



Environmental **Investment** Fund
of **Namibia** | ensuring sustainability

CORPORATE PROFILE





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Designing inclusive environmental investments

WHO WE ARE

The Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia (EIF) is a fund created by Act 13 of 2001 of the Parliament of the Republic of Namibia with the overall aim of continuing this great legacy by supporting individuals, projects and communities that ensure the sustainable use of natural resources.



Creation of the *Environmental Investment Fund*

In December 2001, after a series of consultative meetings with a broad range of stakeholders and partners, including government, private sector, academia, non-governmental organisations and community-based groups, the Environmental Investment Fund Act was passed by Cabinet, paving the way for the creation of the Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia (EIF).

Constraints and threats, such as reservations and resistance from certain public sector agencies and competition from other funds were negated with the eventual consensus among stakeholders that economic development and environmental protection were integrally linked. With agriculture, industrial fishing and mining identified as key natural resource-based industries and the transport and manufacturing sectors gathering pace, sustaining this growth proved the biggest challenge. It was also recognised that the issues of poverty, the environment and sustainable development in Namibia were related and could not be viewed separately or as sectoral issues.

The EIF would perform functions linked to sustainable economic development; including raising local revenue through the introduction of statutory fees and levies; making it more than just a fund for financing conservation activities. Its ultimate objective is to provide sustainable financing to the poorest sectors of society, enabling them to pursue livelihoods from their natural resources while reducing the impact of unsustainable economic practices that degrade Namibia's fragile environment and waste its natural resources.

History of the Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia



In 1992, at the height of rapid global industrialisation and its associated natural resource depletion, driven by developed countries' economic quests, His Excellency Dr. Sam Nujoma presented the Namibia Green Plan to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) at the Rio World Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil – making Namibia the first country to do so at the time. It appeared to be a very strategic gesture from a new sovereign state but the history behind the development of the document proved to be more far-reaching than initially imagined.

Upon his return from an almost 3 decade-long exile in 1990, H.E. Dr. Sam Nujoma noticed the environmental debt that was left behind by the South African colonial regime.

In his own words at the time; the Statesman could barely recognise his homestead as deforestation had taken its toll on the once lush village environment. It was the environmental degradation of these communal areas and the inland and coastal areas from close to 100 years diamond and precious metal extraction that prompted the President to commission the preparation of the Namibian Green Plan in 1992 (Brown ed. 1992), a document that outlined the country's main environmental challenges and specified actions required to address them, setting Namibia on the path of sustainability.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors are appointed In terms of section 7(7) of the Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia Act, (Act No. 13 of 2001) read with section 8(7) of the Public Enterprises Governance Act, 2019 (Act No. 1 of 2019).

The current board of the Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia will sit for a period of three years, with effect from 1 May 2020 to 31 April 2023.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Titus Ndove **Chairperson** | Ms. Karen Nott **Vice Chairperson**
Ms. Desire Theunissen **Member** | Mr. Kisco Sinvula **Member**
Mr. Olavi Hamutumwa **Member** | Mr. Benedict Libanda **CEO (ex-officio)**

| | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| Human Resources & Remuneration Committee Mr. Kisco Sinvula Chairperson | Finance, Audit & Risk Mr. Olavi Hamutumwa Chairperson | Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) Ms. Karen Nott Chairperson | Review Committee Ms. Desire Theunissen Chairperson |
|--|---|--|--|

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Benedict Libanda
Chief Executive Officer



Isoldah Hijamutiti
Chief Financial Officer



Karl Aribeb
Chief Operations Officer



Aina-Maria Iteta
Executive Business Strategy and Performance Management



Launch of the Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia

The first Board of Directors was appointed by the Minister of Environment and Tourism, Hon. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah in 2011.

In August 2011, the Board of Directors of the Fund appointed Mr. Benedict Libanda as the institution's first Chief Executive Officer.

After a consultative process which laid the foundations for the level of autonomy, operations and initial capitalisation of the EIF, the institution was officially launched on 13th February 2012 by the President of the Republic of Namibia, His Excellency Dr. Hifikepunye Pohamba.



MISSION

The Mission of the EIF is to promote the sustainable economic development of Namibia through investment in and promotion of activities and projects that protect and maintain the natural and environmental resources of the country.

The overall objectives of the EIF are to mobilise funding and to allocate this income to activities and projects which promote the sustainable use and efficient management of natural resources for the benefit of all Namibians.

Objectives:

- a) Mobilise funds from international donors for the maintenance of an endowment that will generate a permanent stream of income; and

- b) Procure funds within Namibia on an annual basis from conservation fees and levies. These funds will be invested into the protection and wise management of the environment, promoting sustainable use of natural resources for economic development and conserving biological diversity and ecological life-support functions.

VISION

A recognised leader in the development and application of innovative financing mechanisms to support environmentally and technologically sound development in Namibia.



VALUES

Professionalism

Integrity

Transparency

Accountability

Teamwork



STRATEGIC FOCUS

The strategic aim is to mobilise sustainable financing in support of our investment strategy, spanning across four focus areas in Namibia:

1

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT & UTILISATION

- Biodiversity-based business
- Community-based natural resources management
- Land use management and models
- Community-based climate change adaptation projects and plans
- Value addition to natural resources
- Sustainable agricultural practices

2

GREEN TECHNOLOGIES, LOW CARBON & CLIMATE CHANGE

- Climate adaptation techniques
- Renewable energy
- Water efficiency
- Waste management and recycling
- Sustainable water treatment
- Biogas and biomass
- Sustainable transport
- Sustainable waste management

3

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

- Eco-tourism development
- Tourism concessions on state land financing

4

RESEARCH, TRAINING & CAPACITY BUILDING

- Climate Change adaptation and mitigation research/awareness
- Multidisciplinary research
- Tertiary education study grants.



EIF GRANTS



What is an EIF Grant?

A grant is a financing mechanism offered by the Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia (EIF). The EIF provides such grants to civil society organisations, private sector and individuals within Namibia without regard to race, sex or regional origin. The purpose of the grants are primarily to fund activities and projects that protect the fragile Namibian environment, maintain biodiversity, promote innovative approaches to environmental management and enhance the economic development of the country. Funds are allocated by the Board of Directors towards those activities and projects that promote and are related to the overall objectives of the EIF.



Types of Grants:

Seed Grants

Seed grants are used as a catalyst to stimulate private investment and other sources in support of initiatives that demonstrate future sustainability. They provide financial support to institutions requiring an amount of not more than N\$10,000. These smaller grants may be utilised to help institutions develop the capacity to manage and implement projects thus enabling them to apply for larger grants or loans. Furthermore, to applicants that would require assistance to conduct activities that can lead to additional resource or leverage more support to an institution.

These are mostly once-off payments to kick-start the activities of a project.

Project Grants

These are the normal type of grants intended for full project implementation and that range between N\$50,000 to N\$6,000,000.

Sponsorships range between N\$10,000 and N\$50,000.

Who is eligible?

We provide investments that are tailor-made to entities' needs, operations and growth requirements.

We invite applications from:

- Civil society and institutions
- Private sector
- Individuals



EIF LOANS

Green Concessional Loans:

A green concessional loan is a soft lending product offered by the EIF to companies and individuals for environmentally-based enterprises. The features of a green concessional loan are as follows:

- Interest rates of up to prime minus 4.27%;
- Long repayment periods of up to 10 years;
- Grace periods of up to 12 months.

Loan applications are approved and rejected on the merit of individual projects (commercial viability, sustainability and environmental considerations).

Projects are assessed at three levels:

1st Round: Fund Management Committee (FMC):

Funding applications are presented for initial screening in terms of whether they meet the criteria and on completeness of the applications. The FMC then prepares the proposals for the second round of screening at the Technical Advisory Panel.

2nd Round: Technical Advisory Panel (TAP):

Subject experts assess the applications against environmental, economic and social criteria. The TAP collectively analyses the funding proposals and business plans and makes recommendations to the Board of Directors.

3rd Round: Board of Directors:

The board approves projects for funding.



Eligible Projects

What activities are eligible for a grant?

The following activities and projects that are of minimal or non-commercial nature may be eligible for a grant:

| Strategic Focal Area | Activities, Potential Projects |
|---|---|
| Natural Resource Management & utilisation | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Biodiversity benefiting businesses• Community-based natural resources• Land use management and models• Community-based climate change adaptation projects and plans• Value addition to natural resources• Sustainable agricultural practices |
| Tourism development | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eco-tourism development |
| Green Technologies and low carbon development | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Climate adaptation technologies• Renewable energy• Water efficiency and recycling• Sustainable water treatment• Biogas, biomass• Sustainable transport• Sustainable waste management |
| Research, training, and capacity-building | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Climate change adaptation and mitigation research/awareness• Multidisciplinary research |

What activities are eligible for a Green Concessional Loan?

The following activities and projects are of a commercial nature and may be eligible for a Green Concessional Loan:

| Strategic Focal Area | Activities, Potential Projects |
|---|---|
| Natural Resource Management & utilisation | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Biodiversity benefiting businesses• Community-based natural resources• Land use management and models• Community-based climate change adaptation projects and plans• Value addition to natural resources• Sustainable agricultural practices |
| Tourism development | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tourism concession financing• Eco-tourism development |
| Green Technologies and low carbon development | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Climate adaptation technologies• Renewable energy• Water efficiency and recycling• Sustainable water treatment• Biogas, biomass• Sustainable transport• Sustainable waste management• Oil recycling |
| Research, training and capacity-building | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Climate change adaptation and mitigation• Multidisciplinary research |





Awards & Recognition, 2011- 2020

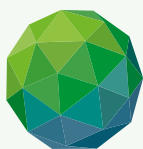
| | |
|------|--|
| 2012 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Won Innovative financing award at Global Finance Awards in Germany, • Windhoek Show – Top Exhibitor, 1st prize. |
| 2013 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June Sustainable Finance Awards, 1st prize for “Most Innovative Financing product,” Karlsruhe, Germany. |
| 2014 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Ezy-Stove Project” a flagship project financed by both EIF and SGP wins “Climate Excellence Innovation Award.” • Won Best Innovative partnership awards for SME Bank Green Soft Loans scheme, at GSF Awards • EIF and SME Bank win joint award for “Innovative financing product” at Sustainable Finance Awards, Karlsruhe Germany. |
| 2016 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Annual Report at the African Excellence Awards, Cape Town, South Africa (Best Annual Report 2015 at Africa Excellence Awards) |
| 2019 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Innovation in Financial Services to recognise success in Environmental levies ring-fenced for environmental levies, Karlsruhe, Germany |
| 2020 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Won Outstanding Sustainable Project Financing recognising its success in financing Climate-Change Resilient Livelihoods, Karlsruhe, Germany |



Resource Mobilisation

The fund successfully mobilised more than N\$1.7 billion of investment in Namibia overall since inception. This amount is a combination of multilateral and DFI funding. The Green Climate Fund has financially supported the Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia with an amount totalling N\$560 million in grants for climate change adaptation interventions in Namibia. In 2018, the French Development Agency invested N\$800 million through the Sustainable Utilisation of Natural Resources and Energy Financing programme (SUNREF Namibia), is a three-year initiative dedicated to promoting a new renewable energy finance programme in Namibia. It is estimated that about 238,000 people have benefitted and continue to benefit from different projects. N\$583 million in grants were disbursed, 44 Natural-Based Enterprise created, 77,000 Namibians gained access to drinking water and 162 households retrofitted with solar home appliances. As of recent, the fund launched the SDG Impact Facility that aimed to provide mentorship grants and debt financing to women and youth in business, social enterprises and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

The fund continues to support large-scale landscapes through its ecosystem-based adaptation approach. It is calculated that more 230,000 square kilometres of land mass is being financially supported to implement actions on biodiversity conservation and livelihood. These interventions continue to enhance capacities of rural communities reliant on ecosystem goods and services to manage their natural resources sustainably. The Board managed to secure a deal with the Ministry of Finance and the fund receives 30% of all environmental taxes on incandescent bulbs tyres and carbon emissions. Furthermore, Cabinet approved a 100% allocation of all environmental taxes on plastic bags to the fund.



**GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND**

Green Climate Fund (GCF) Funded Projects



CRAVE PROJECT

The Climate Resilient Agriculture in the three Vulnerable Extreme (CRAVE) Project is funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to the tune of 10M USD over a period of 5 years aiming at increasing climate resilience and reducing the food insecurity of subsistence farmers in Namibia. It targets the vulnerable north eastern small-scale subsistence farming communities in Zambezi, Kavango East and Kavango West Regions.



IREMA PROJECT

The Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia (EIF) in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR) is Implementing a Green Climate Fund (GCF) funded project titled "SAP001: Improving Rangeland and Ecosystem Management Practices of Smallholder Farmers Under Conditions of Climate Change in Sesfontein, Fransfontein, and Warmquelle Areas IREMA Kunene Project. IREMA's funding is as follows: 10M USD (9.3M USD from Green Climate Fund (GCF) and 700 thousand USD from the GRN as co-financing through Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform).



CBNRM EDA PROJECT

The project titled "Empower to Adapt - Creating Climate Change Resilient Livelihoods through Community Based Natural Resource Management in Namibia" (CBNRM EDA) Project" is funded to the tune of USD 10 million by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) through Enhanced Direct Access (EDA) with the National Designated Authority (NDA) being the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT). The CBNRM EDA Project is implemented by the Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia (EIF), as the accredited entity to the GCF, through a Project Management Unit (PMU) for 5 years (2017-2021).



EBA PROJECT

EbA receives 9M USD (8,904,000M USD from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and 160M USD from the Government of the Republic of Namibia (GRN) as co-financing through the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) over 5 years.

Ecosystem based-adaption project aims to increase the climate change resilience of productive landscapes in Namibia through implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation actions that strengthen social and ecological systems to sustain livelihoods at local level and facilitate value chains of natural resources. The project is implemented in 13 of the 14 political regions of Namibia which are clustered into 8 landscapes.



Programmes & Projects administered under the EIF



UNDP SGP

The UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) embodies the very essence of sustainable development by *thinking globally and acting locally*. The programme is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). By providing financial and technical support to projects that conserve and restore the environment while enhancing the well being and livelihoods of people, SGP demonstrates that community action can maintain the fine balance between human needs and environmental imperatives.



GAME PRODUCT TRUST FUND

The Game Products Trust Fund (GPTF) was established through the Game Products Trust Fund Act (Act No. 7 of 1997) as a mechanism for ensuring that revenue obtained from the sale of wildlife products could be used exclusively towards wildlife conservation and community conservation and development programmes aimed at harmonising the co-existence of people with such wildlife thus securing a future for wildlife outside of and within protected areas in Namibia.

Since August 2013, the GPTF is hosted at the Environmental Investment Fund in order to ensure efficiency. The EIF provides financial management, procurement as well as financial reporting services to the GPTF.



SUNREF NAMIBIA

The aim of the SUNREF Namibia is to facilitate access to affordable green technologies thereby guaranteeing the development of a low carbon environmental footprint and contributing to the reduction of the causes of climate change and other environmental disturbances in Namibia.

Financing to enterprises under this programme will be made available through the three participating commercial banks that will each disburse a total investment of 45 million Euros for green investments in the sustainable agriculture, sustainable tourism, efficient technologies and renewable energy market segments.





SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IMPACT FACILITY

The SDGIF will be used to provide grant funds to match financing to support women and youth in business, social enterprises and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to address the challenges of the financing gap they face. The International Finance Corporation (IFC) in 2017 estimated the annual financing gap to MSMEs in Namibia to be USD\$1.8 billion.

The Impact Facility platform is aimed at accelerating the implementation of SDGs with the support of the private sector. Through dynamic partnerships, the programme intends to encourage the private sector to transform their traditional corporate social responsibility (CSR) into modern corporate social investments (CSI) that have a greater and standardised measurable impact. This partnership will allow corporate entities to invest in social impact micro and small enterprises with the aim of turning them into potential suppliers for local and regional value chains. At local value chain level, such investments are expected to result in enhanced technical capacities for the commercialisation of social innovations.



NAMIBIA INTEGRATED LANDSCAPE APPROACH FOR ENHANCING LIVELIHOODS AND ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE TO ERADICATE POVERTY (NILALEG) PROJECT

To promote an integrated landscape management approach in key agricultural and forest landscapes, reducing poverty through sustainable nature-based livelihoods, protecting and restoring forests as carbon sinks and promoting Land Degradation Neutrality.



CONSERVATION RELIEF, RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE FACILITY (CRRRF)

On the 5th May 2020, the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) launched the Conservation Relief, Recovery and Resilient Facility (COVID-19 Facility). The facility aims to provide financial relief to CBNRM institutions affected by the pandemic. A task team has been appointed by the MEFT in order to ensure coordination in resource mobilisation and funds disbursal.

The objective of the facility is to ensure the continuation of anti-poaching activities, mitigation of human wildlife conflict, preservation of natural resources and the management of wildlife. The underlying goal is to ensure that CBNRM entities are able to weather the storm as a result of the pandemic and are in a position to recover as quickly as possible in a post COVID-19 era.

Since establishment, in May 2020, the facility has attracted a little over N\$123 million from different donors and contributors, through various implementation partners. Of the N\$123 million under the facility, about N\$99 million has so far been committed to various initiatives until December 2021, approximately N\$40 million of which has already been disbursed to all 86 gazetted conservancies. In line with the facilities' guidelines, the balance will be released quarterly upon receiving the necessary accountability reports from the intended beneficiaries.

The Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia (EIF) pledged N\$6 million to the facility. The CRRRF is administered by the EIF.

PROCUREMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Please follow link and download procurement policy and procedure

<https://www.eif.org.na/documents/policies-and-guidelines>



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Impact at a Glance

The fund is one of the few state-owned enterprises that has successfully blended a financing approach that takes into consideration the three main pillars of sustainable development, with social, economic and environmental considerations. As evident below, these have been achieved by implementing actions towards livelihood protection, financing of sustainable business concepts and ensuring environmental protection.

Achievements of the Fund

44 natural
resource based
enterprises created
in 23 constituencies



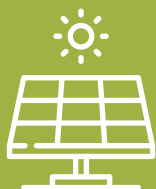
120 boreholes
rehabilitated
benefitting more
than 77 000 who
have access to
potable drinking
water.



950 employment
opportunities
created, mostly
rural-based
including seasonal
ones



15 MW
combined installed
capacity through
solar plants



36 students
supported at
undergraduate and
postgraduate level



71 grants approved
for different
environmental
projects



N\$ 1.7 billion
mobilised from
development
partners



238,000
people to benefit
from the project
both directly and
indirectly



240,256
hectares of
land under
conservation



N\$583
million in Grants
disbursed



162 households
retrofitted with Solar
Home Appliances







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