



YOUTH VOICE

The official newsletter of the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service

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Republic of Namibia



LAUNCH OF UPSHIFT NAMIBIA IN RUNDU

By Aina Shikesho

Hon. Emma Kantema – Gaomas, Deputy Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service, officially launched the UPSHIFT Namibia Program on Thursday, 17 November 2022, in Rundu, Kavango – East region.

UPSHIFT Namibia is a United Nations Children’s Fund, supported initiative geared towards youth social innovation and entrepreneurship. The programme aims to build and provide opportunities for disadvantaged young people due to various psychosocial issues by equipping them with the skills and resources they need to identify social problems in their communities and design solutions for them.....continued on page 4

MSYNS
NEWSLETTER

IN THIS EDITION

LAUNCH OF UPSHIFT NAMIBIA
PROGRAMME IN RUNDU

THE RETURN OF PREMIER
LEAGUE FOOTBALL IN
NAMIBIA

NAMIBIA WINS THE 2022
WORLD JUNIOR INLINE
HOCKEY WORLD CUP

MONITORING AND EVALUATION
(M&E) WORKSHOP HELD IN
OSHAKATI

Content

Editorial.....	3
Launch of UPSHIFT Namibia in Rundu.....	4
The Return of Premier League Football in Namibia.....	5
Namibia wins 2022 World Junior Inline Hockey World Cup...	6
M&E Workshop held at Oshakati.....	7
Team Namibia: Region 5 Youth Games in Malawi.....	8
Performance of Team Namibia at Region 5 Youth Games.....	9

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Editorial

Aina L.M. Shikesho



Welcome to the 12th edition of Youth Voice, encapsulating activities undertaken during the third quarter under the reporting period.

Despite the financial challenges, the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service has continuously executed its mandate of promoting sport and developing and empowering the Namibian youth.

The Junior Women's Inline Hockey team made history by becoming the first African country to win the 2022 World Junior Inline Hockey World Cup crown after defeating the USA 9-1 in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Debmarine Namibia committed to sponsoring the premier league, culminating in the resumption of football in the country, allowing football lovers/fans/supporters an opportunity to enjoy their weekends again.

The country also participated in this year's African Union Sports Council (AUSC) Region 5 under 20 Youth Games in Lilongwe, Malawi. Namibia ended 8th and scooped 39 medals, seven gold medals, 12 silver medals and 20 bronze medals.

Seventy-two (72) athletes from six (6) different sports codes: athletics, visual athletics, netball, football, boxing and swimming represented Namibia.

To ensure that the youth maximised their optimum talents, the Ministry launched the UPSHIFT Namibia programme in Rundu, a United Nations Children's Fund, supported initiative geared towards youth social innovation and entrepreneurship.

UPSHIFT Namibia programme aims to build and provide opportunities for disadvantaged young people due to various psychosocial issues by equipping them with the skills and resources they need to identify social problems in their communities and design solutions for them.

The Ministry organised a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) workshop for Youth Officers to capacitate them with skills to disseminate information on Comprehensive Sexuality Education, Sexual Gender Based Violence, and Economic Strengthening to the out-of-school Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) aged 15–24 years.

Please enjoy your festive season and be safe.

LAUNCH OF UPSHIFT NAMIBIA IN RUNDU...continued from page 1



The Ministry received 226 applicants demonstrating their keen interest in being granted an opportunity to become UPSHIFTERS; however, only 85 met the requirements.

Hon. Kantema – Gaomas encouraged the UPSHIFTERS to seize the opportunity accorded to them.

"UPSHIFTERS seize this opportunity with both hands, some people only have one chance to succeed, they are not fortunate enough to be afforded a second chance. Therefore, I'm here to encourage you not to take this lightly because you never know when another opportunity like this will present itself."

UPSHIFT encapsulates the principles and goals of NDP5 and, more broadly, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in terms of creating opportunities for young people.

Furthermore, the programme speaks directly to the Third National Youth Policy, which advocates for improved institutional coordination to ensure that youth development is mainstreamed at all levels.

UPSHIFT unquestionably complements government efforts to leverage existing youth and business ecosystem networks to lead the change in spurring innovation, acquiring 21st-century skills, and increasing access to non-collateral financing.

One of the Ministry's mandates is to serve the youth and cultivate an environment that encourages them to be the best they can be, and UPSHIFT directly contributes to that.

"I am hopeful that the UPSHIFT pilot will be a resounding success, as the Government of the Republic of Namibia would like to see the model expanded to other Namibian regions," stated Hon. Kantema – Gaomas.

UPSHIFTERS seize this opportunity with both hands



THE RETURN OF PREMIER LEAGUE FOOTBALL IN NAMIBIA

By Aina Shikesho



Football is the country's first love, although various circumstances have rendered football lovers/fans/supporters in our country idle over weekends.

However, finally, the constant impediments hampering local football have been resolved, and football is ready to assume its mantle as the country's premier sport code.

During a launch held on 27 October 2022, the FIFA NFA Normalization Committee announced the return of Namibian football to the country. The launch was for the official sponsorship agreement between the NFA and Debmarine Namibia.

In his keynote address, Mr Bisey /Uirab, Chairperson of the FIFA Normalization Committee, remarked, "In this instance, we particularly pay homage to Debmarine Namibia, as the partner who was willing to commit to sponsoring our top tier men league".

The historic partnership between Debmarine Namibia and the Namibia Football Association (NFA) amounts to N\$13 million towards the Premier League for the 2022/2023 football season. The league's name will be the Debmarine Namibia Premiership and will commence on the first weekend of November 2022.

In his remarks, the Executive Director of the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service, Mr Mbumba Erastus Haitengela, commended Debmarine Namibia for committing funds to inject impetus into domestic football.

"As the Ministry, we are thrilled when corporate entities (both private and public), such as Debmarine Namibia, heed the call to meet the government halfway in reviving football/soccer in Namibia". He further stated that an active football league is the bedrock of all future national teams' successes.

The CEO of Debmarine Namibia, Mr Otto Shikongo, called respect for the game the fundamental condition for the sponsorship. He further stated, "It is through your efforts, your team spirit and discipline, on and off the field that will make the game entertaining and attractive".

Mr Uirab expressed his gratitude towards Debmarine Namibia for still believing in the product of football.

In conclusion, Mr Haitengela rephrased Albert Einstein's quote by imploring Namibians to "LEARN from the PAST, LIVE for TODAY and most importantly have a POSITIVE HOPE for TOMORROW's Premier League".

NAMIBIA WINS THE 2022 WORLD JUNIOR INLINE HOCKEY WORLD CUP IN ARGENTINA

By Aina Shikesho



The Minister of Sport, Youth, and National Service, Honourable Agnes Tjongarero, welcomed the Junior Women's Inline Hockey Champions back to Namibia on 10 November 2022.

The team participated in the recently completed Junior Women's Inline Hockey Champions held in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Namibia made history by becoming the first African country to win the 2022 World Junior Inline Hockey World Cup crown after defeating the USA 9-1 in the final.

Namibia star player, Christine Rottcher, walked away with the tournament's top goal scorer after netting twenty-seven (27) goals and providing eleven (11) assists. She also played a massive role in the final against the USA by contributing four (4) goals to the tally.



Hon. Tjongarero expressed her gratitude to the team for their stellar performance and urged them to set the bar high continuously.

"When you hear that a team is going up against an American team, you become petrified because the American team are well equipped, but a small country defeated a powerful one," she exclaimed.

The Honourable Minister thanked the sponsors, parents, the technical team and everybody involved. She stated her immense pride in the team's achievement and congratulated the team on behalf of all Namibians.

In conclusion, the Honourable Minister called on the team to remember, "As a junior team, this is just the beginning. Every time you compete, we expect only the best from you. That means don't stop training, don't stop dreaming. Every country has taken note of your achievement and will train harder to defeat you".

Thus, she called on the team to always give their best. It was the team's first participation at the world championship, which resulted in a gold medal.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) WORKSHOP HELD IN OSHAKATI

By Goma Kandjimi



The Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service (MSYNS), in partnership with USAID, conducted a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) workshop to capacitate and empower Youth Officers to implement the core elements of the DREAMS (Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-Free, Mentored and Safe) programs.



The aim is to provide youth officers with practical and theoretical frameworks for understanding M&E processes in collecting, analysing and disseminating quality data.

The workshop presented participants with information on the M&E tools and methods of reporting indicators for implementing the G2G project under MSYSN.

The G2G project intends to reach around 3 000 out-of-school Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) aged 15–24 years with information on Comprehensive Sexuality Education, Sexual Gender Based Violence and Economic Strengthening to reduce their vulnerabilities and potential sexual exploitation.

One of the key deliverables for the workshop was developing the M&E plan that will guide youth officers to monitor progress towards meeting the project's milestones for each of the target DREAMS regions while also improving on timely reporting.

The workshop was clustered into two groupings, DREAMS regions and non-DREAMS regions, running for a two-day training for each group. The non-DREAMS regions are Kharas, Hardap, Erongo, Omaheke, Otjozondjupa and Kunene, from 7 – 8 November 2022.

The DREAMS regions are Oshana, Kavango East and West, Zambezi, Ohangwena, Oshikoto and Omusati, from 10 – 11 November 2022. About 80 regional youth officers attended the workshop.



TEAM NAMIBIA: REGION 5 YOUTH GAMES IN MALAWI

By Silpa Kanghono



Honourable Agnes Tjongarero, Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service, officially sendoff Team Namibia to the African Union Sports Council (AUSC) Region 5 Under 20 Youth Game of Region 5 from 2 – 11 December 2022 to Malawi on Friday, 25 November 2022.

Team Namibia comprised of 72 athletes from six (6) different sports codes: athletics, visual athletics, netball, football, boxing and swimming. Nineteen (19) team officials accompanied the athletes.

The officials also officiated and assisted Malawi in executing the competition. The delicate management included the LOC and a team of seven (7) medics.



Hon. Tjongarero urged the athletes to represent Namibia in Malawi diligently and wished them all the best. She also expressed gratitude to all the sports federations for ensuring that the athletes represent the country internationally. The Namibian government fully funded Team Namibia's participation at the Region 5 Youth Games in Malawi.



Namibia ended 8th overall.
Scooped 39 medals
Seven (7) gold medals
Twelve (12) silver medals
Twenty (20) bronze medals

GALLERY: TEAM NAMIBIA PERFORMANCE AT REGION 5 YOUTH GAMES IN LILONGWE, MALAWI

By Silpa Kanghono





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