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## Venus oil field development advances as final ESIA is lodged

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# Venus oil field development advances as final ESIA is lodged

The final Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Report and Environmental

and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for the proposed offshore Venus oil field development have been

formally submitted to Namibian authorities for consideration, Namibia Mining & Energy has learned.

The final documents were submitted on 12 January 2026 to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism and the Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy as part of the application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the project.

The application relates to the proposed development of the offshore Venus Field in Block 2913B, located off Namibia's southern coast.

The block is held under an exploration licence by TotalEnergies EP Namibia B.V., together with joint venture partners Impact Oil & Gas, NAMCOR and QatarEnergy, which are currently evaluating the commercial development of the discovery following exploration and appraisal results.

The Venus field is situated approximately 320 kilometres south-west of Lüderitz, in the northern part of Block 2913B, in water depths of about 3 000 metres.

According to the project description, the proposed development would involve the drilling of up to 40 subsea production wells, the installation of associated subsea infrastructure, and the mooring of a floating production, storage and

offloading vessel at the field.

Crude light oil produced from the field would be processed and stored on the FPSO before being offloaded to tankers for export to international markets. Offshore activities would be supported by supply vessels and aircraft operating from existing onshore facilities, with no requirement for new large-scale onshore infrastructure.

The joint venture is seeking an ECC to proceed with the development and production of the Venus field. If environmental authorisation is granted, construction, drilling and installation activities are expected to take about five years, after which production would commence and continue for an estimated period of 20 years or longer.

The environmental assessment practitioner noted that the proposed development triggers several listed activities under Namibia's Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012, making an ECC a legal requirement before any project activities can proceed.

SLR Environmental Consulting (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd was appointed as the independent environmental assessment practitioner to

manage the ECC application and to undertake both the scoping and full ESIA processes for the project.

According to the consultant, issues raised during public consultation were comprehensively considered and addressed through the ESIA process, with most anticipated social impacts assessed as low to very low significance once proposed mitigation measures are applied.

The consultant said concerns relating to livelihoods, fisheries, human rights, climate change, oil spill risks and benefit-sharing were assessed using a precautionary, worst-case approach. The assessment found that the offshore location of the project limits direct impacts on coastal communities.

The report further noted that no physical or economic displacement is expected. It added that grievance and compensation mechanisms are provided for unplanned events, and that the overall social impacts of the proposed Venus development are considered manageable and acceptable at a project level, subject to regulatory oversight and the effective implementation of the Environmental and Social Management Plan.

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## Mining



## TaTe Diamonds gains traction in the US jewellery market

**T**aTe Diamonds has made a notable entry into the competitive US jewellery scene, establishing a strong presence in Atlanta through a series of well-attended boutique events.

The company's debut is viewed as a strategic expansion into a market that has grown significantly over the past decade, driven by

demographic shifts, celebrity migration and a fragmented luxury jewellery landscape.

Founder and Chief Executive Officer Tangeni taShi Shiimi-Ya-Shiimi said that by targeting mid-to high-end buyers and emphasising provenance and sustainability, TaTe Diamonds is positioning itself as a differentiated

brand with a strong storytelling approach that resonates with Atlanta's affluent clientele.

Shiimi-Ya-Shiimi said Atlanta was selected not only because of personal ties, but also due to its evolving market dynamics, as celebrity migration and changing demographics have altered buying

patterns and created opportunities for brands offering differentiated luxury products.

He said the company aims to leverage this environment to establish a high-end presence.

Shiimi-Ya-Shiimi highlighted that TaTe Diamonds' ocean-recovered stones offer a storytelling element that is highly valued by clients. He explained that the company's direct sourcing from ocean operations allows for limited handling and exceptional traceability, an approach he said is rare in a market where most competitors rely

on multi-step supply chains.

"The uniqueness of our diamonds comes from the story behind each stone and the sustainable recovery from the ocean. Clients respond to knowing that a diamond has a traceable origin and has been handled minimally. It allows us to offer a personal, almost bespoke experience that is different from traditional retail jewellery," Shiimi-Ya-Shiimi said.

He added that the company's supply-chain design reduces risk and ensures quality, providing clients with confidence in authenticity. By limiting

intermediaries, TaTe retains control over both certification and branding, allowing stones to be marked with the TaTe logo.

He said this step reinforces the guarantee of provenance and enhances the luxury positioning of the brand.

Shiimi-Ya-Shiimi also said the TaTe marking is paired with Gemological Institute of America certification and serves as a differentiator for discerning buyers. While the initiative is being rolled out gradually in the US, it has already attracted interest from clients seeking premium, verified diamonds, as he stressed that client education and storytelling are central to market adoption.

"Our strategy is not just about the diamond itself, but about educating clients on its journey. We integrate provenance, certification and narrative to create a luxury experience. This makes our offerings appealing to buyers who value exclusivity and verified sourcing," he said.

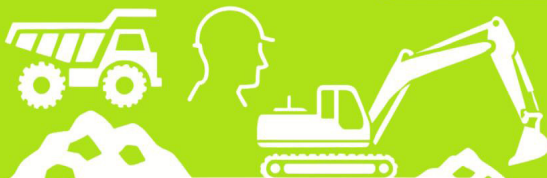
He further explained that the GIA's Source Verification Programme strengthens market credibility, with quarterly audits confirming the company's single-source claims. The audits ensure

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that no external stones enter the supply chain, protecting TaTe's brand integrity and supporting its marketing claims.

The development follows TaTe Diamonds' expansion into the United States in June this year, when the

company, Namibia's first fully Namibian-owned diamond firm, opened its flagship showroom in Atlanta.

The showroom, located in the Buckhead luxury district, marks TaTe Diamonds' formal entry into the US

market and offers the full collection, including the new EZIMO Collection, which celebrates Namibian cultural heritage and is inspired by the Oshiwambo expression meaning "My People. My Clan. My Family. Our Collective."

## Mining



# Andrada Mining poised for earnings uplift as tin prices surge

**A**ndrada Mining is expected to benefit from a significant

earnings uplift as global tin prices climbed to a one-month high of about

N\$800,000 (US\$50,000) per tonne, driven by supply disruptions in Myanmar

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and Indonesia and rising demand from AI-driven data centres.

According to research by UK-based investment bank Hannam & Partners, Andrada's earnings are highly sensitive to movements in tin prices. The bank estimates that for every 10% change in the tin price, Andrada's calendar year 2026 EBITDA could move by 31%, while earnings per share could shift by 49%.

"Andrada Mining stands out as the only tin miner listed in the UK, benefiting from near-term leverage to a 20% spike in tin prices over the past month, reaching US\$50,000 per tonne," the report said.

The improved price environment comes as Andrada's flagship Uis mine in Namibia reported strong operational performance. For the three months ended November

2025, ore throughput increased 8% year on year to 259,000 tonnes, while contained tin production rose 10% to 255 tonnes.

Tin shipments climbed 25% compared with the previous quarter, reflecting firm global demand. Tantalum output declined during the period as the mine prioritised tin production amid favourable market conditions. Andrada is continuing to advance its expansion strategy at Uis. The commissioning of a new jig plant and the integration of XRT ore sorters are expected to lift tin processing capacity and improve recovery rates.

Beyond Uis, the company plans further growth at Lithium Ridge, funded by strategic partner SQM, with assay results expected in the first half of 2026. Development is also under way at Brandberg West,

which provides exposure to tungsten, a metal whose price has reportedly tripled over the past year.

Despite trading on a spot EV/EBITDA multiple of about 5 times for CY26E, Hannam & Partners said Andrada's updated valuation stands at 19 pence per share. This implies a potential upside of 387% from the current share price of around 3.9 pence.

"We have updated our model to reflect the most recent financial and operational results and a stronger tin price environment," the analysts said.

"Third-quarter production performance has been incorporated into our near-term throughput, grade and recovery assumptions at Uis, alongside updated pricing assumptions reflecting the materially stronger tin price environment."

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## Mining

# Namibia, Russia eye mining and energy cooperation after Moscow talks

**N**amibia and Russia have identified mining, uranium and energy as priority areas for expanded bilateral cooperation following high-level talks held in Moscow on Wednesday.

Speaking at a joint press conference, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said discussions focused on geological exploration and the extraction and processing of mineral resources, including uranium.

"We see strong potential for cooperation in geological exploration and in the extraction and processing of mineral resources, including uranium, as well as in energy, the agro-industrial complex and fisheries," Lavrov said.

Lavrov further pointed to long-standing cooperation in education and skills development, noting that thousands of Namibians have received training in Russia and the former Soviet Union, a practice he said continues today.

Namibia's Minister of



International Relations and Cooperation, Selma Ashipala-Musavyi, described relations between the two countries as historical and strategic, saying the scope

for cooperation remained wide.

"The potential for cooperation between our two countries is vast," Ashipala-Musavyi said.

# GEO advances talks to farm out Namibia offshore licence



**G**EO Exploration Limited says it is continuing discussions with multiple parties to farm out its offshore petroleum exploration licence in Namibia's Walvis Basin, as interest in the region strengthens following renewed exploration activity.

The AIM-listed company holds a 78% interest in Petroleum Exploration Licence (PEL) 0094, which covers about 5,798 square kilometres offshore north-west Namibia in water depths ranging from 450 to 1,550 metres.

In May 2025, GEO reported a significant uplift in prospective resources on the licence, with gross mean estimates increasing to approximately 4.31 billion barrels.

According to Chief Executive Officer Omar Ahmad, the company's strategy is to secure a farm-out partner that would fund and lead the next phase of exploration and development.

While GEO reported advanced discussions with a potential partner in late 2024, it said several new

parties have since accessed the project data room.

The company believes recent activity by major players, including Chevron, has reinvigorated industry interest in the Walvis Basin, particularly since October 2025.

"In parallel, we are encouraged by the level of interest in our Namibian licence and determined to secure an accretive farm-out agreement for shareholders," Ahmad said.

Although GEO remains in discussions with the party identified in 2024,

the company indicated that any agreement may require revised terms, given the time elapsed and increased interest from other potential partners.

GEO said it will continue to update shareholders as progress is made towards

securing a farm-out agreement.

Alongside developments in Namibia, the company recently completed the acquisition of the Gorge gold exploration project in Western Australia, marking the final administrative

steps with the issuance of consideration shares and payment of cash consideration.

GEO plans to begin systematic exploration at the Gorge project, supported by historic high-grade gold results.

## Mining

# De Beers confirms bids from Botswana, Angola and Namibia

**B**otswana, Angola and Namibia have expressed interest in acquiring equity in De Beers, De Beers Chief Executive Al Cook has confirmed.

Cook disclosed the interest in an interview with Reuters, but declined to provide details on the size of potential stakes or the status of any negotiations. He also did not comment on timelines for a possible transaction.

The interest follows plans by Anglo American to divest its 85% stake in De Beers. Anglo American announced the planned exit in May 2024 as part of a wider restructuring after a failed takeover approach by BHP.

Anglo American chief





executive Duncan Wanblad said in February last year that the divestment of De Beers was expected to be “substantively complete” by the end of 2025. That deadline has since passed without a deal being announced.

Botswana, which currently holds a 15% shareholding in De Beers, is seeking a majority stake in the company to secure greater control over the diamond industry, which contributes about a third of the country’s government revenue, according to public

statements by Botswana officials.

Angola is pursuing a significant minority stake through its state-owned diamond company Endiama, with officials indicating a preference for collaborative ownership with other African producer countries rather than outright control.

Namibia has also expressed general interest in an equity stake alongside Botswana and Angola, aligning with calls by Cook for stronger producer-country participation in

the global diamond value chain.

However, the Namibian government said in November that no decision had been taken on whether to acquire shares in De Beers. The Ministry of Mines and Energy told Namibia Mining & Energy that the matter had not yet been considered by Cabinet.

The ministry said Namibia remains focused on its existing diamond interests, including its 50% shareholdings in Namdeb and Debmarine Namibia.

### Mining

## Namibia renews Gratomic’s Graphite mining Licence through 2040

**T**he Ministry of Mines and Energy (MIME) has renewed Gratomic Inc.’s Mining Licence ML215 for a further 15 years, extending the licence’s validity through March 2040.

Gratomic announced that it received official confirmation of the renewal following constructive engagement with the Ministry and a formal response to a notification





of preparedness issued in September 2025. The company said the licence has now been fully upgraded and renewed, providing long-term regulatory certainty for its Aukam Graphite Project in southern Namibia.

“Following constructive engagement with the Ministry and the Company’s formal response to the letter of preparedness, Gratomic is pleased to confirm that Mining Licence ML215 has now been fully upgraded and renewed for a 15-year period, with the licence effective through March 2040,” a release by the company read.

In addition to the licence renewal, Gratomic reported that its processing plant underwent comprehensive electrical and mechanical performance testing in late October 2025, with all operational tests successfully completed.

With the renewal secured, Gratomic plans to remobilise its operational team to site following the Namibian holiday period. The company said further updates will be provided, including guidance on near-term operational

activities and upcoming financial reporting.

However, Gratomic cautioned that no Preliminary Economic Analysis, Preliminary Feasibility Study or Feasibility Study has yet been completed for the Aukam property. The company has not delineated any mineral resources or reserves demonstrating economic viability or technical feasibility.

Gratomic intends to complete a Feasibility Study or equivalent study, which will assess the potential to scale up the existing processing plant to a commercial operation capable of producing targeted concentrate grades and production levels.

The company emphasised that any future graphite supply remains conditional on successfully bringing the project into production and meeting technical and mineralisation requirements.

The company also highlighted significant risks, including uncertainty around production timelines, costs and recovery rates. It warned that failure to commence

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production or achieve anticipated costs could materially affect its ability to generate revenue and fund operations.

Gratomic is a multinational company with projects in Namibia, Brazil and Canada, and aims to establish itself as a graphite

supplier for the electric vehicle battery supply chain through development of its flagship Aukam Graphite Mine.

### Mining

# Midas Minerals hits high-grade copper-silver at Otavi

**M**idas Minerals Ltd has reported a new high-grade copper and silver discovery at its Spaatzu Prospect within the Otavi Copper Project in Namibia, according to results released by the company.

Initial drilling from hole MORC006 intersected multiple mineralised zones, including 16 metres grading 2.55% copper and 72.6 g/t silver within a broader 44-metre interval grading 1.36% copper and 36.8 g/t silver, from 23 metres below surface, Midas said.

The company said the Spaatzu Prospect is located about 12 kilometres west of the high-grade T-13 deposit and extends over a strike length of approximately 2.5 kilometres. It added that the area shows evidence of cross-faulting and intense



brecciation, which supports its exploration potential. Midas noted that only part of MORC006 has been assayed, with additional samples and results from other drill holes still pending.

"I am highly encouraged by the early copper and silver results from Spaatzu, given the large size of the surface geochemical anomaly and the favourable

geological and structural setting on the northern flank of the Merwe dome," said Midas managing director Mark Calderwood.

Midas said it is currently operating three drill rigs across the Otavi Copper Project, with a fourth rig expected to commence drilling in January. The drilling programme is focused on Spaatzu, Merwe

and other regional targets.

The company said it remains well funded to support the accelerated exploration programme, with cash of about US\$9 million at the end of 2025 following the Otavi

acquisition.

"Spaatzu is only 12 kilometres from T-13, and we now have three areas advancing to resource drilling, with numerous other early-stage targets to progress in 2026,"

Calderwood said.

Midas said the Otavi Copper Project is among Namibia's more prospective exploration areas, noting that modern drilling has covered less than 40% of the project area to date.

## Energy

# Namibian professionals urged to build negotiation capacity for oil and gas projects

As Namibia moves from exploration success towards project execution, local energy professionals have been urged to ensure they are equipped to engage effectively with international oil and gas agreements that underpin project viability, according to the president of the Association of International Energy Negotiators (AIEN), Shakwa Nyambe.

Nyambe said training programmes such as the AIEN International Oil & Gas Contracts and Negotiations Course, scheduled to take place in Cairo next month, are increasingly important as Namibia and several African countries transition from exploration into development and execution.



He said this phase demands strong local capacity in contract negotiation, project structuring and regulatory engagement. "Developing local expertise is essential to ensuring that African countries are well positioned to negotiate balanced, sustainable and commercially sound agreements as major projects in the Orange Basin move closer to execution," Nyambe said.

He added that the course is particularly relevant for professionals working in legal, commercial, regulatory, policy and technical roles,

including those from the National Petroleum Corporation of Namibia.

The AIEN International Oil & Gas Contracts and Negotiations Course is regarded as a leading global training programme for energy professionals. It is designed for both new entrants and experienced practitioners and is delivered from a practical perspective by industry specialists, including Harry Sullivan, Jennifer Josefson, Andrew Derman and Kimberly Reeder.

According to AIEN,

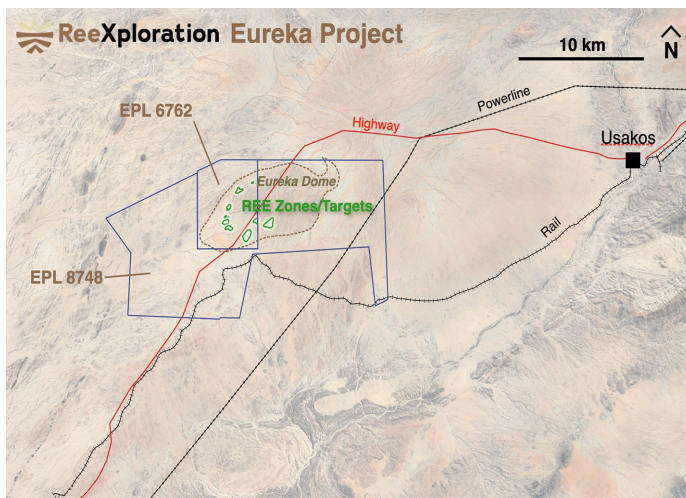
the course covers a wide range of upstream and midstream topics, including confidentiality and bidding agreements, anti-bribery and sanctions regimes, international dispute resolution, joint operating agreements, farm-in and farm-out arrangements, sale and purchase agreements, unitisation, decommissioning, crude oil sales and lifting agreements, gas sales and transportation, LNG fundamentals, stabilisation and sovereign immunity, as well as emerging energy solutions.

### Energy

## ReeXploration secures funding for 2026 uranium drill programme in Namibia

**R**eeXploration Inc. has confirmed that its 2026 uranium exploration drill programme at the Eureka Project in central Namibia is fully funded and entering the execution phase.

The Canadian-listed exploration company said capital is now in place, with detailed drill planning under way for a targeted programme aimed at testing high-priority uranium





anomalies identified during its 2025 exploration activities. The Eureka Project is located within one of the world's leading uranium provinces.

The announcement follows the completion of two private placements that raised N\$32 million (US\$1.95 million) to fund ongoing exploration. This included N\$16.42 million (US\$1 million) raised in December to advance near-term objectives and initiate uranium drilling.

ReeXploration also confirmed that it has completed a corporate rebrand, shifting its name to reflect a sharper focus on critical minerals aligned with global energy security and supply-chain diversification.

"The uranium targets we have defined at Eureka are technically compelling, located in one of the world's premier uranium districts, and ready to be tested," said Christopher Drysdale, interim chief executive officer of ReeXploration.

"2026 is about drilling and results, and we believe this programme has the potential to materially expand the scale and strategic relevance of the Eureka Project," Drysdale said. He said that during the second half of 2025, the company expanded the scope of the Eureka Project beyond rare earth elements after identifying multiple high-priority uranium targets. These targets are supported by radiometric

and geochemical anomalies consistent with large intrusion-related uranium systems and are considered drill-ready.

As a result, the Eureka Project has been repositioned as a dual-commodity critical minerals asset, combining its established rare earth element foundation with a newly defined uranium exploration opportunity.

ReeXploration said it will provide further updates as drilling and exploration activities progress.

The scientific and technical information relating to the project has been reviewed and approved by consulting geologist Tolene Kruger, a qualified person under National Instrument 43-101.




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## Mining



## Lofdal Rare Earths Project reaches pre-feasibility stage

Namibia Critical Metals has filed an independent NI 43-101 pre-feasibility study (PFS) for its Lofdal Heavy Rare Earths Project, the company said.

The technical report confirms the strong potential of the Lofdal 2B-4 deposit to produce high-value heavy rare earth elements, particularly dysprosium, terbium and yttrium, which are key inputs in the manufacture of permanent magnets used in electric vehicles, wind turbines

and advanced electronics, Namibia Critical Metals said.

The PFS was independently prepared by SGS Bateman (Pty) Ltd in accordance with NI 43-101 disclosure standards and was overseen by qualified person Joseph Keane, according to the company. Namibia Critical Metals said the depth and quality of the study reflect extensive technical work by a team of international experts.

"The quality and depth of this report reflect the work of SGS and a team of highly respected global

experts. The company extends its appreciation to all contributors for their professionalism, technical rigour and dedication in delivering this comprehensive report," said Namibia Critical Metals President Darrin Campbell.

The company said the Lofdal project is being developed through a joint venture with the Japan Organization for Metals and Energy Security, aimed at securing a long-term and sustainable supply of heavy rare earths to Japan.

Namibia Critical Metals said the partnership highlights Namibia's growing role as a supplier of critical minerals amid rising global demand and increasing geopolitical

supply risks.

Located in an established mining jurisdiction, the Lofdal project is fully permitted and operates under a 25-year mining licence, the company

said.

Completion of the pre-feasibility study marks an important step towards potential development of the project, it added.

## Energy



# Namibia outlines clean energy ambitions at IRENA gathering

Namibia has set a national target to achieve 70% renewable energy in its electricity mix by 2030, positioning the country

as a regional leader in Africa's low-carbon energy transition.

The target was outlined by Minister of Industries, Mines and Energy Modestus

Amutse while addressing the 16th session of the International Renewable Energy Agency Assembly in Abu Dhabi, where Namibia showcased its renewable



energy and green hydrogen progress and plans.

Amutse said Namibia is pursuing a development-centred energy transition anchored in policy reform, private sector participation and long-term industrialisation.

According to the minister, Namibia has already implemented key policy and regulatory changes, including the Modified Single Buyer model, which allows greater private sector participation while preserving system stability.

He said these reforms have attracted independent power producers and private developers, expanded generation capacity, diversified the electricity mix and reduced reliance on imported power.

"The success of the energy transition will ultimately be measured not only by installed capacity, but by its impact on people's lives, communities and economies," Amutse told the assembly.

He said green hydrogen forms a central pillar of Namibia's transition strategy, describing it as a strategic pathway for industrial development and integration into global

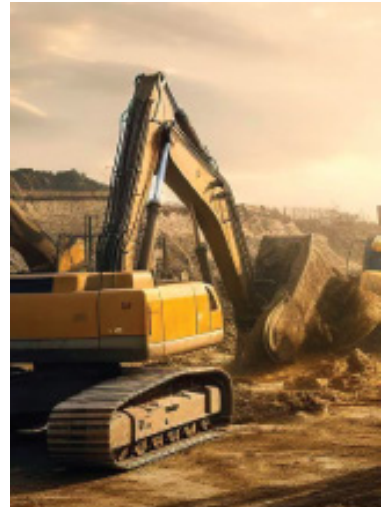
low-carbon value chains.

Amutse said Namibia has developed a Green Hydrogen Strategy and Roadmap focused on infrastructure development, regulatory frameworks and skills training. The strategy prioritises domestic value addition, including green steel and fertiliser production, while positioning the country as a future exporter of green hydrogen and related products.

Highlighting recent progress, Amutse pointed to Namibia's achievement in producing commercially viable green steel, which he said demonstrates how renewable energy and green hydrogen can be integrated to create jobs and higher-value industrial outputs.

He also underscored the role of IRENA in supporting Namibia's energy transition through technical assistance, policy guidance and investment facilitation.

"We remain determined to lead by example, demonstrating that a low-carbon, inclusive and development-centred energy transition is not only possible, but essential," Amutse said.



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## Commodities

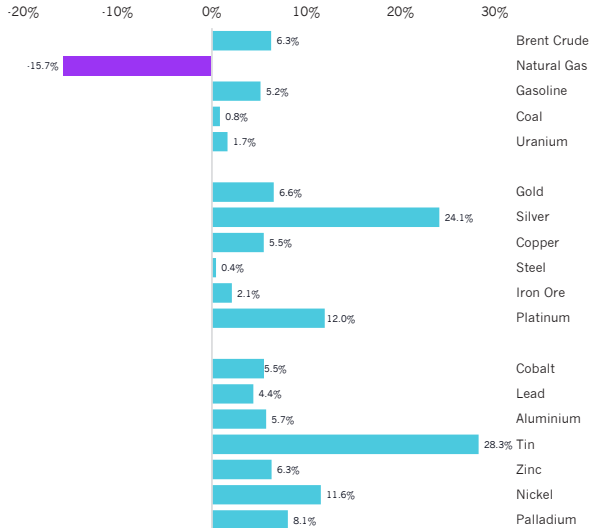


### Price Movements

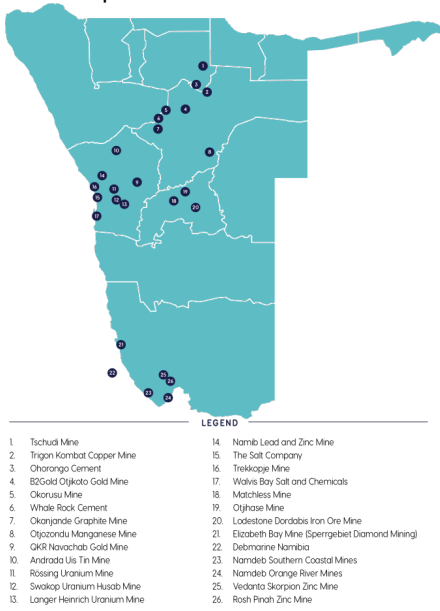
Commodity	Last Price (USD)	Change	
		Weekly	Monthly
ENERGY			
Brent Crude	64.67/bbl	2.1%	9.8%
Natural Gas	3.1/MMBtu	-2.0%	-20.0%
Gasoline	179.34/gal	0.7%	6.7%
Coal	108.4/t	1.0%	-0.2%
Uranium	82.75/lbs	0.9%	9.1%
METALS			
Gold	4603.02/t oz	2.1%	7.0%
Silver	88.95/t oz	11.4%	39.5%
Copper	583.85/lbs	-1.1%	12.4%
Steel	939/t	-0.1%	3.5%
Iron Ore	107.39/t	-0.6%	3.6%
Platinum	2307.26/t oz	1.2%	25.0%
INDUSTRIAL			
Cobalt	55836/t	0.0%	6.7%
Lead	2099.5/t	2.4%	8.2%
Aluminium	3167.5/t	1.0%	10.5%
Tin	52031/t	14.2%	27.1%
Zinc	3314.5/t	5.1%	7.1%
Nickel	18569/t	4.9%	29.4%
Palladium	1750.59/t oz	-4.0%	9.2%

Source: Bloomberg  
\*as of 16:30, 16 Jan '26

### Year to Date Price Changes

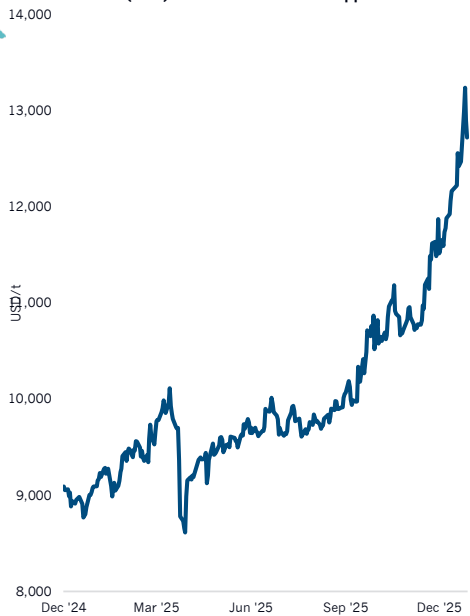


### Map of Mines in Namibia



Source: Chamber of Mines of Namibia

### (LME) Three-Month Future Copper Price



Source: Bloomberg