Prosperity, Harmony, Peace and Political Stability

Namibia Vision 2030

**Policy Framework for Long-Term National Development
(Main Document)**

**Office of the President
Windhoek
(2004)**

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ARI	Acute Respiratory Infection
ACP	African, Caribbean, Pacific Countries
ADB	African Development Bank
AGOA	African Growth Opportunity Act
ASP	Application Service Provider
ATM	Asynchronous Transfer Mode
AU	African Union
BADEA	Banque Arab du Development en Afrique
BLNS	Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland
BTP	Build Together Programme
CBI	Cross Border Initiatives
CBNRM	Community-Based Natural Resource Management
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
CBT	Community-Based Tourism
CD	Compact Disc
CET	Common Excise Tariff
CFA	Communaute Financiere Africaine
CMA	Common Monetary Area
COD	Congress of Democrats
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
COSDEC	Community Skills Development Centre
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DIP	Decentralisation Implementation Plan
DOTS	Directly Observed Treatment Shortcourse
DRAMs	Dynamic Random Access Memories
DRFN	Desert Research Foundation of Namibia
DTA	Democratic Turnhalle Alliance
DVD	Digital Versatile Disc
DWA	Department of Water Affairs
EA	Environmental Assessment
ECD	Early Childhood Development
ECOMOG	ECOWAS Military Observer Group
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EDF	European Development Fund
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIF	Environmental Investment Fund
EISA	Electoral Institute of Southern Africa
EMP	Environmental Management Plans
EPI	Expanded Programme on Immunisation
EPZ	Export Processing Zone
EPLs	Exclusive Prospecting Licences
EU	European Union
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FPRM	Foreign Policy Response Model
FTA	Free Trade Area
GDP	Gross Domestic Product

GEAR	Growth, Employment and Redistribution
GFCF	Gross Fixed Capital Formation
GIPF	Government Institutions Pension Fund
GNP	Gross National Product
GRN	Government of the Republic of Namibia
GSP	Generalised System of Preferences
GSM	Global System for Mobile Communications
HDI	Human Development Index
HPI	Human Poverty Index
HIS	Health Information System
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IATCP	Inter Agency Technical Committee on Population
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ICZMP	Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMR	Infant Morality Rate
ISO	International Standards Organization
IT	Information Technology
LAN	Local Area Network
LNS	Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland
MAG	Monitor Action Group
MAP	Millennium African Recovery Plan
MARPOL	International Convention on the Prevention of Pollution from Ships
MET	Ministry of Environment and Tourism
MF	Ministry of Finance
MFAIB	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Information and Broadcasting
MIGA	Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency
MONUA	UN Observer Mission in Angola
MLRR	Ministry of Lands, Resettlement and Rehabilitation
MMR	Maternal Mortality Rate
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MOL	Ministry of Labour
MOP	Ministry of Prisons
MOD	Ministry of Defence
MOF	Ministry of Fisheries
MOHSS	Ministry of Health and Social Services
MOHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MONOUA	United Nations Observer Mission in Angola
MRLGH	Ministry of Regional, Local Government and Housing
MTI	Ministry of Trade and Industry
MTC	Mobile Telecommunications Corporation
MWACW	Ministry of Women Affairs and Child Welfare
MWTC	Ministry of Works, Transport and Communication

NACHE	National Advisory Council for Higher Education
NAI	New African Initiative
NAMCOL	Namibia College of Open Learning
NANGOF	Namibia Non-Governmental Organisations Forum
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NBC	Namibia Broadcasting Corporation
NCC	National Communications Commission
NCCI	Namibia Chamber of Commerce and Industry
NDF	National Defence Force
NDP	National Development Plan
NEACB	National Examination, Assessment and Certification Board
NEPAD	New Partnership for African Development
NEPLs	Non-exclusive Prospecting Licenses
NEPRU	Namibia Economic Policy Research Unit
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
NIED	National Institute for Educational Development
NIMT	Namibia Institute of Mining and Technology
NLTPS	National Long-term Perspective Studies
NPCS	National Planning Commission Secretariat
NQA	Namibia Qualifications Authority
NTA	National Training Authority
NTCP	National Tuberculosis Control Programme
NUNW	National Union of Namibian Workers
OAU	Organisation of African Unity
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation & Development
OPEC	Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
PC	Personal Computer
PLAN	People's Liberation Army of Namibia
PON	Polytechnic of Namibia
PEAC	Presidential Economic Advisory Council
RSA	Republic of South Africa
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
SADCC	Southern Africa Development Co-ordination Conference
SDR	Special Drawing Rights
SME	Small and Medium Size Enterprises
SSC	Social Security Commission
STDs	Sexually Transmitted Diseases
SWAPO	South West Africa People's Organisation
SWATF	South West Africa Territory Force
TACs	Total Allowable Catches
TB	Tuberculosis
VAT	Value Added Tax
VET	Vocational Education and Training
VTB	The Vocational Training Broad
VTC	Vocational Training Centre
UN	United Nations

UNAM	University of Namibia
UNAVEM	United Nations Angolan Verification Mission
UNCCD	United Nations Convetion to Combat Desertification
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UDF	United Democratic Front
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNTAG	United Nations Transitional Assistance Group
USSR	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
WAMU	West African Monetary Union
WAMZ	West African Monetary Zone
WASP	Water and Sanitation Programme
WB	World Bank
WTO	World Trade Organisation
WTO[2]	World Tourism Organisation *(noting that the acronym WTO is used for the World Trade Organisation)*
ZERI	Zero Emission Research Initiative
WCED	World Commission on Environment and Development
WCU	World Conservation Union
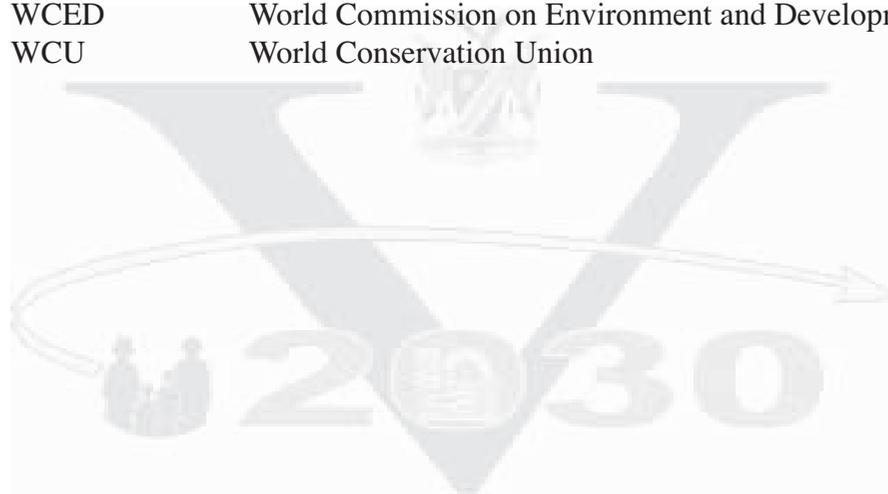
Why Vision 2030?

A national vision is a perception of the future, which reveals and points to something new, beyond what is already available and accessible. The goal of our Vision is to improve the quality of life of the people of Namibia to the level of their counterparts in the developed world, by 2030. In order to get there, we need a framework that defines clearly where we are today as a nation, where we want to be by 2030 and how to get there. Defining this framework in operational terms is visioning. Visioning for a nation means creating multiple alternative development strategies and integrated implementation approaches, for reaching the goal of future development.

Namibia Vision 2030 presents a clear view of where we are, where we want to go from here, and over what time frame. It is a vision that will take Namibia from the present into the future; a vision that will guide us to make deliberate efforts to improve the quality of life of our people. It is designed as a broad, unifying vision which would serve to guide the country's five-year development plans, from NDP 2 through to NDP 7 and, at the same time, provide direction to government ministries, the private sector, NGOs, civil society, regional and local Government authorities. Therefore, Namibia vision 2030 will create policy synergies, which will effectively link long-term perspectives to short-term planning.

Expected changes

Our future is about the people. Therefore, at the centre of the visioning exercise is concern for the population in relation to their social (particularly health), economic and overall well-being. For example, how many Namibians? How well are they living? Where do they live, and what do they do for a living? All the questions about the welfare and well-being of the people of this country at any point in time, even beyond 2030, are about our population and the conditions under which they live and commonly agreed living standard at a given point in time. The Vision will transform Namibia into a healthy and food-secure nation, in which all preventable, infectious and parasitic diseases (including HIV/AIDS) are under secure control; people enjoy high standards of living, a good quality life and have access to quality education, health and other vital services. All of these aspirations translate into a long life expectancy and sustainable population growth.

The Vision is also designed to promote the creation of a diversified, open market economy, with a resource-based industrial sector and commercial agriculture, placing great emphasis on skills development. In addition, the Vision will promote competitiveness in the export sector, in terms of product quality and differentiation.

In support of the objectives of Vision 2030, capacity building will be pursued with the utmost vigour by both the private and public sectors, to facilitate the implementation of the Vision. The capacity building process (including institution restructuring and building, and human resource development) will continue to be promoted by the existence of a suitable, enabling environment in terms of political stability and freedom, a sound legal system, economic
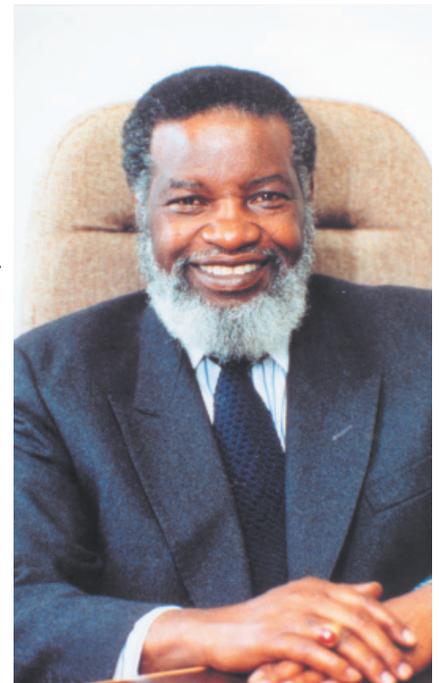
Dr. Sam Nujoma
**PRESIDENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

FOREWORD

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resources and opportunities, and social norms which are conducive to sustained development. All of this must be well understood by most of the population. In order to realise the objectives of capacity building in Vision 2030, human resource information management systems will be strengthened; the ultimate objective is to balance the supply and demand in the labour market and in this way achieve full employment in the economy.

As required by this Vision, the country will operate a totally integrated, unified, flexible and high quality education and training system, that prepares Namibian learners to take advantage of a rapidly changing global environment, including developments in science and technology. This, inturn, would and that contribute to the economic and social development of the citizens. There will be equal access to excellent educational and vocational training institutions and quality sports services/facilities by all, with basic education placing emphasis on Science and Mathematics. Public education, covering every area of life and living, will be an integral part of the system of continuing education, which is free and open to everyone in Namibia. Moral education will be well integrated into the school curricula. In order to meet the exigencies of industrial transformation, Namibia will continue to monitor cross-sectoral internal and external development in the field of "knowledge, information and technology" and assesses its impact on the rights of the individual and the functioning of society and the national economy.

Arising from the overall capacity building investments, Namibia will be transformed into a knowledge-based society, and changes in production and information technology will revolutionalise all aspects of the manufacturing process. Relationships with customers and suppliers and the manner in which products are marketed and sold, would receive quality attention.

Over a decade after Independence, Namibia is yet to overcome the legacy of extreme inequalities based on race and left behind by the 'apartheid' regime. Vision 2030 is expected to reduce inequalities and move the nation significantly up the scale of human development, to be ranked high among the developed countries in the world. There will thus be a pervasive atmosphere of tolerance in matters relating to culture, religious practices, political preference, ethnic affiliation and differences in social background. The Vision will facilitate equity in access to social services and facilities, as well as access to productive resources such as land and capital.

Namibia will be a just, moral, tolerant and safe society with legislative, economic and social structures in place to eliminate marginalisation and ensure peace and equity between women and men, the diverse ethnic groups, and people of different ages, interests and abilities.

While Namibia enjoys internal peace and stability, numerous external threats which have the potential to disrupt and derail the country's socio-economic progress, can be discerned. These threats do not emanate from States *per se* nor from the projection of State power, but from non-traditional forms of conflict and unconventional warfare. Therefore, Namibia will continue to be at the forefront of SADC efforts to create a collective security framework, based on the relevant SADC Protocols on politics, defence and security, signed by regional heads of state. While collective security offers the best and most effective instrument of

national security, regional security will also serve to thwart de-stabilizing elements by denying them succour and sanctuary in member states.

One of the major principles upon which our Vision is based is 'partnership'. Partnership is recognised as a major prerequisite for the achievement of dynamic, efficient and sustainable development in the country. This involves partnership between government, communities and civil society; partnership between different branches of government, with the private sector (the business community), non-governmental organisations, community-based organisations and the international community; partnership between urban and rural societies and, ultimately, between all members of Namibian society.

While the principle of sustainable development is the cornerstone on which the strategies for realizing the objectives of Vision 2030 pivot, the **driving force** among the complex agents of our development comprises the following:

- Education, Science and Technology
- Health and Development
- Sustainable Agriculture, and
- Peace and Social Justice
- Gender Equality

The challenges

The major challenge of this Vision is for all of us (Government, private sector, civil society, as well as individuals) to make a determined effort to concentrate on resolving, not just addressing, very important national problems. This document: *Namibia Vision 2030 – Policy Framework for Long-Term National Development,* presents a clear view of the major national problems and how these problems can be effectively resolved by deploying-to the fullest-our human and natural resources.

Successful implementation of the Vision would require the existence of a conducive enabling environment, which guarantees peace and political stability. In this regard, we are challenged to continue to acknowledge the pre-eminence of the Namibian Constitution as the basic law, which contains, *inter alia*, all the ingredients of a democratic state including peace, security and political stability. By continuing to uphold the tenets of our Constitution, we strengthen human rights, individual freedoms, civil liberties and multi-party democracy. Our emphasis will also be on good governance, and we should continue to improve on issues relating to equity in terms of access to productive resources, including land, environmental degradation, growing poverty and economic stagnation.

The business community will be challenged to make increasing contributions to the education and training sector, since it is the major recipient of the products of the system. In addition, the business sector will be challenged to make realistic inputs into development plan formulation at national and regional levels, as well as make contributions to the implementation of such plans. In particular, Vision 2030 will challenge the business community to enhance international trade, implement Affirmative Action, create employment opportunities for the country's growing labour force and facilitate the expansion of small and medium scale enterprises.

Namibia's future will also depend largely on the people themselves; much will depend on our ability and willingness to respond with innovation and commitment

to new challenges. If we are to survive as a nation, perhaps the greatest challenge we face now is to eradicate HIV/AIDS, as well as all preventable infectious and parasitic diseases through healthy living. As we march forward in implementing the programmes of this Vision, we should be prepared to ask ourselves, from time to time, if we are truly on course and on time.

But the immediate challenge we face as a nation, now that we have a Vision document that defines our country's future development possibilities, is to ensure that the Vision is translated into reality. As a step in that direction, the next Phase (Phase2) of the Vision Project should be to develop implementation strategies and integrated programmes and projects, as well as mobilizing both human and financial resources. The programmes of Vision 2030 have specific targets and periodically, through the National Development Plans, we will evaluate the Vision programme's performance. By the year 2030, with all of us working together, we should be an industrial nation enjoying prosperity, interpersonal harmony, peace and political stability.

Sam Nujoma
President of the Republic of Namibia
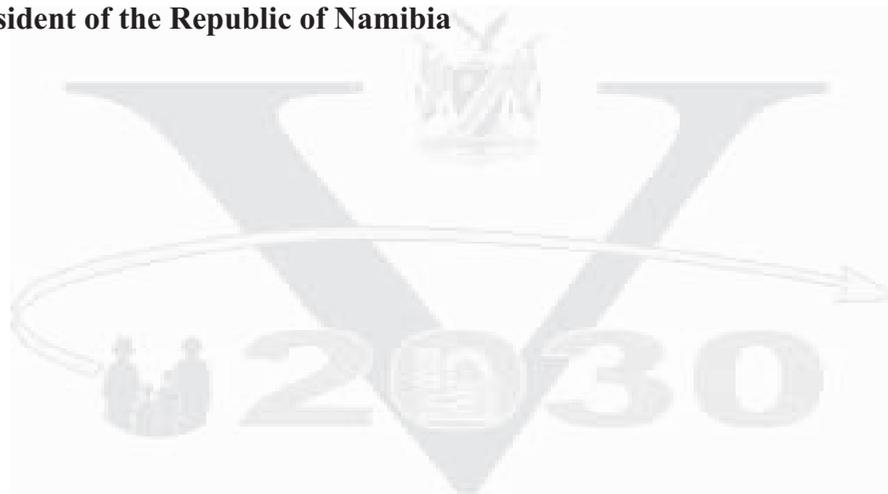
Namibia's *2030 Vision* is one of the most important initiatives undertaken in the country since the drafting and acceptance of the National Constitution.

The Vision 2030 planning process commenced in January 1998, when His Excellency the President, Dr Sam Nujoma, drew attention to the need for members of the Cabinet to be clear about "... where we are, where we wish to go, and over what time frame." As a result, eight teams were tasked by the National Planning Commission to undertake research that would comprehensively chart the course.

A long-term vision is a unifying concept for a nation. Everyone would like to have access to good education for their children, good and accessible health care, a clean and productive environment, an efficient and profitable economy that supports full and rewarding employment, low levels of crime, a just and tolerant society and meaningful transparent governance.

Such vision also offers the nation an ideal to work towards. Furthermore, it sets key targets and identifies some approaches that could be applied. The eight thematic reports which feed into this long-term vision are:
1. Inequality and Social Welfare
2. Peace and Political Stability
3. Human Resources Development and Institutional Capacity Building
4. Macroeconomic Issues
5. Population, Health and Development
6. Namibia's Natural Resources Sector
7. Knowledge, Information and Technology, and
8. Factors of the External Environment

In preparing these reports for Vision 2030, three higher-order questions were asked, namely
1. What is *the national ideal* that Namibia is working towards?
2. What is *the cornerstone* of Namibia's approach and philosophy?
3. How does the national development process fit into the vision?

Immanuel Ngatjizeko
Director General
National Planning Commission

PREFACE

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THE NATIONAL IDEAL

The Key Elements for the VISION for 2030 will Depict:

The people of Namibia as well developed, prosperous, healthy and confident in an atmosphere of interpersonal harmony, peace and political stability; and as such, Namibia is a developed country to be reckoned with as a high achiever in the comity of nations.

In essence, it is the collective wish of the Namibian people, and the Vision for 2030 and beyond, that Namibia enjoys:

- *Prosperity,*
- *Interpersonal Harmony,*
- *Peace, and*
- *Political Stability*

The People and Resource Base will Reflect that:

People are the nation's human wealth: a population of healthy, well-educated, skilled, pro-active and financially stable people with a broad range of talents and positive attitude towards themselves, their fellow citizens, their country and global humanity. Foreign professional people and global businesses will perceive Namibia as a good environment in which to invest and from which to do local and international work, thus creating both wealth and employment.

Natural resources- the nation's ecological wealth: healthy, productive land with effective water and mineral cycling leading to infrequent, low-level drought and flooding. Perennial rivers running permanently and clear, underground water levels stable and no silting of dams. No atmospheric pollution from croplands and rangelands and minimal pollution from urban and industrial areas will be permitted. Farms and natural ecosystems shall be productive, diverse, stable and sustainable – socially, economically and ecologically. Forests, savannas, deserts, wetlands, coastal and marine ecosystems will be open, diverse, stable and productive.

A Basic Principle

The concept of ***sustainable development*** is the cornerstone on which this work was based. Namibia has subscribed to this approach in its National Constitution, and has committed itself internationally, by adopting the United Nations Agenda 21 principles. The philosophy and principles of *sustainable development* cut across all sectors. Indeed, sustainable development is achieved only where sustainability in all sectors of endeavour is attained – social, economic and ecological. For the purposes of this study, *sustainable development* is defined as follows:

The National Development Process

Namibia has embarked on a process of preparing and implementing five-year NDP. One shortcoming in these plans is that they tend to address immediate needs – a road, a clinic, a water point. What is missing in the process is a longer-term vision towards which each five-year plan should be working, including both the immediate needs of roads and water points, and the longer-term components that are needed to build a prosperous, productive and sustainable society. Vision 2030 provides this long-term perspective. The Vision 2030 initiative needs to be effectively linked and integrated into the NDP process, both institutionally and procedurally, to bring the two into highly productive synergy. The diagram below illustrates how this should be done.
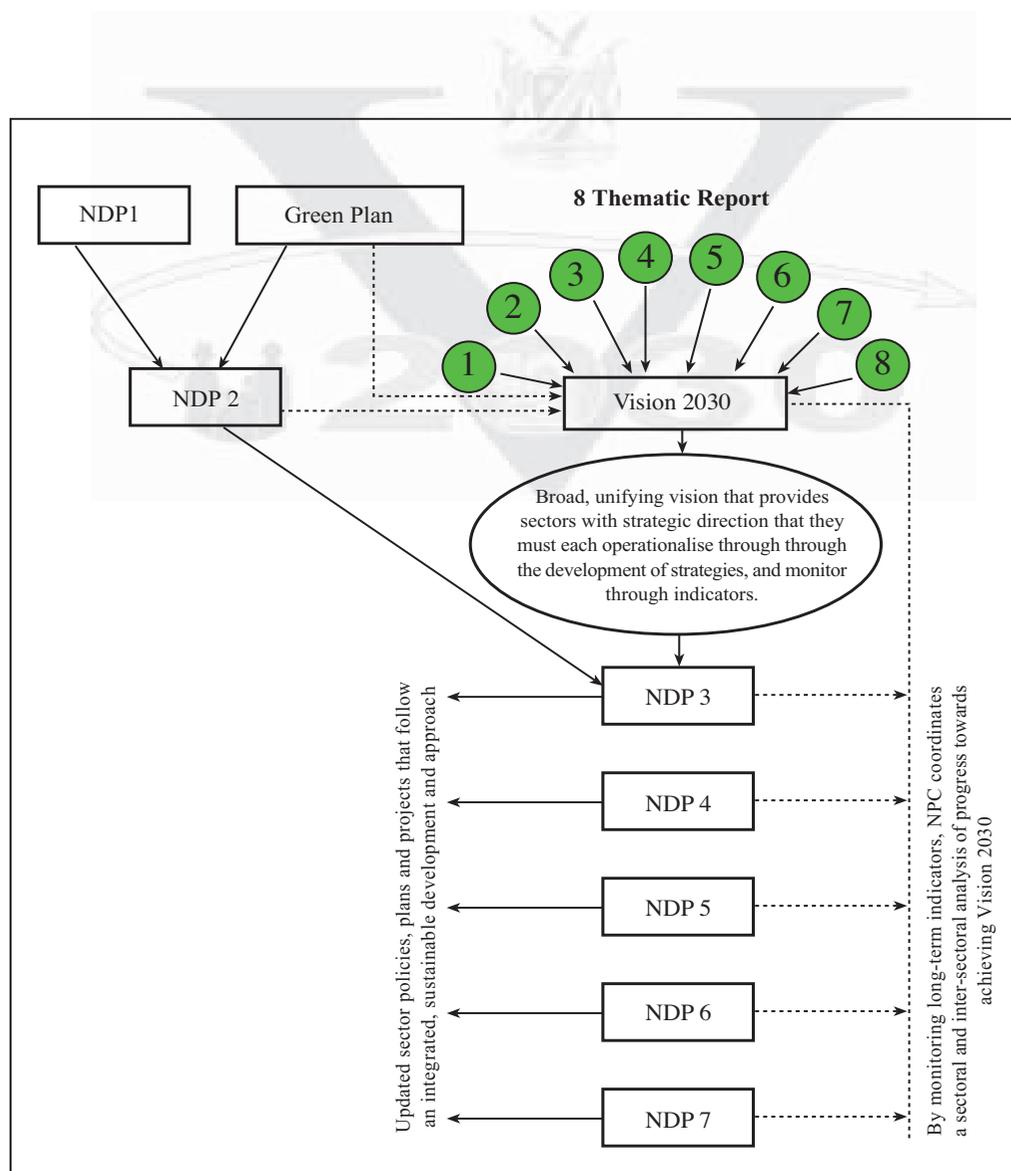
The overriding prerequisite for the achievement of dynamic, efficient and sustainable development in Namibia is **Partnership**. Partnership between government and civil society, between different branches of government, with the private sector, non-governmental organisations, community-based organisations, and the international community. Between urban and rural societies and, ultimately, between all members of Namibian society. Vision 2030 is an initiative that can help to unify all Namibians to achieve their long-term development needs and initiatives, and promote and nurture partnerships.

This report draws on the eight thematic reports. It also draws on a national "Aspirations" workshop, a Decision-makers survey, regional consultations, Ministry-priorities and objectives, and a host of other national and local consultative and planning initiatives, including Regional Development Plans, Namibia's second five-year NDP and Namibia's Assessment Report to the World Summit for Sustainable Development.

Hon. Immanuel Ngatjizeko

Director General, National Planning Commission

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Erica Shafudah
National Coordinator, Namibia Vision 2030 Project
March 2004

PART ONE

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF VISION

1. BACKGROUND TO VISION 2030

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The stimulus for formulating a vision for Namibia was provided by His Excellency, the President, Dr. Sam Nujoma, through his statement to the Cabinet in January 1998. In that address, he called on the Cabinet to deliberate on its vision for Namibia: "a vision that will take Namibia from the present into the future; a vision that will guide us to make deliberate efforts to improve the quality of life of our people to the level of their counterparts in the developed world by the year 2030".

Such a vision, according to the President, called for a determined effort by all concerned to "concentrate on resolving, not just addressing, very important national problems". In practical terms, the call was for a comprehensive mission statement based on a critical review of past performance in all sectors of the economy and society, objective situation analysis and imaginative as well as realistic projection into the future, by the year 2030. As envisaged by His Excellency, the President, the vision would require built-in mechanisms for the monitoring and evaluation of predetermined targets in all the sectors, including annual and five-yearly evaluations, and a major review of performance every decade.

In response to the challenge of Vision formulation, Cabinet directed the NPC to coordinate the activities that would lead to the production of a shared national vision for the country over the next 30 years.

Vision formulation for a country is, therefore, an exercise in planning for the management of future development. Otherwise referred to as National Long-term Perspective Studies (NLTPS), a national vision provides the people with a sense of direction, discovery and destiny. Popularised in Africa by the UNDP since 1992, the NLTPS concept is a complimentary approach to current efforts by African governments (including Namibia) to reform their economies and societies. Its focus is on providing a systematic process for developing and implementing consistent long-term development strategies, based on active participation of the people at each stage of the process (UNDP, 1998:5). Many African countries have already formulated their visions, and many more are at one stage or another in that process.

1.2 WHY A VISION FOR NAMIBIA?

The Government has, since Independence established a planning system based on medium-term plans, for promoting sustainable socio-economic development in Namibia. There is, however, as yet no articulated long-term national plan (or vision) or scenarios within which the short and medium development goals are to be based.

Based on policy oriented research on key national strategic issues, and on a process of discussion and dialogue (involving the private sector, civil society and the donor community) on the long term goals and future of the country, Vision 2030 provides long term alternative policy scenarios on the future course of development

in Namibia at different points in time up until the target year 2030. The Vision provides guidance to planning questions such as the following:

- Given the past and current conditions, what would development in the country portray by year 2015, 2020 and 2030?
- What do the people want their country to depict by these future points in time?
- What should Namibians do, between now and year 2030, to elevate the country to the level of a developed society?

It is clear that the dynamic process in the long-term future is more important for planning than the end point of the process. Perspective thinking is particularly relevant for the short-and medium-term implementation of long-term planning targets.

Long-term perspective plans are also useful for anticipating changes, and for understanding events that are likely to happen. For example, given the current level of development, what would education scenario look like by the year 2015, 2020 and 2030? What would happen if dropouts from school increased if the Government succeeded in eradicating illiteracy by year 2015? What would happen if the current and planned HIV/AIDS activities succeeded in eradicating the desease by year 2010, for example?

These are pertinent questions, particularly because they directly influence development and investment decisions, expenditure and the allocation of funds. They are directly linked to public policies and decision-making. Therefore, Namibia Vision 2030 will create policy synergies, which will effectively link long-term perspectives to short-term planning. Long-term perspectives are needed to understand the future repercussions of the past and current policies and planning activities.

1.3   THE VISION FORMULATION STRATEGY

A key element in the vision formulation process was that it must be a shared vision, developed through national dialogue. Unless it is a shared vision, it may not be socially and politically acceptable. Therefore, as a tool for social dialogue and part of good governance, the Vision process in Namibia involved, as much as possible, the major social groups, at national and regional levels, in various aspects of the formulation process.

It was precisely for the above reason that the interests of all stakeholders were solicited to make contributions to this national dialogue about the future of Namibia. Representatives of the Government, operators in the private sector (commerce and industry) and representatives of civil society were consulted to make contributions to the national dialogue on the future of the country. This approach allows for the interest of the people through their contributions at the implementation stage.

The immediate challenge faced by the vision management, was to establish a credible information base from which the vision would be derived. As a start, the NPC compiled a background document that put together much of the information available on the different sectors of our economy and society.

As a way of determining people's aspirations for the future, a survey of 'Opinion

Leaders' in the country was conducted in April/May 2000 by the NPC, and findings of this study proved most valuable in the determination of the issues for the multi-disciplinary research that provided the core of the vision information base.

The National Core Team, a group responsible for the technical coordination of the visioning process, organised a 'Sensitization Mission' to the 13 regions of the country (July/August 2001), the aim of which was to share the objectives and strategy of the Vision 2030 project with the general public through a series of regional workshops. These workshops provided ample opportunity to discuss the various aspects of the project, well as an opportunity for the collection of information on the peoples aspirations for the future.

The National Committee on Vision 2030 was established with an overall objective to provide technical advice to the NPC on issues pertaining to the formulation of Vision 2030, and appropriate strategies for its implementation. In accordance with its terms of reference, the National Committee provided advice to the National Core Team and the NPC on key strategies and issues considered relevant to the formulation of a broad-based vision for the country in year 2030. These included identification of critical development and management issues; by what means; how the vision would be realised; and a strategy for consolidating and improving on progress made. Members of the National Committee included distinguished Namibians from the private and public sectors, and the civil society. Each of the 13 Regional Governors in the country were members of the National Committee.

The Vision 2030 management employed the services of Multi-disciplinary Research Groups to undertake a study of Namibia's past and current experience in development and the prospects for the future, bearing in mind its natural, material and financial resources, and its cultural, regional and international context. The thematic reports (see Figure 1.1) of this study, as well as other documents in the information base, were publicly discussed at the National Aspirations Conference held in May 2002, as part of the vision formulation process by the National Core Team. Information from these research reports formed the basis of the Vision formulation. The Conference also served to ensure popular participation in the vision formulation process. (See Appendix 1, for additional information on the National Conference, and speeches by HE, The President).

1.4   IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VISION

It was made clear throughout all the consultation processes – workshops held for the preparation of the eight thematic reports, the survey of opinion leaders, the regional sensitization and aspirations workshops conducted by the Core Team and the National Aspirations Conference – that people want and expect Vision 2030 to be competently and comprehensively implemented.

Following the dissemination of Vision 2030 to the general public, Vision 2030 management will be re-defined and transformed from a policy formulation to a coordinating agency for implementation, using a comprehensive Master Plan for Vision 2030. To ensure effective implementation of Vision 2030, an appropriate institutional framework will be developed.
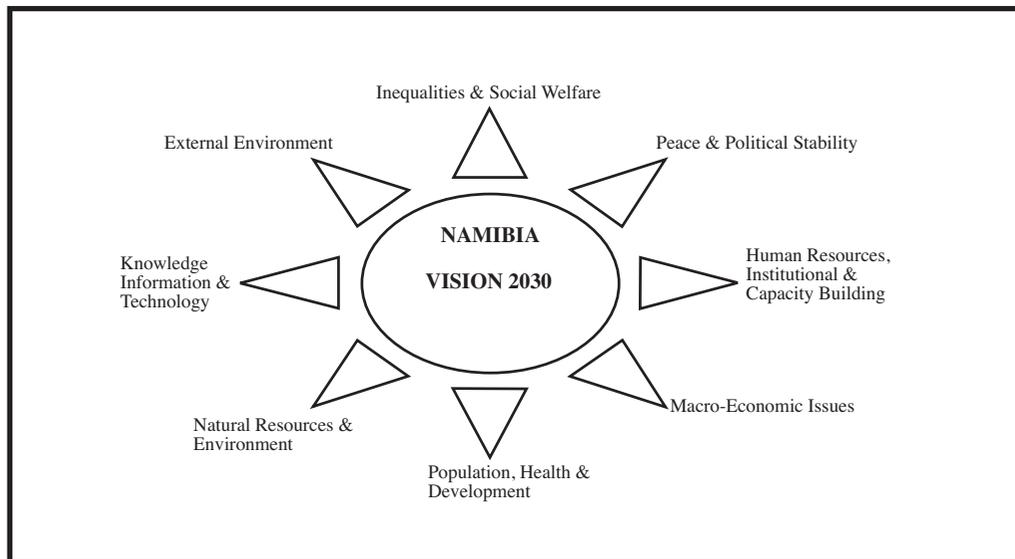
Figure 1.1: Namibia - Issues for Vision 2030 Formulation

Most of the strategies proposed in the Strategic Framework for Long Term Development are broad statements of objectives. In order to fulfil these objectives, certain actions must be taken. These activities, if successfully undertaken, will ultimately lead to the realization of the Vision. Therefore, for each of the stated objectives, the strategic questions that must be addressed through the coordinating role of the Vision implementing organ, are the following:

- What is the range of activities involved in achieving an objective?
- Who will do what?
- What is the time-frame for accomplishing the objective?
- With what amount of human, material and financial resources will this be done?
- How will achievements be measured?
- By what means will the indicators of progress be verified?
- What are the risks being assumed?

The Vision itself will provide the necessary internal dynamics which will facilitate the realisation of the goals. In essence, the Vision provides the framework to design broad strategies for long-term national development, to be implemented through NDP2 and subsequent Medium Term Plans and their respective budgets. Therefore, NDP2 constitutes the first of the six consecutive programme elements of Vision 2030.This is where the five-yearly planning cycles, currently in use, will continue to provide a sound basis for the monitoring and evaluation of the vision objectives.

1.5   ORGANISATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document is divided into three parts. *Part One* contains three chapters namely, Introduction (Chapter 1); overview of Namibia as a nation – the land, people, economy and society, and the challenges we face as a nation (Chapter 2). The theme-based results of the sensitization mission as well as the eight research groups; the views of 'Opinion Leaders' and the Vision of the public sector were elaborated on and presented to the National Aspirations Conference and these were summarised in Chapter 3.

Part Two of this Vision document represents a synthesis of information gathered, discussed and agreed upon during the visioning process for Vision 2030. Based

on the steps described above, three overarching concepts emerged. The People's Quality of Life' is of the utmost importance for the Vision. This encompasses integrated material from several of the initially identified working themes such as 'inequality and social welfare', 'human resource development and institutional capacity-building', and 'population, health and development'. A second major concept to emerge from the synthesis is 'Sustaining the Resource Base.' Although organised around sub-topics such as 'production systems and natural resources', it, perforce, encompasses and integrates materials from the original themes such as 'inequality and social welfare'. The third major concept to appear from the synthesis is 'Creating the Enabling Environment.' Focusing predominantly on the original themes described as 'peace and political stability' and 'factors of the external environment', this third major concept embraces and integrates aspects of, *inter alia,* the original theme of 'human resource development and institutional capacity-building'. Part Two is designed to help the reader of these documents focus on the three overarching concepts that emerged during the visioning process, while not losing site of details identified during that overall process.

Part Three contains the Appendices to this volume.

2. NAMIBIA – AN OVERVIEW

2.1   INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides a brief description of Namibia, its geography and people – past and present. It sets out some of Namibia's comparative advantages, the principles that we cherish as a nation and how we should approach our long-term development.

2.2   GEOGRAPHY

Namibia is situated in south western Africa between latitudes 17° 30" S and 29° S, and longitudes 12° E and 25° E. Namibia has a land area of some 842 000 km^2 and is bounded by the Atlantic Ocean to the west, South Africa to the south and Botswana to the east. The largest northern border is with Angola, but in the far north-east of the country it shares a common border with Zambia and a point of contact with Zimbabwe. The country is divided into 13 regions (Figure 2.1).

Namibia is an arid country with generally low (Figure 2.2) and highly variable (Figure 2.3) rainfall. Annual rainfall varies from less than 20mm along the coast to more than 600mm in the northeast. A large part of Namibia is classified as desert, and three different desert systems are found within its boundaries. These are the Namib to the west, an ancient desert of sand seas and gravel plains; the Kalahari to the east, characterised by deep sand with no surface water, except for temporary pans, but which has a specific and fairly extensive vegetation; and the Karoo to the south, which is characterised by low rainfall and unproductive soils. However, it supports an extensive vegetation of low-growing, often succulent, shrubs.

Only 8% of the country receives over 500mm raining which is regarded as the minimum necessary for dryland cropping, and, this is concentrated in the north-east, mainly in the Caprivi region. The central regions of the country have relatively productive soils and reliable rainfall. These soils, while not sufficient to support crop production, are nevertheless well vegetated and help to support livestock. The Kalahari and Karoo regions are also used for extensive livestock production, with mainly large stock in the Kalahari and small stock in the Karoo. With regard to the northernmost parts of the central region, seasonal water is received in the form of local rainfall as well as flooding down an inland delta of drainage channels, which are linked to the Cuvelai river system in Angola. Considerable rain-fed subsistence-crop production also takes place in this region. Land uses across the country are shown in Figure 2.4.
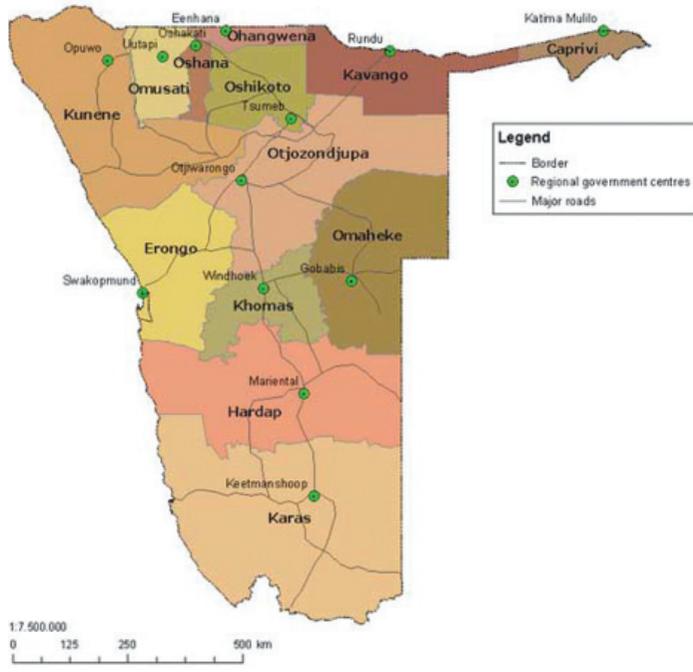
Figure 2.1: The 13 regions in Namibia
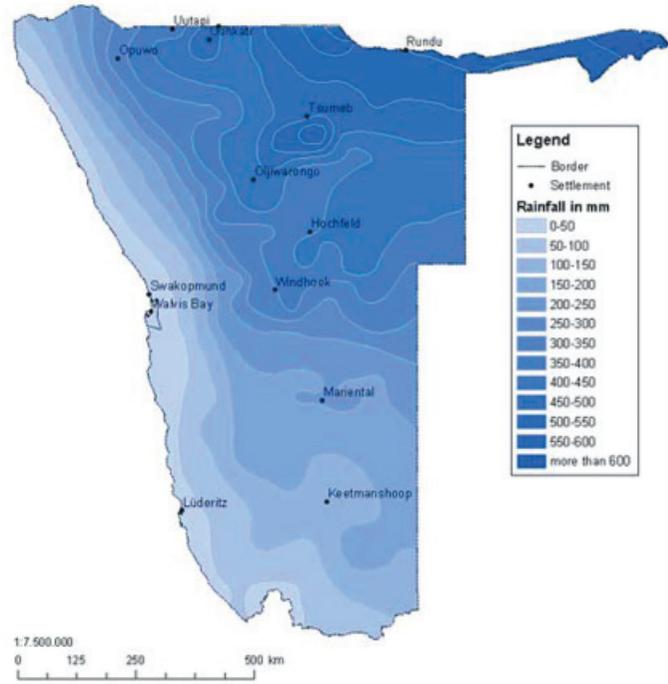
Figure 2.2: Average annual rainfall
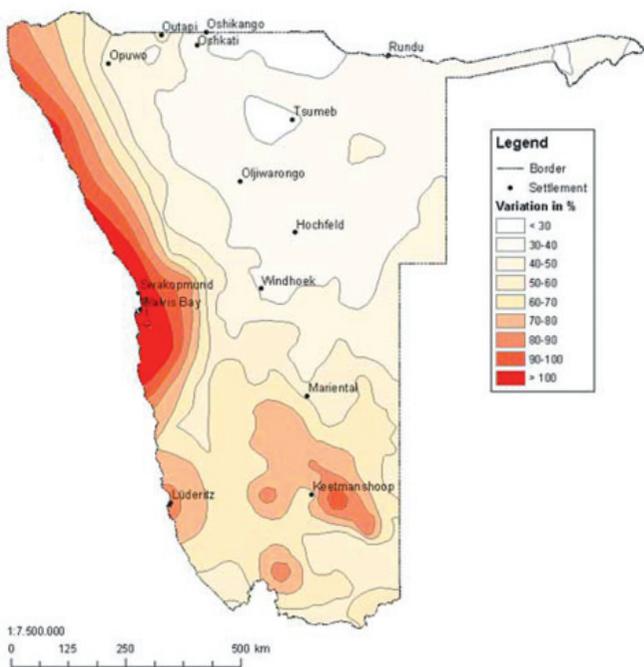
Figure 2.3: Variation in annual rainfall
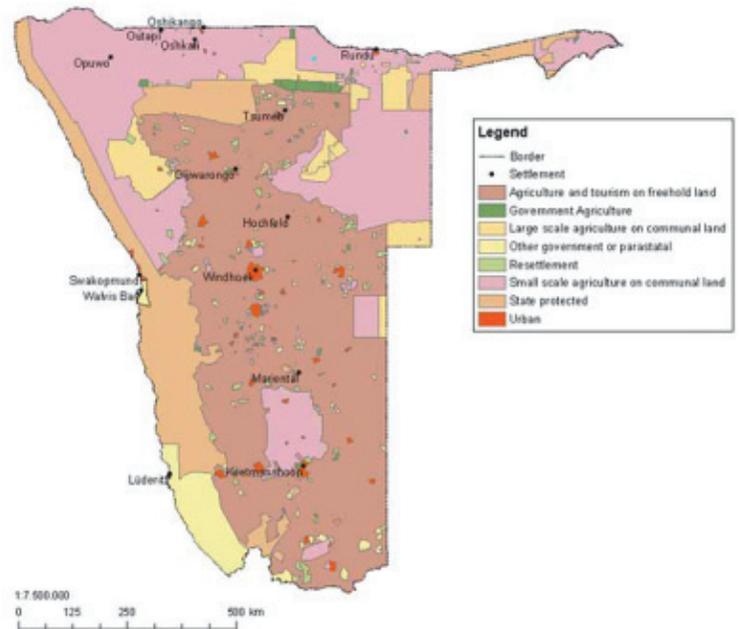
Figure 2.4: Land uses

Perennial water sources are very scarce. Such rivers are found only on Namibia's boundaries – the Orange river in the south, the Kunene and Okavango rivers in the north and the Zambezi and Kwando-Linyanti-Chobe river systems associated with the Caprivi (Figure2.5). Natural springs occur in various scattered locations across the country and there are a few eastward- southern- and extensive westward-flowing ephemeral rivers, which carry only surface water for a few days a year. However, they provide important underground aquifers from which water can be abstracted by people and animals throughout most years. Other underground aquifer systems vary in distribution and water quality. An extensive deposit of fine fossil water occurs in the central/northern region, known as the Karstveld.
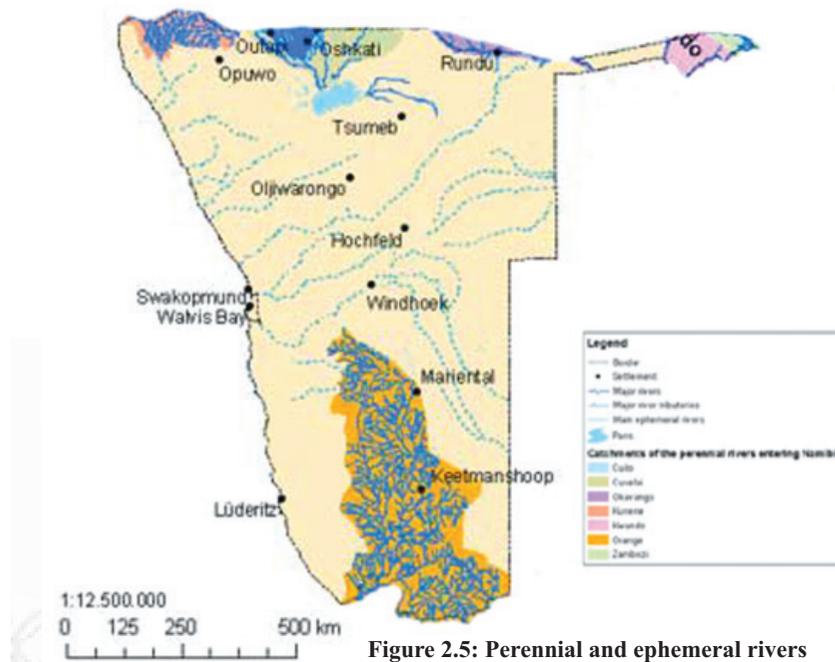
Figure 2.5: Perennial and ephemeral rivers
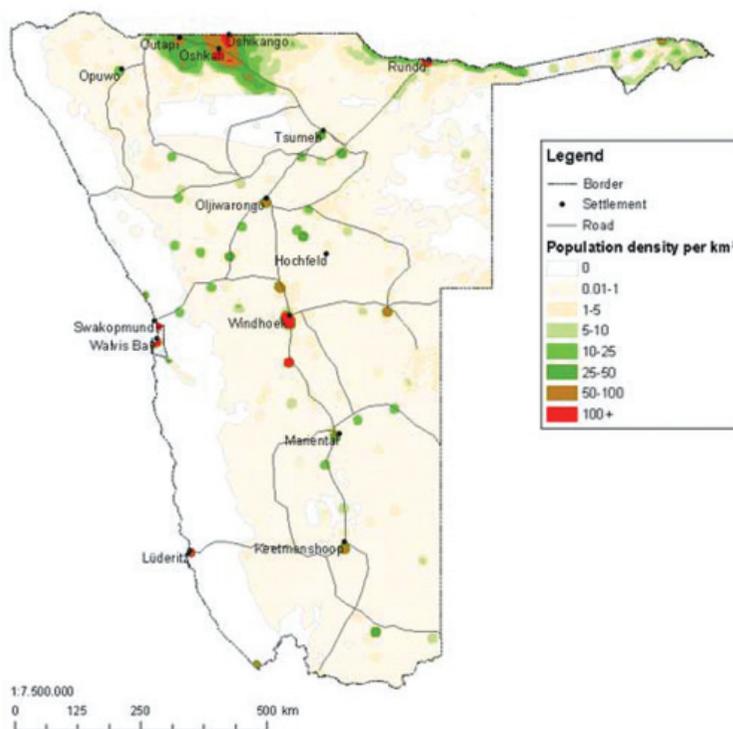
Figure 2.6: Human population distribution

2.3   PEOPLE

Namibia's population size was estimated to be 1.8 million in the 2001 census. With its low population density, compared to most countries in Africa, Namibia makes up 3% of Africa's land area, but only 0.2% of its population. This is mainly due to the fact that a large part of the country is too dry for human settlement. While there are on average only about 2 people per km^2, people are not spread evenly across the country. Most of the rural people live in the north and north-east of the country (Figure 2.6) and some 40% of the population lives in urban areas (compared to about 10% in 1936).

Palaeontological evidence indicates that the history of human settlement in Namibia goes back to prehistoric times. Nomadic people-ancestors of today's San-lived a hunter-gatherer lifestyle both inland and along the coast of Namibia, for thousands of years. Later arrivals included the Nama and the Damara people. Livestock-owning pastoralist/agriculturalists including ancestors of today's Owambo and Herero people moved into Namibia from east-central Africa in various waves of migration, some purportedly date back to the 10th century. Before the arrival of Europeans in Namibia, the country was populated by various groups of nomadic pastoralists, as well as several other groups of more settled pastoralists/ agriculturalists. Clashes between communities occurred periodically, especially over grazing rights. Complex kingdoms and chieftancies, with well defined social and cultural traditions and structured economies, were in existence.

The arrival of explorers and settlers from Europe began on a small scale in the 16th and 17th centuries, but the harshness of the Namibian coast, exacerbated along its entire length by the Namib desert, prevented any serious attempts at settlement. By the middle of the 19th century, however, considerable numbers of Europeans, particularly Germans, were beginning to migrate to the area, as explorers, travellers, traders, hunters and missionaries.

2.4   POLITICAL HISTORY

In 1878 the United Kingdom annexed the harbour of Walvis Bay. In 1883 a German trader, Adolf Luderitz, claimed the rest of the coastal region for Germany, and in 1884 the whole of the country was declared a German protectorate.

The colonial period in Namibia was a violent one. German colonists gained control of land, mineral and other resources by a mixture of purchase, theft and application of superior military power. The period between 1890 and 1908 was one of many conflicts between the Germans and Namibian ethnic groups, and resulted in the decimation of the indigenous Namibian populations. Estimates suggest that more that 70% of the Herero people, 50% of the Nama people and 30% of the Damara people were exterminated during the 'Great War of Resistance' of 1904-1908. After 1908 Namibians living in the 'Police Zone' were not allowed to own cattle, and were forced to take work on white-owned farms, or as indentured labour. Ethnically divided 'native reserves' were established.

German rule in Namibia came to an end with the outbreak of World War 1 and the Allied occupation of Namibia. In 1920, the League of Nations granted South Africa a mandate which gave it full power of administration and legislation over the territory. The mandate required that South Africa promote the material and

moral well-being and social progress of the Namibian people, but this was not upheld. Farmland which had previously been taken over by Germans was now given out or subsidised, to Afrikaaner settlers.

The League of Nations was dissolved in 1946, and the newly formed United Nations took over its supervisory authority over South West African territory (now Namibia). The UN declared Namibia a trust territory with rights of self-determination, but South Africa refused to acknowledge this. In 1966 the UN revoked South Africa's mandate and set up a council with authority for the territory, but South Africa continued to ignore this authority.

In the meantime in 1948, the Afrikaner led National Party had gained power in South Africa and brought in the 'apartheid' system of segregation, which they enforced in Namibia as well as South Africa. This led to the relocation of many indigenous Nambians from their homes both in urban and rural settings. In 1970 the South African government adopted the recommendations of the Odendaal Commission, which recommended the parcelling of Namibia's land into different 'homelands' for different racial groups, with the central block of most productive farmland reserved as 'commercial farmland,' which could be owned by whites only – a policy which has left a considerable legacy of resource degradation. Resistance to South Africa's domination began in the 1950s. Many Namibians went into exile. In 1966 the armed struggle began, with guerrilla attacks on South African-controlled South West Africa. The struggle intensified over the next 20 years.

International pressure for Namibia's independence built up and diplomatic negotiations intensified. Pressure was put on South Africa to accept the UN resolution 435, which called for the holding of free and fair elections in Namibia, under UN supervision and control, as well as the cessation of war by all parties. Eventually, after an 11 month UN monitored transition period, Namibia gained independence on the 21ˢᵗ March 1990, after 106 years of colonial rule. On March 1, 1994 the coastal enclave of Walvis Bay and 12 offshore islands were also transferred to Namibia by South Africa, and the colonial period was effectively ended. The years of colonial rule, however, had left an indellible mark on the face of the country – socially, economically and environmentally.

2.5 ECONOMY

While some of the legacies of colonial rule were positive, including a well-developed infrastructure, with harbours, schools, clinics, storage dams, boreholes and water pipelines and one of the best roads systems in the world, the detrimental legacies were more far-reaching. It included a significant financial debt, taken out in Namibia's name by South Africa, a huge social debt, and an equally huge environmental debt - all of which have had a significant effect on the economy of the developing, independent Namibia. Nevertheless, the financial debt was eventually written off after negotiations between Namibia and South Africa.

2.6 SOCIAL DEBT

The colonial period had resulted in a total disruption of traditional life of Namibian people. Resettlement programmes had removed people from their ancestral homes and hampered their traditional forms of agriculture and pastoralism, wars had

decimated their population groups, indentured labour practices had disrupted family life, and colonial legislation had disempowered traditional structures of authority.

Colonial rule, and particularly apartheid policies, had also led to severe handicaps making it difficult for indigenous Namibian people to take control of the changed country. Apartheid had led to highly skewed development objectives, which in turn had led to rural and urban poverty, skewed distribution of wealth and unequal access to land and natural resources. Such legislation had also reserved most well-paid jobs with entrenched responsibility for white people and allowed only inferior education for people of other races, while access to medical resources for the majority of the population had also been limited. Foreign missionaries, who had been active in South West Africa throughout the colonial period, had tried in a small way to control these trends, and some Namibians had opportunities while in exile in other countries; but in general only a few Namibians had access to adequate primary health care, education and a challenging work experience. As a result, at Independence Namibia found itself with a huge skills deficit, which will take decades to address meaningfully.

2.7   ENVIRONMENTAL DEBT

Namibia's economy relies heavily on its natural resources. Both renewable and non-renewable natural resources had been severely exploited during colonial times. Long-term and cross-sectoral planning had been ignored, and sustainability had never been an issue, especially as it became obvious that the political situation would have to change.

Large scale hunting, often for sport, had decimated game populations throughout the colonial period. Drastic over-exploitation of the rich pelagic fish resources, off Namibia's coast in the 1960's and 1970's, had led to the collapse of populations of commercially important species. Mining had dominated the economy in the 1980's as large quantities of diamonds, uranium, semi-precious stones, base metals, industrial minerals and dimension stones were removed, often with little care about the ensuing environmental damage. The greatest damage of all however, had been done to Namibia's farmlands, largely as a result of the implementation of the recommendations of the Odendaal Commission in 1970. This resulted in the country being divided into blocks of land on the 'homelands' principle, with different blocks being designated for the use of different ethnic groups – thus leading to the creation of 'Owamboland', 'Hereroland', 'Damaraland,' etc. These homelands were created on marginal farmland while the best farmland of the country was reserved as 'commercial farmland' and were available to whites only. This led to a situation where large numbers of the population were concentrated in small areas of marginal land and this led to an inevitable overexploitation of whatever resources those homelands could supply. Owamboland, for example, was designated as the area north of the Etosha pan - an area which receives some seasonal water from local rainfall as well as the extensive Cuvelai drainage system from Angola which allows cultivation of pearl millet in most years. This area became home to 40% of the Namibian population, and deforestation and desertification quickly became major problems.

The commercial farmlands, too, ran into problems of environmental degradation. South African government policy allowed for 'drought relief' schemes for white

farmers. This meant that in dry years farmers did not have to de-stock their farms in order to survive financially. The result was overgrazing of grasses and subsequent problems with thorn bushes out-competing grasses until previous rangeland became thicket, which drastically reduced productivity.

Another major problem the new government had inherited was that of ownership of land. The white farmers who owned the commercial farmland at the time of Independence had mostly bought their land from others, or inherited it through several generations of ownership in the same family. They believed it belonged to them. Indigenous Namibians, whose ancestors had been forced off the same land by earlier generations of Europeans, also believed that the land should be theirs. Land reform issues are always a source of major contention in developing countries, and Namibia is no exception.

2.8   POST-INDEPENDENCE PROGRESS

Since the time of Independence, the Namibian government has taken major steps towards addressing previous imbalances. The Government has upheld the country's constitutional provisions, as well as put in place other relevant policy and legislative frameworks; implemented extensive country-wide immunisation campaigns which have drastically reduced infant mortalities; undertook the massive task of providing basic education for all Namibians, and higher education for many; has introduced stringent legislation controlling over-exploitation of fisheries resources and instigated a research institute and on-going research projects to monitor stocks; brought in extensive changes involving not only conservation but also sustainable utilisation of natural resources and cross-sectoral co-operation towards these objectives; and continues to seek solutions to the land reform question. Many rural villages have been linked up to the national power grid, and safe water has been brought within reach of many rural communities, by pipeline or canals.

The general atmosphere in Namibia in 2003 is that of commitment to further development and positive change. There is still a huge discrepancy in wealth. Poverty remains a serious problem, and at the same time land reform is still considered a thorny issue. It is well known that education for all is a difficult and expensive goal to achieve. Many of the natural resources which have been lost due to exploitation in the past cannot be recovered. Ecological balances have been disrupted and alien species introduced. Bush encroachment is complex, and expensive to reverse. Woodlands have been cut down, top-soil lost due to erosion, salination of soil has occurred and groundwater has been polluted. Water resources are also under increasing pressure. Since Independence, the government has made considerable efforts to provide safe water to most rural households, but much of this is being taken from underground aquifers in an unsustainable way. Long-term politically and economically viable solutions for ensuring a safe and reliable water supply for Namibia's populations, have yet to be found.

One of the most daunting development challenges facing Namibia today is the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Namibia is among the countries in the world which have prevalence ratios among pregnant women which exceed 20%. Such a high prevalence ratio is bound to have significant impact on various aspects of the socio-economic life of individuals, families and communities. Children will be particularly hard hit by the epidemic, since they will be affected in two ways: Firstly, those children, who are infected through their HIV positive mothers during

pregnancy or during or after birth, are expected to die before the age of five years. On the other hand children will also be affected by the death of one or both parents, leaving them orphaned.

The loss of those members of the household who would usually be the bread-winners, will impact negatively on household income. In addition, households will be expected to care for AIDS patients at least for some of the time before their death. This will be an additional financial as well as psychological burden on households. Pension moneys received by the elderly household members may be the only source of income in many households, and may result in younger members taking up employment earlier than usual. It must therefore be expected that the education of these children will be compromised. In general, it can be assumed that the impact of AIDS will decrease household income and substantially increase expenditure for at least a certain period of time. This might lead to reduced household savings and a marked increase in poverty.

2.9 CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE

Namibia is changing and developing rapidly. This speed of development presents the country with new challenges:
- to ensure it achieves real benefits for people, and that these benefits are spread equitably across society;
- to ensure that development does not undermine the country's future potential and life-support systems. Instead, it should build national and local capital at three levels: economic and financial capital, human and social capital, ecological and environmental capital;
- to make optimal and efficient use of resources, opportunities and Namibia's comparative advantages – over both the short and the long-term.

2.10 COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGES

Namibia has a large number of comparative and competitive advantages over other countries in the world. The list below sets out some of the more obvious advantages, none of which has been fully exploited. Indeed, we have not even scratched the surface of some of the potential that exists:
- Namibia is a country that is not prone to catastrophes (volcanoes, earthquakes, floods, etc.) other than droughts, for which Namibia can prepare itself by implementing reliable drought mitigation and drought response strategies through means of drought preparedness;
- Because of its relatively small population, Namibia can achieve a unity of purpose and a national momentum for change and appropriate development;
- As a result of its good infrastructure, communications network, technological focus and location, Namibia can develop as a centre for transport, communications and other service industries which require such infrastructure, such as banking and insurance;
- Due to its political stability, relative security and congenial living environment, Namibia, and in particular its capital city, is an attractive place from which to do business;
- Namibia has the potential to assume a leading role in the world in terms of the supply of clean and uncontaminated meat and fish, tourism, and in the fields of biodiversity and wilderness;
- It's rich cultural diversity, adds depth to Namibia's capacity, resilience and its quality of life. This diversity of peoples also shows how cultural harmony can be achieved through tolerance and honouring differences;

- Namibia is a country where people are proud of their culture, and take it with them in the development pathway, thereby evolving a unique blend of traditional and modern, in ways that integrate social harmony with economic growth and progress;
- It has been shown that Namibia can position itself to be responsive, reactive, proactive and manage change effectively and efficiently. Namibia should embrace globalization, and not be afraid of or resist it – but rather to manage and harness aggressively the opportunities that it offers for optimising Namibia's comparative and competitive advantages;
- Namibia could work towards being a service-based economy, through being a skills and knowledge-based society. Linked to this is the opportunity to retain a disbursed economy in small to medium-sized towns and villages with excellent infrastructure and communications networks. This will allow Namibia to avoid the problems of a society living in mega-cities;
- For all the above reasons, Namibia does not have to work through the development pathways followed by the current industrialised countries. Instead, by concentrating on skills development, services and its comparative advantages, Namibia can leap ahead to where currently developed countries are likely to be in 30 years.

2.11 PRINCIPLES CHERISHED BY THE NATION

Good Governance

We continue to acknowledge the pre-eminence of the Namibian Constitution as the basic law, which contains, *inter alia*, all the ingredients of a democratic state, including peace, security and political stability. By continuing to uphold the tenets of our Constitution, we strengthen human rights, individual freedoms, civil liberties and multi-party democracy. Our emphasis is also on good governance, and we continue to improve on issues relating to equity in access to productive resources, and in reducing environmental degradation, poverty and economic stagnation.

Partnership

We believe in creating a conducive environment for gender equality and working together as the key to economic progress and social harmony. This is the essence of partnership. It entails partnership between government, communities and civil society, between different branches of government, with the private sector, non-governmental organisations, community-based organisations and the international community; between urban and rural societies and, ultimately, between all members of Namibian society.

Capacity enhancement

The development of our country is in our hands, and our people are the most important resource of the country; therefore, we consider investing in people and our institutions to be a crucial precondition for the desired social and economic transformation. This calls for increasing investments in institution-building, in education and training (including, promotion of science and technology), and implementing health/ population and related programmes and policies.

Comparative advantage

We shall capitalise on Namibia's comparative advantages and provide suitable incentives to use our natural resources in the most appropriate and efficient way possible. This would ensure that the decision-makers of today will continue to

create a safer, healthier and more prosperous future for all Namibians.

People-centred economic development

Undoubtedly, we need economic growth and diversification to achieve sustainable development. Emphasis is on the welfare of the people, aiming at human development, equitable and balanced growth, resulting in a growing industrial sector, a modernised agricultural sector, and an enabling macro-economic and political environment.

National sovereignty and human integrity

We cherish our national sovereignty and it must be preserved at all costs; great value is also attached to Namibian tradition and culture. However traditional ideas and practices which tend to inhibit progress towards development targets, may be sacrificed in the interest of the nation. At the centre of all we do are the people of Namibia – healthy, brave, empowered, innovative, fully employed, confident and determined to succeed; everyone has a role to play, on a level playing field, unhindered by race, colour, gender, age, ability, ethnicity, religious affiliation or political inclination.

Environment

Our environment is clean, and we will continue to keep it so.

Sustainable development

We fully embrace the idea of sustainable development; the type of development that meets the needs of the present, without limiting the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. To this end, we encourage people to take responsibility for their own development and promote development activities that address the actual needs of the people and require increasing community contributions to development services and infrastructure. Indeed, the principle of sustainable development is a cornerstone of Namibia's vision, since it embraces all the other principles. Without capacity, partnership and good governance, there will be no sustainable development.

Peace and Security

Namibia is a relatively peaceful country, and we shall continue to uphold the principle of domestic and regional peace and security being an indispensable condition for the country's socio-economic development.

2.12 IDENTIFICATION OF PRIORITY ISSUES

Planning for long-term sustainable development requires that the Vision adopts a strategic approach. A strategy is simply a plan of action to address a complex situation. Within the complexity of a given or evolving situation, a strategic approach helps to identify key or priority issues. Such issues could be prioritised in the following manner:

- Identify a range of solutions and, where necessary, develop scenarios
- Address the most important issues which, at the same time, offer good opportunities for success while also providing good benefits to society
- Link short-term needs (action) to medium-term targets and long-term visions
- Address complex implementation arrangements, when issues cut across sectors and mandates, where authority and responsibility are not clear, and when needing to link local initiatives to district, regional, national and to global initiatives

- Create integrated approaches, and genuine partnerships between government, business, communities, NGO, academic institutions, donors, etc., because environmental and sustainable development issues and challenges are too complex to be resolved by any one group acting alone, and
- Build on existing plans, processes and strategies.

The last point is important, since no country ever starts from scratch. There is always a history of existing institutions, existing collaboration and partnership, existing plans, visions and ideas. Strategic approaches should look for ways of linking, for examples, to Namibia's National Development Planning processes, and to build on these.

The concept of sustainable development is the cornerstone on which development-thinking throughout world hinges. Namibia has subscribed to this approach since the United Nations Convention on Environment and Development (the so-called Rio Convention or Earth Summit) in 1992 in Brazil, and was an active participant at the World Summit for Sustainable Development (the so-called Rio +10 Summit) in Johannesburg in 2002. The conditions for sustainable development can only be met if at least the three fundamental objectives of economic development, social development and environmental development are adequately addressed at the same time, within politically and culturally acceptable ways. These three objectives underpin the concept of sustainable development and must each be considered in detail (Figure 2.7).
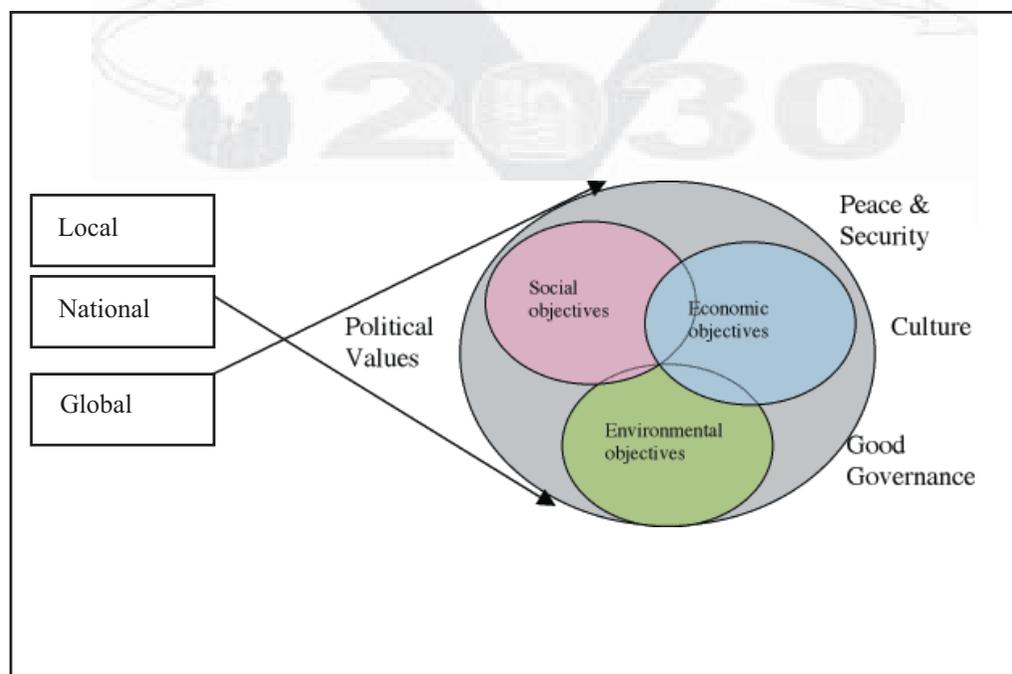
Figure 2.7: The systems of sustainable development

Working to achieve sustainable development is a complex and challenging undertaking, but one which is essential for the future of every nation and her people. It is challenging because it requires new thinking, new integrated approaches, new partnerships, and new evaluation systems. Wealth needs to be thought of in financial terms (investments, capital infrastructure), in social terms (human capital in the form of health, education, skills, innovation), and in environmental terms (status and health of natural resources such as fish stocks, forests, rangelands, water, wildlife and soils). Only when all three forms of wealth are stable and positive by linked to production, will sustainable development be achieved.

2.13   NEW WAYS OF THINKING

A national long-term vision provides the direction in which all partners should be moving, including government, the private sector, NGOs, universities, communities and civil society as a whole, as well as the support from international development partners. A vision provides a strong framework for collaboration and cooperation.

Achieving Vision 2030 requires a paradigm shift from sector development to integrated approaches through strategic partnerships. This means that some structural changes may be required, as well as innovative thinking.

The following "new ways" of thinking and working are important:

- Move from developing and implementing a fixed plan, which gets increasingly out of date … towards operating an adaptive, dynamic system or *process* that can continuously improve. Vision 2030 is thus a process, not a plan;
- Move from a view that it is the state or government alone that is responsible for sustainable development... towards one that sees responsibility to society as a whole – a *full partnership* where the state helps create the enabling environment for sustainable development;
- Move from centralised and controlled decision-making …towards *sharing* results and opportunities, transparent negotiations, cooperation and concerted actions;
- Move from a focus on outputs (e.g. projects and laws) … towards a focus on *outcomes* (e.g. impact) that actually contribute to achieving goals and visions – which require good quality participation and process management;
- Move from sectoral planning… towards *integrated planning* – within and between sectors and institutions.

The structure of this document has been designed to facilitate this process-based, integrated planning approach to development through partnership, sharing and with a clear focus on outcomes (Figure 2.8). Chapter 3 of the report gives an overview of the issues covered in Vision 2030. Chapter 4 addresses the socio-economic issues around peoples' quality of life, while Chapter 5 covers the ecological and environmental issues of sustaining the resource base and our means of production. Chapter 6 addresses cross-cutting processes that help create the necessary enabling environment for Namibia to proceed along its chosen development path.

Implementation of these approaches requires strong political leadership and support from all sectors of society, ranging from the local to national levels. To get a whole country to work constructively and effectively together, requires a

clear National Strategy to give guidance and direction – a National Strategy that has been developed by a broad partnership of stakeholders who want to see their country develop - for both present and future generations. In short, it requires a long-term Vision, or Vision 2030.

High-order vision statement
Prosperity, Harmony, Peace and Political Stability

Enabling environment

Quality of Life
(PEOPLE & ECONOMICS)

Sustaining the Resource base
(ECOSYSTEMS)

Health & population

Wealth

Knowledge & culture

Community

Equity

Capacity

Fresh Water

Production systems

Biodiversity

Urban environment

Good Governance

Participation and communication

Investment and capacity-building

Partnership and collaboration

Science, monitoring and adaptation

External factors and global security

Figure 2.8: Structure of the Main Body of the Vision 2030 Report.

3. NAMIBIA VISION 2030

3.1 INTRODUCTION

Since Independence, the Namibian government has adopted planning as a management tool to help ensure effective decision-making. Five-year development plans, beginning with NDP1 for the period 1995 – 2000, are at the heart of this strategy. This chapter provides a summary of the national Vision for 2030, the main objectives and broad strategies for its implementation.

3.2 ISSUES FOR VISION 2030

In formulating this Vision, the process called for identification and careful analysis of our problems as a nation. These issues were addressed by the Vision 2030 formulation process through a national opinion survey, futures research, regional consultations and national dialogue. The major elements of our national issues identified are the following: Inequalities and social welfare; Peace and political stability; Human resources, institutional- and capacity-building; Macro-economic issues; Population, health and development; Natural resources and environment; Knowledge, information and technology; and factors of the external environment. The vision formulation process was based on careful analyses and reviews of Namibia's past and current experience in development, given its natural, material and financial resources, and its cultural, regional and international context.

3.3 NAMIBIA VISION 2030

The development issues listed above were carefully analysed and, based on research findings and an analysis of the aspirations expressed by the people, an overall national Vision (Box 1) has been formulated. The appropriate scenario selected was derived from the broad objectives of this Vision, and has served to guide identification of strategic ideas, which would form the basis for development planning.

Box 1: Namibia Vision 2030

A prosperous and industralised Namibia, developed by her human resources, enjoying peace, harmony and political stability.

The following terms, as used in the Vision, are elaborated upon; abundant prosperity; interpersonal harmony; peace and political stability.

Prosperity

It pertains to existence of a condition of sustained high economic growth that places Namibia in the 'high income' category of nations, eliminates duality in the economy and ensures equity in the pattern of economic growth. All Namibian workers earn a decent wage, that allows them to live a life well above the poverty level; and for the disadvantaged, the social security support guarantees a decent quality of life. All Namibians, who are able and willing, have the opportunity of being gainfully employed, or have access to productive resources. There is equity in income distribution across all groups, and the disparity between rural and urban living, in terms of social and economic conditions, is at its lowest. Namibians are healthy, empowered, innovative, confident and determined to succeed; everyone has a role to play, and the playing field is level, unhindered by race, colour, gender, age, ethnicity, religious affiliation or political inclination.

Industrialised Nation

As an industrialised country, Namibia's income per capita base had grown to be equivalent to that of the upper income countries, resulting in a change in status from a lower middle income country to a high income country. Manufacturing and the service sector constitute about 80 percent of the country's gross domestic product. The country largely exports processed goods, which account for not less than 70 percent of total exports. This has given rise to a significant reduction in the export of raw material. Namibia has an established network of modern infrastructure such as rail, road, telecommunication and port facilities. The country has a critical mass of knowledge workers and the contribution of the small and medium-size enterprises to GDP is not less than 30 percent. Unemployment has been significantly reduced to less than 5 percent of the work force.

Harmony

A multi-racial community of people living and working together in harmony, and sharing common values and aspirations as a nation, while enjoying the fruits of unity in diversity. Men and women marry (as provided for in the Constitution) and enjoy marital love and stability of union, and families extend compassion and love to those who are widowed or in one or the other form of marital disharmony.

The family is upheld as sacred and the most fundamental institution in the society. Parents (mothers, fathers, guardians) are well aware of and fulfill their responsibilities to their children, while children remain disciplined and have an inalienable right to survival, development, protection and participation in society. Families are available and willing to accommodate orphans, and are assisted, where necessary, by the government/community through a well managed public orphanage programme. Such a programme allows these disadvantaged children to be supported to live a meaningful life which prepares them adequately for the future. People living with disabilities and other vulnerable persons are well integrated into the mainstream of society. They have equal rights under the law and are facilitated to participate actively in the economy and society.

Society respects and upholds the right of every person to enjoy, practice, profess, maintain and promote his/her culture, language, tradition or religion

in accordance with the Constitution. Although Namibia remains a secular society, Christianity is the most popular religion, which holds promise for the moral upbringing of our children, and shapes the moral basis of our interpersonal dynamics, harmony and peaceful co-existence. Above all, the fear of God guides decision-making in Namibia and provides the driving force for the maintenance of a just and morally upright society.

Peace and political stability

There exists in the country true freedom of expression, speech and association, compatible with the letter and spirit of the Constitution of Namibia; the political environment is conducive to voluntary formation or dissolution of political parties; and every individual is recognised as an important element in the system, which provides level playing field for all players. The people of Namibia make their own decisions and do so at their own level in terms of political, cultural, economic and social development matters; they set their own priorities, plan, implement and monitor their development programmes.

Namibia creates an enabling environment in terms of sustainable social and economic advancement which could be defined as a "condition free from all possible impediments to actualising development". It embodies peace, security, democratic politics, availability of resources, appropriate legal instruments, co-operative private sector, and a supportive public service. In essence, we consolidate and maintain peace and political stability.

All people in Namibia enjoy a safe environment (to a great extent free from violence and crime), share and care for those in need and are prepared to face and respond to any man-made and or natural calamities. Namibia is a fair, gender responsive, caring and committed nation in which all citizens are able to realise their full potential in a safe and decent living environment.

The multi-party democratic principle of popular participation is well entrenched in the Namibian society; the political parties are active; the civil society is vibrant, and a mature, investigative and free media is in operation. There are independent 'watch-dog' institutions that ensure the implementation of anti-corruption programmes, and monitor activities of government, the private sector and civil society organisations and agencies. The government is there to promote social welfare, social profitability and public interest; and the action of officials are being constantly checked to see if they are in line with these cherished social values. Public officials maintain ethical standards with regard to trust, neutrality, probity, professional honour, confidentiality and fairness. There is constant checking to determine continued adherence to these values.

Namibia thrives on an environment of regional and international peace and security. Development cooperation with all friendly nations is strong, and is based largely on trade and mutual exchange of opportunities; dependency on foreign development aid is minimal, if at all. Namibia is part and parcel of organised regional structures, in which it can contribute to the political, economic and social wellbeing of the people.

3.4   OBJECTIVES OF VISION 2030

The major objectives of this Vision are to:
   (i)   Ensure that Namibia is a fair, gender responsive, caring and committed nation, in which all citizens are able to realise their full potential, in a safe and decent living environment.

(ii) Create and consolidate a legitimate, effective and democratic political system (under the Constitution), and an equitable, tolerant and free society, that is characterised by sustainable and equitable development and effective institutions, which guarantee peace and political stability.

(iii) Develop a diversified, competent and highly productive human resources and institutions, fully utilising human potential, and achieving efficient and effective delivery of customer-focused services which are competitive not only nationally, but also regionally and internationally.

(iv) Transform Namibia into an industrialised country of equal opportunities, which is globally competitive, realising its maximum growth potential on a sustainable basis, with improved quality of life for all Namibians.

(v) Ensure a healthy, food-secured and breastfeeding nation, in which all preventable, infectious and parasitic diseases are under secure control, and in which people enjoy a high standard of living, with access to quality education, health and other vital services, in an atmosphere of sustainable population growth and development.

(vi) Ensure the development of Namibia's 'natural capital' and its sustainable utilization, for the benefit of the country's social, economic and ecological well-being.

(vii) Accomplish the transformation of Namibia into a knowledge-based, highly competitive, industrialised and eco-friendly nation, with sustainable economic growth and a high quality of life.

(viii) Achieve stability, full regional integration and democratised international relations; the transformation from an aid-recipient country to that of a provider of development assistance.

3.5 BROAD STRATEGIES FOR VISION 2030

In order to realise the objectives of Vision 2030, the following strategic elements should be considered in the long-term perspective plan for Namibia:

(i) Maintaining an economy that is sustainable, efficient, flexible and competitive;

(ii) Operating a dynamic and accessible financial sector;

(iii) Achieving full and gainful employment;

(iv) Providing excellent, affordable health care for all;

(v) Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS into development policies, plans and programmes;

(vi) Creating access to abundant, hygienic and healthy food, based on a policy of food security;

(vii) Providing full and appropriate education at all levels;

(viii) Leveraging knowledge and technology for the benefit of the people;

(ix) Promoting interpersonal harmony among all people;

(x) Operating a morally upright and tolerant society that is proud of its diversity;

(xi) Ensuring an atmosphere of peace, security and hope for a better life for all;

(xii) Maintaining stable, productive and diverse ecosystems managed for long-term sustainability;

(xiii) Establishing and sustaining business standards of competence, productivity, ethical behaviour and high trust;

(xiv) Upholding human rights and ensuring justice, equity and equality in the fullest sense for all, regardless of gender, age, religion, ethnicity, ability or political affiliation;

(xv) Maintaining a low-level, responsive bureaucracy;

(xvi) Implementing a land- and natural resource policy that ensures fair access by all to the means of production;

(xvii) Establishing and operating a fiscal policy that distributes wealth fairly, and encourages production, employment and development of wealth in a stable and sustainable economic climate;

(xviii) Operating a responsive and democratic government that is truly representative of the people, and able to adhere to transparent, accountable systems of governance, proactively;

(xix) Achieving collaboration between public, private and Civil Society organisations, in policy formulation, programming and implementation;

(xx) Maintaining sound international policies that ensure effective cooperation, favourable trade relations, peace and security.

3.6 MILESTONES

The major challenge of this Vision is for all of us (government, private sector, Civil Society as well as individuals) to make a determined effort to concentrate on resolving, not just addressing, very important national problems. As we march forward in implementing the strategies of this Vision, we should be prepared to ask ourselves, from time to time if, indeed, we are on course. The programmes of Vision 2030 have specific targets and, periodically, through the National Development Plans and related programme instruments, we will evaluate the Vision programme performance.

Milestones are interval targets or indicators and are very useful for monitoring progress towards the achievement of a desired objective. Following the approval of Vision 2030, it is planned that a national strategy implementation workshop will be convened to reach an agreement on the way forward in translating the objectives of the Vision into reality. This will set the stage for the formulation of an Action Plan for Vision implementation, including the determination of programme targets.

To this end, milestones are provided in this Vision document, which are indicated as 'targets', to give an overall impression of where we are going and how the assumed future state would develop step by step. It is, however, difficult to construct quantitative indicators for some of the objectives of the Vision, such as: peace and political stability; good governance; popular participation; knowledge-based society; etc. In such cases, as illustrated with aspects of Information Technology and Natural Resources/ Environment, simple descriptions are provided to indicate the anticipated direction of progress. The scenario box for each Sub-Vision provides information on 'Where we want to be in 2030' and these items should also be read as targets. At a later stage, when programming for Vision implementation, each objective will have corresponding programme targets, including interval targets, apart from the empirical indicators shown in this Vision document.

By the year 2030, as we commit ourselves to the strategies of this Vision, we should be an industrial nation, enjoying abundant prosperity, interpersonal harmony, peace and political stability.

PART TWO

SYNTHESIS OF THE VISION 2030 ISSUES

4. PEOPLE'S QUALITY OF LIFE

4.1   POPULATION AND HEALTH

The Vision for Namibia in 2030 is about the people. Therefore, at the centre of the visioning exercise was concern for the population in relation to their social (particularly health), economic and overall well-being. How many Namibians? How well are they living? Where do they live, and what do they do for a living? All the questions about the welfare and well-being of the people of this country, at any point in time, even beyond 2030, is about our population's living conditions. In essence, the dynamics of our population and the associated social, economic, demographic, environmental and political factors are critical elements in visioning, scenario-building and determining of strategic elements that would translate the vision for 2030 into reality.

4.1.1   Population Size and Growth

The available evidence suggests that though relatively small in size (1,826,854 in 2001), the population of Namibia experienced a high growth rate of over 3.0 per cent in the decade before Independence (1981 – 1991). Against the official projections that anticipated a continuation of the growth trend well beyond 2000, the negative impact of HIV/AIDS on health and longevity of the people has reduced the growth rate from the projected estimate of 3.0 percent per annum to 2.6 percent (1991-2001).

Given the continuing negative effect of HIV/AIDS on the population in the immediate future, the growth rate of the population will be further curtailed to about 1.5 percent or below annually until about 2015, when the worst impact of the epidemic will probably be seen. The overall population size will, however, not be reduced as a result of the pandemic; and even in the worst-case scenario, as shown in Table 4.1, Namibia will have a population of about 3.0 million by 2030.

Initial estimates based on the 1991 census indicated that the population of Namibia would continue to increase, from 1.4 million in 1991, to 1.63 million in 1996 to 1.9 in 2001 and 3.5 million in 2021, based on an anticipated annual population growth rate of slightly over 3%. These projections were based on the high fertility rates prevailing at the time. However, because of HIV/AIDS, these initial assumptions needed to be reconsidered. Projections by 5-yearly intervals for the three scenarios are contained in Table 4.1, and illustrated in Fig. 4.1

Year	Low Variant	Medium Variant	High Variant
2001	1.83	1.83	1.83
2006	2.02	2.14	2.25
2011	2.19	2.39	2.61
2016	2.39	2.66	3.01
2021	2.57	2.93	3.41
2026	2.78	3.23	3.86
2030	2.98	3.49	4.27

Table 4.1: Namibia - Population Projections (in millions)
Based on the 'High', 'Medium' and 'Low' Variants of the Projection Model.
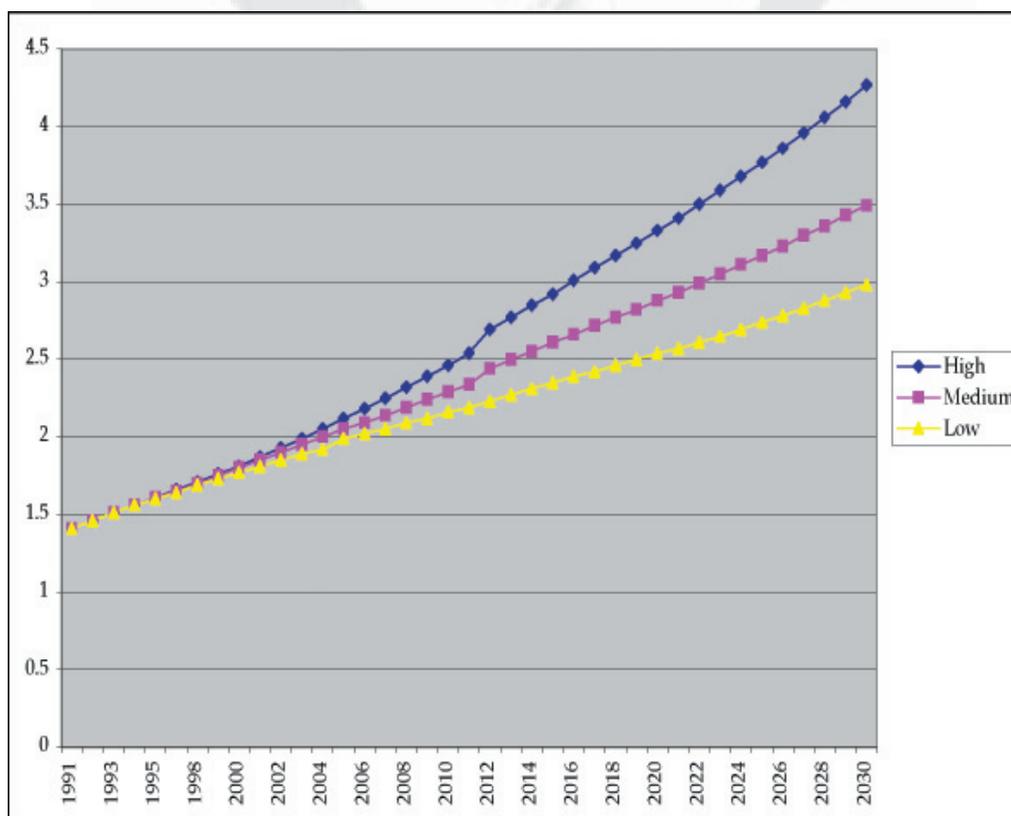
Figure. 4.1. Projected Population, 1991 - 2030
Based on the 'High', 'Medium' and 'Low' Variants of the Projection Model

The results of the 2001 population census show a total population of 1,830,330 for the country. The variations in the projections shown in Table 4.1 are due to differences in the assumptions made about the future course of mortality and

fertility during the Vision period. Due to uncertainty about the future course of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, the projections of the population should be reviewed periodically during this period. It is, however, suggested that the 'Medium Variant' of the projection should guide Vision implementation from the beginning.

Sub-Vision

A healthy and food-secured nation in which all preventable, infectious and parasitic diseases are under secure control; people enjoy a high standard of living, good quality life and have access to quality education, health and other vital services. All of these translate into long life expectancy and sustainable population growth.

Population size and growth

Things to do
- Design and implement a comprehensive Action Plan for the National Population Policy for
- Sustainable Human Development.
- Provide treatment and care for those infected with HIV.
- Implement aggressively the National HIV/AIDS Reduction Plan.
- Promote gender empowerment in family matters
- Promote reproductive health, especially among the youth.

Where we want to be (2030)

- Population growth rate is about 2% per annum.
- Life expectancy is 68 years for males and 70 years for females.
- Population of Namibia is 3.5 million.
- Infant mortality rate is 10/1000 live births.
- Total Fertility Rate is 2.0.
- All infectious diseases are under control.

Current situation
- Namibia's population is estimated at 1.83 million in 2001
- Growth rate stands at 2.6%.
- Total Fertility Rate has declined from 6.0 in 1991 to 4.0 in 2001.
- Infant mortality rate has declined from 67 per 1000 live births in 1991 to 53 in 2001.
- Life expectancy at birth has declined significantly from the 1991 estimates of 63 and 59 years respectively for females and males to 50 and 48 years respectively for females and males in 2001.
- Population Policy for Sustainable Human Development published in 1997 is being implemented.
- Institutional structure for population programme management is defined but has yet to be activated.

Worst-case scenario

- Life expectancy reduced to 35 years as a result of increasing AIDS-related deaths of the population.
- Population growth rate delines to 1.5% or below.
- Both Population Policy and AIDS Action fail.
- Plan not effectively implemented.
- AIDS epidemic negatively affects demographic structures and threaten socio-economic well-being.

Things to avoid
- The National Population Policy for Sustainable Human Development is a paper document without an Action Plan
- Activities of the various AIDS Committees are not effectively carried out.
- HIV/AIDS concerns not integrated into policies, and action plans.
- People infected with HIV/AIDS are not cared for and treated.

Targets for Population and Health
- Reduction in the population growth rate from the annual average growth rate of 2.6 % (1991 – 2001) to 2.4% by 2015, 2.2% by 2025, and 2.0% by the year 2030.
- Reduction in the infant mortality rate from 53 per 1000 live births in 2001 to 30 per 1000 live births by 2015; 15 per 1000 in 2025; and 10 per 1000 in 2030.
- Reduction in the maternal mortality rate from 271/100,000 live births in the year 2002 to 80 per 100,000 in 2015; 50 per 100,000 in 2025; and 20 per 100,000 in 2030.
- Reduction in the total fertility rate from the 2002 level of 4.2 to 3.5 by the year 2015; 3.0 by 2025, and 2.0 by 2030.
- Full immunization coverage from 65% in 2002, to 70% in 2015, to75% in 2025, and 80% in 2030.
- Increase contraceptive prevalence rate from 37.8% in the year 2002 to 50% by the year 2015; 65% by 2025; and 80% by 2030.

Objectives
- To reduce mortality from all causes, including HIV/AIDS.
- To revive the population policy and implement IT effectively.
- To make health services adolescent/youth friendly and accessible to all.
- To make anti-retroviral drugs available to and affordable the public.
- To intensify population information, education and communication (IEC) through appropriate means taking, into account people with disability.

Strategies
- Providing treatment and care for those infected and limiting the further spread of the disease.
- Developing a comprehensive Action Plan and reviving the institutional structures in place for programme implementation.

Institutional responsibilities for resolving population and related health problems are clearly stated in the ***Population Policy for Sustainable Human Development (1997).*** While all the sectors are involved and their respective duties defined, overall technical coordination of policy implementation is vested in the NPC, supported by the National Advisory Committee on Population.

4.1.2   Migration, Urbanisation and Population Distribution

Migration has historically been male dominated and mostly from the northern communal areas to the commercial farming, mining and manufacturing areas in the centre and south. The distribution of Namibia's population is highly uneven, being closely linked to agro-ecological conditions and thus economic and social opportunities. While the national population density in 2001 was 2.1 persons/km^2, one of the the lowest in Africa, in Ohangwena, Omusati, Oshana and Oshikoto Regions it was 13.2 persons/km^2. These four regions contain 6.8% of Namibia's land area, but had 44.9% of the total population in that year (see population total by Region, Fig. 4.2).
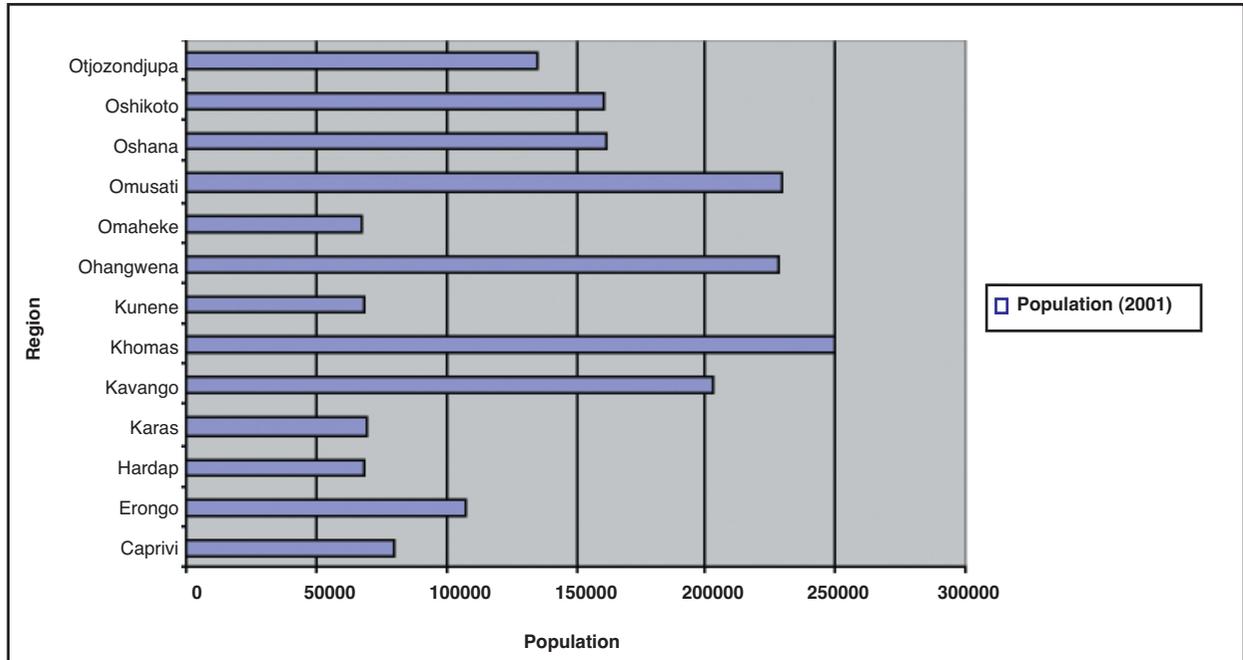
Figure. 4.2: Population by Region(2001)

Only 27% of Namibia's Population was urbanised in 1991; by 2001 the proportion of the population living in urban areas increased to 33%. One important demographic characteristic of the urban population in Namibia is the very high rate of growth. While the overall national population increased at 3.1 percent per annum from 1981 to 1991, the urban population registered a growth rate of 5.6 per cent, and the rural population 1.97 per cent.

At the current rate of urban population growth it is estimated that the population of Namibia would be 43 percent urbanised, with about 1 million people residing in urban places by the year 2006, and 50 percent by 2010; 60 per cent by 2020, and 75 per cent urbanised by 2030. The major factor promoting the rapid rate of urbanisation in the country is rural-to-urban migration, mainly of young men and women in search of better social and economic opportunities. This trend is likely to continue during the Vision period. The trend in urbanisation is shown in Fig. 4.3.
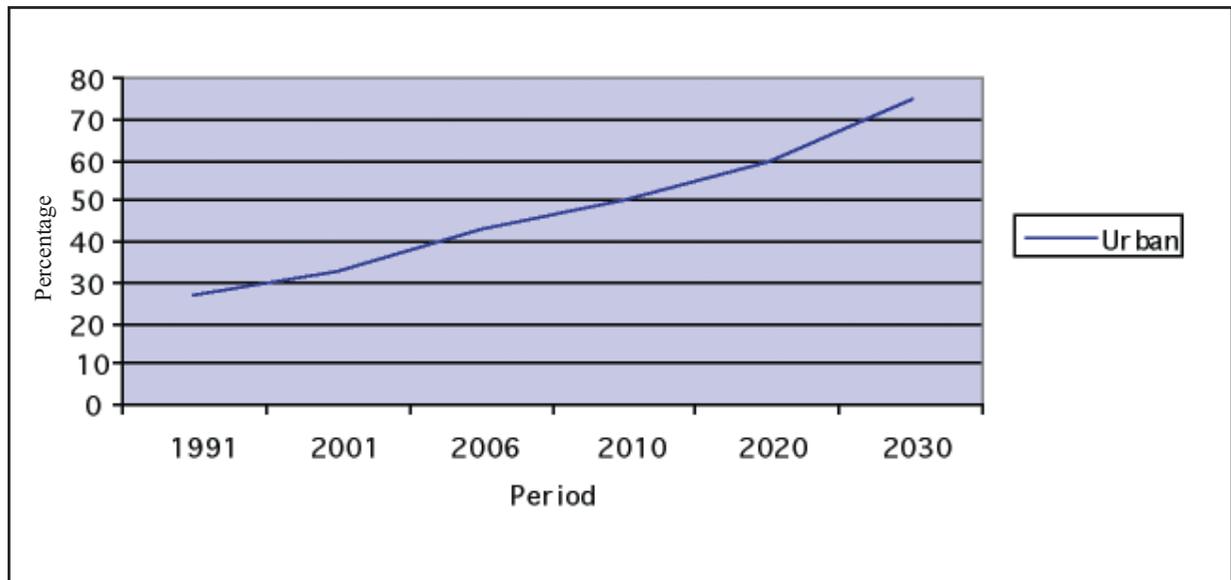
Figure. 4.3: Urbanisation Trend in Nambia

Sub-Vision

There is free movement of the population within the country and population distribution is maturely adjusted to the location of resources for livelihood. Namibia is a highly urbanised country with about 75 per cent of the population living in proclaimed urban centres, while the predominance of Windhoek has considerably reduced as a result of growth of other urban centres throughout the country.

Conducive Urban and Rural Living

Things to to do
- Promote the development of the rural population through diversification of economic activities.
- Develop rural transport infrastructure and communication.
- Provide adequate social services (quality schools, health facilities, and social support).
- Improve security of urban life.
- Create employment opportunities in rural and urban areas.

Current situation
- About 33% of the population lived in urban centers in 2001.
- Industrial, commercial and government administrative activities are mainly concentrated in the cities.
- Most people in rural areas live in sub-standard housing, and lack access to potable water, electricity and good transport infrastructure.
- The urban population is growing at a much higher rate (over 5% per annum) than the rural population.
- Internal migration is dominated by the movement of people from rural to urban areas, and is increasing.

Things to avoid
- Concentrate most development efforts in the cities.
- Continue to increase support to social services and facilities in urban areas.
- Neglect the development of rural infrastructure.
- Provide routine administrative support for rural economic activities.
- Continue to support the expansion of unplanned settlements in urban centres.

Where we want to be (2030)
- Namibia a highly urbanised country with 75% of the population residing in designated urban areas.
- Basic social services and infrastructural facilities available in both urban and rural areas of the country.
- Urban places widely distributed in the country, and over-concentration of population in some centres, absent.
- Municipal administration is strengthened by adequate economic base.
- Rural population has diversified economy and healthy living environment prevails.

Worst-case scenario
- There is over-concentration of the population in a few cities.
- Poorly developed rural economy and inadequate social services and infrastructure result in more and more people migrating to the few large cities.
- Urban centres are congested and the urban environment is stagnant.
- Municipal administration is hampered by poor economic capacity and inadequate planning.

Objective

The overall objective is to achieve integrated rural and urban development in which living conditions and social and economic opportunities are adequate for all.

Strategies

- Promoting rural and urban development,
- Ensuring that overall social and economic development is commensurate with the degree of urbanization of the population,
- Enhancing the capacity of local authorities to function effectively,
- Harmonizing the local markets for agricultural trade, including removal of the "red line".
- Upholding the constitutional provisions for international migration as well as the appropriate immigration policies.

4.1.3   Population Age and Sex Distribution

As in most developing countries, the Namibian population is very youthful. Children below the age of 15 years constituted 42% of the population in 1991, resulting from persistently high levels of fertility and declining levels of infant mortality. Older persons aged 60 years and over made up 7.0% of the 1991 as well as the 2001 population, most of them enumerated in rural areas.

The results of the 2001 population census indicate that close to 40% of the total population is under 15 years of age. This shows little change from 43% in 1991 and the estimate of 41% by the CBS in 1996. The 2001 census report also shows that rural areas, where 67% of the population live, have relatively more young people (44%) as well as more senior citizens or those 60 years and over (8%) compared to the urban population, where there are 30% and 4% young and old persons respectively. The majority of urban residents (64%) is made up of the economically active age group (15-59 years) compared to 46.3% of the rural population. Overall, senior citizens constitute a small percentage of the total population (7%) in the 2001 census report and this, as shown in Figure 4.4, is not expected to increase appreciably during the Vision period, as a result of the effect of HIV/AIDS on the population.
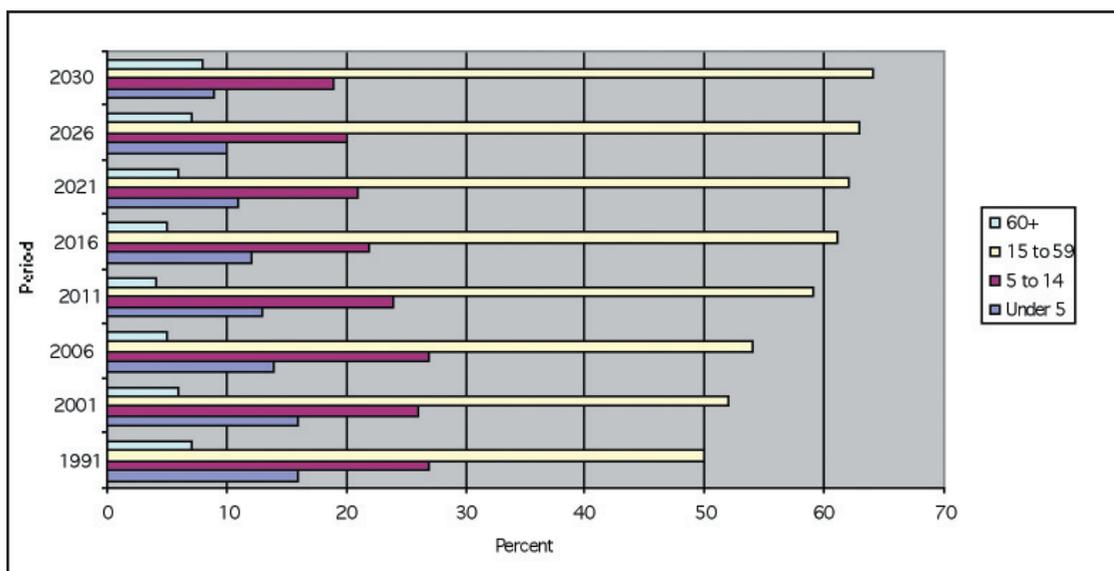
Figure. 4.4: Population Projection by Age Groups