

FORWARD

Chief Regional Officer



The Otjozondjupa Regional Council has gion. Our goal is to continue with the of the region and we commend them graced through the year 2022 with high acceleration of economic and social for their patriotic support and especialaspirations, focusing on re-imaging and growth in all aspects in order to ensure ly for being an integral part of the Winrecovery from the aftermath of the that the region remains relevantly con- ning Team of Otjozondjupa Region. effects of the COVID-19. The region has ducive for both investment opportunistrived to keep afloat despite the chalties and social stability. lenging economic strains that has hit

to Settlement areas; growth and sus- stakeholders/institutions, are optimally tainability becomes a challenge.

The Five (5) Local Authorities with the formulation of a 30-50 year Councils – Otavi and Okakarara] in the ture development in the region. region, have been a great source of strength for the urban areas of the re- Our appreciation go to the inhabitants

the Nation at large. As a structure of As a region we embrace integrated Mrs. Agatha Mweti Government which is a non-profit ori- planning and implementation in order entated, mandated to provide services to ensure that the minimal resources of

utilized for the benefit of the region at large. The region recently produced a However, with the help of Government Regional Water Plan, while it is also funding, we can boast of several capital currently working on a Regional Elecand rural services projects that we have tricity Plan as well as establishment of a managed to implement in various Regional Development & Implementa-Settlements during the past two years. tion Forum. The region is also engaged [Municipalities - Otjiwarongo (Capital), Regional Master/Structure Plan that Okahandja and Grootfontein; Town will serve as a guide for all infrastruc-

Kudos!



pa your newsletter by the Otjozondjupa under the ages of five also took center button on the website. Regional Council and the MICT Otjozndjupa stage in this edition as the Otjozondjupa this fourth quarter of the 2021/2022.

In this edition we bring you reports on I hope and trust that the information con-February and March 2022. Stories that are for you our readers and will keep you infeatured in this edition range from the formed, updated and abreast with what is progress that the region made with regards hype in the Otjozondjupa region. to rural sanitation, a Team Building Exercises hosted by OTRC, the opening of a new However as our readers you are more that emergency service center at Otavi by the welcome to share your comments and Motor Vehicle Accident fund. And since advice with the editorial team on how we this is the third year that the covid-19 pan- can improve on the newsletter by sending demic is still in our midst, we took a look at us an email at pr@otjozondjuparc.gov.na, covid-19 vaccination status in the region or you can also share your suggestions or and its psychosocial impact on health care comments on our service in general

Welcome to yet another edition of Ondju- General vaccination of babies and children online suggestion box under the feedback Regional Office. This is the last edition for Health Directorate embarked on a Mater- Regards nal and Child Health week in the region.

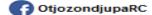
activities undertaken during the months of tained in this edition will make a good read

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OTRC OFFICIALLY TAKES OVER KOMBAT

Cornelia Shikongo

Otjozondjupa Regional Council officially took over administration of the Kombat Settlement and officially opened the Settlement Office on the 21st of July 2022. The Council as per its mandate of the Regional Council as derived from Article 103 (3) and Article 108 of the Namibian Constitution, and Section 28 of the Regional Council Act of 1992 (Act No. 22 of 1992) as amended, is to plan and develop the region in a sustainable manner for the benefit of its inhabitants.

Through the administration of the Settlement Otjozondjupa Regional Councils is expected as mandated by the Regional Councils act no: 22 of 1992 as amended to run Settlement areas as local authorities through the provision of basic services such as land on a leasehold, roads infrastructure, water and sewer reticulation and refuse removal.

Kombat Settlement is located 37 kilometers East of Otavi and 50 kilometers on the B8 road to Grootfontein. The area originated as a mining town due to the abundant mineral and water resources in the area. Kombat was declared as a Settlement with the Regional Council of Otjozondjupa in 2006 under section 31(I) of the Regional Councils Act, 1992 (Act No. 22 of 1992) as per Government Gazette No. 119 of Notice 3679. Kombat proper has a population of about 500 while the adjacent Neu Sommerau Group Resettlement Farm has about 2000 inhabitants.

The Chairperson of the Regional Council Marlyan Mbakera said the long wait for the community of Kombat is finally over as the Regional Council has officially taken over the administration of the Settlement and the community of Kombat, will now be able to receives services like any other settlement or town in Namibia. Mbakera said it is Council's hope and promise to the community of Kombat that as Otjozondjupa Regional Council, we will ensure that development is brought to Kombat. She added that Kombat is an area which is blessed with abundant underground water and therefore Council will look at upgrading new Sommerau to a green scheme project in order to turn kombat into a regional bread basket in terms of food production.

Officially inaugurating the Kombat Settlement Office, the Minister of Urban and Rural Development Erastus Utoni said considering the infancy stage at which the administration of the settlement is, a lot will still needs to be done to bring the Settlement to an elevated level. Thus, the provision of basic services is one of the prime responsibilities of a Settlement and one such basic service is the provision of water and others such electricity and sewer reticulation.

Utoni further added that it the collective hope of government that the abundant water resource available due to the mining activities in the area, would be used as an opportunity to opt for an effective and affordable water supply.

The official opening of the office Utoni said, implies that the Regional Council will take up the responsibility of provision of basic municipal services while such provisions will be regulated in the form of tariffs.

He therefore urge Trigon Mine, to consider supplying the Settlement with the excess water pumped from the Mine to enable mining activities to be realized. This will make the water affordable and allow the Regional Council only to charge a minimal fee for the cost recovery on repair and maintenance of the infrastructure and the treatment of the water.



Grootfontein Launches National Glean-Up Campain

Michael A. Samuel

The Municipality of Grootfontein recently launched this year's National Clean-Up Campaign at the Chelsea soccer field in Grootfontein under the "This is the only Home we have".

The campaign, which is an initiative by the Office of the President is mandated to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism to spearhead and are now the custodian of the campaign having launched the first successful campaign back in 2018.

Over 500 people turned up at the Chelsea soccer field in Grootfontein for National launch, which was officiated by the Deputy Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, Heather Sibungo.

"Namibia is increasing and visibly becoming a dirty country, we have lost our status as one of the cleanest countries in the world. The country's surroundings, cities, towns and settlements, villages and road sites have become places of litter causing serious threats to the health and livelihood of our people and wild life." Expressed Sibungo.

Sibungo further urged individuals, Government institutions, corporations and community organisations to always organise and participate in clean-up activities and constantly seek innovative solutions to tackle waste management countrywide and raise awareness on the negative impact of pollution, both on our people and wildlife.

"I would also like to ensure the Namibian nation that the Government of the Republic of Namibia together with the development partners will continue with the efforts to raise public awareness on the negative impact of pollution. Promote private sector investment in waste management and continuously implement the provisions of the environmental management act and mobilise funds for the establishment of up to standard waste management infrastructure," Concluded the Deputy Minister.

Talitha Garises, the Mayor of Grootfontein could not contain her excitement for hosting the National Clean-Up Campaign launch in Grootfontein and said that her community was excited for being selected to launch the National Clean-Up campaign and that it will serve as a reminder of their rights and responsibility to clean our environment.

"To add to this day, Grootfontein conducted a clean-up campaign ahead of the National launch in August. The purpose was to bring a wave of change needed to shift our communities' mind-sets and create a better cleaner and healthier environment for the future. After all, we need to live by the theme of this year, "This is the only home we have" and Grootfontein too is the



Cornelia Shikongo

Otjozondjupa Region has a Tourism Forum in place. The forum which is an initiate of the Ministry of Environment, Tourism and Forestry was born out of the National Sustainable Tourism Growth and Development Strategy 2016 – 2026 (NSTGDS), Strategic Intervention 2 which called for the Creation of New Bodies to Support Tourism Development and Institutional Coordination. This includes establishment of Regional Tourism Forums across the country that will drive the sustainable tourism growth and development to ensure the geographic spread of tourism benefits across the specific region.

Tourism need to be recognized as the most competitive business and therefore competitiveness should be enhanced, to achieve tourism growth that generates jobs for Namibians. Tourism need to be recognized as the most competitive business and therefore competitiveness should be enhanced, to achieve tourism growth that generates jobs for Namibians.

Therefore the main objective of the Tourism Forum is to oversee tourism development, economic growth and to ensure the geographic spread of the benefits from tourism in the regions. While its function is to act as a medium or a body through which the community can share information regarding tourism development and growth.

Furthermore the forum should identify and discuss challenges hindering tourism development in the region and to advice the Government and Private sector on possible solutions addressing challenges in order to develop and grow tourism in the region. It should also to identify opportunity gaps for business ventures and enhance entrepreneurial development in the regions.

Speaking at the official launch of the Otjozondjupa Tourism Forum, the Governor James Uerikua said that the focus of tourism product development for the region should be on the historical and contemporary cultural resources, which is a product that is currently seen by very few tourists visiting Namibia. He said the region has potential attractions within its natural habitat including its unique settings.

Uerikua stressed that the involvement of communities is critical for tourism development, particularly as the focus will be on culture and local history and attractions. He added that is crucial for a region to recognize that for the forum to be successful it must be able to be integrated into the main tourism industry as part of the main destination of the country. Uerikua thus hopes that this forum will unlock the true potential of the tourism sector in which is yet to be fully explore.

The Forums consist of not more than 15 members from the following but not limited institutions: Regional Council, Local authorities (Municipalities and Town Councils) in the region, Community Based Organization (CBO's) institutions, Agencies, civil society and NGO's concerned with Tourism related matters i.e. NTB, NWR, Integrated Rural Development, Nature & Conservation (IRDNC), Private Sector, Line Ministries within the region i.e. MAWLR, MHAISS etc.



Cornelia shikongo

The Otjozondjupa Regional Council officially welcomed members of the Council's Audit Committee. The mandate for the establishment of the Audit Committee was derived from the Corporate Governance Code for Namibia which provides guidance to all Namibian corporate entities on various governance related aspects.

The purpose of the Audit Committee is to provide a structured, systematic oversight of the Council's governance, risk management, and internal control practices. The committee will assist Management especially the Accounting Officer by providing advice and guidance on the adequacy of the Council's initiatives in respect of the following: values and ethics, governance structure, risk management, internal control framework, oversight of the internal audit activity, external auditors, and other providers of assurance, financial statements and public accountability reports.

The Audit Committee is expected to review each of the functional areas noted above and to provide Management with independent advice and guidance regarding the adequacy and effectiveness of Management's practices and potential improvements to those areas/practices.

Speaking at the first Audit Committee meeting, Bethuel Tjaveondja Regional Councilor for Okahandja Constituency who spoke on behalf of the Chairperson of Council said Council was pleased that the Committee has finally been appointed and that the members will assume their functions. He therefore I implored all members of the audit committee to carry out your function effectively and efficiently and without fear or favour, so that it is able to assist Otjozondjupa Regional Council in ensuring that there are prudent internal controls in place and that risks within the operations of the institution are minimized if not entirely avoided.

The Committee also held an election for the Chairperson of the Committee and Archie Kuhanga was elected as the Chairperson of the Committee.



Public Notice

The following products are available for sale at the Ministry of Information & Communication Technology, Otjozondjupa Regional Office as well as at all MICT Regional Office countrywide. Please do visit our office in Otjiwarongo situated at 5th Police Street right opposite the Police Barracks entrance



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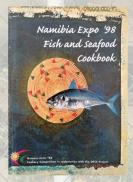
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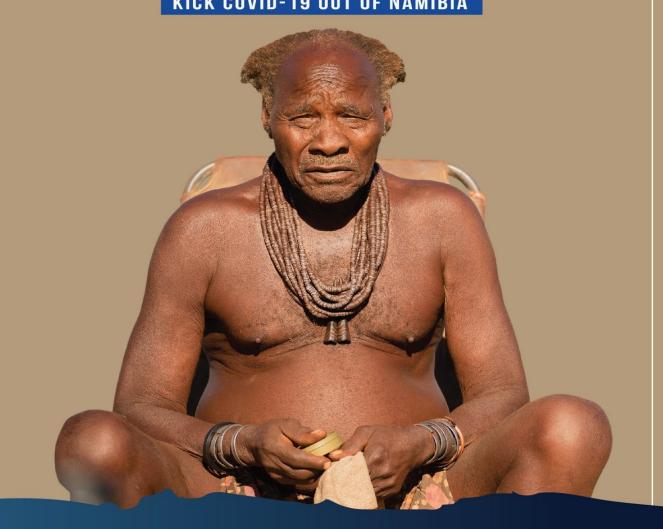
State of the Nation Address of H. E Hifikepunye Pohamba N\$ 20.00



For more information, please contact Ms. Rachel Kaanandunge
Tel: 067 304 467



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Nancy Muniaro

The Deputy Prime Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Nandi-Ndaitwah together with the Ambassador of Brazil, the African Group of Ambassadors, World Food Prgramme Country Director and Representative within the Otjozondupa region paid a courtesy site visit to the Tsumkwe Community-based Integrated Food System Project.

The project which was launched by the Deputy Prime-Minister of International Relations and Coorporation is funded by the World Food Programme in conjunction with African Head of Mission in Namibia.

The purpose is to improve socio-economic outcomes and increase local food production in addition to restrains the pervasiveness of malnutrition. The San community requires support for resilience building and livelihood restoration of which the Integrated Food Systems Project has been successfully implemented by the WFP. This project will guarantee food supply and create employment to the communities and will play a role in supplying the Tsumkwe Clinic which acquires fresh produce from food systems project towards its soup kitchen as support to forty-five (45) Tuberculosis (TB) patients, pregnant and lactating women.

To upscale this food system production, sixty-five (65) hectares of land has been earmarked to upscale activities under phase two (2) of the project such as diary and flower production for export and other high value crops and industrial activities for employment creation and commercial enterprise. Hon. Nandi-Ndaitwah said "Food security is a pillar to human security and human dignity.

KARUNDU JUNIOR SECONDARY HOSTS CAREER FAIR

Nancy Muniaro

Karundu Junior Secondary School in Otjiwarongo hosted a career fair aiming to accord learners with opportunity to engage with industry's representatives that can provide them with knowledge pertaining to various career options and employment opportunities.

Various institutions where invited to render service on site and to share institution's information regarding their functions, the exhibitors that turned out where six (6) to mention few Cenored, Institute of Professional Innovation, First National Bank, COSDEC, the Namibian Institute of Mining, Technology. Namibia and MICT was among the exhibiting institution. The learners made used of this platform to engaged with the institution's representatives to ask questions about the relevant subjects needed to be chosen in a particular flied of studies.

The Education Directorate's Senior Education Officer, lipinge Nuuyoma, encouraged learners to have mentors and to make use of the opportunities presented to them by engaging with exhibitors but not to go there for free gifts. Nuuyoma said "You need to have a vision go for something you like and never stop learning the work of managing a career never stop is a process that requires learning and self-developments yes experience and learning path way to a successful career, there is no short cuts to success, success requires discipline hard work and dedication."

In conclusion a number of sponsors contributed to the successful arrangements and preparation of the career fair were awarded a token of appreciation for their endless committed support to the school.





Omburo Fishing Enterprises recently handed over building materials to the value of N\$ 70 000 to Okamatapati community in Okakarara Constituency for the construction of a Community Hall that will serve as a centre of service delivery in Okamatapati and surrounding villages

The Community Hall will serve as a service centre for delivery of community services such as pension payouts, social grants and a meeting point for all community meetings in Okamatapati. The donation forms part of Omburo Fishing Enterprises corporate social responsibility of ensuring social economic upliftment and welfare of community members through helping the Government in spearheading its developmental goals in line with the Harambee Prospirity Plan.

Okakarara Constituency Councillor, Abdal Mutjiavikua called on all potential future donors to start collaborating with his office in order collectively maximise their efforts in improving the lives of the intended beneficiaries through ensuring that the right interventions and efforts are directed to the problems that the communities are experiencing to avoid duplication of service delivery in some areas.

"In order for us to get the much anticipated millage out of the little effort that we are putting together, we need to do all our efforts in collaboration with the constituency office so that we can map, ear mark and target to prioritise as to what intervention will be most appropriate for the betterment of our people" Said Mutjiavikua.

Mutjiavikua also used the opportunity to call on beneficiaries of any kind of donation in Okakarara to put these donations to good use and ensure that everyone intended to benefit from such opportunities also enjoy the privileges of such donations.

"I want to use this opportunity to denounce the situation of vandalism and lack of appreciation from some community members. I want us to receive these building materials and put them to the best use as possible and to appreciate it for years to come in a form of safe guarding it against vandalism, material theft and other forms of negative impacts" Added Mutjiavikua.

He added that the right use and proper care of such donations will not only prolong the lifespan of such donated materials but will also encourage donors to keep on repeating this kind gesture because it shows a high level of appreciation towards such donations.

The Okakarara Constituency Councillor concluded by reminding community members that development could only take place in the absence of disputes. He further called on all stakeholders to put their efforts together to ensure that as a community we hold hands to fight against erotic influences of things that have nothing to do with progress or development in our constituencies, regions and country as a whole.



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Grootfontein Mayor pleads for Government assistance in Waste Management Infrastructure funding

Michael A. Samuel

Grootfontein Mayor, Talitha Garises has called on the Government to assist local authorities in funding waste management projects such fleet and sewage systems, as heavy capital investment is needed by local authorities in managing waste.

Speaking from the recent National Clean-Up campaign launch in Grootfontein, The Grootfontein Mayor pointed out that inadequate resource hinders service delivery for many local authorities with councils already faced with an uphill battle of revenue collection from non-complaint municipal service users to fund their waste management projects.

She added that the migration of people from rural areas to urban towns has also put more pressure on local authorities in delivery of serviced land, with many people now grabbing land in unproclaimed urban lands without sewage systems and this becomes a health hazard and contributes to diseases linked to poor sanitation.

Despite the efforts by the council to ensure quality service delivery, the population continues to grow and funding of waste infrastructure remains limited. Our sewer network is old and suffers frequent vandalism; the waste water treatments are also old and were put up in the 1950's when the Grootfontein population was very small." Said Garises.

The Mayor also pointed out that the waste removal fleet was old and continuously requires mechanical attention time to time, which in return adds on the cost burden of the municipality on fleet management by continuously replacing old parts and keeping them on the roads.

"The refuse deposit trucks are currently running and doing their job of collecting refuse but we are still having problems with our fleet. We do not have compacting equipment, which is very crucial in good waste management particularly at managing dumpsites." Added Garises.

Garises added that as urban populations continue to raise, more land grabbing is likely to continue taking place as demand for serviced land will always fall short of what local authorities can offer given the very limited resources at their disposals.



OTJOZONDJUPA LAUNCHES REGIONAL INTEGRATED VACCINATION CAMPAIGN

Michael A. Samuel

The Otjozondjupa Regional Health Directorate recently launched the National Integrated Vaccination Campaign in all four-health districts of Otjozondjupa region; Otjiwarongo, Grootfontein, Okakarara and Okahandja district. The vaccination and immunization exercise was scheduled to run for a period of two weeks between 08 – 49 August 2022 nationwide.

The vaccination and immunization campaign was aimed at encouraging parents and guardians of children below the age of 5 years to take their children to the nearest health facilities, designated outreach points and mobile points in the region for vaccination, immunization and other health related services offered by healthcare facilities.

During the two-week long exercise, Covid-19 vaccination and booster shots were also administered as well as other health related services such as screening of children for malnutrition and provision of Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF/Plumpy Nuts) for children with malnutrition.

Measles & Rubella, Polio, Vitamin A and Albendazole were some of the vaccination and immunization that were provided during the National Integrated Vaccination Campaign at all health facilities in the region during the two week exercise.



OKAHANDIA CONSTITUENCY LOOKS AFTER THE GIRL CHILD

Cornelia shikongo

Okahandja Constituency Office through the Regional Councilor Bethuel Tjaveondja handed over one thousand two hundred sanitary pads packets to schools in the constituency. The sanitary pads were a donation by the M Suresh Company Private Limited which is an Inidan based company operating in Namibia as M Suresh Company Namibia Diamonds PTY Ltd in Okahandja.

Tjaveondja approached the company which is operating at Okahandja to assist with sponsoring sanitary pads to school going girls at the town and constituency respectively. He said the need to solicit for sanitary pads was necessitated by the high absenteeism rate in schools among school going girls during the time of the month when they experience mentural cycle. Tjaveondja said: our girls are struggling mostly to buy the product and are forced to use unhealthyy products and mis school because of the situation.

The Okahandja Regional Councillor said he was excited and humbled by the good will gesture of M Suresh Diomond Company for answering to he call and playing its part in fulfulling the dream of the girl child. This he said, is definelty one of the first socail responsibility aspect for the company and hopes that they will hold hands with the Okahandja Constituncy in making positive progress in chaning the social aspect of communities in general. Tjaveondja aslo called on other businesses at the town and country in particluar to take their corporate socail responsibility seroilsly as it will go a long way in chaing the future on the people and uplift their livelihoods.



PARENTS AND GUARDIANS URGED TO TAKE CHILDREN FOR MEASLES & RUBELLA VACCINATION

Michael A. Samuel

Otjozondjupa region recently concluded a two week integrated vaccination campaign, which saw the regional health directorate achieve close to a 100% target coverage in three districts of Okahandja (94), Otjiwarongo (92%) and Grootfontein (90%) with Okakarara cruising beyond their target with a 150% vaccination coverage for Measles and Rubella.

The Ministry of Health and Social Services earlier this year confirmed an outbreak of Measles in the northern region of Omusati with the outbreak first reported around April 2022, which provide evidence of the country's vulnerability to this vaccine-preventable disease.

Chief Health Program Officer for Family Health Division from the Otjozondjupa health directorate, Taimi Shoombe urged parents and guardians to continue taking their children for routine vaccinations and check-ups beyond the now ended vaccination and immunization campaign to ensure that the children are protected from childhood diseases such as Measles.

"Parents do not necessary need to wait for campaigns to take their children for vaccination; parents should be made aware that it is very important to take their children to the clinic for routine immunization throughout the year at all health facilities across the region" said Shoombe.

Outbreak of diseases like Measles usually happen in areas with low vaccines coverage as well as areas with an accumulated number of children or persons who have never been infected or vaccinated before. Measles is known to be the fourth leading cause of death in children less than 5 years of age in many African countries if not treated on time, it can also cause other health serious health complications such as blindness and brain damage in children.

"Measles is extremely contagious and there is a combined vaccination for Measles and Rubella which is administered on a two dose interval basis at 9 months and 15 months at all public health facilities throughout the year. The vaccines are safe and free and do not normally cause any serious health risks to vaccinated children. Some might go down with a fever after receiving their vaccines or present soreness at the site of injection or present skin rush but they usually go away within a day or two." Explained Shoombe.

Shoombe further urged pregnant women to also queue up and get vaccinated against Measles and Rubella to avoid them from contracting Rubella and compromising the health of their unborn babies by increasing their chances of being exposed to congenital rubella syndrome which usually leads to deafness, blindness, mental impairment, and









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PROSPERITY AND IMPROVED QUALITY
OF LIFE"

MISSION

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PLANNING AND OVERSEE
IMPLEMENTATION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC
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DEVELOPMENT IN ORDER TO UPLIFT
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