

**CORPORATE  
SOCIAL  
RESPONSIBILITY  
REPORT  
2023**



**FirstRand**  
NAMIBIA





**HON. CLARA G. BOHITILE**

**CHAIR:**  
FIRSTRAND NAMIBIA FOUNDATION



## CHAIR'S REPORT

**In weaving, each thread plays a vital role in creating a strong and beautiful tapestry. Similarly, every action, every initiative, and every partnership is a thread in the intricate fabric of a better Namibia. The annual Corporate Social Responsibility Report is testament to the commitment of doing what matters for Namibia.**

Reflecting on the journey and accomplishments over the past year, I am reminded of a timeless truth: "Great things are not done by impulse, but by a series of small things brought together."

In our pursuit of a brighter and better future for Namibia, we have embraced this philosophy wholeheartedly. We understand that every small act, every initiative and every partnership we nurture is a thread in the intricate tapestry of change we are weaving.

Linking amazing opportunities with the right partners for the benefit of countless citizens has been our guiding pattern, and we have worked tirelessly to unite individuals, communities, and opportunities—just like skilled weavers harmonising a myriad of colours and textures to create a beautiful fabric.

We have seen how unlocking potential can be a transformative force. It's like discovering a hidden gem within the fabric, revealing the true brilliance of our nation. The threads of which have woven a tapestry of positive change across the country.

Our actions speak volumes as we raise living standards, educate and empower the youth, protect our natural

resources, energise young minds through sports, boost community spirit, and grow leaders in the public sector. We have built homes to restore dignity, issued green bonds to promote sustainable business, serviced the land, and empowered and skilled women. Each endeavour is a thread, each achievement a pattern, all contributing to the rich tapestry of a better Namibia.

As we face the challenges of the future, we do so with great confidence. The spirit of care that guides us has proven resilient and enduring. I am immensely proud of the FirstRand Namibia Foundation and the tireless efforts of our dedicated team, alongside FNB Namibia, RMB Namibia, Ashburton Namibia, WesBank Namibia, and PointBreak. Together, we are redefining the narrative of our nation.

In conclusion, I want to express my deepest gratitude to all those who have supported and contributed to our cause. Your unwavering commitment is the golden thread that strengthens the fabric of our society.

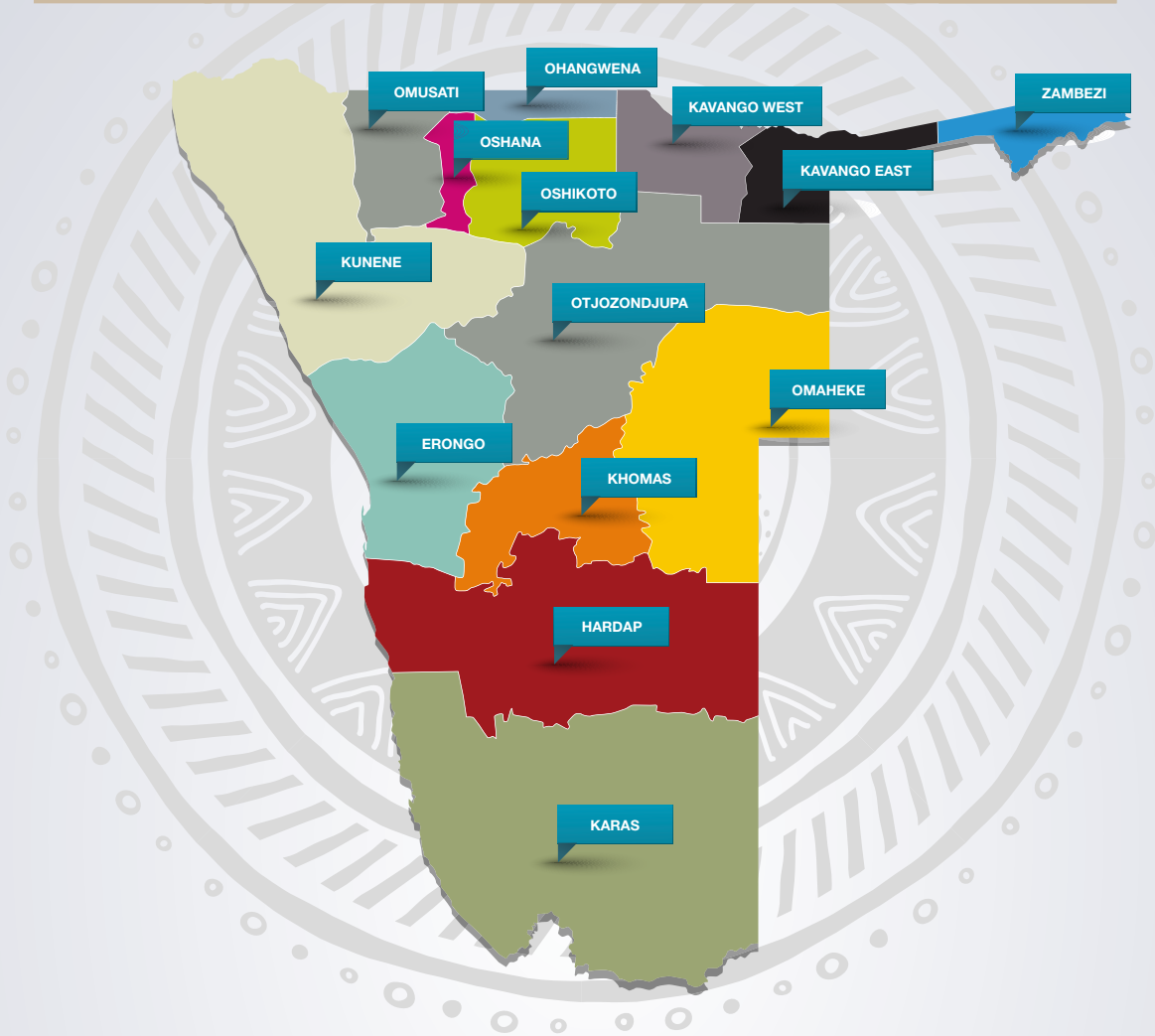
Thank you all for your unwavering support and for being part of our journey towards a more tightly-woven Namibia.

**Hon. Clara G. Bohitile**  
ChairFirstRand Namibia Foundation





# FIRSTSTRAND NAMIBIA FOUNDATION REGIONAL SPLIT



| REGION              | N\$ SPENT         | BENEFICIARIES  |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| <b>Khomas</b>       | <b>1,794,977</b>  | <b>26,711</b>  |
| <b>Karas</b>        | <b>488,096</b>    | <b>18,171</b>  |
| <b>Kunene</b>       | <b>669,741</b>    | <b>18,591</b>  |
| <b>Kavango East</b> | <b>781,663</b>    | <b>18,680</b>  |
| <b>Kavango West</b> | <b>964,741</b>    | <b>18,173</b>  |
| <b>Ohangwena</b>    | <b>468,081</b>    | <b>18,711</b>  |
| <b>Oshikoto</b>     | <b>346,865</b>    | <b>18,306</b>  |
| <b>Hardap</b>       | <b>608,993</b>    | <b>21,925</b>  |
| <b>Omusati</b>      | <b>960,574</b>    | <b>18,203</b>  |
| <b>Erongo</b>       | <b>912,659</b>    | <b>19,257</b>  |
| <b>Zambezi</b>      | <b>892,471</b>    | <b>14,963</b>  |
| <b>Otjozondjupa</b> | <b>994,864</b>    | <b>19,458</b>  |
| <b>Omaheke</b>      | <b>340,633</b>    | <b>12,868</b>  |
| <b>Oshana</b>       | <b>573,074</b>    | <b>18,858</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>10,797,435</b> | <b>262,877</b> |



SKILLS AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

5

EDUCATION AND FINANCIAL LITERACY

7

COMMUNITY AND HEALTH DEVELOPMENT

1

3

ENVIRONMENTAL GUARDIANSHIP

2

1

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

2

9

ARTS AND CULTURE

3

4

EMPLOYEE SUPPORT

3

7





**SKILLS AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT**

*"In the tapestry of life, every thread counts."*

## African Leadership Institute (ALI)

In November 2022, approximately a dozen healthcare professionals, nurtured by the Foundation's support, proudly received their Transformational Leadership certificates from the African Leadership Institute (ALI).

Since 2015, the Foundation, in partnership with ALI and the Ministry of Health and Social Services, sponsors health professionals for leadership training. The programme's purpose is clear: to equip healthcare providers with essential skills to become effective leaders, not only within their hospitals but also within their communities.

Claudia Kambonde, a beneficiary of this sponsorship, shares her gratitude, stating, "I am empowered to know that to become a true leader you must discover who you are and your purpose in life. At a professional level I am more goal-oriented, have improved my time management skills, and measure

my output/achievements using data. I am grateful to the Foundation for creating this opportunity and the whole team at ALI for having contributed meaningfully to my life."

Students from the Ministry of Health and Social Services attend intensive sessions in exclusive groups known as "H-schools," which are composed solely of MOHSS students.





## CHANGE - *unlocking second chances*

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation proudly supports the CHANGE organisation in their noble mission to enhance the employability and self-reliance of former offenders.

CHANGE Namibia provides training in business entrepreneurship, fashion design, and adaptation to over 1 412 trainees. Many beneficiaries have taken the lessons learned, launched their own ventures and are now in a position to support others who share a similar journey. These training courses offer invaluable opportunities for individuals without formal qualifications or those seeking to improve their work-related skills, facilitating their successful reintegration into society.

## NABAN - The Namibian Business Angel Network | N\$100 000 per annum

With an annual commitment of N\$100 000, the FirstRand Namibia Foundation actively supports NABAN, serving as a vital link between local business angels, aspiring angel investors, and other stakeholders in Namibia’s funding ecosystem.

Comprising 21 individuals from diverse professional backgrounds, NABAN shares a common belief in entrepreneurs’ pivotal role in economic growth. These angel investors generously commit their private resources to start-ups in exchange for equity in the companies. Beyond financial investment, start-up founders benefit from the invaluable network of these partners, often doubling as mentors. NABAN convenes monthly to discuss the latest trends and developments in the start-up world, while quarterly pitch events provide promising founders with the opportunity to secure essential investments.

## Know2Grow High Potential Pool | N\$100 000 per year for 3 years

FNB Namibia, a proud sponsor of the Know2Grow High Potential Pool, commits N\$100 000 annually for three years.

This programme is tailored to elevate the operations of export-ready micro and small businesses with high potential for international expansion. Through the Know2Grow initiative, participating businesses gain access to export-focused capacity building, market access platforms, and other critical resources. This participation empowers businesses with the necessary tools to enter international markets, ultimately fostering their growth and success.







**EDUCATION AND FINANCIAL LITERACY**

*"To learn is to weave the fabric of knowledge."*

Ensuring quality education for all, especially disadvantaged children, is at the heart of the FirstRand Namibia Foundation's mission to build a strong and capable Namibia.

**Kanono Combined School**  
- *illuminating minds*

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation invested N\$145 000 to transform a classroom at Kanono Combined School in the Zambezi Region into a fully-equipped science laboratory.

This initiative underscores the Foundation's commitment to education as the greatest equaliser, with a specific focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) subjects. During the laboratory handover, Reagan Kwala, Katima Mulilo Branch Manager, emphasised the importance of education in levelling the playing field. The Principal of Kanono Combined School, Brain Ndabeni, expressed gratitude for this transformative contribution, noting that the science lab will enhance learning and elevate the performance of students at the school.





# Amos Meerkat Early Childhood Development project - *preparing tomorrow's leaders*

The Amos Meerkat project is a pre-school development programme dedicated to ensuring that every pre-schooler in Namibia, particularly from farming communities and informal settlements, is prepared for primary school.

This not only boosts their confidence but also enhances their access to further education. This programme aligns with the Foundation's partnership strategy, enhancing the quality of contributions made by individuals in their own communities. Over the years, this project has prepared over 4 380 children aged five to six for grade 1, while also providing training to 219 educators and 23 monitors. The project spans various regions, including Kunene, Kavango East, Oshana, Erongo, Hardap, Karas, Khomas, Otjozondjupa, and Omaheke.



# African Child Development Trust - *nurturing futures*

The African Child Development Trust understands that children are the foundation of the future.

The project, which commenced during the national lockdown in 2020 in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Arts, and Culture, is dedicated to designing, printing, and distributing thousands of books daily to children. Resulting in the delivery of nearly 13 million books to 14 regions across Namibia. The primary focus

is to create pre-primary and junior primary materials available in 11 languages across the nation. Each grade is meticulously divided into 36 weeks, covering the entire Namibian Curriculum from pre-primary to grade 3. Additionally, an online learning platform offers daily video lessons and books for pre-primary to grade 3 learners, with sign language interpretation included for hearing-impaired students.



# Numeracy and literacy at St. Barnabas Primary School - *empowering young minds*

Numeracy and literacy at St. Barnabas Primary School have seen a remarkable transformation through the FirstRand Namibia Foundation's partnership with Edulution.

Edulution guides primary education instructors on achieving curricular goals and boosting children's confidence via interactive tablets. The initiative's impact became evident in 2020, amid the COVID-19 pandemic. During this time, Edulution adapted its delivery to the changing environment, emphasising the importance of adapting education in evolving times.





The FirstRand Namibia Foundation proudly supports organisations that help communities adapt to rapid evolution. Edulution is one such entity, guiding primary education instructors in best practices since 2019. Their programme is designed to help learners catch up, allowing each student to work at their own pace, filling knowledge gaps, and mastering vital numeracy and literacy skills. This programme is inclusive, reaching even the remotest areas, addressing learning gaps for primary school children across Namibia. Additionally, it creates coaching jobs for unemployed youth, fostering social and economic growth while promoting enthusiasm for entrepreneurship and teaching careers.

This initiative benefited over 3 200 learners at St. Barnabas Primary School and involved 29 coaches. It had a positive impact on learner performance in numeracy skills and English.

## Nakanyale Private Academy - *shaping future leaders*

**Nakanyale Private Academy was established with the noble mission of providing world-class primary school education to marginalised children in the Omusati region, offering them a comprehensive package of support.**

The academy caters to 108 learners from grade 0 to 6, offering tuition, educational materials, boarding, medical care, nutritional support, clothing, and toiletries. Additionally, it provides opportunities for sports training, arts, music, and exposure to a broader world. This initiative aims to create a brighter future for these children, ensuring they receive the necessary care and education to rise above their circumstances.

## Improving grade 12 results at Tsumkwe Secondary School - *bridging educational gaps*

**In a nation like Namibia, remote schools often lack access to modern teaching and learning resources.**

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation, in partnership with Edugate Private Schools, is instrumental in guiding teachers at Tsumkwe Secondary School to enhance their pupils' learning capacity. Improved educational content and effective teaching methods, empowers teachers to transform their practices. This partnership proved essential during times of rapid change, such as the recent global challenges faced by the education sector. The FirstRand Namibia Foundation commends Eduvision for their significant role in promoting economic mobility, advancing economic growth, creating employment, eradicating poverty, and reducing inequality.

The goal is to equip all remote schools in Namibia with access to innovative education technologies, with current sponsors including B2Gold, Capricorn, D&M Rail Construction, Dunlop Tires, Engling Stritter & Partners, FirstRand Namibia Foundation, GB Brokers, Namib Mills, Paratus, Petrosol, SGA, Wilde Ganzen Foundation, CT Namibia, Gondwana Care Trust, Pupkewitz Foundation, Hotel Thule, Connected to Namibia, Channel 7, and D&M Rail Construction. Schools such as Tsumkwe SS, Cornelius Goreseb SS, Waterberg JSS, Okakarara SS, Himarwa lithete SS,





Epikuro Post 3 SS, Gam SS, Pionier SS, Grenewaldt SS, C //Oaseb SS, Elundu CS, Oshaango CS, Epembe CS, Leevi Hakushembe SS, Kandjimi Murangi SS, and Ioma CS are among the beneficiaries of this programme.

## KAYEC Trust - *empowering youth in Rundu*

FNB, through the FirstRand Namibia Foundation, contributed N\$2 million to the Kayec Rundu Youth Development Programme over six years.

This funding supports learners from Rundu's Kehemu location, particularly underserved secondary-school girls who face risks such as pregnancy and HIV. The after-school programme aims to help youth and children from vulnerable backgrounds build resilience, excel academically, and develop social skills through activities like public speaking, participation, and child advocacy. In collaboration with the Minister of Gender, the programme has conducted training on gender-based violence and sexual reproductive health, benefiting over 180 youth in Rundu. A new initiative, "Speak the Youth," fosters open dialogues with over 450 youth in 2022.



## Degnos - *supporting early childhood development*

Degnos, established to combat poverty among San communities, provides early childhood

development support to 16 centers and 450 children across Otavi, Grootfontein, Tsumeb, and Katima Mulilo.

This includes teacher training through the Amos Meerkat Early Childhood Development Programme.



## Mondesa Youth Opportunities Trust (MYO) - *nurturing potential*

Over the past four years, FNB Namibia, through the FirstRand Namibia Foundation, invested N\$800 000 in the Mondesa Youth Opportunities Trust (MYO), a programme dedicated to providing intensive educational support for students from underprivileged backgrounds in Swakopmund.

The Foundation's belief in the transformative power of education and youth development is unwavering, and recognises it as a timeless source of national pride and a potent vehicle for enhancing both national development and well-being.

MYO is a non-profit organisation on a mission to elevate the Namibian public education system by providing education subsidies to promising grade 4-8 students. A core principle of MYO is that access to quality education should be available to all, regardless of financial circumstances. The 120 students attending MYO receive approximately 500 hours of additional training in subjects such as Math, Reading, English, Life Skills, Computer Science, and Music. Importantly, there is no cost to the families for these services, ensuring equitable access. Attendance is mandatory,





and MYO maintains discipline in the classroom while encouraging learners to develop leadership skills alongside their academic pursuits. To broaden horizons and provide valuable life experiences, each class embarks on two field trips annually, allowing them to discover the joys and lessons of the wider Namibia.



## Seawork Cares Trust - *nourishing minds*

Established in May 2019, the Seawork Cares Trust operates several programmes that align with each of the Foundation's six focus areas, with a strong emphasis on education and capacity building.

One of its primary initiatives, the Adopt-A-School programme, focuses on providing nutritious meals to underprivileged school children twice a day. Currently, this program benefits over 1 280 children from Kavango East, Kunene, Karas, Ohangwena, and Kavango regions, offering them daily breakfast and lunch.



## One Economy Foundation (ONE) - *empowering through education*

The One Economy Foundation plays a pivotal role in addressing the structural drivers of poverty by providing holistic and evidence-based solutions that focus on facilitating fair access to capacity, capital, and building confidence.

ONE firmly believes that access to education is a potent tool for eradicating poverty and reducing entrenched inequality of opportunity. To further this mission, ONE created an educational fellowship known as the Talented Individual Programme (TIP), designed to offer secondary school learners an all-encompassing support system for excelling both in and outside of school. Learners are equipped with tools and support to navigate the challenges they encounter during the critical grades 8 to 12.

The excellence of TIP learners is evident in their outstanding performance across all aspects of their school lives. Many of these students earn academic half and full colours, with some receiving individual subject prizes for their exceptional achievements. The FirstRand Namibia Foundation takes immense pride in the accomplishments of these learners and wishes them continued success in their educational journeys.



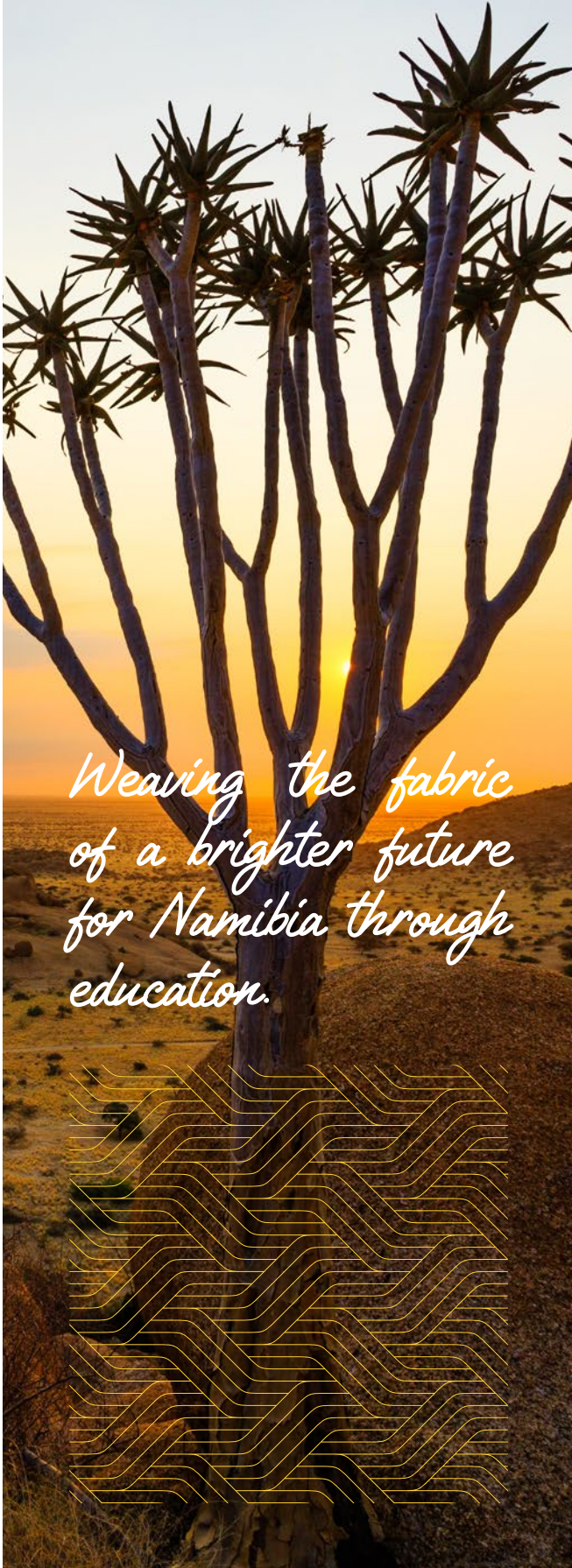


# Adhoc primary and secondary school donations - *building strong foundations*

To lay the foundation for a stronger Namibia, the FirstRand Namibia Foundation recognises the critical importance of excellent education from the earliest stages.

Over the years, the FirstRand Namibia Foundation has donated essential resources to numerous primary and secondary schools, ensuring that students have access to quality education regardless of their background. These contributions have included equipment, school uniforms, shoes, stationery, and sanitary pads. Among the schools benefiting from these donations are Da Palm Secondary School, Diaz Primary School, Ovhitua Primary School, Helene van Rhijn Primary School, Hoeksteen Primary School, M H Greef Primary School, Okamatapati Combined School, Otjimbingwe Primary School, Rukata Primary School, St Barnabas Primary School, Tsumis Farm Primary School, Westside High School, Tataleni High School, Tsumeb English Medium Primary School, Tsaukhaeb Secondary School, Kasheshe Combined School, Karasburg Primary School, Joseph Mbangula Primary School, Ioma Combined School, Etoshapoort Junior Secondary School, Epako High School, Dr. Lemmer High School, and Angra Pequena Secondary School.

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation remains committed to building a stronger Namibia, starting with a solid foundation in education.



*Weaving the fabric of a brighter future for Namibia through education.*





## COMMUNITY AND HEALTH DEVELOPMENT



*"Caring for the well-being of all, in the spirit of Ubuntu."*



**At the core of the FirstRand Namibia Foundation's philosophy lies a fundamental belief: community involvement is paramount in delivering effective solutions.**

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation understands and appreciates the crucial role played by its diverse group of stakeholders, including partners, suppliers, government, civil society, and communities, in the continued success of its initiatives.

Massive efforts have been undertaken to bring about positive change, and the impact is evident in the significant improvements in the quality of life for many Namibians facing economic hardship.

Through collaborative partnerships, shared dedication, and a collective commitment to making a difference, the Foundation has made substantial strides in its mission to create a more equitable and prosperous Namibia. Together with stakeholders, a brighter future is being woven, one thread at a time, and the FirstRand Namibia Foundation remains resolute in its pursuit of lasting and meaningful change for local communities.



## Development Workshop of Namibia and Shack Dwellers Federation of Namibia

**The FirstRand Namibia Foundation recognises its dual responsibility to deliver not only financial value but also positive social outcomes for the people of Namibia.**

The Foundation believes that true value emerges from meaningful partnerships with those who are committed to making a difference, aligning financial and social objectives to earn the trust of all stakeholders.

Commitment to providing housing, security, and a safe environment where trust can flourish has led to significant investments in initiatives aimed at transforming lives. For instance, the Foundation's support of the Shack Dwellers Federation of Namibia, contributing N\$5 million since 2018 to empower communities and provide them with the dignity of secure housing.

Simultaneously, support for the Development Workshop of Namibia has remained unwavering. With 1.75 million invested in initiatives that extend beyond Windhoek, focusing on delivering affordable and accessible housing, sanitation, toilets, and land programmes where they are needed most.

These partnerships, have not only provided homes to families but also created opportunities for local suppliers and collaborators. The conversations with families in their own homes and with the Foundation's partners at the Development Workshop of Namibia and the Shack Dwellers Federation of Namibia are a testament to the inspiring impact of these initiatives.

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation is committed to ensuring that the positive work of its partners continues to benefit many more Namibians, collectively striving to create a brighter and more secure future for communities.







# Fighting cancer, providing comfort: *commitment to CAN*

The Cancer Association of Namibia (CAN) has been at the forefront of the battle against cancer since its inception in 1968.

FNB Namibia, through the FirstRand Namibia Foundation, proudly joined hands with CAN in October 2022 to make a meaningful contribution to this important cause.

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation handed over essential items known as “breast buddies” and a donation of N\$200 000 to the Cancer Association of Namibia. These funds are earmarked for CAN’s House Acacia, a sanctuary dedicated to providing vital support and care to patients undergoing treatment for

cancer.

For many patients, this journey is an arduous one, often requiring them to travel alone, leaving behind loved ones. On average, around 3 700 people in Namibia receive the life-altering diagnosis of cancer each year. In 2022 alone, more than 150 patients from 14 regions found a haven at House Acacia. Here, they not only receive comfortable accommodation but also enjoy three nutritious meals a day, along with transport assistance for their medical treatments.

This partnership reflects the Foundation’s commitment to not only delivering financial value but also making a positive impact in the lives of Namibians facing one of the most challenging battles of their lives. The FirstRand Namibia Foundation stands with CAN and their noble mission to provide care, support, and hope to those affected by cancer, ensuring that no one fights this battle alone.





## Fostering smiles, transforming lives:

### *partnership with Nampharm Foundation*

**Nampharm Foundation, an independent charitable organisation, has a noble mission: to provide children in Namibia with special health conditions the medical assistance they urgently need.**

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation wholeheartedly supports this mission and committed N\$200 000 to empower medical professionals with the funding and resources necessary to offer free cleft lip and palate surgery, along with comprehensive cleft care, to Namibian children.

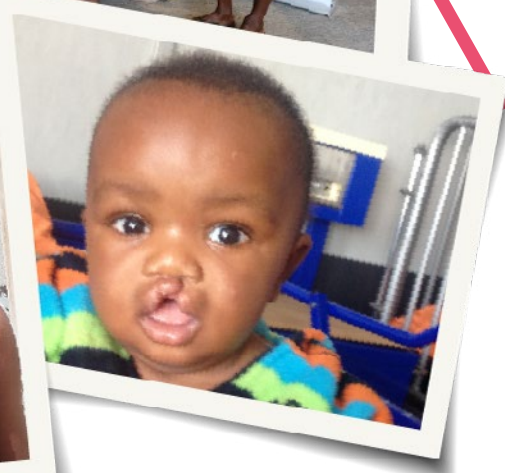
Understanding that a smile that a smile is not just a gesture of happiness; it's also a means of conveying acceptance and radiating the beauty of the soul. For children, it is even more critical as it plays a pivotal

role in their development and integration into society. It paves the way for them to grow into confident, productive members of the community without the burden of discrimination.

A source of immense pride, the FirstRand Namibia Foundation's partnership with the Nampharm Foundation, transforms the lives of children, putting them on a trajectory towards a brighter and more promising future.

To date, Nampharm has provided invaluable assistance to more than 185 children. Some of these young individuals require multiple corrective surgeries to ensure they have the best chance at a normal life. Over the past five years, Nampharm Foundation has invested over N\$2.6 million in this critical initiative.

The positive impact of this partnership, brings gratitude for the opportunity to be a part of this transformative journey. Together with Nampharm Foundation, the FirstRand Namibia Foundation are helping children in Namibia smile, grow, and thrive, ensuring that their futures are filled with hope and opportunity.







# OmniCare Trust: *bridging the healthcare gap for vulnerable communities*

**OmniCare Trust stands as a beacon of hope, delivering primary health care services to 1 208 under-served communities each month in the Khomas region.**

This noble endeavour is driven by the increasing demand for primary health care, particularly as more urban dwellers relocate from the regions to the Khomas region in search of employment and other opportunities.

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation firmly believes that the well-being of both children and adults hinges on access to healthcare. Good health is the foundation upon which children can attend school, participate in sports, and thrive, while adults can work effectively and provide for their families.

In informal communities, especially those that are vulnerable, the need for assistance is pressing, and relying solely on government resources is often insufficient. The OmniCare Trust steps in to address this crucial gap, offering a range of essential services to those in need. These services encompass routine ante- and post-natal care, family planning guidance and medication, routine immunisations, screening for TB symptoms, voluntary counseling and testing for HIV,

diagnosis and treatment of common communicable diseases, as well as testing, referral, and follow-up for chronic conditions such as hypertension, asthma, diabetes, and arthritis. Additionally, the OmniCare Trust provides chronic medication delivery services, ensuring that individuals have consistent access to the medications they require for their well-being.

Education is a cornerstone of the Trust's efforts, and it conducts health education sessions on a variety of topics, including general hygiene, alcohol abuse, mumps awareness, child health and safety, nutrition, the importance of a balanced diet, disability prevention and rehabilitation, and the effects of stress on both the body and mind.

Further support is provided through initiatives like the Nutrition Pack for Medication Programme. Families grappling with malnutrition, as well as diabetic patients, receive nutritional food packs to accompany their medication for the next 4 to 5 months. This holistic approach to healthcare ensures that communities not only receive medical support but also the resources and knowledge needed to lead healthier, happier lives.

OmniCare Trust is dedicated to making a tangible difference in the lives of Namibians, understanding that healthcare is a fundamental human right, with the belief that everyone, regardless of their circumstances, deserves access to quality healthcare. Through its unwavering commitment, the FirstRand Namibia Foundation aims to uplift communities, promote well-being, and foster a brighter future for all.





## Steps2Walk: *empowering communities through foot and ankle health*

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation recognises the critical importance of foot and ankle health—a vital but often overlooked aspect of our overall well-being.

A persons’ feet and ankles enable them to move, regardless of age, gender, or fitness level, and their health is essential to mobility and daily life.

To address this often-neglected area of healthcare, the FirstRand Namibia Foundation has proudly partnered with Lady Pohamba Private Hospital to provide specialist foot and ankle surgical care to patients who lack access to such treatment, completely free of charge. The primary goal with this programme is to alleviate the burden associated with poor foot health before it significantly affects an individual’s ability to perform daily tasks. By doing so, the Foundation empowers individuals to become productive members of their communities, enhancing their quality of life and overall well-being.



## Down Syndrome Association of Namibia (DSAN): *promoting education, awareness, and change*

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation takes immense pride in its long-standing sponsorship of the Down Syndrome Association of Namibia (DSAN).

Over the years, financial support has been dedicated to fostering education, awareness, and training related to Down syndrome. The ultimate aim is to catalyse positive change in the lives of parents, family members, teachers, and the broader community.

DSAN, with a membership comprising 332 individuals spanning 12 regions, plays a pivotal role in promoting understanding and support for individuals with Down syndrome. By supporting DSAN’s initiatives, the Foundation strives to make a meaningful impact on the lives of those affected by Down syndrome and create a more inclusive and compassionate society.







## Ministry of Health and Social Services – Division of Paediatric and Congenital Cardiology:

*a lifeline for vulnerable  
patients*

**The FirstRand Namibia Foundation's continuous support since 2019 has had a profound impact on the care provided to vulnerable patients with congenital and rheumatic heart disease in Namibia.**

Contributions have significantly bolstered the paediatric cardiac services, a comprehensive programme comprising four crucial sub-departments: paediatric cardiac anesthesia, cardiology, ICU, and surgery. These services collectively serve an estimated 85 to 90% of patients affected by heart disease from all 14 regions in Namibia.

The key to the success of these sub-specialty departments lies in their holistic and interdependent approach, ensuring the safety and well-being of patients. The equipment required for cardiac services is often prohibitively expensive and is primarily funded by the government. The FirstRand Namibia Foundation's generous donation of N\$500 000 has played a crucial role in supporting the continued functioning of these departments.

Annually, the Division of Paediatric and Congenital Cardiology strives to provide accessible, affordable, equitable, safe, and sustainable care to more than 2 400 Namibians born with heart disease. Importantly, this care is extended to individuals regardless of their socio-economic circumstances. The Foundation's commitment to this programme reflects its dedication to improving the lives of vulnerable individuals in Namibia and ensuring they have the opportunity to lead healthier and more fulfilling lives. Through these contributions, the FirstRand Namibia Foundation aims to make a meaningful difference in the field of cardiac healthcare in Namibia, ultimately saving lives and fostering a brighter future for all.





## Motherhood Namibia: *celebrating and empowering mothers*

**“Mom’s Day Off” is a remarkable movement initiated by Motherhood Namibia, proudly sponsored by FNB Namibia.**

This movement is designed to unite, support, and celebrate mothers from all walks of life. “Mom’s Day Off” embodies the spirit of empowering women, particularly mothers, who are often regarded as the foundation of society.

This event, which is part of the Inspiring Women series, is created by mothers, for mothers. It serves as a platform where moms can come together to share their stories, hear the experiences of others, and celebrate

their unique journeys through motherhood. It’s a day where mothers can be honored, celebrated, and find inspiration in one another.

Mother’s Day holds special significance worldwide as an occasion to express respect, honor, and love for mothers. It’s a day to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of mothers, recognise the importance of maternal bonds, and celebrate the vital role mothers play in society.

Through its sponsorship of “Mom’s Day Off”, the FirstRand Namibia Foundation aims to underscore the significance of motherly figures across the globe: honouring the dedication, sacrifices, and love that mothers provide to their families and communities. By doing so, the Foundation hopes to contribute to the well-being and empowerment of mothers in Namibia and beyond.







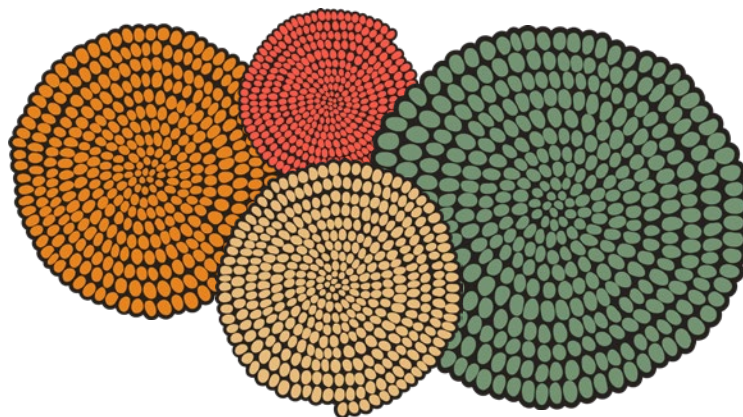

**ENVIRONMENTAL  
GUARDIANSHIP**

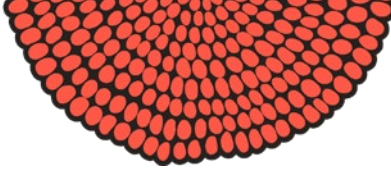


*"The tapestry of this land must be protected"*

**The FirstRand Namibia Foundation's mission is to weave strength into communities by placing their needs and perspectives at the heart of social and economic advancement.**

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation support community services and welfare, nurturing a tightly-woven fabric of well-being. The environmental surroundings are not only home, they are the very threads of life, providing sustenance through food, water, air, shelter, and essentials. Thus, preserving the environment should be as instinctive as the art of weaving itself.





# University of Namibia Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory - *nurturing lives*

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation, like skilled weavers, has contributed N\$500,000 worth of clinical equipment and medical consumables to the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at the University of Namibia.

These vital tools are threads in the tapestry of animal care, enabling the preservation of precious lives. Animals, whether as beloved companions or in roles supporting agriculture and transportation, enhance our lives and communities. This support ensures their well-being, reflecting the Foundation’s commitment to weaving compassion and progress in society.



# Zambezi River - Sikunga Conservancy Fish Protection Project: *weaving a sustainable future*

In its fourth year, the FirstRand Namibia Foundation continues its steadfast support for the protection of fish resources, a lifeline for the communities that depend on them.

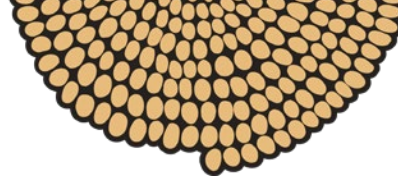
The Sikunga Fish Guard initiative, initially a voluntary endeavour by the Gondwana Care Trust in 2018, has grown into a permanent programme. With 10 dedicated employees patrolling 8km of the river and tranquil backwaters, the fish are allowed to breed undisturbed. This effort, created security for these vital aquatic resources.

As a pivotal component of the Foundation’s strategy, this support contributes to safeguarding the natural treasures of our nation, including its rivers and oceans. It is a testament to the importance of weaving together efforts for a sustainable future.

The project enjoys collaboration with the Sikunga Conservancy, the Masubia Traditional Authority, and various tourism enterprises. This partnership represents a small but crucial section of the Zambezi River where fish stocks are shielded. Annually, over 1 000 residents of Katima Mulilo reap the benefits of fish restocking, further contributing to the prosperity and well-being in their communities.







# Namibia Animal Welfare Association - *weaving compassion and care*

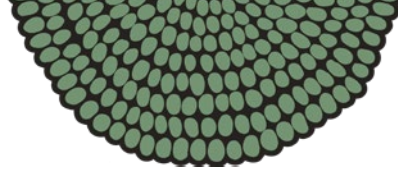
**The Namibian Animal Welfare Association (NAWA) has been on a remarkable journey since its inception in 2020, creating a tightly-knit fabric of support for animals in remote areas across the country.**

NAWA, a voluntary animal welfare association registered with the Ministry of Health and Social Services, is dedicated to promoting community-based animal welfare and educating Namibians about the rights of our fellow creatures. NAWA addresses a range of cases, from badly injured and abused horses to starving puppies, injured dogs, and the plight of abandoned, missing, or stolen animals.

Recognising that animal welfare is a shared responsibility, NAWA has woven its services into the fabric of our society, recognising the vital role animals play in our world. On average, NAWA extends its compassionate reach to over 1 600 animals from Khomas Rural and Central constituencies, including communities in Dordabis, Stinkwater, Nauasfort Dam, Saamstaan, and Rooibank. They've also embarked on four-day Project Donkey Harness trips, stretching their helping hands as far as Tsumkwe, Walvis - Topnaars, Kamajab, Fransfontein, Korixas, Omaruru, and Grootfontein, in collaboration with SPCA Namibia.

The year 2022 stands as NAWA's most successful to date, with all projects weaving together remarkable results in terms of their core ideals: education, primary health care, and community upliftment. As they continue to thread their way through challenges, NAWA remains dedicated to the well-being of animals, illustrating the profound impact that compassion and care can have on an interconnected world.





# Green Earth - *cultivating sustainability for Namibian communities*

**Green Earth, with its roots deeply embedded in the Namibian soil, was established with a noble objective: to create opportunities for offtake and value addition that bring enduring economic and social benefits to community members across Namibia.**

Green Earth undertakes activities that include the training of community groups and schools in regions such as Kavango, Hardap, Erongo, Ohangwena, Kunene, and Oshikoto before embarking on tree propagation initiatives.

During the 2022/23 financial year, Green Earth embarked on a series of sustainable projects:

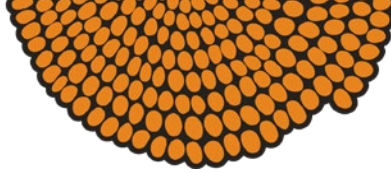
- The Stinkwater community transplanted olive trees at the Henties Bay UNAM Research Facility, nurturing growth and hope.

- A net structure was erected on a farm near Outjo, empowering the San community to cultivate vegetables, fruits, and trees, weaving sustenance into their lives.
- Acacia seedlings were nurtured by the Okombahe community group in the Daures Constituency, ensuring the legacy of life-giving trees.
- In the Kayengona village near Rundu, a water pipeline brought life to school gardens and homesteads.
- Camel Thorn and Salt Bush seedlings, cultivated by the Groot Aub community and the Bethold Himumuine Primary School in Windhoek, combatting desertification.
- Marula tree seedlings, nurtured by community groups across Namibia, stand ready for sale and transplanting, with new seeds to be planted in Omuthiya, weaving a future of sustainable income.
- Drip irrigation systems were established, watering the growth of knowledge and sustenance, in schools in Warmbad, the community in Keetmanshoop, Gababis settlement in Karasburg, and Rehoboth.

Green Earth, through these initiatives, exemplifies the art of weaving prosperity and sustainability into Namibian communities, one project at a time.







## Office of the Prime Minister – *supporting flood relief with N\$250 000*

The devastation of crops has cast a shadow over the livelihoods and food security of countless vulnerable households. In times of disaster, the FirstRand Namibia Foundation stands firm in its commitment to safeguarding the most vulnerable in society. The FirstRand Namibia Foundation believes that during challenging times, it is the duty of all organisations to extend their helping hand.

This contribution reflects an earnest hope and firm belief that, with the support of corporate Namibia, the nation will triumph over adversity, restoring and rebuilding the affected regions.

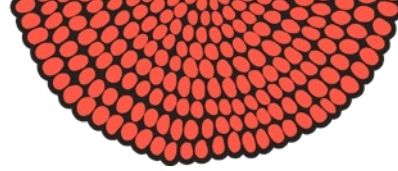
## Save the Rhino Trust (SRT) – *a beacon of hope*

In 2022, SRT achieved an incredible feat: 26 consecutive months with zero poaching in their operational zone. They expanded into the Nyae Nyae region, upgraded their field base, and ensured stable conditions for their mule team.

Ranger teams, spending 22 days on rhino monitoring patrols, face challenges due to rising costs. SRT replenishes essential supplies, but the strain on resources is evident. To provide clean water, they installed Hydro-panels at 15 fly camps, thanks to the support of the FirstRand Namibia Foundation.

Together, the FirstRand Namibia Foundation helps to bring hope and protection for Namibia’s rhinos, preserving these magnificent creatures for generations to come.





# Namibian Lion Trust – *safeguarding Namibia's lions*

The Namibian Lion Trust is steadfast in its commitment to the enduring protection and conservation of lions and other large carnivores that inhabit the Namibian landscape. Furthermore, the Trust champions the cause of co-existence between farming communities and wildlife, seeking harmony amidst diversity.

The Kunene lion population has faced a formidable challenge, enduring nine years of relentless drought from 2012 to 2021, compounded by the persistent farmer-lion conflict, characterised by leg-hold traps and poison. Despite almost twelve years of unwavering community support, which includes innovative livestock protection programmes supplying predator-proof 'bomas' to farmers in conflict areas, early-warning systems utilising GPS satellite collars to alert livestock herders of lion proximity, and rapid response units offering timely assistance and invaluable advice on adaptive livestock management, the past three years have witnessed a decline in tolerance towards lion presence. This shift is particularly pronounced among farmers who have borne the brunt of livestock losses due to drought.

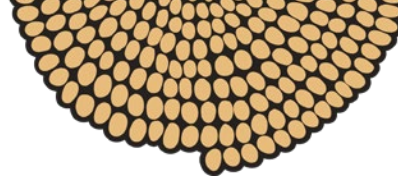
The lion guards stand as dedicated protectors of the lion and as mitigators of farmer-lion conflict in

Namibia's north-west, Kunene region. Collaborating closely with the Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism's Lion Ranger Programmes, these lion guards increase the number of 'boots-on-the-ground' across approximately nine communal conservancies where evidence of resident lions exists. Multiple teams, comprising lion rangers and lion guards representing these conservancies, are deployed into conflict-prone areas, offering enhanced protection for lions while simultaneously supporting farmers who share their habitat with wildlife. These diligent foot patrols extend into remote regions, effectively monitoring illegal activities such as bush-meat poaching and wildlife crimes. Ranger Training Programmes uplift morale and enhance expertise, thereby increasing the effectiveness of the lion guard and lion ranger initiatives, fostering a culture of long-term co-existence.

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation takes great pride in supporting the Lion Guard Programme. In 2022, community members from villages such as Orupupa, Ehroviipuka, Omatendeka, and Khoadi Hoas reaped the benefits of this vital initiative. An initiative that allows for co-existence and protections, where both lions and communities thrive side-by-side.







## Beekeeping Association of Namibia - *nurturing nature's buzzing heroes*

The apiculture (beekeeping) industry is a hidden gem within the agronomic, agricultural, and food security sectors. Its impact goes beyond what meets the eye. It plays a pivotal role in environmental stability and biodiversity. Pollinators, the unsung heroes of our ecosystem, directly influence and contribute to securing a sustainable future, reversing negative trends, and ensuring both short and long-term conservation efforts.

With the gracious support of the FirstRand Namibia Foundation, the Beekeeping Association of Namibia had the opportunity to participate in Apimondia in South Africa. This participation not only strengthened neighborly relations but also opened doors to international funding opportunities. The invaluable international insights gained during this event have laid a solid foundation for the apiculture industry in Namibia, setting the stage for a brighter and more sustainable future.

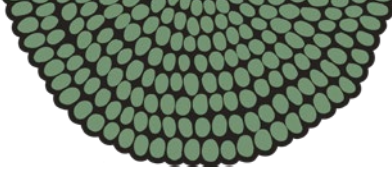


## SPCA – Dixie’s Fund: *healing friends, one paw at a time*

In 2019, the Dixie’s Fund emerged as a beacon of hope, dedicated to providing both routine and exceptional medical and veterinary care to the beloved animals under the care of the SPCA in Windhoek. This encompassed everyday procedures like vaccinations, de-parasitic treatments, microchipping, and sterilization, as well as extraordinary interventions for severe wounds, fractured limbs, and skin conditions.

The unwavering support and generosity of the FirstRand Namibia Foundation towards Dixie’s Fund translated into real-life transformations for countless animals who find their way to the SPCA. These animals represent some of the most vulnerable members of the community, often arriving at the SPCA as a last resort. The SPCA takes pride in offering tailored medical care to each and every unique animal in their care, ensuring that no two treatments are the same.





# FNB City of Windhoek Greenery Project:

*cultivating a greener future*

In 2023, in collaboration with the City of Windhoek, FNB Namibia embarked on a project to plant 400 trees across the city, laying the foundation for a Greener Future. This visionary project of sustainability and growth spans over three years.

These trees, along with shrubs and flower boxes, will find their home along high-traffic roads, main arterial routes, council facilities like markets and offices, and schools. Notably, the project involves the removal of aging exotic trees along streets such as Hosea Kutako, David Hosea Meroro, and Robert Mugabe. These trees, while picturesque, are not native and lack resilience in Namibia's arid and increasingly hot climate. Many have already succumbed to these harsh conditions. However, it's essential to underline that this transformation does not involve the removal of any thriving green trees.



## Breathing new life into Windhoek

**National Arbor Day**  
13 October



First National Bank of Namibia Limited. Reg No. 2002/0180. A subsidiary of FirstRand Namibia Limited








# SPORTS DEVELOPMENT



*"Sports have the power to weave bonds that transcend borders and differences."*



**Sport and physical education are powerful agents of change, weaving together community bonds, fostering economic growth, enhancing fitness, and advancing gender equality.**

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation proudly supports a diverse range of sports, including cycling, cricket, rugby, soccer, netball, swimming, running, karate, and equestrian sports, contributing to their growth and development.







## Ashburton Namibia Kwata Cricket: *growing young talent*

Founded in 2009, Kwata Cricket promotes cricket knowledge in Namibia’s rural areas, encouraging an active lifestyle.

It offers children a fun introduction to mini cricket through simplified games. Operating in 12 of Namibia’s 14 regions, the program employs 10 instructors and has grown from 39,000 to over 68,100 children in 2022. It proudly received the ICC’s Best Development Cricket Award for two consecutive years in June 2023.

## Namibia Children’s Home (NCH) – *karate for kids*

FNB Namibia, through the FirstRand Namibia Foundation, sponsors karate classes for 25 children at NCH, a cross-cultural centre under the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare.

The aim of NCH is to provide a well-managed loving home to all children and also to provide further additional development support services for the relevant dimensions of their lives. NCH cares for children in need due to social welfare reasons or orphaned status, aiming to improve their well-being, provide education, and foster social development.

## FNB Namibia Women’s Soccer League -

*empowering women in sport*

FNB Namibia’s N\$7.5 million, 3-year sponsorship of the Women’s Soccer League reflects the FirstRand Namibia Foundation’s commitment to women’s empowerment, role model creation, and enabling young women to reach their full potential.

Values such as self-respect, strength, perseverance, commitment, team spirit, and solidarity, central to sports, align with gender equality and women’s empowerment. FNB Namibia embraces the responsibility to support women’s development in all





aspects, including sport. The Foundation’s investment in the Women’s Soccer League offers young girls and women a chance to excel in the beautiful game, both nationally and internationally.

## FNB MTB Schools League - *pedaling towards growth*

FNB Namibia’s commitment of N\$155 000 per year for 3 years to the MTB Schools League underscores the FirstRand Namibia Foundation’s dedication to nurturing cycling as a sport in Namibia.

Many of the nation’s top cyclists began their journey as young mountain biking enthusiasts. This league, hosted under the Namibia Cycling Federation, serves as a vital developmental pathway for various cycling disciplines, including cross country (XC), long-distance marathon cycling, and road cycling.

The league organises an annual series of cross-country races, with tracks designed to cater to riders of different ages and skill levels. Races are categorised by gender and age group, starting from age six and under, up to under 18. A “fun” category has also been introduced for those aged nine and above who are new to the sport, featuring less technical and shorter tracks. Each race season draws over 150 riders, with FNB Namibia actively supports organisers in Swakopmund and Stampriet to expand their local events to accommodate 50 to 60 riders per race.

## RMB Namibia Supports Physically Active Youth *(PAY)*

RMB Namibia sponsors bicycles, gear, race entries, transport, and food for the Physically Active Youth (PAY) programme. This enables a 15-member team to compete in younger and development age categories.

Notably, one PAY team member who participated in the FNB School MTB League now rides with a professional European team, showcasing the impact of this support.

Unused race funds from the FNB Namibia Schools MTB League Committee continue to support race entries,





transport, and food while also securing additional bicycles through partnerships with Windhoek Pedal Power and Rock n Rut.

## FNB Namibia backs seven local rugby clubs

Since 2018, FNB Namibia has been the financial partner of seven local rugby clubs, proudly displaying its logo on team jerseys. This commitment reflects FNB Namibia's dedication to supporting Namibian sports at all levels, from grassroots to greatness.

These clubs, participating in the NRU Premier League, receive annual funding of N\$2.3 million from FNB Namibia. The clubs represent regions in Khomas, Hardap, Erongo, and Otjozondjupa.

## FNB Namibia Classic Clashes: *fostering school sports excellence since 2008*

Since 2008, FNB Namibia has committed over N\$1 million annually to support FNB Namibia Classic Clashes, a programme dedicated to school sports matches and promoting educational institutions.

This initiative covers Soccer, Rugby, and Netball contests, which ignite fierce rivalries between schools and unite communities through the joy of sports.

In 2023, the FNB Namibia Classic Clashes brought together 44 schools from 11 regions to participate in 11 Soccer, 5 Rugby, and 6 Netball events. Notably, this sponsorship extends its reach to rural areas, introducing Ladies Soccer as a prominent attraction at these schools. By doing so, FNB Namibia Classic Clashes aims to inspire and nurture the next generation of Namibian sports stars, enriching the nation's sports legacy.





## FNB Namibia Sandman Triathlon: *14 years of endurance excellence*

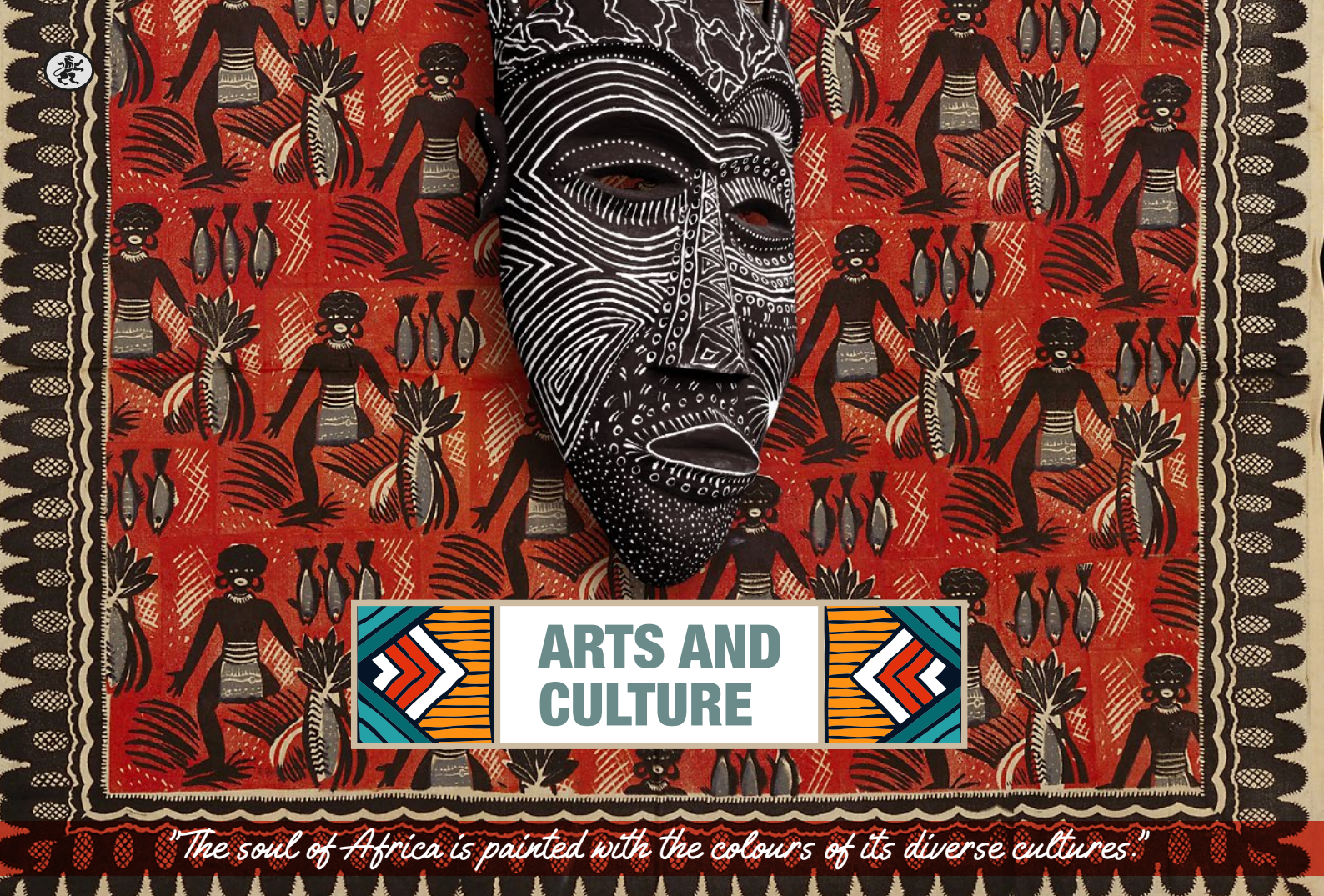
For 14 consecutive years, FNB Namibia has proudly held the title sponsorship of the Sandman Triathlon, ensuring its enduring success. This multisport event has evolved into a world-class competition, promoting a healthy and active lifestyle like no other.

With each passing year, the event witnesses a gradual increase in participants, highlighting its growing popularity.

The FNB Namibia Sandman Triathlon challenges athletes with a rigorous combination of swimming, cycling, and running across various distances. Triathletes aim for the fastest overall completion time, transitioning seamlessly between these demanding disciplines. This event epitomises endurance excellence and continues to thrive under FNB Namibia's steadfast support.







*The FirstRand Namibia Foundation is proud of its contributions to arts and culture in Namibia. The Foundation celebrates talent and artistic development countrywide.*

**Youth Orchestra of Namibia (YONA):**  
*harmonising lives through music*

YONA nurtures a sense of belonging, fosters self-esteem, confidence, and good citizenship by providing orchestra instrument lessons to 640 children annually.

Through regular concerts and workshops, YONA actively engages the community, allowing children to share their deep passion for music with others.





## Windhoek Woordfees - *celebrating language and culture*

Languages and culture are integral to the nation's history and future.

Windhoek Woordfees is a celebration of speaking, writing, and singing, held from 16 November to 19 November 2022. The event brings together well-known writers and artists, including Spoegwolf, Sandra Prinsloo, and Amanda Strydom, providing the public with the opportunity to engage with them and enrich their appreciation of language and culture.



## OMBA Trust - *empowering rural Namibian artisans*

OMBA Trust is a non-profit organisation in Namibia dedicated to supporting the sustainable livelihoods and resilience of rural artisans.

For over 30 years, the trust has played a pivotal role in developing iconic Namibian crafts, including ostrich eggshell jewellery, Kavango and Zambezi region baskets, contemporary San art, textiles, and more. These products not only showcase local culture and skills but are also sold and exhibited internationally, promoting Namibian artisans' creativity and the nation itself.

With generous support from the FirstRand Namibia Foundation, OMBA Trust continues to be a vital institution in advancing the crafts sector in Namibia.





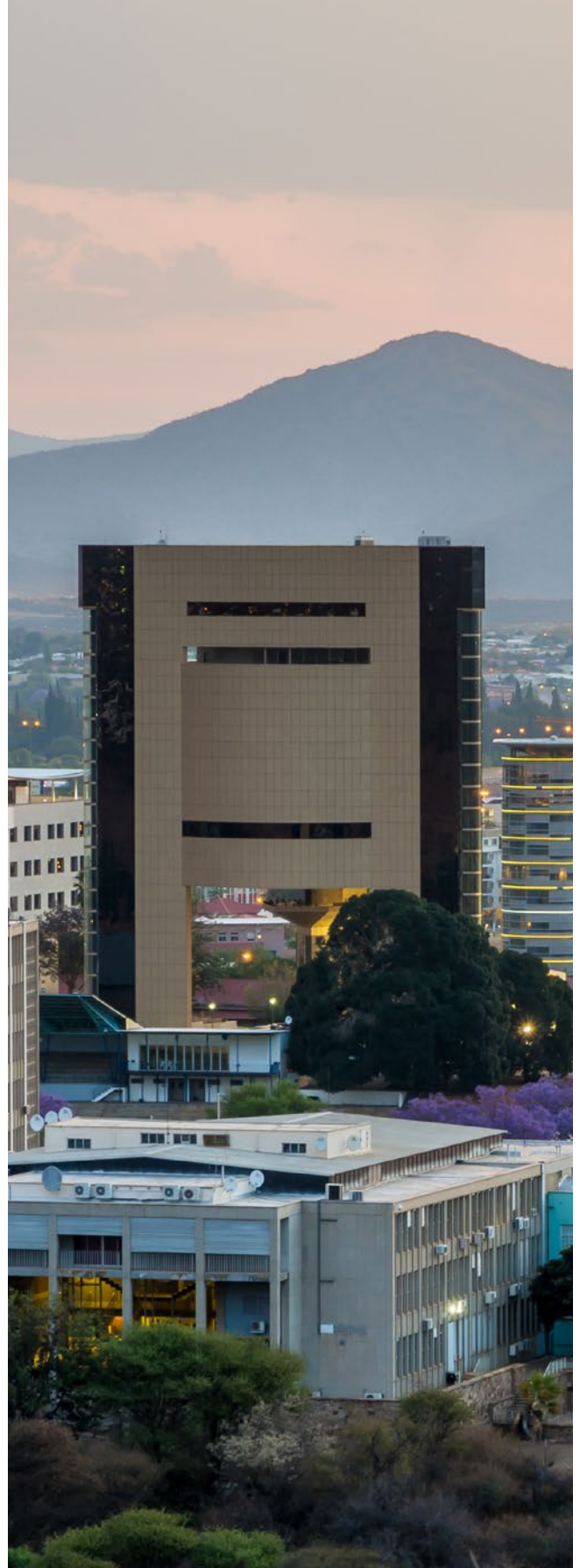
## Museums Association of Namibia – *preserving Namibia's heritage*

**The Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic of Namibia (ELCRN) Archives holds a tangible piece of Namibia's history, with records dating back to 1844.**

These documents, created by missionaries of the Rhenish Mission Society (RMS) for administrative purposes, provide valuable insights into the country's past. The project aims to safeguard and organise these irreplaceable materials, ensuring accessibility for future generations and supporting research in Namibian history.

The archives are now housed in Namibia at ELCRN's administrative headquarters in Windhoek, with some copies available in the National Archives of Namibia. Between November 2021 and February 2022, a comprehensive reorganisation of the ELCRN Archives was undertaken, pre-sorting and packing decades' worth of materials into archival boxes.

This project goes beyond traditional archiving, offering a fresh perspective on Namibian history through the lens of church history. With support from Project Founder Hester Koch's team, the Change organisation, and dedicated FirstRand Namibia employees, it contributes to preserving Namibia's rich heritage.








## EMPLOYEE SUPPORT

*"Through unity and diversity, we achieve greatness."*

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation takes great joy in doubling any staff volunteerism fund raising for projects that are close to its employee's hearts. Staff members of the group are encouraged to volunteer their time and talent, particularly in support of the Foundation's focus areas.

Volunteer activities encompass various forms of support, including in-kind contributions such as staff secondments, professional expertise, and the use of company buildings and facilities. The FirstRand Namibia Foundation recognises and values employee initiatives and wholeheartedly matches financial support to the charities our volunteers hold dear.



## FNB Breast Buddies project: *a team effort*

The FNB Namibia Breast Buddies Project, a collaboration with the Cancer Association of Namibia, thrives on the contributions of its staff through the FNB Namibia Employee Payroll Giving Initiative, totalling N\$20 000.

This initiative created 167 pairs of prosthetics, pillows, and bags and sold approximately 700 crochet hearts with support from Project Founder Hester Koch's team, the Change organisation, and FirstRand Namibia employees.

## FNB Namibia commercial JoyBox project: *spreading joy and weaving change*

In line with the FirstRand Namibia Foundation's vision of "being a great Namibian business, creating a better world," the FirstRand Namibia Foundation launched the JoyBox Project.

This initiative empowers all employees to combat poverty and inequality while improving the living standards of fellow Namibians. By encouraging employees to assemble JoyBoxes filled with essential gifts and treats, the FirstRand Namibia Foundation was able to distribute 708 JoyBoxes to vulnerable children and the elderly at various locations, including the Katutura Old Age Home, Onandjokwe Hospital, SOS Children's Village Ondangwa, Gobabis Youth Group, Ruach Elohim Foundation, and Project Hope.

## RMB Namibia sanitary pad drive: *making a difference in girls' lives*

In collaboration with the RMB Namibia CSI team, FirstRand Namibia Foundation staff members joined forces to support a sanitary pad drive. Their generous donations made a significant impact

on the lives of young girls who often struggle to access basic personal hygiene essentials.

Over 210 packs were collected, which were then doubled by the FirstRand Namibia Foundation, resulting in over 420 packs of sanitary pads. These were gratefully received by the Havana Secondary Project School and Dolam Children's Home.

## Katutura Intermediate Hospital Newborn

### Toddler Project: *a caring contribution*

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation made a meaningful donation to the Newborn Toddler Project at Katutura Intermediate Hospital, including essential items such as milk bottles, pacifiers, nappies, wet wipes, toiletries, blankets, towels, and socks.

These items supported the healthcare needs of 80 orphaned infants, ensuring their well-being and comfort during a crucial stage of their lives.

## FNB Namibia commercial service brokers - *threading Christmas cheer*

In December 2022, the FNB Namibia commercial service brokers came together to assemble 61 Christmas parcels.

These heartwarming gifts were delivered to the moms at the Central Hospital Maternity ward, bringing joy and festive spirit to their holiday season.

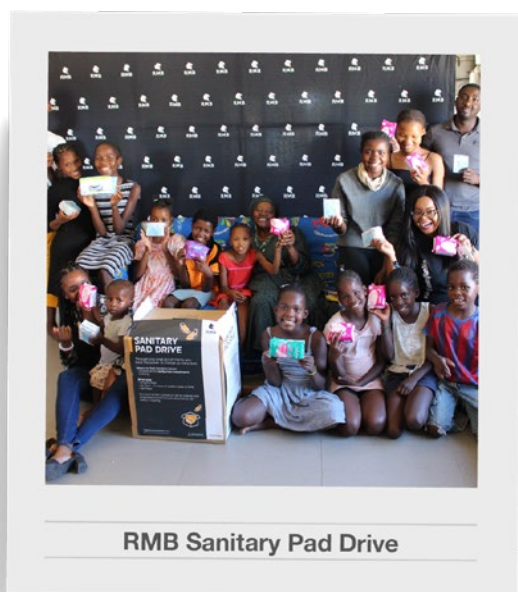




FNB Breast Buddies Project



FNB Commercial JoyBox Project



RMB Sanitary Pad Drive



Katutura Intermediate Hospital  
Newborn Toddler Project



## FNB Namibia commercial - *supporting SPCA Windhoek*

FNB Namibia's commercial division donated a collection of essential items to the SPCA Windhoek.

These contributions, including fleece blankets, pet food, bowls, toys, and recycled materials like egg cartons and toilet paper rolls, were gathered from 1 May to 30 June 2023. Dedicated staff members from various branches took pleasure in offering assistance to our beloved furry friends.

## FNB Namibia loan centre winter drive - *warming hearts*

During the cold season, shelters depend on donations to provide warmth and comfort.

FirstRand Namibia employees came together, contributing winter clothes and non-perishable food items to the Havana Charity Work Centre. These acts of kindness can make a significant impact on the lives of those in need.

## Marching for multiple sclerosis awareness - *a beacon of hope*

In honour of multiple sclerosis awareness month, supporters took to the streets of Windhoek, marching along Independence Avenue on 31 March 2023.

Amidst the echoing ambulance and police sirens, they became the voices of the voiceless, concluding the month with hope and courage.

This impactful MS awareness event was made possible by the unwavering support of FirstRand Namibia employees, and witnessed over 50 enthusiastic marchers, with FirstRand Namibia employees forming the largest contingent. The initiative raised awareness and showed solidarity with those affected by MS, both at home and in hospitals.

## Winter Knights: *uniting for a warming cause*

On 2 July 2023, from 06:00, a group of courageous Winter Knights assembled in Windhoek, Walvis Bay, and Swakopmund.

They manned over 40 busy intersections across these three towns, collecting cash, blankets, tinned food, and clothing for the underprivileged. Recognising that charity thrives on collective effort, these brave souls were inducted as knights for a single day, dedicating just two hours to this noble cause.

The donated items, including clothes, tinned food, and blankets, were meticulously sorted with the assistance of volunteers from the Rotary Club Namibia and Dynamic Mobile Solutions personnel. RMB Namibia and Ashburton teams managed to raise N\$22 582.15, which was topped up by the FirstRand Namibia Foundation to support this heartwarming initiative.

## Africa Day 2023: *weaving a difference*

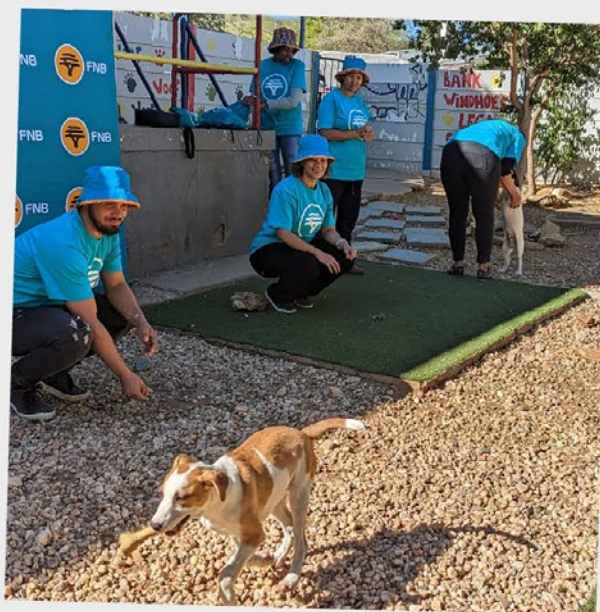
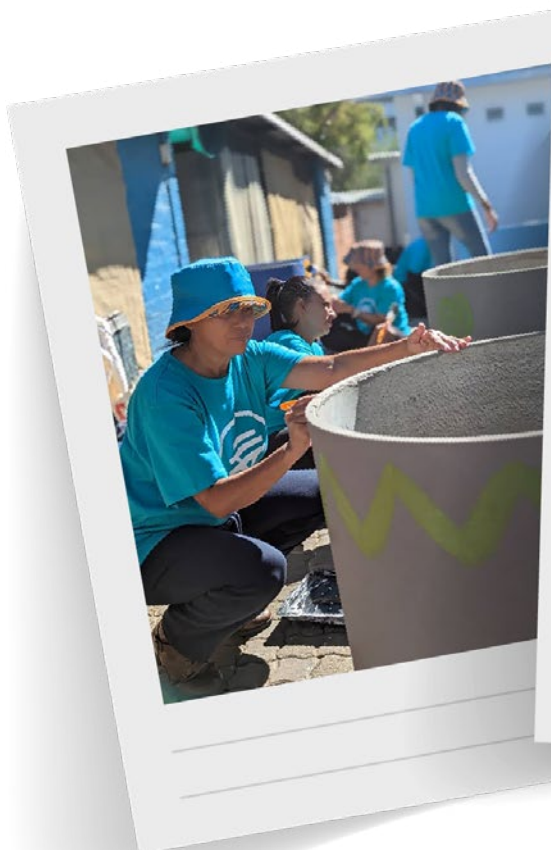
Few endeavours rival the importance of uplifting communities.

By dedicating time, tangible change can impact the lives of many. In May 2023, during Africa Month, the FirstRand Namibia Foundation dedicated two days to community service, extending a helping hand to those in need.

The initial initiative involved city and town clean-ups, conducted in collaboration with local municipalities across FNB Namibia branch locations. In Windhoek, the Foundation identified two projects where its time and skills could make a significant impact.

- Physically Active Youth Programme: the FirstRand Namibia Foundation team painted a large chessboard at this dynamic after-school center in Katutura.
- SPCA Windhoek: The team brightened the lives of animals and staff members at SPCA Windhoek with a fresh coat of paint.





**FNB Supporting SPCA Windhoek**



**FNB Loan Centre Winter Drive**



## FirstRand Namibia Executive Team's compassionate outreach

- Dolam Children's Home:**  
 Since 1999, Dolam Children's Home has been a sanctuary for orphaned and vulnerable children, offering shelter, support, and a loving, homely environment. The FirstRand Namibia Executive Team extended their support by donating warm winter blankets, sheets, and pillowcases, ensuring that every child enjoys a cosy bed during the cold winter.
- Hope for Life:**  
 Hope for Life serves as a resource hub for social and economic upliftment in Namibia, with a primary focus on at-risk children. Namibia faces the daunting challenge of approximately 368 000 at-risk children and a critical shortage of safe housing for infants and children. The center offers assistance to women and men dealing with unplanned pregnancies or those suspecting pregnancy. Their services encompass counseling, hospital visits, follow-up care, and newborn baby support. Thanks to the generous donation from the FirstRand Namibia Foundation, a baby stroller was procured, and two months' worth of daycare workers' salaries were covered, strengthening the center's capacity to provide essential support.



## FNB Windhoek branch's heartfelt gesture

Windhoek Branch staff, in collaboration with the FirstRand Namibia Foundation, demonstrated their compassion by donating N\$10 000 worth of newborn and toddler essentials to the Katutura Intermediate Hospital.

The hospital houses a Social Ward dedicated to babies and toddlers who were either abandoned at birth or left in dire circumstances. This heartfelt initiative emerged when branch staff were encouraged to propose ideas or suggest orphanages deserving of donations. The donated items included newborn baby bottles, pacifiers, nappies, wet wipes, toiletries, blankets, towels, socks, and more. These essential items were gratefully received by Mrs. Uda, the Social Ward's dedicated social worker.

Mrs. Uda also extended an invitation to individuals willing to volunteer their time to visit and interact with the babies, extending the opportunity for anyone interested to join this meaningful endeavour.

## FirstRand Namibia Staff Assistance Trust:

*empowering through education and healthcare*

The FirstRand Namibia Foundation understands that a thriving economy hinges on the well-being, education, and empowerment of its workforce. To this end, the FirstRand Namibia Staff Assistance Trust is dedicated to aiding previously disadvantaged non-managerial staff in meeting their medical and educational expenses.

The Trust holds shares in FirstRand Namibia Limited and channels the dividends received towards supporting its staff.

In the 2022/23 financial year, the Trust made a significant impact by providing financial assistance totaling N\$2.3 million to its employees, helping them access educational opportunities and cover essential medical costs.







**FirstRand**  
NAMIBIA



@Parkside, 130 Independence  
Avenue, Windhoek, Namibia.  
Box 285, Windhoek, Namibia 9000



T:+264 61 299 2111



[www.firstrandnamibia.com.na](http://www.firstrandnamibia.com.na)

