



# YOUTH VOICE

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Republic of Namibia



## MSYNS NEWSLETTER IN THIS EDITION

MSYNS SIGNS AN MOU WITH  
CADILU FISHING PTY LTD ON  
THE REAL MADRID  
FOUNDATION PROGRAM

GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY  
FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE  
NKURENKURU MULTIPURPOSE  
YOUTH RESOURCE CENTER

MALE ENGAGEMENT SESSION  
HELD AT LÜDERITZ, !NAMI#NÜS  
CONSTITUENCY

## MSYNS SIGNS AN MOU WITH CADILU FISHING PTY LTD ON THE REAL MADRID FOUNDATION PROGRAM

By Guilhermina N. Eduardo

On Tuesday, 13 February 2024, the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service signed a memorandum of understanding with Cadilu Fishing Pty Ltd to fund the establishment of school football leagues through the Real Madrid Foundation Program....Continued on page 4.

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# ***From the ED's Desk***

Mr Mbumba Erastus Haitengela  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



Welcome to our 16th edition of the Youth Voice newsletter, where we highlight impactful initiatives that signify our commitment to nurturing positive change and building brighter futures for Namibia's youth. Each article showcases the collaborative efforts and innovative approaches driving transformation across our communities. Let's explore the transformative impact of the collaboration undertaken by the Ministry of Sport, Youth, and National Service.

The Ministry of Sport, Youth, and National Service recently organized a Male Engagement session in the coastal town of Lüderitz. The session brought together adolescent boys and young men to explore their role in creating positive change within their communities.

Through open conversations and introspection, participants addressed challenges such as societal expectations, mental health stigma, and the pressure to conform to traditional gender norms. The session underscored the importance of empathy, understanding, and solidarity in fostering healthier relationships and societal dynamics.

A vibrant display of community spirit unfolded in Nkurenkuru, as the construction of the Multi-Purpose Youth Resource Center commenced. This milestone project, spearheaded by the Governor of Kavango West, embodies a dedication to sports development and talent identification.

With facilities designed to promote physical, mental, and emotional well-being, the centre symbolizes a commitment to uplifting the youth and creating a solid foundation for their future endeavours. Through collaboration and shared vision, we are paving the way for a brighter future for generations to come.

The Ministry of Sport, Youth, and National Service partnered with Cadilu Fishing Pty Ltd to fund the establishment of the Real Madrid Foundation Program. This project aims to develop talented football players, while providing participants with valuable life skills.

Focusing on inclusivity and sustainability, the programme represents a holistic approach to youth empowerment, driven by a shared commitment to nurturing talent and creating opportunities for success.

As we reflect on these initiatives, let us celebrate the power of collaboration, innovation, and collective action, in shaping a brighter future for the youth of Namibia. Together, we can continue to foster positive change and build a more inclusive and equitable society for all.

Please enjoy this edition of Youth Voice!

## MSYNS SIGNS AN MOU WITH CADILU FISHING PTY LTD ON THE REAL MADRID FOUNDATION PROGRAM... continued from page 1



The agreement which was signed by Mr. Mbumba Haitengela, Executive Director in the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service and Mr. Jose Luis Reyero, Managing Director of Cadilu Fishing Pty Ltd, aim to fund the introduction of school football leagues for boys and girls within schools, in conjunction with the Real Madrid Foundation Program in order to develop talented players, through the establishment of four permanent schools in various regions.

The agreement outlines a strategic implementation in the areas of sport development in football and basketball, renovation of facilities for elite talents, capacity building of local coaches, training and skills development and exchange of athletes.

Mr Roger Kambatuku, National Coordinator of the Namibia Schools Sports Union (NSSU) emphasized that the project aims to reach over 1,000 children aged 6 to 16. The program's innovative approach integrates coaching lessons with social education, providing participants with invaluable life skills alongside athletic training. He further stated that the project was piloted with great success last year, in the towns of Windhoek, Walvis Bay, Otjiwarongo and Rundu.

His Excellency Mr. Alberto de La Calle, Ambassador of Spain, attributed the program to the visionary leadership of the late former President, His Excellency Hage G. Geingob, whose conceptualization was behind the program.

The Ambassador further stated that he believes that the program will have profound impact on Namibian youth, by emphasizing the importance of instilling essential values. Mr Jose Luis Reyero, Managing Director of Cadilu Fishing, promised unwavering support to help young children reach their dreams, both academically and athletically.

Hon. Agnes Tjongarero, Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service, expressed gratitude to Cadilu Fishing for partnering with the Ministry on the Real Madrid Foundation program. "This partnership with Cadilu Fishing on the Real Madrid Foundation program, will empower the Namibian youth and foster holistic development. The partnership will also build a sustainable program that will leave a lasting impact on Namibia's youth."



# GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NKURENKURU MULTIPURPOSE YOUTH RESOURCE CENTER

By Guilhermina N. Eduardo



In a vibrant display of community spirit, the Governor of Kavango West, recently hosted the eagerly anticipated Kavango West PSTBet Governor's Cup from 15 to 17 March 2024 in Nkurenkuru. The Cup aims to select a team that will represent Kavango West in the upcoming Nedbank Newspaper Cup. The PSTBet Governor's Cup also coincided with the symbolic handover of the site for the construction of the Nkurenkuru Multi – Purpose Youth Resource Centre, to the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service.

The construction of the Nkurenkuru Multi-Purpose Youth Resource Center, which is set to commence this month, will mark a significant milestone towards the commitment to sports development and talent identification, in the involved region. At the heart of the project lies a profound recognition of the importance of sports and recreation, in fostering holistic well-being. The planned facilities aim to provide a conducive environment for youth engagement, promoting physical health, mental health and emotional wellness.

The Nkurenkuru Town Council donated 21 hectares of land to the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service, as testimony of the shared vision for uplifting the youth in the Kavango West. Funding for the project will come from MSYNS which has allocated an initial N\$10 million for Phase 1 A and B. These phases will include feasibility studies, design documentation, and the layout of the government planning process.



Hon. Sirkka Ausiku, Governor of the Kavango West Region, conveyed a plea on behalf of the youth in the region, for the Ministry to ensure that the allocated funds are appropriately utilized

Hon. Emma Kantema—Gaomas, Deputy Minister echoed the sentiment that the construction signifies more than mere infrastructure development. “It symbolizes a dedication to nurturing the region's young talent and creating a solid foundation for their future endeavors, in alignment with the visionary legacy of our former President, inclusivity of the multi-purpose construction as it will the late Hage Geingob.” The Deputy Minister further emphasized the inclusivity of the multi-purpose construction as it will allow for a soccer field and courts for both netball and basketball.

In conclusion, Hon. Kantema—Gaomas indicated that the commencement of construction on the Nkurenkuru Multi-Purpose Youth Resource Centre not only embodies bricks and mortar but the collective aspirations of a community united in its dedication to empowering its youth.





# MALE ENGAGEMENT SESSION HELD AT LÜDERITZ

Goma Kandjimi



To promote meaningful dialogue and explore pathways for positive change, the Ministry of Sport, Youth, and National Service organized a Male Engagement session on Friday, 29 March 2024. The session attracted more than 30 participants, aged 15 to 35 years, at !Nami#Nûs constituency, the coastal southern town of Lüderitz in the Kharas region. The programme implementation was made possible with the support of people from the Republic of America through the USAID's PEPFAR funding mechanism.

The sessions aimed to delve into the role of adolescent boys and young men in initiating constructive transformations within their communities and promoting gender equality. Commencing with a thought-provoking question, "What role do you think young men can play in creating positive change in their communities?" the participants embarked on a journey of self-reflection and shared perspectives.

The conversations were diverse, honest and touched upon various aspects of masculinity, relationships, and societal dynamics. One of the focal points of discussion revolved around the challenges men face in contemporary society. Participants voiced their concerns about societal expectations, mental health stigma, and the pressure to conform to traditional gender norms.

The remarks from some participants were:

"The most difficult thing about being a man is the burden of expectations that we carry, often without a space to express vulnerability"

"Managing bills"

"Being the man of the house"

"Dealing with relationship conflicts"

"Managing stress"

"Bouncing back after failure"

"Facing derogatory remarks"

"Coping with heartbreak"

"Starting anew later in life"

"Having a voice"

Concerning exploring interpersonal dynamics, participants delved into the complexities of understanding women. Questions such as "What do you find difficult to understand about women?" sparked introspection and dialogue on communication, empathy, and the importance of mutual respect.

The session also underscored the significance of fostering empathy and actively listening to women's experiences to bridge gaps in understanding. In highlighting the importance of solidarity and allyship, the discussion shifted towards how men can support women in their pursuit of equality and empowerment. From advocating for gender-inclusive policies to challenging patriarchal attitudes, participants emphasized the necessity of being active allies in the fight against gender-based discrimination.

Furthermore, participants reflected on the reciprocal nature of understanding between genders. "Women need to better understand that men also grapple with societal pressures and emotional vulnerabilities," remarked a participant.

The session emphasized the need for mutual empathy and recognition of shared struggles to foster healthier relationships and societal dynamics. Young men acknowledged the positive male influences in their lives. From mentors and role models to supportive friends and family members, these individuals were praised for their guidance, encouragement, and unwavering support. Participants highlighted qualities such as empathy, integrity, and resilience as defining characteristics of positive male influencers.

In conclusion, the Male Engagement Session catalyzed introspection, dialogue, and collective action. By fostering empathy, understanding, and solidarity, the participants reaffirmed their commitment to creating inclusive and equitable communities where all individuals can thrive, irrespective of gender.



# 2024 SPAR WOMEN 5KM AND 10KM RACE

By Guilhermina N. Eduardo

The highly anticipated Spar Women's race kicked off for the second time at the Wanderers Sports Field in Windhoek on 06 April 2024. Organized by Spar Namibia in collaboration with the Ministry of Sport, Youth, and National Service, the event offered women the opportunity to participate in both the 5km and 10km races. Elite athletes such as Helalia Johannes, Martha Shivolo and Alina Armas competed for various prizes and bonus points, aiming to attract top athletes from across Southern Africa.



Speaking at the event, the Minister of Sport, Youth, and National Service, Hon. Agnes Tjongarero, noted that the race is aligned with charity organizations. She further stated that every cent generated by Spar goes to charity; thus, she encouraged women to bring more women to the event next year to challenge each other.

Mr Berthold Karumendu, Omaruru Regional Sports Officer and event organizer, highlighted Spar Namibia's commitment to community support, stating, "Our vision is for this race to grow into a major event in the Southern African region. We aim to attract top athletes from Southern Africa and include it as part of the South African Spar 10km Women series."



Hon. Tjongarero thanked organizers and participants for their contribution to women's sports. "You are doing wonders for us, ladies. The support, even from the brothers, is for us. I want to take this opportunity to thank you very much. Next year, the Spar competition will always be after the Easter weekend, so let's plan to come together," added Hon. Tjongarero.

She emphasized the importance of training young people and fostering a culture of inclusivity within the sporting community. She also thanked and congratulated all the women who participated.





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