



Terms of Reference

for a study to guide Civil Society's engagement with Namibia's 6th National Development Plan (NDP 6) and Vision 2030

Background

Namibian Civil Society Non-State Actors Network (NamNet) is an umbrella apex body established via a lengthy consultative process to represent and help progress the interests of civil society in Namibia. The overarching goal of the Network is to promote, advance and articulate the voice of Civil Society Non-State Actors to positively influence rational, sustainable, and equitable socio-economic development of Namibia and her people. The Objectives of NamNet relevant to this study are:

- Advance and promote equitable human development
- Help coordinate joint actions on issues of common interest by facilitating the involvement and leadership of members
- Facilitate the formulation of evidence-based positions drawing on credible scientific, social and economic data from past and current research
- Initiate and facilitate engagement with relevant stakeholders and institutions, e.g. government, communities, donors, private sector, global agencies
- Promote accountability and transparency by holding authorities and institutions (government, transnational corporations, private sector, donors, and others) to high standards of governance to counter corruption.

Namibia's national development is guided by two sets of documents:

1. Namibia Vision 2030 - a policy framework for long-term national development, which started in 2004 and ends in 2030, and
2. National Development Plans (NDPs) - which each run consecutively for five years and aim to help implement incrementally the targets in Vision 2030. The

current NDP 6 starts now (2025/26) and runs through to 2030. It is the last NDP within the Vision 2030 cycle.

Implementation of both Vision 2030 and the NDPs has been weak, lacking leadership, alignment and accountability. As such, progress has been slow and, in some sectors, the country has regressed. Some of the reasons for failure have been:

- Poor integration into government agencies
- No process of turning desired outcomes into strategies and action plans
- No or inadequate funding availed to implement actions
- A lack of commitment and responsibility from management levels in line ministries
- Lack of monitoring, reporting and adaptive management
- Limited engagement with civil society, private sector and the Namibian public especially on implementation – giving the impression that these were government initiatives and not national endeavours.

Only five years remain for the implementation and attainment of the aspirations outlined in Vision 2030, and NDP 6 is the last NDP in this cycle. NamNet, on behalf of civil society, is concerned that past failures of implementation will persist over the next five years unless civil society takes a more active role, both to assist with implementation and to hold government accountable.

NamNet would like to determine where its most effective areas of engagement would be to help implement NDP6 and Vision 2030, how it should best hold government accountable, and how it should best communicate with government on the above.

Consultancy

NamNet seeks the services of a suitable consultant to carry out the following work:

1. Review NDP 6 and identify strategic areas of engagement and implementation by civil society that hold promise of greatest impacts.
2. Review Vision 2030 and identify areas of engagement and implementation by civil society in these last remaining five years that offer most potential for progress.
3. Integrate the above two reviews to identify the areas of overlap where civil society may offer its support to have the best impact.
4. Considering past failures in implementing both Vision 2030 and NDPs, make recommendations for how civil society should best hold government accountable to help ensure that the next five years are more effective than in the past. This could include:
 - a. Suggestions to the National Planning Commission and/or State House
 - b. Reports in the media setting out failures and making recommendations

Namibian Civil Society Non-State Actors Network (NamNet)

- c. Calling for monitoring and public sharing of information
 - d. Public meetings
 - e. Etc – any other aspect of value to help civil society progress implementation of national planning.
5. Prepare a focussed and concise report comprising four sections that report on each of points 1 to 4 above.
 6. The main body of the report should not exceed 20 pages. Additional information can be appended in annexes.
 7. The consultancy is expected to take 15 working days, to be completed over a three-month period of 1 December 2025 to 28 February 2026.
 8. The consultant will report to the NamNet ExCo (or a subcommittee established therefrom).
 9. The consultant will prepare a draft report to be reviewed by Exco and will get feedback within five (5) working days.
 10. The consultant shall then deliver a final report incorporating the feedback from the NamNet Exco.

Consultant requirements

- Hold an appropriate degree at the post-graduate level
- Be familiar with Vision 2030 and NDPs – including NDP6
- Be familiar with the government operational environment related to development planning
- Be familiar with implementation of national development projects, programmes and initiatives
- Demonstrate good understanding about the role of civil society.
- Have advanced analytical and writing skills.

Interested applicants are required to submit their CV with a short covering letter explaining their familiarity with development plans, government operational setting and implementation, their skills pertinent to this consultancy, and the names and contact details of two credible references:

Submission date: by or before Friday 21 November at 17h00

Submission address - by email: NamNet, c/o admin@n-c-e.org
- by hand: NamNet, 14 Mozart Street, Windhoek West