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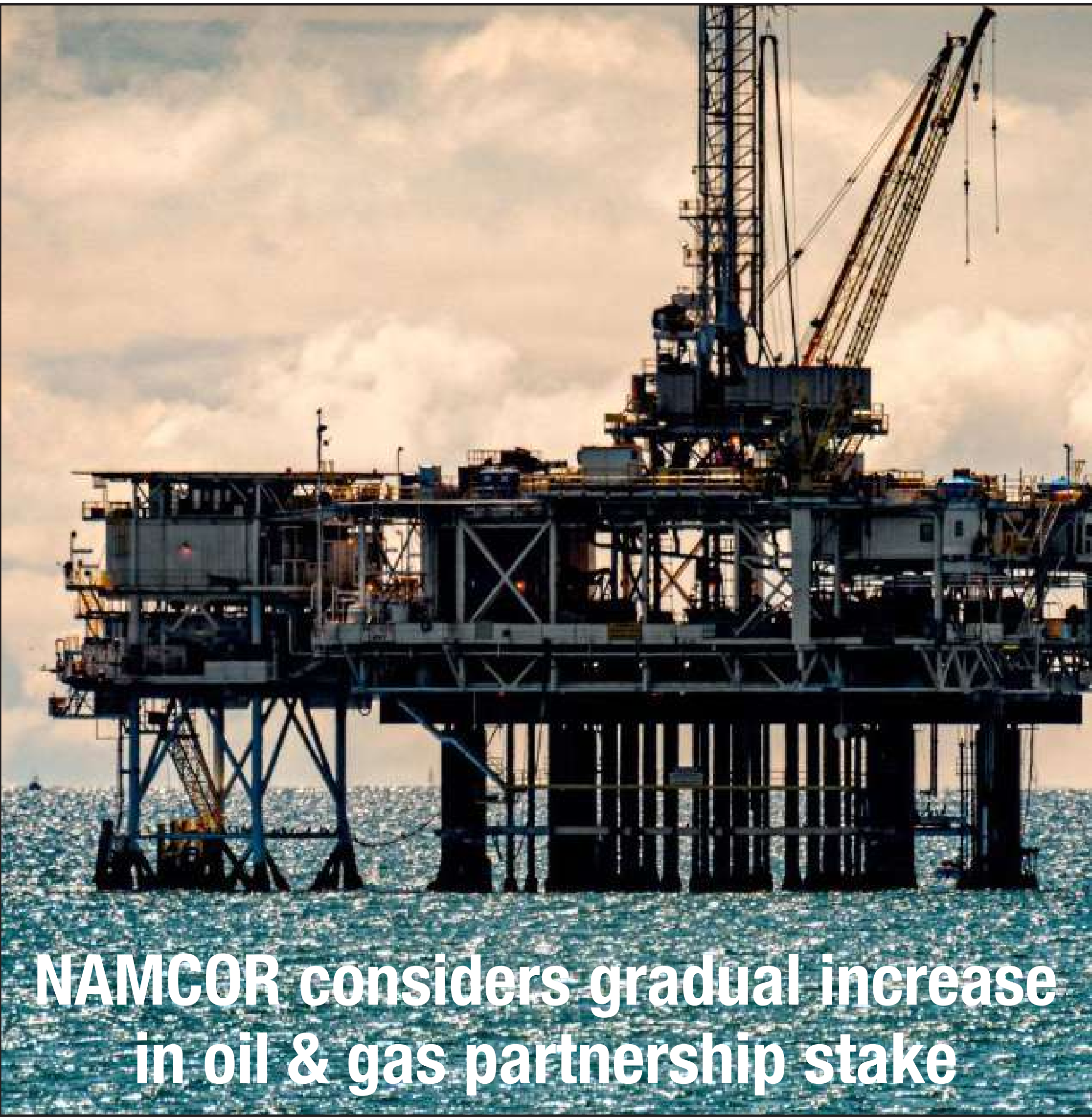

NAMCOR considers gradual increase in oil & gas partnership stake

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NAMCOR considers gradual increase in oil & gas partnership stake

The National Petroleum Corporation of Namibia (NAMCOR) says it is looking to gradually increase its stake within oil and gas partnerships from the current 10%. This comes as the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Natural Resources in 2022 called for the government to hold a 51% shareholding in companies investing in the petroleum sector through NAMCOR.

The country's national oil company's Head of Sustainable Energy, Frans Kalenga, said while a larger stake in exploratory efforts would provide NAMCOR with a greater share of potential profits, a large upfront investment is required, particularly for exploratory drilling.

"We believe increasing our stake in the partnership is the right path forward. However, this needs to be done gradually. Because in this industry, there's no

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guarantee of success when drilling a well. Let's say we ask GIPF, the government's investment arm, for N$100 million to fund drilling under our 80% operatorship. If the well comes up dry, that money is lost. That's why we advocate for a measured approach," he said.

He further emphasized the importance of the company developing its operational expertise before taking on a larger role. This would involve acquiring the skills and experience necessary to become a successful operator.

"So we are saying we want to develop competencies while having a plan in motion, to make sure that over the years NAMCOR gains those skills that we have learnt and fully have enough equity in those licenses to be able to operate because our balance sheet is now strong," Kalenga said.

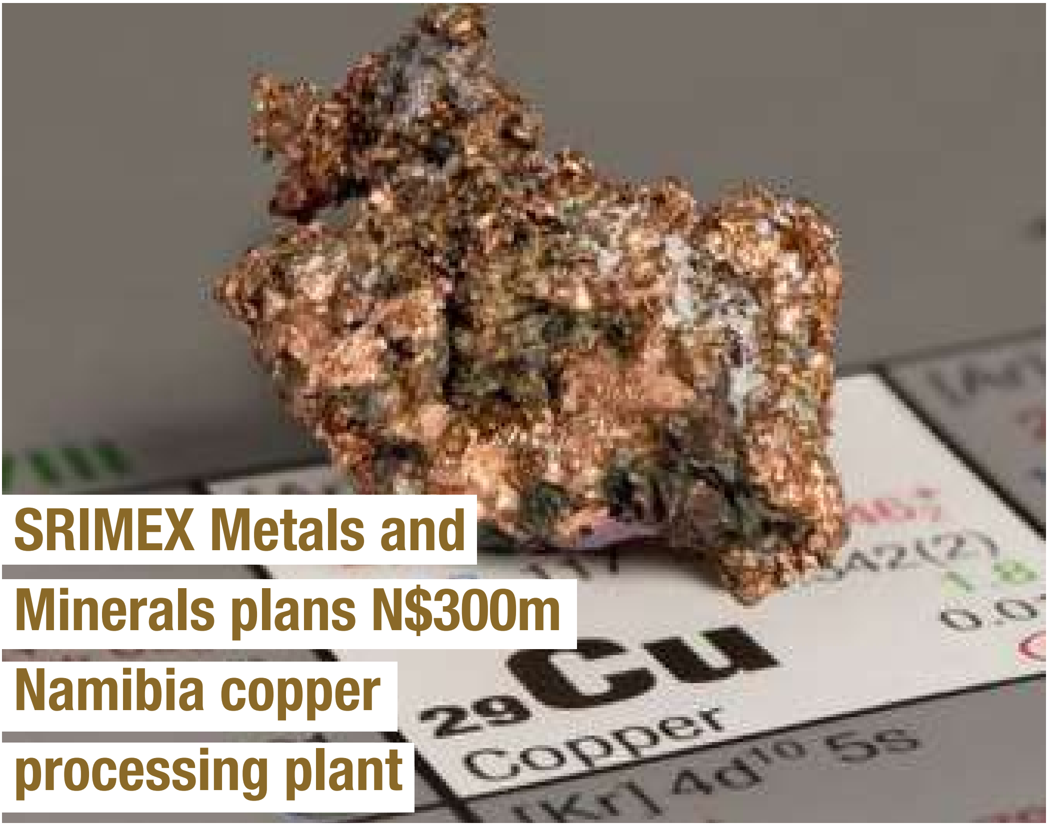
We believe increasing our stake in the partnership is the right path forward. However, this needs to be done gradually.

National Planning Commission (NPC) Director General Obeth Kandjoze has , however, warned that Namibia risks bankruptcy if the government ups its current shareholding in ongoing exploration activities through NAMCOR, highlighting the capital-intensive nature of ventures, and cautioning that such pursuits could strain the country's economic stability.

Namibia has made notable discoveries including the Graff-1X, Venus-1X, Jonker-1X, and Lesedi-1X, which are the product of partnerships involving major industry players such as Shell, Qatar Energy, Total, and Impact, in conjunction with NAMCOR.

Namibia is projected to register a gross domestic product (GDP) of U$37 billion at peak production level from the discovered oil reserves, with some quarters arguing the country's biggest benefits will come from royalties and taxes, and additional corporate taxes.

Mining



SRIMEX Metals and Minerals plans N$300m Namibia copper processing plant

SRIMEX Metals and Minerals intends to establish a N$300 million copper processing plant east of Khorixas in the Kunene Region.

The project is expected to significantly boost the local economy and employ around 250 people, including machine operators, engineers, administration, and technical support staff.

The project's lifespan will depend on the continuous supply of copper ore to the processing facility.

"The project is estimated to cost around N$300 million. The proponent will also enter into a long-term agreement with the Vocational Training Centre, which is anticipated to open at Khorixas, to offer internship opportunities to apprentices in relevant courses," said a report seen by M&E.

The plant will process over five tonnes of copper per hour, sourcing raw materials from small-scale miners with valid mining claims in the region. Efforts will be made to enter into commercial agreements with exclusive prospecting licence (EPL) holders to develop some assets into commercial ventures.

"SRIMEX Metals and Minerals (Pty) Ltd will source funding and technical capacity from its partners in India to develop such assets," the report states.

The company has agreed with the owner of Farm Esau Somaeb to lease Portion A of Farm Voluteer 106, with an option to purchase.

"Thereafter, the company will purchase the farm as per the conditions of the agreement. The company intends to establish and operate a copper processing facility that employs the copper ore beneficiation process, including gravity separation and flotation separation," the report said.

The process will involve crushing, grinding, sieving, flotation separation, and dewatering. The project will use limited energy and water, with about 100 cubic metres of water used to produce one ton of copper.

Water will be reused and recycled, and electricity will be sourced from existing infrastructure.

"Water will come from existing boreholes on the farm, which will be rehabilitated and retrofitted. To support small-scale miners, copper ore will be sourced from local miners with valid claims near Khorixas and Kamanjab. If demand increases, areas such as Opuwo will be considered," the report noted.

This comes as the region has a high concentration of copper, and many small-scale miners with valid claims are involved in copper mining.

However, they lack facilities to process the mined raw materials locally, despite government emphasis on local processing.

"The demand for copper is anticipated to continue escalating due to its wide utilisation. Copper is extensively used in manufacturing electric cables and other electric appliances because it conducts heat and electricity very well and can also be drawn into wires," said the report. Copper can also be used in construction for roofing and plumbing, as well as in industrial machinery for heat exchange purposes.

The project has received certification from the Ministry of Environment and Tourism.

Petrobras bids to operate Galp's Mopane oil field in Namibia

Brazil's state-run oil firm Petrobras has revealed that it made a non-binding offer to buy a major stake in Galp Energia's huge offshore oil discovery in Namibia.

In April, Galp launched the sale process for half of its 80% stake in Petroleum Exploration Licence 83 (PEL 83) as well as the right to become its operator.

Petrobras Exploration and Production Director Sylvia dos Anjos said on Friday that if the offer is accepted, without disclosing whether the bid was to buy the full 40% or a smaller share, it would make Petrobras the operator of the Mopane oil and gas field, which has an estimated 10 billion barrels of oil equivalent.

"We are the best deepwater operators," said Anjos on the sidelines of an oil and gas conference in the northeastern state of Sergipe. "If (Galp) doesn't choose us, it's their loss."

Petrobras is seeking opportunities abroad due to the "unacceptable" difficulty in getting environmental licenses to explore new areas in Brazil, Anjos said.

The firm has faced stiff resistance from Indigenous groups and environmental regulators, slowing its efforts to drill in promising offshore areas near the mouth of the Amazon River. Workers at environmental agency Ibama have also been slow-walking all licensing this year due to a labor dispute.

"We want to work in Brazil, but if we are not welcome, we will go somewhere else, and we will maintain our production," Anjos said.

More than 12 rivals, including Exxon and Shell, have expressed interest in buying a 40% stake in Galp Energia's oil field.

Namibia, which has no oil and gas production, has attracted huge interest from international energy companies in recent years following a string of discoveries by TotalEnergies, Shell, and Galp.

- *miningandenergy/reuters*

Mining

Bannerman optimistic amid uranium price surge

Bannerman Energy has expressed increased confidence about the future of its Etango-8 Project, driven by the recent spike in uranium prices to a 15-year high of N$1,460 per pound (US$80 per pound) of U3O8.

Bannerman's Executive Chairman, Brandon Munro, said the company is confident in the Etango-8 Project's potential to generate significant shareholder value, driven by the sustained strength of the uranium market.

The company is actively progressing towards a Final Investment Decision (FID) in the second half of 2024, supported by its robust financial position and ongoing market development efforts.

"We remain focused on achieving a positive Final Investment Decision later this year, leveraging an improving market outlook for uranium

Our successful capital raise strengthens our financial position, enabling us to progress with detailed design and early works construction and the underlying quality of the Etango resource to meet growing demand," he said.

The mining giant's cash reserves reached N$1.2 billion (A$100 million) at the end of the quarter. This substantial increase follows the successful completion of a two-tranche equity placement that raised N$1 billion (A$85 million).

The company received a first tranche payment of N$910 million (A$75.7 million) in early July, boosting its cash reserves to N$1.2 billion when combined with the quarter-end balance of N$290 million (A$24 million).

"Our successful capital raise strengthens our financial position, enabling us to progress with detailed design and early works construction," he said.

Munro further explained that the company has made significant progress on the Etango-8 Project, completing the Front-End Engineering and Design (FEED) and Control Budget Estimate (CBE) processes, and refining the December 2022 Definitive Feasibility Study (DFS) outcomes.

These achievements are coupled with the commencement of detailed design and early works construction.

"We steadily built project momentum throughout the June quarter, further positioning Bannerman as a forerunner amongst the small group of companies in advanced development of uranium mines globally. The completion of FEED and CBE processes this quarter represents a significant milestone in the de-risking and advancement of the Etango-8 Project," Munro said. Bannerman Energy is an Australian-based company specialising in uranium development. Its primary focus is the Etango Uranium project in Namibia.

The company's shares are traded on Australian and Namibian stock exchanges, as well as in the United States.

Energy

Namibia's green hydrogen projects key equipment deliveries begin

Green Hydrogen Commissioner James Mnyupe says key equipment to operationalise some of Namibia's green hydrogen projects is now being delivered.

Giving an update, Mnyupe said Cleanergy Solutions Namibia has started receiving key components of its electrolyses for the country's maiden hydrogen service station adding "we hope to cold commission the plant by Q1-2025".

The company, which was awarded a grant to set up a hydrogen pilot plant and refuelling station at Walvis Bay, is a joint venture between the Ohlthaver & List (O&L) Group and its international Belgium-based partner, CMB.TECH.

He said the Daures Green Hydrogen Village is set to receive an electrolyser and associated equipment in batches between mid-August and early September 2024, "The shipment is coming in batches and is in excess of 60 tonnes in weight," Mnyupe said.

He said, following the delivery, the team will embark on the installation, integration, and commissioning of the equipment to ensure the facility operates at peak efficiency.

"The system will produce approximately 18 tonnes of green hydrogen and 100 tonnes of green ammonia," he said.

The projects are being funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, through the Namibian Government, supported by the Southern African Science Centre for Climate Change and Adaptive Land Management.

Mnyupe also said Hylron, another key green hydrogen project, is working on delivering the first direct reduced iron of its kind in the world. Their innovative kiln is expected to arrive in Namibia by early September.

"The proprietary kiln that is to be used to make this new product is expected to arrive in Namibia in early September and HyIron aims to produce the first batch of local iron ore by the end of November," he said.

The plant, which is being built near Arandis, will use renewable energy to produce iron based on HyIron technology, without any carbon emissions.

The plant is expected to start production in late 2024 and will initially produce 15,000 tonnes of Direct Reduced Iron per year, with zero carbon emissions released during the production process.

Renewable energy will replace fossil fuels in the conventional production process, powered by a solar and wind energy plant.

In the initial phase, a 20MW solar photovoltaic installation will provide carbon-free electricity to the Plant and as production scales up, an additional 18MW of wind energy and 140MW of solar energy will be integrated.

Additionally, the Green Hydrogen Programme is collaborating with the Maersk-McKinneyMoller Centre for Zero Carbon Shipping to develop a report detailing Green Maritime Corridors from Namibia.

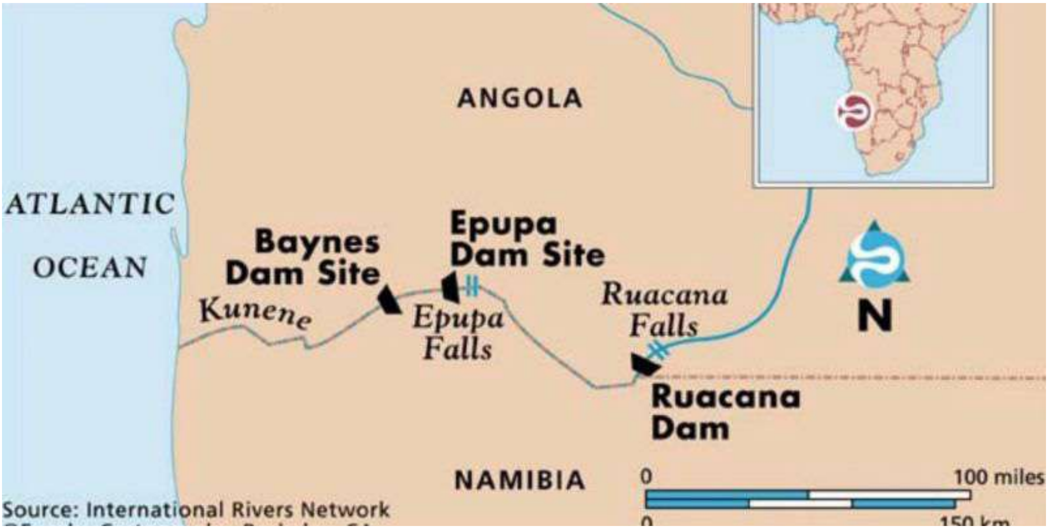
This report, Mnyupe explained, is expected to be published at COP29, and will showcase Namibia's potential as a global green hub, linking its green products and services to the international market.

"We will hold a workshop with local stakeholders on the margins of the Global African Hydrogen Summit in Windhoek one early September to showcase work done to date and invite further feedback on the exciting work that links Namibian green products and services to the world," he said.

Mnyupe highlighted that the Green Hydrogen Programme is actively engaging with stakeholders, including the United Nations Country Representation and the Namibian Chamber of Environment, to ensure transparency and collaboration in the rapidly evolving sector.

Namibia aims to create 26,000 jobs in the green industrial sector by 2030.

Energy



Namibia approves Baynes Hydropower deal

Namibia's cabinet has approved the implementation of the bi-national Baynes Hydropower Project and the expedition of the construction of a road leading to the Baynes site.

According to a recent Cabinet briefing, construction of a road leading to the project site is set to begin in September 2024.

The approval follows after a meeting held in June between Angola's Minister of Energy and Water Jo□o Baptista Borges and Namibia's Minister of Mines and Energy Tom Alweendo revealed that the Baynes Transmission Interconnection feasibility study is at an advanced stage, and is expected to be completed by mid-2025.

"Cabinet approved, in principle, the signing of the Baynes Implementation

Agreement and mandate the Minister of Mines and Energy to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Namibian Government, subject to submission of the agreement to Cabinet for endorsement," the cabinet briefing reads.

It is further reported that the government has also opted for a public funding model for the hydropower project, including the construction of the Baynes Regulating Dam.

The Ministry of Finance and Public Enterprises will be responsible for mobilising the necessary funds for both the regulating and main dams, as well as securing additional financing for the road construction.

"Cabinet directed the Ministry of Finance and Public Enterprises to commence with the mobilisation for funding of Namibia's obligation for the construction of the Baynes regulating dam and Baynes main dam, including sourcing additional funding for the construction of the road access to the Baynes Project site," the Cabinet briefing shows.

Moreover, the government has approved the establishment of two key structures to oversee the Baynes Hydropower Project.

A Binational Implementation Unit will replace the existing Project Office and work in tandem with the Permanent Joint Technical Commission on the Cunene Basin.

Additionally, a Joint Project Office will be set up in either Windhoek or Luanda to coordinate activities between Namibia and Angola.

The Baynes Hydroelectric Power Station is a planned 600-megawatt hydroelectric power plant located at Namibia's northwest border with Angola.

The project carries a construction budget of N$22 billion (US$1.2 billion) and is expected to take six years to complete. Following its implementation, both Angola and Namibia are expected to utilise 300 megawatts each from the power station.

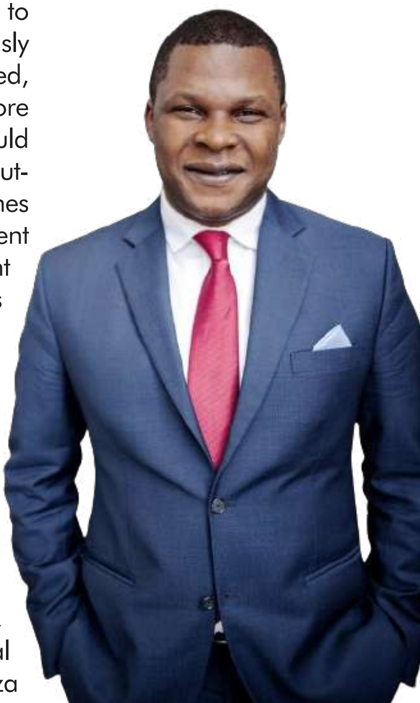
Energy

How newcomers like Namibia and Guyana are surpassing African legacy producers in energy investment

The major players on the world energy production stage are well known, and particularly in the field of oil and gas, where most of them have been in the game for a long time.

In Africa, countries like Algeria, Nigeria, Libya, Egypt, and Angola have been in the business for decades, though much of their resource wealth remains untapped. When new discoveries come to light in nations previously unexplored or underexplored, one would think these more experienced countries would be able to out-hustle and out-muscle them when it comes to attracting investment dollars. However, recent experience shows that this is not always the case.

If there was a Rookie of the Year award in the energy business, it would go to the South American country of Guyana, hands down. Despite being the next-door neighbor of founding OPEC member Venezuela, most of Guyana's potential 11-billion-barrel bonanza has only been discovered since 2015. Less than five years after its initial Stabroek Block discovery, U.S. oil giant ExxonMobil began producing oil through its Liza Phase 1 project — remarkably fast by industry standards. By April of this year, ExxonMobil had already approved its sixth oil development in Guyana, putting the country of just 800,000 people on track to someday surpass Venezuela



By NJ Ayuk

in total crude production. The Latin American country is now one of the world's fastest-growing economies.

This is not the first time I've brought up Guyana in discussions about Africa, and there's a reason for that. Namibia is currently in the same position Guyana was in just a few short years ago, poised to choose its road ahead. Recent discoveries in Namibia's Orange Basin suggest it could hold up to three billion barrels of oil and 8.7 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, and the country's total oil reserves could be nearly equal to Guyana's at around 11 billion barrels. Excitement around the newly discovered resources is high, and though oil and gas production still lie ahead, Namibia has become a leader in African oil and gas investment.

Shell (UK) and TotalEnergies (France), which made the major discoveries in the Orange Basin with partnering companies, have both committed substantial portions of their 2024 exploration budgets to ongoing activity in Namibia. Offshore exploration plans also have been announced by Chevron (U.S.), Azule Energy (a joint venture between Italy's Eni and the UK's bp), and Portuguese energy group Galp. Meanwhile, Reconnaissance Energy Africa (Canada) and Namibian state oil company NAMCOR have begun drilling an onshore oil and gas exploration well in northeast Namibia.

What Not to Do

The excitement about Guyana and Namibia's resources is notably different than what we're seeing in some of Africa's other resource-rich nations. Take Nigeria, Africa's largest oil producer by far. Despite colossal proven reserves of almost 37 billion barrels (the world's total is 1.73 trillion), Nigeria is currently struggling to attract the $25 billion annual investment necessary just to keep its output at around 2 million barrels per day (bpd). Oil majors are divesting from Nigerian assets and diverting future investments to other countries, as TotalEnergies did when it announced $6 billion in new projects in Angola. A new exploration well hasn't been drilled in Nigeria in more than 12 years. Why?

The most obvious reason is security. Nigeria is notorious for its environmentally disastrous spills caused by rampant oil theft, vandalism, and sabotage. The country's inability to protect its most valuable economic asset — responsible for almost two-thirds of Nigeria's revenue — is a constant threat to employee safety as well as the bottom line for oil producers, and it doesn't help with public relations either. There may be a ton of money still beneath Nigerian soil, but it's not going anywhere, so it simply makes more sense to go extract it somewhere safer until those problems get resolved.

The other major problem with operating in Nigeria is legal uncertainty. As TotalEnergies CEO Patrick Pouyanné has said, the Nigerian legislature loves to debate oil policy but rarely ever settles anything, leading to inconsistent decision-

making and an unstable and erratic policy environment. Lack of transparency in licensing rounds, slow and complicated contracting procedures that expire too quickly, insufficient incentives for gas projects, and local manpower requirements not backed up by the education system are all significant obstacles. In addition, local companies that take over abandoned assets are held to lower environmental standards than international companies, meaning the problems are getting worse before they get better.

Nigeria is now belatedly trying to address some of these issues (While the 2021 Nigerian Industry Act was a tremendous step in the right direction, implementation has been moving forward at a snail's pace), but it has already spent much of the good will it was afforded in the past.

Charting a Better Path

So, what are Guyana and Namibia doing right, and what are the takeaways for Nigeria and other African nations? Let's begin with Guyana.

First and foremost, it recognized the urgency of taking action to develop its resources quickly. The global energy transition to renewables will eventually reduce the demand for fossil fuels, but for now, the transition is just getting started, and demand for fossil fuels remains high. With much of the country covered in rainy jungles and limited open land for wind farms, Guyana simply isn't blessed with the same potential for renewables as many other countries and must take advantage of what it has. Guyana was determined to sell while the market was still buying before it's too late. It made a point of fast-tracking development and updating laws and regulations to speed up the development process and provide a stable, investor-friendly regulatory environment.

The excitement about Guyana and Namibia's resources is notably different than what we're seeing in some of Africa's other resource-rich nations.

One of the most immediate benefits Guyana offers is language in its petroleum contracts that protect energy companies from negative impacts if the government makes legislative or regulatory changes, such as new tax codes. This is known as a fiscal stability clause, and it can significantly reduce the time required for contract negotiations and the risk of costly project delays by preventing sudden and drastic changes in regulatory status. (As I've written, Namibia does not currently offer fiscal stability clauses in its agreements, but it would be well advised to if it wants to accelerate development of its newly discovered oilfields.)

Guyana's Petroleum Activities Bill, passed by the National Assembly in August 2023 to update the Petroleum Act of 1986, grants the Natural Resources Minister extensive authority to oversee exploration, production, and licensing, as well as responsibility to enforce the law and apply fines. It addresses shortcomings of the old legislation, such as transportation and storage of hydrocarbons from offshore to onshore and obtaining access to oil feedstocks for any future refineries to keep them running if domestic production falls short. The bill also includes safety and emergency response measures, supervision and monitoring requirements, capacity-building requirements for energy companies, and a cross-border unitization framework for developing reserves that cross international boundaries.

In addition, Guyana's assembly also passed local content legislation in 2021 that enables international oil companies to communicate their needs to local businesses effectively, creating opportunities for them to grow and provide the producers with services and skilled, educated personnel. This is in contrast to Nigeria's local content laws, which include quotas for hiring local people but lack the provision for means to fulfill them. Guyana continues to fine-tune this policy with input from the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Namibia's Strong Start

Although Namibia is still at an earlier stage of development, it hasn't just been watching from the sidelines. The government has already begun work to update its tax laws and provide an enabling environment for upstream activity. Officials from NAMCOR visited Guyana in 2023 to learn more about oil developments, including how to involve local business, raise public awareness, and expand port facilities. They also learned from Guyana's growing pains, noting that some of the best advice they received was to take their time and do proper infrastructure assessment.

The country is also getting a head start on diversification, with major law firm ENS assisting the government to come up with a regulatory framework for green hydrogen development and energy transition strategies. While much remains to be done, Namibia already finds itself in good position to offer energy companies who are headed for the exits in Nigeria and elsewhere a soft place to land.

**NJ Ayuk is Executive Chairman of the African Energy Chamber*

Energy

Galp Energia invests N$2.1bn in Namibian upstream projects in six months

Galp Energia says it has invested approximately N$2.1 billion towards upstream projects in Namibia in the first six months of 2024.

During the six months, the Group made tangible and intangible investments amounting to €564 million, of which upstream investments amounted to €389 million.

"The investment essentially related to projects in Brazil (€273 million) and Namibia (€116 million) N$2.1 billion, industrial and midstream (€90 million), renewables (€51 m), commercial (€20 million) and corporate (€14 million) for the six months ended 30 June 2024," said Galp.

Meanwhile, in the second quarter of 2024, capital expenditure totalled €241 million with Namibia representing circa one-third of upstream capital expenditure (Galp 80% stake) during the period.

Galp Energia CEO Filipe Silva said investments in upstream were mostly directed to projects under execution and development in the Brazilian pre-salt, namely Bacalhau, as well as the exploration campaign in Namibia.

"Looking at capex levels, Mozambique's divestment, coupled with a slower execution on renewables, gives us enough headroom to tackle the next exploration and appraisal campaign in Namibia whilst maintaining net capex well controlled," he said.

In Namibia, Silva said Galp is thrilled with the potential of the discoveries and is now moving rapidly into the next phase, aiming to further de-risk the asset and confirm its commerciality.

"We are delivering steadfast progress to have all the remaining services and equipment necessary to spud later this year the first well of the next exploration & appraisal campaign," he said.

The Group operates across four different operating segments based on the types of products sold and services rendered, upstream, industrial and midstream, commercial and renewables.

The upstream segment represents Galp's presence in the upstream sector of the oil and gas industry, which involves managing all activities relating to the exploration, development and production of hydrocarbons, mainly focused in Brazil, Mozambique, Namibia and Angola.

In April 2024, Galp (80% operator) and its partners NAMCOR and Custos (10% each) completed the first phase of the Mopane exploration campaign, which included two exploration wells and a drill stem test.

"All acquired data from the current Mopane drilling campaign will be analysed and integrated into an updated reservoir model. The model will serve as the basis to refine Galp's near-term drilling plan to further explore, appraise and develop the wider Mopane complex," Silva said then.

The company plans to undertake an exploration campaign spanning three years involving the drilling of 10 exploration and appraisal wells, along with flow testing.

Additionally, conducting a 3D towed streamer seismic survey campaign covering approximately 4,000 square kilometres in PEL 83.

"Galp plans a further 3D towed streamer seismic survey campaign in PEL 83, towards the end of 2024 and quarter 1 of 2025, which will be around 4,000 square kilometres. Galp will also undertake an OBN seismic acquisition within the area where the 3D towed streamer seismic activities will be conducted, either during the same time or at a later stage to be determined," said an ESIA notice.

Mining

Anglo-American reports N$333 million capex in Namibia for H1 2024

Anglo-American spent US$18 million (N$333 million) on capital expenditure (capex) for the period ending June 30, 2024, for its Namibian operations.

The company's half-year

financial report highlights underlying earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) of US$84 million (N$1.5 billion) and an underlying EBIT of US$66 million (N$1.2 billion) from the Namibian segment.

Production totalled 1,2 million carats, with unit costs at US$270 per carat and an average selling price of US$435 per carat during the half year.

Meanwhile, total sales volumes for the group were 12.7 million carats, down from 17.3 million carats the previous year. Despite this, the company said the average diamond price remains robust.

Anglo-American, which holds an 85% stake in De Beers Group, continues to focus on operational efficiency and investment in growth across its diamond assets.

The De Beers Group reported an 11% decline in diamond recovery to 0.56 million carats for its Namibian operations in the second quarter of 2024 compared to the previous quarter.

The first quarter of 2024 saw 0.63 million carats recovered, while compared to the second quarter of 2023, the company reported an 8% decline to 0.61 million carats.

Production totalled 1,2 million carats, with unit costs at US$270 per carat and an average selling price of US$435 per carat during the half year.

"Production in Namibia decreased by 8% to 0.6 million carats, reflecting planned vessel maintenance at Debmarine Namibia, partially offset by planned mining of higher-grade areas at Namdeb," said the Group.

Meanwhile, according to production statistics, the total recovery for the first half (H1) of 2024 was 1.19 million carats, a 3% decrease from 1.23 million carats in H1 2023.

"Debmarine Namibia reported a recovery of 0.43 million carats in Q2 2024, down 15% from Q1 2024's 0.51 million carats and Q2 2023's 0.50 million carats," said De Beers.

Debmarine's total recovery for H1 2024 was 0.93 million carats, a 7% decrease from 1.00 million carats in H1 2023.

On the other hand, Namdeb's land operations saw a recovery of 0.13 million carats in Q2 2024, a 5% increase from Q1 2024's 0.13 million carats and a 23% increase from Q2 2023's 0.11 million carats.

"The H1 2024 recovery for Namdeb was 0.26 million carats, a 14% rise from 0.23 million carats in H1 2023," said the Group.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Mining

Namibia caps critical mineral exports

Namibia has imposed strict limits on the export of critical minerals, stating that a maximum of 1,000 kilograms can be exported annually per producer for mineral analysis purposes.

Additionally, exports for plant design parameters on lithium, cobalt, manganese, graphite, and rare earth elements are capped at 20,000 tonnes.

"Cabinet considered and endorsed a maximum export quantity of one thousand kilograms (1,000kg) for mineral analyses per annum per exporter/producer, and Cabinet further considered and endorsed a maximum of up to twenty-thousand (20,000) tonnes for the purpose of plant design parameters," the Cabinet announcement said.

The Cabinet decision may have been influenced by the controversy surrounding Chinese company Xinfeng Investments, which was found to have exported 75,000 tonnes of lithium ore to China under the guise of testing purposes.

The decision, aimed at regulating the export of unprocessed critical minerals such as is in line with Cabinet Decision No. 8th/06.06.23/007, which grants Minister of Mines and Energy, Tom Alweendo discretion when it comes to the export of small quantities of the specified minerals.

This is expected to encourage local processing of these minerals and create jobs within the mining sector.

In November 2022, Namibia signed a deal with the European Union, ensuring the trade bloc's access to the country's rare earth metals to power the global transition to green energy.

In April 2023 German Chancellor Olaf Scholz announced Germany's willingness to help Namibia set up local lithium processing infrastructure.

Meanwhile, a report by McKinsey & Company released in February 2024 indicated that Namibia's lithium refining industry is forecasted to contribute N$3.1 billion to the country's gross value added by 2030 while creating 5,800 jobs. By 2050, the contribution is expected to rise to N$4.7 billion, with approximately 8,600 jobs created.

The comprehensive analysis outlines a breakdown of the economic impact, "with projections indicating direct contributions of US$59 million, US$57 million indirectly, and US$48 million induced by 2030."

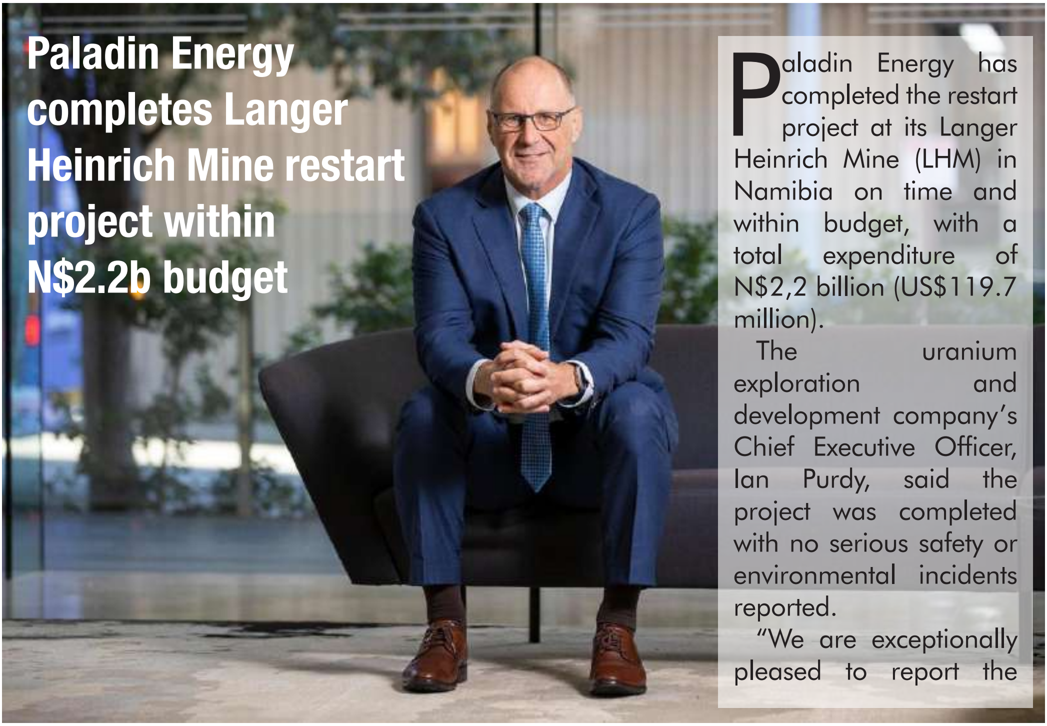
Moreover, the report foresees the creation of approximately 5,800 jobs, encompassing 1,300 direct, 2,300 indirect, and 2,100 induced positions.

Looking towards 2050, the figures escalate, forecasting a potential N$4.7 billion (US$248 million) in gross value added, "supported by US$89 million direct, US$86 million indirect, and US$72 million induced, along with the generation of around 8,600 jobs."

The report emphasised that with two active lithium projects and the assumption of two more becoming operational, Namibia's lithium refining industry could boost mining production by 50%, resulting in substantial value addition.

Mining

Paladin Energy completes Langer Heinrich Mine restart project within N$2.2b budget



Paladin Energy has completed the restart project at its Langer Heinrich Mine (LHM) in Namibia on time and within budget, with a total expenditure of N$2,2 billion (US$119.7 million).

The uranium exploration and development company's Chief Executive Officer, Ian Purdy, said the project was completed with no serious safety or environmental incidents reported.

"We are exceptionally pleased to report the completion of the Langer Heinrich Mine Restart Project. The project's successful execution, both on time and within budget, reflects the dedication and hard work of our entire team. This achievement positions us well for a successful ramp-up of production at the mine." he said.

A release by Paladin Energy revealed that the full-scale mining operations at Langer Heinrich are expected to resume in FY2026, with the goal of achieving nameplate production of 6 million pounds of U3O8 per annum by the end of calendar year 2026.

"The LHM will be in operational ramp up during FY2025, with ore feed sourced from previously mined stockpiled ore. Production levels are expected to be higher in the second half of the year. Mining activities are expected to re-commence in FY2026 ahead of achieving nameplate production of 6Mlb p.a by the end of CY2026," said Purdy.

He further explained that while initial production utilises stockpiled ore, the LHM is currently ramping up and is expected to reach 4.0-4.5 million pounds of uranium oxide (U3O8) in 2025.

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The first shipment of uranium concentrate, containing 319,229lb of U3O8, departed Namibia in July 2024.

"It is exceptionally pleasing to deliver our first quarterly production update since returning the Langer Heinrich Mine to production, the Langer Heinrich operations team has done an exceptional job in delivering early production and the operational knowledge gained has underpinned our FY2025 production guidance between 4.0 to 4.5Mlb of U3O8," he said.

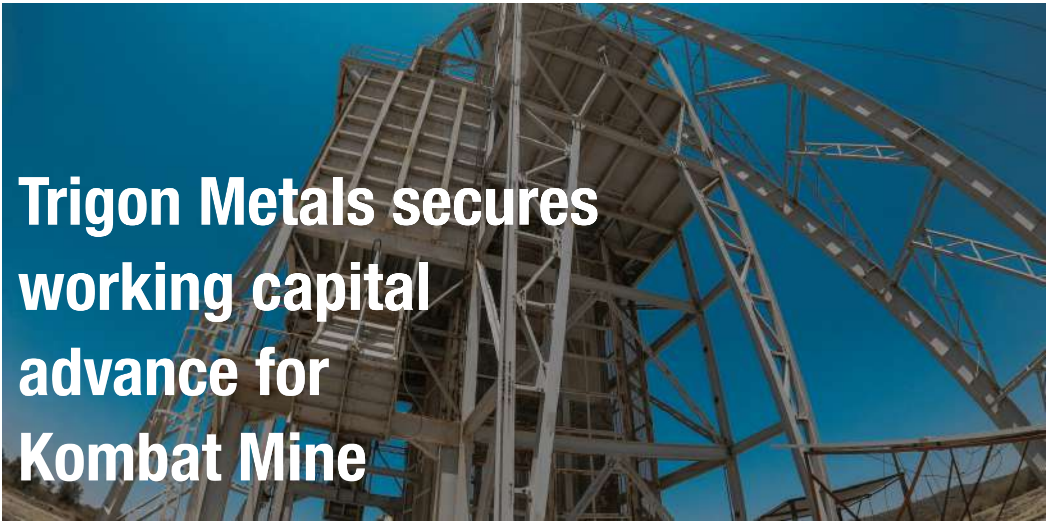
Furthermore, Paladin currently has N$896.1 million (US$48.9 million) in cash and cash equivalents, along with access to an untapped N$1.4 billion (US$80 million) credit facility.

The company also received a N$454.5 million (US$24.8 million) partial advance payment from a customer.

Danielle Lazarov was appointed as the company's Chief People & Corporate Affairs Officer and in April 2024, Paladin consolidated its shares on a 10-for-one basis.

Paladin is an ASX 200 listed uranium company with its head office in Perth, Western Australia. It holds a 75% interest in the Langer Heinrich Mine in Namibia.

Mining



Trigon Metals secures working capital advance for Kombat Mine

Trigon Metals says it has secured a N$46 million (US$2.5 million) working capital advance for its Kombat mine in Namibia from IXM S.A., the mine's off-taker.

According to Trigon's CEO and Executive Chairman, Jed Richardson, the advance will be provided in two tranches of N$22 million (US$1.25 million) each.

Trigon has already received the first tranche, with the second tranche scheduled to be received between August 19 and August 30, 2024.

"The advance payment from IXM reiterates our stakeholders' commitment to the Kombat Project in Namibia and is off the back of Kombat's ability to consistently meet and exceed our projections and consistently deliver to IXM a high quality copper concentrate. We thank IXM for their continued support," he said.

He added that the agreement includes an interest rate on the advance, set at a 30-day SOFR average plus 2.5%. Repayment will occur over the next year through monthly deliveries of copper concentrate starting in October 2024.

In June, Trigon announced that it planned to extract a significant amount of copper ore, ranging from 250,000 to 280,000 tonnes in 2025, from its Kombat Asis West underground mine.

The copper content within the ore is expected to be between 1.95% and 2.3% on average. This translates to a projected haul of 5,500 to 6,100 tonnes (roughly 12.1 to 13.4 million pounds) of refined copper metal.

Trigon is a publicly-traded Canadian exploration and development company with its core business focused on copper and silver holdings in African jurisdictions.

Currently, the company has operations in Namibia and Morocco. In Namibia, the company holds an 80% interest in five mining licences in the Otavi Mountainlands, where it is focused on exploration and re-development of the previously producing Kombat Mine.

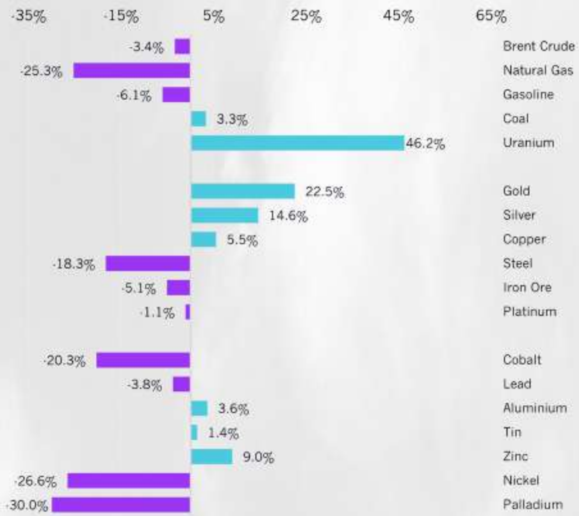
Commodities

Price Movements

Commodity	Last Spot Price	Change Weekly	Change Monthly
ENERGY			
Brent	80.57	-2.6%	-5.6%
Natural Gas	2.03	-4.8%	-24.5%
Gasoline	2.43	-0.6%	-4.3%
Coal	138.40	2.5%	4.1%
Uranium	82.25	-2.9%	-1.6%
METALS			
Gold	2,382.64	-0.5%	2.4%
Silver	27.70	-5.3%	-4.6%
Copper	4.09	-3.5%	-6.0%
Steel	3,084.00	-4.9%	-8.4%
Iron Ore	107.14	-1.5%	0.5%
Platinum	926.00	-4.0%	-6.9%
INDUSTRIAL			
Cobalt	26,625	0.0%	-1.9%
Lead	2,073	-2.5%	-4.9%
Aluminium	2,286	-2.9%	-8.4%
Tin	29,416	-6.9%	-8.1%
Zinc	2,679	-3.7%	-8.7%
Nickel	15,818	-3.2%	-8.0%
Palladium	873	-2.5%	-9.9%

Source: Bloomberg, Trading Economics, Cirrus Data

Year on Year Price Changes



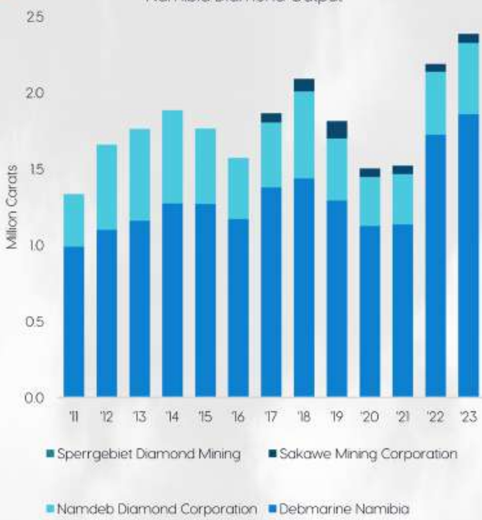
Map of Mines in Namibia

LEGEND

1. Tschudi Mine
2. Trigon Kombat Copper Mine
3. Oharango Cement
4. B2Gold Otjikoto Gold Mine
5. Okorusu Mine
6. Whale Rock Cement
7. Okanjande Graphite Mine
8. Otjozondu Manganese Mine
9. QKR Navachab Gold Mine
10. Andrada Uis Tin Mine
11. Rössing Uranium Mine
12. Swakop Uranium Husab Mine
13. Langer Heinrich Uranium Mine
14. Namib Lead and Zinc Mine
15. The Salt Company
16. Trekkopje Mine
17. Walvis Bay Salt and Chemicals
18. Matchless Mine
19. Otjihase Mine
20. Lodestone Dordabis Iron Ore Mine
21. Elizabeth Bay Mine (Sperrgebiet Diamond Mining)
22. Debmarine Namibia
23. Namdeb Southern Coastal Mines
24. Namdeb Orange River Mines
25. Vedanta Skorpion Zinc Mine
26. Rosh Pinah Zinc Mine

Source: Chamber of Mines of Namibia

Namibia Diamond Output



Source: Chamber of Mines of Namibia