastus Uutoni, highlighted the government's unwavering commitment to housing as a key national development priority. He stressed the importance of housing in reducing poverty, promoting social cohesion, supporting economic growth, and ensuring political stability in the country.

Speaking at the same event, Ondangwa Mayor His Worship Councillor Paavo Amwele, reaffirmed the local authority's dedication to ensuring that residents have access to affordable housing and land.

“I promised you that we would give NHE some serviced plots so they can continue constructing houses, and we did that. Today, we are here witnessing this kept promise.” He stated.



Houses on site

On her part, the Chairperson of the NHE Board of Directors, Ms. Toska Sem acknowledged the timely completion of the project. She noted that the initiative is in direct response to the increasing demand for improved housing and better service delivery. Ms. Sem emphasised that local authorities need to continue expanding housing efforts to keep up with the growing rural-to-urban migration.

“The NHE has adopted a drastic approach to increase the annual housing output in urban centres to ensure that the national housing backlog is reduced significantly for the benefit of all Namibians,” she said.

The NHE has an ongoing construction of 52 houses in Okakarara, 34 in Mariental, 171 in Nkurenkuru and 546 in Katima Mulilo.



Mr. Nghidinua Daniel, with the Ondangwa Town Council Management, NHE Management and the contractor

NKURENKURU INAUGURATES AN EXPO HALL, OPEN MARKET, AND A FIRE STATION*The Inaugurated Expo Hall**The inaugurated open market*

NKURENKURU- The Governor of Kavango West, Hon. Sirkka Ausiku, officially inaugurated an expo hall, an open market, and a fire station in Nkurenkuru on 05 March 2025.

The Minister of Urban and Rural Development, Hon. Erastus Uutoni, in a speech delivered on his behalf by Hon. Ausiku said the facilities mark a significant step towards the town's urban and economic development.

Hon. Uutoni highlighted that the open market will provide a safe and clean environment for vendors to conduct their businesses, the expo hall will serve as a hub for businesses, investors and local entrepreneurs to showcase their products and services and the fire station will enhance the town's capacity to fight and rescue lives and properties from fire. He commended the Nkurenkuru Town Council for successfully completing these projects and emphasised that such developments play a crucial role in sustainable urban growth, economic expansion, and improved community well-being.

“These newly inaugurated facilities align with our national goals of decentralisation, economic diversification, and inclusive development,” Minister Uutoni stated.

Speaking at the same event, Nkurenkuru Mayor, His Worship Councillor Jafet Muti, highlighted the significance of the projects in shaping the town's future.

“These developments symbolise our vision of Nkurenkuru as a centre of culture, commerce, and community engagement,” he said.

*The inaugurated fire station*

NHE FINANCES SOAR AFTER YEARS OF STRUGGLES



Mrs. Toska Sem (right) Handing over the 2023/2024 annual report to Hon. Erastus Uutoni (middle) and the Deputy Executive Director of Finance and Public Enterprise (left)

WINDHOEK- The National Housing Enterprise (NHE) has recorded a profit of N\$6 million in 2024, a significant improvement from the previous year when it recorded a loss of N\$46 million. The milestone was celebrated at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in Windhoek on Friday, 14 March 2025.

In his address, the Minister of Urban and Rural Development, Hon. Erastus Uutoni, praised the NHE board of directors and the management team, noting their efforts in ensuring that they are up-to-date with audits, successfully presenting annual reports, and holding Annual General Meetings. He acknowledged that after years of financial struggles, NHE is now stable financially.

“Realising a profit is surely an indication that effort has been made to put NHE in a financially sound position. After many years of being in the negatives, at least now financial prudence is starting to show,” said the Minister.

Hon. Uutoni took note of the challenges faced by NHE, including loan repayment and affordability by the low-income earners stating that the government has revised the National Housing Policy, in order to prioritise the low-income groups. He urged the entity to adopt innovative strategies to address the surging housing backlog.

Meanwhile, the chairperson for the NHE Board of Directors, Mrs. Toska Sem presented the directors report and officially handed over the 2023/2024 annual report to the Minister.

Speaking at the same event, the Deputy Executive Director of Finance and Public Enterprises Mrs. Louise Shixwameni said, despite NHE’s achievements and great improvement, challenges still lies ahead. She stressed that NHE must innovate and increase its annual target in order to deliver on their mandate.

NHE Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Mr. Gisbertus Mukulu stated that the achievements have fuelled their resolve to administer the much needed impact to the Namibian population through the provision of affordable housing.

“We take full cognisance of the noble task bestowed on us as NHE and the amount of work required to fulfil this particular mandate. As daunting as it is, it our conviction that we will overcome, given the positive trajectory we have embraced especially over the past three years,” the CEO stated.

MR. SHINOHAMBA HANGS UP HIS TOOLS, AFTER DECADES OF PUBLIC SERVICE



Mr. Shinohamba (middle) and the staff members.

WINDHOEK- The Ministry of Urban and Rural Development bid farewell to Mr. Karlus Shinohamba, who served as the Deputy Director of Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation in the Directorate of Rural Development since 2012. His departure marks the end of an era of dedicated public service and contributions to the development of rural Namibia.

Born in Oyongo village in the Ohangwena region, Mr. Shinohamba brought a wealth of experience and expertise to his role. He holds a master's degree in business management and has an extensive background in project management. Before his tenure at the Ministry, he worked as a project coordinator for Spanish-funded microfinance projects, where he was responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of these initiatives. Additionally, Mr. Shinohamba's career includes significant contributions at the regional council level, including his involvement in the establishment of Helao Nafidi town.

Reflecting on his years of public service, Mr. Shinohamba emphasised that the most rewarding aspect of his work was the opportunity to make a meaningful difference in people's lives. He acknowledged that the role also facilitated his personal development, allowing him to gain new skills and insights along the way.

Known for his unwavering commitment to integrity and teamwork, Mr. Shinohamba has always been a champion of fostering a culture of continuous learning at the Ministry. His leadership and collaborative approach have left a lasting impact on his colleagues and the projects he oversaw.

As he transitions from his role in the public sector, Mr. Shinohamba leaves behind a legacy of dedication, integrity, and commitment to rural development. His contributions will undoubtedly continue to resonate in the many initiatives that he was involved in during his tenure at the Ministry.



Mr. Shinohamba



The Mangers and staff members dressed in pink on a Pink Friday to raise awareness on breast cancer.



MURD Soccer and Netbal teams pose for a photo after receiving medals at the Regional Councils Annual Wellness Week in Nkurenkuru.



Solmund Kalenga, pictured with Mr. Evans Maswahu, was honored with the trophy for best overall goalkeeper at the Regional Councils Annual Wellness Week in Nkurenkuru.

WELCOME ON BOARD



Mrs. Albertina Iileka
Chief Human Resources
Practitioner Grade 6
Division: Human Resources
Management and
Development



Ms. Ingrid Tjiramba
Chief Accountant Grade 6
Division: Financial
Mangement



Ms. Paulina Nepando
Senior Accountant Grade 7
Division: Housing



Mr. Melyin Skrywer
Internal Auditor Grade 8
Division: Internal Audit



Ms. Hilka Nuunyango
Internal Auditor Grade 8
Division: Internal Audit



Ms. Albertina Nawanga
Learning and Development
Officer Grade 8
Section: Training



Ms. Eben-ezer Shimwino
Internal Auditor Grade 8
Division: Internal Audit



Mr. Hans Mwilima
Messenger Grade 12
Directorate: FHRA&IT



Mr. Kometundu Katjikuru
Administrative Officer Grade 12
Division: Disaster Risk
Management and Coordination
Services



Republic of Namibia

Ministry of Urban and Rural Development

Customer Service Charter

WHAT WE ASK OF YOU

The quality of service we can provide to you depends on various issues including your input, objectivity and cooperation. We therefore request you to:

- Be honest and timely in providing the required information to us;
- Familiarize yourself, to the extent possible, with the policies, laws, regulations and procedures governing what we do;
- Treat our staff members with the necessary respect and inform us if and why you are not satisfied; and
- Give us your comments and suggestions on how we can serve you better, preferably in writing (Website feedback form).

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