



ONDOPA

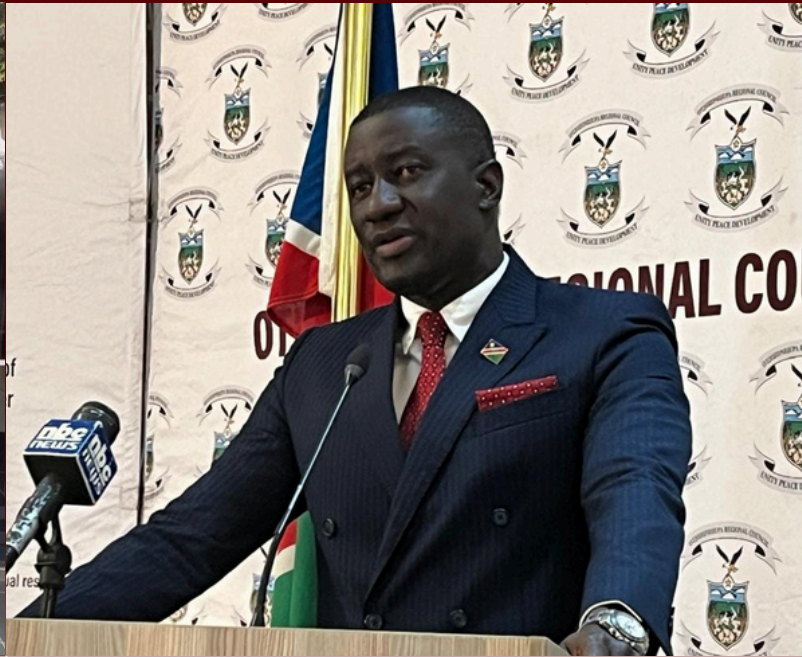
OTJOZONDJUPA REGIONAL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



July - September 2024



**OTJOZONDJUPA OFFICE PARK
INAUGURATED**



**UERIKUA DELIVERS FINAL SORA OF HIS
TERM**



**OTRC LAUNCHES CUSTOMER SERVICE
CHARTER**



**DIGITAL SCHOOL PILOT PROGRAM
LAUNCHED AT OKAHANDJA**



OTJOZONDJUPA REGIONAL COUNCIL

VISION

“A REGION THAT ENABLES ITS
INHABITANTS TO WORK TOWARDS
PROSPERITY AND IMPROVED QUALITY
OF LIFE”

MISSION

“TO SPEARHEAD INTEGRATED
PLANNING AND OVERSEE
IMPLEMENTATION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC
AND PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURAL
DEVELOPMENT IN ORDER TO UPLIFT
THE LIVING STANDARD OF INHABITANTS
OF THE REGION”.

CORE VALUES

PROFESSIONALISM

INTEGRITY

COURTESY

TRANSPARENCY

ACCOUNTABILITY

Inside this Issue

3. UERIKUA DELIVERS LAST SORA OF HIS TERM AS OTJOZONDJUPA GOVERNOR

4. OVER 20 000 HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING DROUGHT RELIEF IN OTJOZONDJUPA

5. OTJOZONDJUPA REGIONAL COUNCIL INAUGURATES STATE OF THE ART OFFICE PARK

6. MWETI BOWS OUT AS OTRC CRO

7. MUTORWA ILLUMINATES THE DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT ACT 10 OF 2012

8. GROOTFONTEIN PRISON TO BECOME FURNITURE FACTORY

9. OTJOZONDJUPA LAUNCHES CUSTOMER SERVICE CHARTER

10. SAFEGUARDING INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURE

11. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS PENSION FUND ENGAGES OTJIWARONGO COMMUNITY

12. DIGITAL SCHOOL PILOT PROGRAM LAUNCHED AT OKAHANDJA

13. EDUCATION DEPUTY MINISTER ENGAGES OTJOZONDJUPA STAKEHOLDERS

14. REGIONAL COUNCIL GAMES STIR DUST IN NKURENKURU

EDITORIAL TEAM

EDITOR: CORNELIA SHIKONGO

DESIGN & LAYOUT

CORNELIA SHIKONGO

ELAGO SHIPANGA

WRITERS

NANACY MUNIARO

PETRUS MURONGA

Editor's notes



Dear Readers,

As we concluded the second quarter of 2024, I am pleased to present to you the latest edition of Ondjupa, the official newsletter of the Otjozondjupa Regional Council. This period has been marked by progress, innovation, and a deepened commitment to development across our region. Through various projects, initiatives, and strategic planning, we continue to work towards improving the quality of life for all our citizens.

In this edition, we highlight key initiatives that are shaping the landscape of Otjozondjupa, from infrastructure development to social programs aimed at uplifting our communities. We take pride in showcasing the milestones we've achieved, such as the official inauguration of the Otjozondjupa Regional Council Office Park and the launch of our customer service charter. We also spotlight the various educational and healthcare initiatives that are playing a pivotal role in fostering a healthier, more educated, and empowered populace.

As always, the success of these projects would not be possible without the collaboration of the communities, government agencies, and development partners. We are grateful for your continued support and engagement in shaping the future of our region.

Looking ahead, the Otjozondjupa Regional Council remains committed to its core mandate: fostering sustainable development, enhancing service delivery, and ensuring that no one is left behind.

I encourage you to dive into this edition and share your comments and advice with the editorial team on how we can improve on the newsletter by sending us an email at pr@otjozondjuparc.gov.na, or you can also share your suggestions or comments on our service in general through our website <https://otjozondjuparc.gov.na> through our online suggestion box under the feedback button on the website.

Thank you for your readership and unwavering support. Let us continue working together to build a prosperous Otjozondjupa region for all.

UERIKUA DELIVERS LAST SORA OF HIS TERM AS OTJOZONDJUPA GOVERNOR

By: Cornelia Shikongo

James Unomasa Uerikua took over the helm of Governor for Otjozondjupa Region in April 2020 after his appointment by the late President Dr Hage Geingob. The State of the Region Address is provided for under Article 110A Sub-Articles (5) and (6) which states that " A Regional Governor shall attend a meeting of the Regional Council of the region for which he or she is the Regional Governor once every year, which meeting shall after the President and Cabinet attend Parliament in terms of Article 32 (2) thereof.

During the meeting referred to in Sub-Article (5), the Regional Governor shall address the Regional Council on the state of the region, planned activities of the Central Government of

the previous year in the region and be available to respond to questions. fifth State of the Region Address was aligned to Vision 2030, National Development Plans, and Harambee Prosperity Plan one and two. Delivering the SORA he said, the key focus of our region is to enhance good-governance through strict adherence to all principles of Good-Governance.

One key principle is to embody a participatory approach to ensure that every sector whether Government or private, is part of the synergic efforts of prompt, effective, meaningful yet sustainable service delivery. Similarly, he added that, Transparency and accountability are the two cornerstones of democratic

governance as their primary objective is to implement the decision of the people and provide appropriate feedback. Therefore, the Office of the Governor has promoted accountability and transparency in governance by ensuring that continuous engagements are held with the various Sectors in the region as well as the public at large. During such engagements, the Office of the Governor extended invitations to the media to ensure that all members of the public are kept abreast of the regional activities. Otjozondjupa region remains a region of excellence and choice, a region where partnership in service delivery is the norm as we contribute to the socio-economic development of this beautiful Motherland - Namibia, he concluded.



OVER 20 000 HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING DROUGHT RELIEF IN OTJOZONDJUPA



By: Elago Shipanga

During his recent State of the Region Address, the Governor of Otjozondjupa Region delivered a significant update on the ongoing drought relief efforts in the region that are supporting rural and peri-urban communities.

James Uerikua revealed that 20960 rural and peri-urban households receive drought relief food, due to the severe drought conditions that continue to affect the livelihoods of many.

Governor Uerikua said that many communities in Otjozondjupa Region, consists of large rural and communal areas, that rely heavily on subsistence farming for survival. With the ongoing drought, these communities are facing negative impacts on their living standards. The office of the Prime Minister, through a Cabinet directive

resolved to implement a Drought Relief Programme. The programme was launched on 1st October 2023, funded through the National Emergency Disaster Fund.

Since April 2024, the drought relief programme has expanded to include vulnerable people living in peri-urban and informal settlements. “Previously, these communities were often overlooked in drought relief efforts due to the misconception that urban residents were generally better off than their rural counterparts. However, many people living in peri-urban areas are migrants from rural communities who moved to urban areas in search of better living conditions but ended up in poverty” said Uerikua. The governor however expressed concern that only 5,000 out of 10,300 eligible peri-urban

registered beneficiaries have received assistance thus far. Governor Uerikua commended the the prime minister’s office for heeding the call to include peri-urban communities in the drought relief programme. He acknowledged that while rural areas have long been prioritized, the inclusion of informal settlements is a critical step in addressing widespread poverty in both urban and rural areas.

He urged everyone to continue supporting the government’s efforts in mitigating the effects of drought, emphasizing the importance of inclusivity in development and relief efforts. Households receive bags of maize meal, tins of canned fish, soy soup packets and bottles of cooking oil rations every month, providing much-needed relief to families struggling with the effects of the drought.

OTJOZONDJUPA REGIONAL COUNCIL INAUGURATES STATE OF THE ART OFFICE PARK

By: Cornelia Shikongo

The Otjozondjupa Regional Council officially inaugurated its state of the art Office Park. The journey of this remarkable project began with the completion of the first phase in 2006 at an investment of twenty million Namibia dollars. The initial phase consists of a double-story administrative block, meticulously designed to meet our growing needs. The block comprises of eighteen offices, a boardroom, a Council Chamber and also hosts the office of our Governor and currently also the It comprises eighteen offices, a boardroom, and a Council Chamber Otjiwarongo Constituency office. This development is aligned to the aspirations of the Decentralization Enabling Act 33 of 2000. The construction was funded through the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development in

two phases whereby Phase one was funded to the tune of 20 Million and Phase two with an additional funding of One Hundred Forty Three Million, Six Hundred and Ninety Thousand and Nine Hundred Twenty Two Namibian Dollars Sixty Five Cents. Officially inaugurating the Office Park was the Minister of Urban and Rural Development Erastus Uutoni who said that these facilities are not merely structures but are integral to the government's mission of providing excellent service to the people of Otjozondjupa. "They stand as a testament to our commitment to progress, development, and the well-being of our community. The Government of the Republic of Namibia is committed to bringing

development to all corners of our country, thus our gathering here today is a clear testament to that commitment. The Mandate of the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development is by ensuring that service delivery at Local Governance level (Regional Council and Towns) is enhanced by ensuring that proper offices are constructed." added that, through the construction of this state of the art office building, government aims to bring development closer to the people and to serve the inhabitants of Otjozondjupa Region with pride and determination. This particular office building will benefit our people with robust upgrades in service delivery efficiency, uniquely positioned to lead the charge toward a more secure, sustainable future for generations to come. Therefore, we should ensure that this facility is put to good use with a proper maintenance plan in place to keep it strong and lasting for generation to come. He concluded by urging all to hold hands in the spirit of Harambee and shun the evil of vandalism to safeguard the building as it forms part of the establishment of the future development and prosperity of Otjozondjupa and her people.



MWETI BOWS OUT AS OTRC CRO



MwetI..Business Process re-engineering - Formulation of Process for all our products including procurement methods / Affirmative Action Compliance (87%/B)/Assigning of Councillors Portfolios / Public-Private Partnerships - MOUs: NHE/World Food Programme / Request for Exemption from mandatory documents for procurement to include rural communities in the process / Management Administrative meetings to name but a few.

The term of the Chief Regional Officer Agatha MwetI come to an end on the 31st May 2024 however, Council had extended her term of office for a period of five months. The 31st of October 2024 thus marks the end of the extension of her term of office. The Senior Public Relations Officer Cornelia Shikongo sat down for a Q & with the outgoing Chief Regional Officer to gauge her view on her term at the helm of the Otjozondjupa Regional Council.

SPRO...How would you sum up your five years as Chief Regional Officer for Otjozondjupa Regional Council?

MwetI...The Five Years I spent with Council flew by quickly before I could comprehend and this goes to show how busy the office of the Chief Regional Officer is. There is never a time when there is no work-load and thus time is never enough to an extent that you have to work even when you are not in the office. I joined the Otjozondjupa Regional Council 1st of May 2019.

My Five years was spent on Governance-putting up governance structures and systems such as policies, support committees and an integrated regional development process. With the latter also focusing on Impactful development at regional level considering that development is bottom-up and a participatory process.

SPRO...Did you have any expectations and where those met?

MwetI...In terms of setting up a structured governance system, yes my expectation was met. A structured governance system is now supported by functional Institution-public system spearheaded through an effective Performance Management System and an approved Customer Service Charter.

SPRO...What would you highlight as major achievements during your term as CRO?

SPRO...What are some of the challenges you encountered in execution of your functions?

MwetI..Lack of funds

SPRO...How would you describe public service and what do you think should be done to strengthen service delivery in the public service?

MwetI...Public Service in my own description is a Government institution where Public servants assist Government to deliver or render the required services to the general public. Therefore, to strengthen Public Service, adequate funding and provision of resources is required.

SPRO...What would be your advice to the incoming Chief Regional Officer in terms of ensuring effective and efficient service delivery?

MwetI...Everyone has their management or leadership style, but it is importance that your style fits in and the vision and mandate of the institution.

SPRO..Since you are going on retirement, what do you plan to do with your spare time?

MwetI...Am not retiring since I will now focus on managing the farm.

Mutorwa Illuminates the Disaster Risk Management Act 10 of 2012



By: Nancy Muniaro

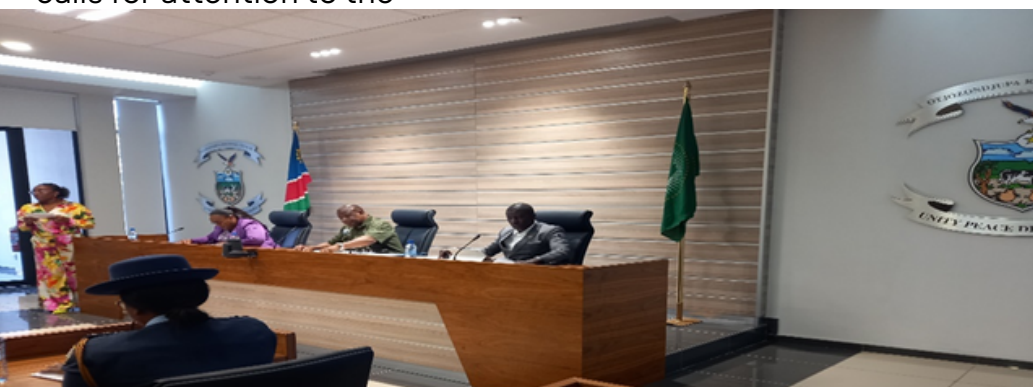
The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Works and Transport, Hon. John Mutorwa held a consultative meeting with the Otjozondjupa Governor Hon. James Uerikua and the Disaster Risk Management Committee members together with various stakeholders at Otjozondjupa Regional Council Chamber in Otjiwarongo. The purpose of the meeting is to consult about the drought relief programme and the challenges faced during the food distribution programme and elaborate more light on the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Act 10 of 2012. Mutorwa calls for attention to the

Disaster Risk Management law and regulations implemented by the Office of the Prime Minister's Office Act 10 of 2012. He explained and emphasised the DRM's responsibilities to improve their effectiveness and efficiency within the administration of the regional drought relief programme, the president declared a state of emergency on drought and therefore, all administrators and institutions should adjust their attitude

"When you look at their responses in terms of them aligning with the seriousness of the issue at hand, I think all

prescient institutions need to know and understand that we are adjusting from operating under these regulations and are now operating under these emergencies a state of emergency has been declared the governing institutions should act accordingly said Mutorwa".

In addition, challenges with the transportation of drought relief food to the constituencies should be treated seriously and solutions should be omnipresent. Lack of sufficient means serious disruption of the functioning of a community or society which will pose a significant, widespread threat to human life, and health which exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its resources therefore the procurement division should speed up the bidding producers and treat it as exemption to solve and deliver the food to the prospective consistencies.



GROOTFONTEIN PRISON TO BECOME FURNITURE FACTORY



By: Elago Shipanga

The Grootfontein Correctional Facility's industrial workshop is set to become a major furniture manufacturing centre, supplying government ministries and agencies. This plan was announced by Deputy Commissioner-General of the Namibia Correctional Services (NSC), Sam Shaalulange, at a handover ceremony of the repaired furniture to Kalenga English Primary School in Grootfontein on Friday.

Shaalulange, who heads the Correctional Operations Department, stated that the Grootfontein Correctional Facility has been identified and strengthened to serve as a central carpentry and joinery workshop where quality furniture will be produced. "This centre will produce furniture for the Namibian Correctional Service, Government Offices, Ministries and Agencies, as well as other public and private organizations and individuals who need these services. It is for this reason that, in a few days, seven large carpentry and joinery

machines including a sawmill to process large logs to lumber, will be delivered to this facility. Additionally, several skilled correctional officers and inmates will be transferred to the Grootfontein Correctional Facility to enhance its capacity to manufacture on a large scale," he said.

The Namibia Correctional Services operates industrial workshops at seven of its facilities across the country, training inmates in various trades such as bricklaying and plastering, carpentry and joinery, welding and metal fabrication, upholstery, auto mechanics, panel beating, and spray painting. Shaalulange mentioned that these training programs are designed to equip inmates with skills and prepare them for reintegration into society upon release.

Over 500 chairs and 30 desks from Kalenga English Primary School were repaired by inmates at the Grootfontein Correctional Facility.

In his acceptance speech, read on his behalf, the Grootfontein Circuit Education Inspector Markus Munengu, praised the Namibia Correctional Services for repairing the school's broken furniture at no cost, adding that it significantly enhances the quality of teaching and learning at the school. This initiative aligns with the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture's policy on National Standards and Performance Indicators.

"Key Area 7 of the policy addresses the provision of resources for the school and hostel, including physical resources such as classrooms, offices, chairs, and desks. The demand for these critical resources has surpassed the available resources allocated by government. It is important for stakeholders to participate and provide the necessary support to meet the needs of educating Namibian child and move our nation forward" he said.

OTJOZONDJUPA LAUNCHES CUSTOMER SERVICE CHARTER

By: Cornelia Shikongo

Otjozondjupa Regional Council launched its Customer Service Charter. The is part of the public service reforms and innovations under the Office of the Prime Minister aimed at improving service delivery in the public sector. The Charter therefore stipulates what the public can expect from Council in terms of effective and efficient service as its customers and is a significant stride towards enhancing Council's commitment to serving the people of Otjozondjupa with dedication, efficiency, and transparency as we launch our Customer Service Charter. The Customer Service Charter further represents Councils 'pledge to the community. It is a clear, unequivocal statement of the standards of service that the citizens

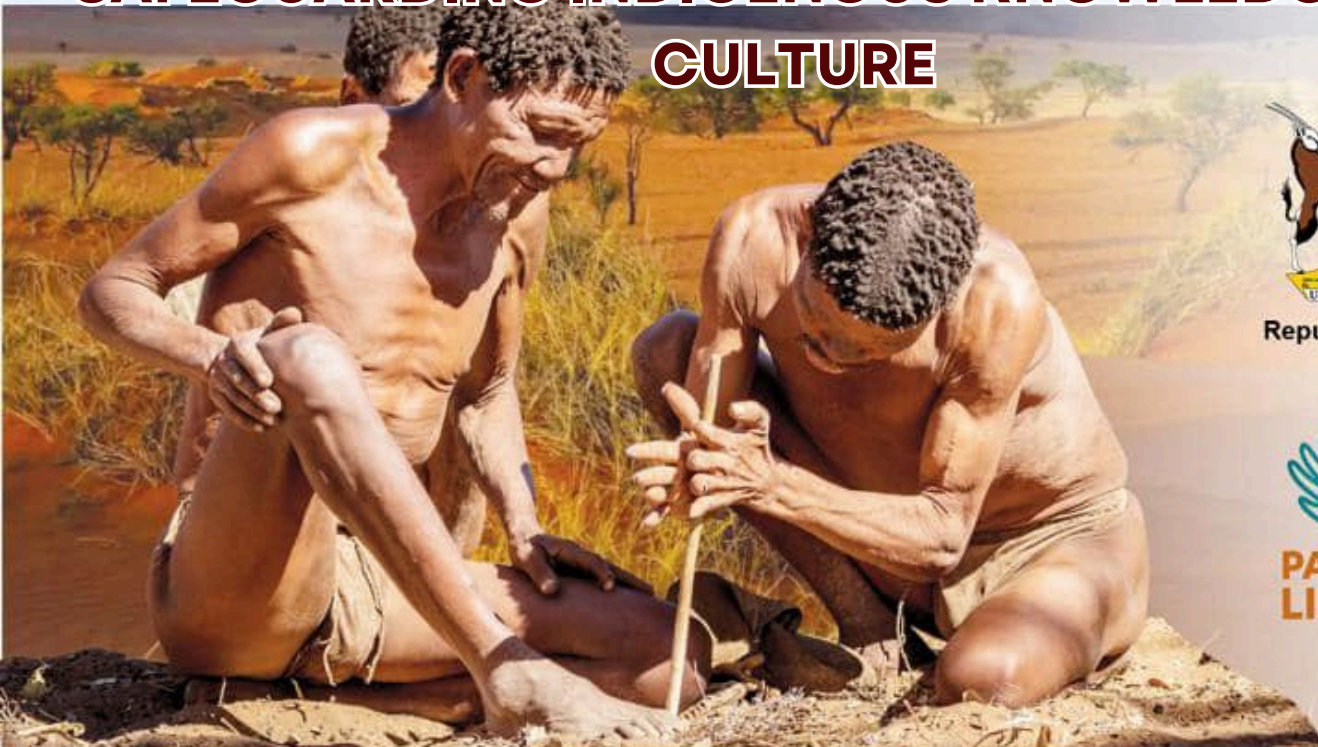
can expect from the Otjozondjupa Regional Council as its goal is to ensure that every interaction with our offices is characterized by professionalism, respect, and promptness. The Charter outlines Councils commitment to: delivering timely and efficient services, ensuring transparency in all its dealings, providing accurate and relevant information, treating every citizen with respect and courtesy and continuously seeking feedback to improve our services. The Customer Service Charter and other important Strategies supporting efficient service delivery such as the Communication Strategy and

Processes for the Products that we render, are not just ordinary documents, but a promise to uphold the values and principles that guide our work. It is a testament to our dedication to fostering a culture of accountability and excellence within the Council. Speaking at the launch the Chairperson of Council Marlayn Mbakera said, as we launch the Customer Service Charter, we are launching a new era of service delivery in the Otjozondjupa Regional Council. An era where the voices of our citizens are heard, their needs are met with urgency, and their rights are respected.

"I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has contributed to the creation of this Charter. Your hard work, dedication, and insights have been invaluable in shaping this critical document." She concluded by calling on all to embrace the Charter as a living document and one that evolves with the changing needs of our community and it should serve as a constant reminder of our duty to serve with integrity, excellence, and unwavering commitment.



SAFEGUARDING INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURE



By: Elago Shipanga

Indigenous communities together with organizations and stakeholders knowledgeable in Indigenous affairs came under one roof in Otjiwarongo to attend the first ever workshop aimed at protecting Namibian Indigenous knowledge systems including languages.

The week-long summit aimed at promoting dialogue among the participants on how Indigenous practices, culture and languages can be saved and incorporated into national development agendas. It is also dedicated to showcasing the role of Indigenous communities in global scientific knowledge, particularly in agriculture, medicine and conservation.

According to some of the traditional leaders who participated in the workshop one of the most pressing concerns facing Namibian indigenous communities is the need to preserve their unique cultural heritage. Its culture is

encapsulated in languages, rites, and traditional practices that are increasingly under pressure from the processes of modernization, and globalization. Throughout the week, participants learned about approaches that can be used to record Indigenous expression and knowledge in a systematic way for the benefit of future generations. A major theme of the conversation: indigenous languages were disappearing. They had described the fact that, as languages disappear, so too the special kinds of knowledge they encoded. Others urged governments and faces of institutions to encourage programs for the revitalization of Indigenous languages, both in school and at work within local communities. The workshop also highlighted the connection between traditional indigenous knowledge and science to demonstrate

measures how indigenous practices can contribute to a broader scientific endeavour, like sustainable agriculture, climate adaptation, and as such indigenous knowledge can help in transforming biodiversity conservation.

Deputy Minister of Marginalised communities, Royal /Ui/o/oo who spoke at the workshop said that “Indigenous knowledge is not mere cultural heritage but science. Such a method is crucial to achieving a future of sustainability, particularly for issues such as climate resilience and natural resources” he said.

The overarching message of the week-long workshop was clear: Indigenous knowledge and languages are essential to building a sustainable future for all Namibians. By acknowledging the contributions of indigenous communities and protecting their rights. Namibia can ensure that these rich traditions continue to flourish and contribute to the country's development.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS PENSION FUND ENGAGES OTJIWARONGO COMMUNITY



By: Nancy Muniaro

The Government Institutions Pension Fund (GIPF) held a regional stakeholder engagement forum in collaboration with Allan Gary, Namibia Revenue Agency (NamRA), Bank of Namibia (BoN), Public Service Medical Aid Scheme (PSEMAS First Capital) and Namibia Financial Institutions Supervisory Authority (NAMFISA) in Otjiwarongo, Otjozondjupa region at Paresis Hall. The aim is to assist respite between GIPF and its members by discussing fund-related issues that are of required concern and apply to matters such as admissions, housing, the GIPF rules, benefits and procedures, medical aid after retirement and related tax matters.

The engagement forum was officially inception by the Hon. James Uerikua Governor of the Otjozondjupa Region, in his message Uerikua alluded to the audience's presence that financial literacy is essential "Government employees should affirm from cash loans or loans and start buying shares for investment to diversify their income" said Uerikua. Edwin Tjiramba, General Marketing Manager, indicated that the forum will provide members with time to engage with advisors and raise concerns, he emphasised that this kind of engagement method will help members understand their rights and preferences, and strengthen their bond between the fund and its beneficiaries.

"The Fund believes that a knowledgeable member is a powerful member and thus GIPF members in the Otjozondjupa region and surrounding areas are invited to join the conversation and share in the wealth of knowledge from industry experts" said Tjiramba. Moreover, the forum collaboration aims to create further awareness ensuring communication that all civil servants may not only understand the pension fund but also broader financial systems, medical aid, and tax regulations affecting their benefits. In their statement, GIPF decided to enhance and reinforce its regional outreach to address regional advantages.

DIGITAL SCHOOL PILOT PROGRAM LAUNCHED AT OKAHANDJA



By: Elago Shipanga

The Ministry of Education, Arts, and Culture officially launched The Digital School pilot project at the National Institute for Educational Development (NIED) in Okahandja. The project a collaboration between the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, United Arab Emirates (UAE)'s Digital Schools and World Food Program aims to transform education across the country, through digital platforms.

The event, attended by key stakeholders in the education sector, marked a significant milestone in the country's efforts to embrace digital learning. The Digital School pilot program will provide students with online learning resources and enable them to participate in virtual classrooms, thus addressing challenges such as limited access to learning materials and qualified teachers, particularly in rural areas. Minister of Education, Arts, and Culture, Anna Nghipondoka, who presided over the launch, expressed her excitement

about the initiative and its potential to transform education in Namibia. "Our hearts are filled with gratitude as we embark on this transformative journey. This project, which also extends its benefits to our neighbouring nations of Angola, Zambia, Lesotho, Madagascar, and South Africa, represents a beacon of hope and progress in our shared pursuit of educational excellence. Our goal is to bridge the education gap and create a more equitable learning environment for all" she said.

The launch of The Digital School Nghipondoka said, is a giant leap forward for Namibia's education sector. This platform will ensure that no child is left behind, regardless of their geographical location. It is part of a broader national effort to enhance educational outcomes by utilizing technology to overcome challenges such as

limited access to learning resources, remote learning needs, and ensuring that Namibia's youth are prepared for a digital future. Nghipondoka also commended the teachers who had undergone rigorous training to effectively use digital tools and facilitate virtual learning, acknowledging their role in driving the future of education in Namibia. A total of 60 teachers successfully completed training programs in digital education and are now equipped to integrate technology into their teaching methods, providing students with interactive and innovative learning experiences.

Sixteen schools will benefit from the project, with one school per region designated as the digital pilot school, however Khomas and Hardap Regions will each have two schools during the pilot phase of the project.

EDUCATION DEPUTY MINISTER ENGAGES OTJOZONDJUPA STAKEHOLDERS



By: Nancy Muniaro

The Deputy Minister of Education, Arts and Culture Hon. Faustina Caley together with Governor James Uerikua, held a regional engagement meeting with Principals and Heads of Departments (HODs) in Otjiwarongo Otjozondjupa Region at the Regional Council's Conference Hall to discussed improvement of the regional educational performances.

The engagement according to Caley is held under the declaration of the African Union (AU) theme "Educate an African fit for the 21st Century: Building resilient education systems for increased access to inclusive, lifelong, quality, and relevant learning in Africa". Education Regional Director Gerhard Ndafenongo presented the regional statistics on the achievements of various regional schools, he stated that last year's national grade 11 and AS level

examinations ranking in Otjozondjupa is at the 7th position nationally compared to 2022 which was ranked 5th countrywide. According to Ndafenongo only five hundred and sixty-nine (569) learners qualified for the National Senior Secondary Certificate Subsidiary Level this year, translating to 5.5% and alluded that the foundation affects the region's education, as only half of the first graders had access to pre-primary education. The region faces challenges that impede the optimum results of strong systems, a shortage of qualified teachers, especially in Indigenous languages, and a lack of new teaching and learning technologies. Furthermore, improving school performance requires joint effort and cooperation between learners, teachers



and parents, by applying effective strategies to improve school performance an ideal learning environment can be achieved that contributes to learners' academic success and the development of their skills and abilities.

REGIONAL COUNCIL GAMES STIR DUST IN

NKURENKURU

By: Cornelia Shikongo

The Kavango West Regional Council played host to the 2024 Edition of the Regional Councils Annual Wellness Sports Week at the town of Nkurenkure from the 9th to the 13th September 2024. The Wellness Week is an annual activity on the wellness calendars of all the Regional Council. The Regional Councils Annual Wellness Sports Week was conceived in 2016 as an innovation of the Association of Regional Councils (ARC) which deemed it fit to have Wellness games where all Regional Councils, Ministry of Urban and Rural Development (MURD) as well as ARC could come together to network and have fun through Wellness. At the onset it was named the Regional Councils Annual Sports Tournament- RCAST.

The games which are held annually are on a rotational basis through a hosting draw, where the first games were hosted in 2016 by the Khomas Regional Council at the Independence Stadium in Windhoek. The second edition of the games were hosted by the Zambezi Regional Council in 2017 with Omaheke Regional Council hosting the 2018 edition, while Ohangwena Regional Council hosted the 2019 edition respectively.

In 2020 with the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, which restricted huge public gatherings, the hosting of the games was suspended for a period of three years. As all returned to normality, the games resumed however, no longer as the Regional Councils Annual Sports

Tournament, but as the Regional Councils Annual Wellness Sports Week (RCAWSW). The change in name was necessitated by the fact that the games were becoming too competitive and the wellness aspect was somehow being over shadowed by competitiveness. Be that as it may, Omusati Regional Council hosted the 2023 show. The Kavango West Regional Council was then drawn in Omusati Region last year to host this year's edition. The wellness week for this year is being held from the 9-13 September 2024 and is being held under the theme: "Promoting Physical Fitness and Mental well-being through Sports for improved work performance."

The games are an exciting

continues on pg.11



Annual activity on the calendar of all participants as it aims to promote physical activity, mental well-being, and overall health through a series of engaging sports and wellness activities. It seeks to encourage participants of all ages and fitness levels to adopt healthier lifestyles, foster a sense of community, and enhance personal well-being through a variety of interactive and educational events.

The participants of these wellness Week are all fourteen Regional Councils, the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development and the Association of Regional Councils. The activities that take place are: Soccer,

Volleyball, Netball, Tug of War, Athletics and the Amagoes (Almal Koes). Otjozondjupa Regional Council also took part in the wellness week with the Team returning home with two gold medals for Amagoes and penalty shoot outs for women and two bronze medals for Tug of War and Penalty Shoots for men respectively.

The Hardap Regional Council took gold in soccer, Khomas Regional Council won Gold for Volleyball, while Oshana Regional Council took gold for Tug of War and Netball respectively. The 2025 edition of the Wellness Sports week will be hosted by the Hardap Regional Council in Mariental.



STAFF MOVEMENTS

APPOINTMENTS/PROMOTIONS/TRANSFERS/RETIREMENT



Ms. Helvi Nakanyala
Administrative Officer: Resitry
Head Office
01 August 2024: Appointment



Mrs. Vironica Richter
Control Administrative Officer
Kombat Settlement Office
01 August 2024: Transfer



Mr. Natangwe Nambinga
Cleaner: Tsumkwe Settlement Office
01 August 2024: Transfer



Ms. Tuyemo Kamati
Labourer: Head Office
30 August 2024: Retirement



Ms. Anna Namundjebo
Senior Administrative Officer
Okatjoruu Settlement Office
01 September 2024: Promotion

ONDJUPA THROUGH THE LENS

