



UNITED NATIONS  
NAMIBIA



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DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC  
AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

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**Capacity Building on Public Policy Development, Review, Evaluation and Coordination for the  
Acceleration of the SDGs in Namibia**

**Official Launch, Scoping, and Institutional Engagement Webinar**

Draft Concept Note & Programme

**3 September 2020. 15hrs – 17hrs**

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## **1. Introduction**

Namibia launched its Fifth National Development Plan (NDP5) in 2017, which is in line with both national and international frameworks. These include Vision 2030, Harambee Prosperity Plan and SWAPO Party Manifesto from a national perspective, while from the international perspective it includes the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP 2005-2015), the Revised RISDP 2015-2020, Africa Union Agenda 2063, and the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals. The National Development Plan Five (NDP-5) is the fifth roadmap that depicts Namibia's vision of becoming an industrialized nation by the year 2030. The National Development Plan 5 (ND-5) sets itself out to achieve four integrated pillars of Sustainable Development, viz; Economic Progression, Social Transformation, Environmental Sustainability and Good Governance.

However, as Namibia has been experiencing challenges in policy development and evaluation, this resulted in the approval of the revised structure of the National Planning Commission (NPC) by Cabinet, in 2011. In this respect, the NPC's Act No. 15 of 1994 was reviewed and replaced by Act No. 2 of 2013, which mandates NPC to conduct the monitoring and evaluation of socio-economic development interventions, including ensuring its effectiveness and consistency in the implementation thereof. The mandate can only be realized if entrusted NPC National Development Advisors (NDAs) and other sector Ministerial technical staff acquire the optimum technical skills to execute policy processes, including policy development, review, analysis, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and coordination, which currently is inadequate.

It is to this end, that Government also adopted in 2016, the SDG-Initiative Programme in Namibia, which aims to support the strengthening of policy coherence that further enhances the instruments and procedures for mainstreaming the national priorities of Agenda 2030 into the planning and budgeting processes; reforming tax administration and creating a framework for establishing the semi-autonomous Namibia Revenue authority and ultimately generate domestic funds for financing the national implementation of Agenda 2030 and finally, and monitoring the implementation of Agenda 2030 through strengthening the capacities of the Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) to perform its coordinating role in data collection, as a basis for setting up a national monitoring and review system to assess the national implementation of Agenda 2030.

Thus, developing and strengthening the national evaluation system will enable the Government of the Republic of Namibia to achieve the set policy objectives and avoid inconsistencies, contradictions and wastage of scarce resources. In addition, it will strengthen the capacity of officials dealing with policy management to identify policies' complementarities, harmonisation and enhance overall policy effectiveness, which is inclusive, and in support of the implementation of the Government of the Republic of Namibia's (GRNs) National Development Plans (NDPs) and 2030 Agenda.

## **2. Background**

The National Planning Commission (NPC) of Namibia requested support from the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) to provide capacity building training to NPC officials and other government officials on public policy development review, evaluation and coordination.

The Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG), jointly with the Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG) of UNDESA alongside the United Nations in Namibia (UNN) will respond to this capacity building request. DSDG and DPIDG will discuss with NPC and UN Namibia during the scoping webinar how to respond to this request. The first step will entail defining the scope and setting realistic targets in terms of what can be delivered using virtual training platforms in the remaining months of 2020.

As a result of the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the delivery of in-person training, as originally requested, is not possible. Therefore, DSDG and DPIDG have decided to commence with a series of webinar-style virtual training sessions.

These are divided into six distinct parts:

- 1) Launch, and Scoping Webinar on Capacity Building on Public Policy Development, Review, Evaluation and Coordination for the Acceleration of Policy Implementation in Namibia (focal point – UN Namibia/RCO, DSDG/UNDESA. Timeframe: 3 September 2020).
- 2) Capacity Development Webinar on Introduction to Public Policy, Policy Planning and Public Policy Making Processes. Identification of Public Policy stakeholders, assessing their preferences, and mapping the policy context (focal point: DSDG/UNDESA. Timeframe: September 2020).
- 3) Capacity Development Webinar on Institutional Arrangements and Governance Capacities for Policy Coherence (focal point: DPIDG/UNDESA. Timeframe: November/December 2020).
- 4) Capacity Development Webinar on Innovation and ICT for Public Service Delivery (focal point: DPIDG/UNDESA. Timeframe: November/December 2020).
- 5) Capacity Development Webinar on Integrated Policy Formulation and Support for the SDGs (focal point: DSDG/UNDESA. Timeframe: December 2020)
- 6) Capacity Development Webinar on Policy Review, Policy Evaluation and Coordination (focal point: UNICEF Namibia. Timeframe: September/December 2020).

These virtual webinars will be followed by:

- 7) In-person Training Workshop (at least two), which will culminate in the development and or review of 1-2 Sector or National policies.
- 8) Design of a draft National SDGs Coordination Mechanism.
- 9) Benchmarking Missions or Exercises or Study Tours.

## **3. Objective**

The objective of the launch and scoping webinar is to officially launch, understand the background and nature of the demand, and establish clear purpose, scope and objectives of this capacity building technical activity.

## **4. Format**

The launch and scoping webinar will comprise four sessions. 1) An opening session; 2) A background session with a presentation on “policy process in Namibia – strengths and challenges” by NPC; 3) A structured discussion on entry points for the project that will include UNDESA and invited expert perspectives; and 4) the closing session.

## 5. Participation

The launch and scoping webinar will be attended by representatives of 1) the National Planning Commission (NPC); 2) representatives of GIZ Namibia; 3) representatives of the United Nations System including UN Namibia (UNN) and UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), in addition to Expert resource persons.

## 6. Expected Outcomes

The launch and scoping webinar are expected to:

- a. Understand the background and nature of the demand that will help NPC, GIZ, UNDESA and UN Namibia to establish clear purpose, scope and objectives of this capacity building activity.
- b. Establish a clear understanding of the stakeholders and their roles and responsibilities.
- c. Consolidate information and documents required for implementing this activity.
- d. Develop a work plan and timeline for the organization and roll-out of this activity.
- e. Clarify who at UNDESA and at NPC will be the focal points for each activity and will provide support during it.

## 7. Date and Venue

The launch and scoping webinar will be held on Thursday 3 September 2020, at 1500hrs – 1700hrs, virtually.

## 8. Contacts

- a. Mr. Sylvanus Nambala. Chief National Development Advisor. National Planning Commission (NPC), Office of the President ([SNambala@npc.gov.na](mailto:SNambala@npc.gov.na) ).
- b. Mr. Amson Sibanda, Chief, National Strategies and Capacity Building Branch, DSDG/UNDESA ([sibanda@un.org](mailto:sibanda@un.org) )
- c. Ms. Eunice Ajambo. Economist & Development Coordination Officer, UN Namibia ([ajambo@un.org](mailto:ajambo@un.org)).

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## DRAFT PROGRAMME

**Chair:** Ms. Wilhencia Uiras. Executive Director, National Planning Commission (NPC), Office of the President.

Time	Session
14:30hrs – 15:00hrs	<b>Registration</b>
15:00hrs – 15:45hrs	<p><b>Session 1: Launch of the Capacity Building Workshop, the Scoping Webinar, and the next steps of implementation</b></p> <p><i>Introductions and Opening Remarks</i></p> <p>Hon. Obeth Kandjoze. Director General, National Planning Commission (NPC)</p> <p>Ms. Rachel Odede. Resident Coordinator ai, UN Namibia (UNN)</p> <p>Mr. Sen Pang. Resident Coordinator designated, UN Namibia (UNN)</p> <p>Mr. Amson Sibanda. Chief, National Strategies and Capacity Building Branch (NSCBB). Division for Sustainable Development Goals, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)</p>
15:45hrs – 16:00hrs	<p><b>Session 2: Background and nature of the demand</b></p> <p><i>Presentation on policy process, institution arrangements for policy development and implementation in Namibia – strengths and challenges</i></p> <p>Ms. Evelina Julius. Deputy Chief: National Development Advice, National Planning Commission (NPC)</p>
	<p><b>Session 3: Structured discussion and Expert perspectives on <i>how to improve and effectively operationalize national planning to transition to sustainable development and achieving the SDGs</i></b></p>
16:00hrs – 16:45hrs	<p>DSDG &amp; DPIDG Senior Officers</p> <p>Mr. Barry Dalal-Clayton, Director, Environment and Development Services – International</p> <p>Mr. Peter Tarr, Director, The Southern African Institute for Environmental Assessment/ The Sustainable Development Advisory Council of Namibia</p> <p><i>Interactive Q&amp;A</i></p> <p><i>Moderator</i></p> <p>Mr. Amson Sibanda. Chief, National Strategies and Capacity Building Branch (NSCBB). Division for Sustainable Development Goals, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)</p>
16:45hrs – 17:00hrs	<p><b>Closing and Way Forward</b></p> <p><i>Closing Remarks</i></p> <p>Ms. Wilhencia Uiras. Executive Director, National Planning Commission (NPC)</p>

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