

SUMMARY HANDBOOK

Country Profile for
NAMIBIA



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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AGOA	African Growth and Opportunity Act
BoN	Bank of Namibia
C-BRTA	Cross-Border Road Transport Agency
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
FTA	Free Trade Agreement
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GVM	Gross Vehicle Mass
ND/ NAD	Namibian Dollar
SADC	Southern African Development Community
ZAR	South African Rand

1. OVERVIEW OF NAMIBIA

Namibia is situated in Southern Africa and its western border is the Atlantic Ocean. It shares land borders with Angola and Zambia to the north, Botswana to the east and South Africa to the south east. At 823,290 Km² (317,874 sq. miles) Namibia is the World's 48th largest country, and one of the most sparsely populated nations in the world. Its capital city is Windhoek. The population of Namibia is 2,598,070 with a population density of 3 per Km² (8 people per mi²). Meanwhile 48.2% of the population is urban (1,248,506 people in 2018). Namibia has fourteen regions which are: Kunene, Omusati, Oshana, Ohangwena, Oshikoto, Kavango West, Kavango East, Zambezi, Erongo, Otjozondjupa, Omaheke, Khomas, Hardap and Karas. The currency of Namibia is the Namibian Dollar (N\$ or NAD). The Namibia Dollar is fixed and equals to the South African Rand (ZAR). The official language is English, with more than 11 languages which are indigenous to Namibia.

2. TRANSPORT SYSTEM

The public transportation system is still developing in some parts of the country. Private transport operators provide the greater share of road transport services between major towns and to neighbouring countries. The parastatal, TransNamib provides rail passenger transport services to the south, west, and north of the country. Air Namibia is the national carrier and provides flight services to major towns within Namibia and to regional (including South Africa, Angola) countries, and international (Germany, United Kingdom) destinations. Private charter companies also provide domestic flights. Namibia has two commercial sea ports, Walvis Bay which is the main port, and Luderitz port.

2.2 Border posts

For all cars (hired and private), a police clearance, vehicle licensing papers, insurance letter and an owner's proxy are required to enter Zambia, Botswana, Zimbabwe or Angola from Namibia. The entry charges for crossing the border posts into Namibia for Regular User Permits is R416. Namibia has several border posts and the operating hours of the border posts are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: Namibia Border Posts and operating times

Countries	Border Post	Operating Times	Contact Number
Namibia - Angola	Raucana	08:00 – 19:00	+264 65 270290
	Omahenene	08:00 – 19:00	+264 65 259504
	Oshikango	08:00 – 19:00	+264 65 264616

	Katitwe	06:00 – 18:00	+264 66 255356
	Rundu	06:00 – 18:00	+264 66 255835
Namibia - Botswana	Ngoma Bridge	06:00 – 18:00	+264 66 252856
	Muhembo/Shakawe	06:00 – 18:00	+264 66 259900
	Dobe/Tsumkwe	06:00 – 18:00	+264 67 243328
	Buitepos/Mamuno	07:00 – 24:00	+264 62 560404
Namibia – South Africa	Velverdiend/ Mata Mata	08:00 – 16:30	+264 63 222114
	Klein Manasse/ Rietfontein	08:00 – 16:30	+264 63 280681
	Ariamsvlei/Nakop	24 hours	+264 63 280057
	Velloorsdrift/Onseepkans	08:00 – 16:30	+264 63 269134
	Noordoewer/Vioolsdrift	24 hours	+264 63 297122
	Sendelingsdrif	07:00 – 24:00	+264 63 222114
	Oranjemund	06:00 – 22:00	+264 63 232756
Namibia - Zambia	Wanela (Katima Mulilo)	06:00 – 18:00	+264 66 253430

The entry charges for crossing the border posts into Namibia are outlined in Table 2. **(From 1 May 2018 according to Road Fund Administration):**

Table 2: Entry charges into Namibia

Light vehicle charges	Bus vehicle charges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R 188 for motor cycles, motor tricycles, motor quadricycles, caravans and light trailers; • R 295 for motor cars, single and double-cab vehicles, 2x4 and 4x4 vehicles and minibuses (fewer than 25 passengers); and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R 697 for bus with 2 axles (carrying capacity of 25 or more passengers); • R 885 for bus with 3 axles (carrying capacity of 25 or more passengers); • R 697 for single unit truck with 2 axles; and • R 885 for single unit truck with 3 axles.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R 617 for light goods vehicles and delivery vehicles (GVM < 3 500kg). 	
Heavy vehicles and Heavy trailers as part of a combination vehicle	Construction vehicles
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R 697 for single unit truck with 2 axles; • R 885 for single unit truck with 3 axles; • R 697 for truck tractor with 2 axles; • R 885 for truck tractor with 3 axles; • R 1690 for truck tractor with 4 or more axles; • R 456 for trailer with 1 axles; • R 697 for trailer with 2 axles; • R 885 for trailer with 3 axles; • R 1193 for trailer with 4 axles; • R 1448 for trailer with 4 or more axles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R 2455 for tyre dozer, grader motor, front-end loaders, excavators, self-propelled vibratory rollers; and • R 469 for any other vehicle not listed.

3. ROAD TRANSPORT LEGISLATION

3.1 Speed Limits

The general speed limits (according to Road Authority of Namibia) are: 60 km/h on a public road within urban areas (may be lifted to 80 km/h on some major urban roads), 120 km/h on every tarmac freeway and 100 km/h on non-tarmac freeway ("gravel" road).

3.2 Traffic Fines

Road traffic flows on the left side of the road and the minimum driving age is categorised according to the following codes:

- Code 1: Motorcycles: Must be 16 years or older for Code A1 Driving Licence and 17 years for Code A Driving Licence;
- Code 2: Motor vehicles with tare not exceeding 3 500kg and minibus, bus, or goods vehicle for which gross vehicle mass (GVM) does not exceed 3 500kg: Must be 17 years or older; and
- Code 3: Motor vehicle for which the tare exceeds 3 500kg: Must be 18 years or older.

The offenses and official road traffic fines for road transport in Namibia are outlined in Table 3.

Table 3: Traffic Violations

TRAFFIC VIOLATION	AMOUNT (N\$)
Driving under the influence	N\$2 500
Speeding:	
• Driving at 71 to 75 km/h in 60 km/h zone	N\$375
• 96 to 100 km/h in 60 km/h zone	N\$500
• 126 to 130 km/h in 120 km/h zone	N\$1 000
• 141 to 145 km/h in 120 km/h zone	N\$2 000
Defects in the car (hooter, tyre, worn out brakes)	N\$1 500
Failure to obey traffic signs and signals	N\$2 000
Failure to stop at red traffic light	N\$2 500
Obstructing other road users	N\$1 000
Driving without license	N\$1 000
Reckless driving	N\$4 000
Talking on cell phone while driving	N\$2 000
Failure to stop at stop sign	N\$1 500
Not wearing seatbelt	N\$1 000
Driving vehicle that is not roadworthy	N\$2 000
Parking on disabled parking space	N\$1 000

4. CROSS BORDER ROAD TRANSPORT PERMITS

The number of permits issued in 2017/18 for road freight operations from South Africa to Namibia decreased by 8%, from 6119 to 5630. The bus permits showed an increase of 106% from 31 in 2016/17 to 64 in 2017/18. The number of permits issued for taxi operations increased by 66% from 124 to 206 in 2017/18.

5. ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Namibia's economic structure is increasingly influenced by the extractive sector. From 2011 to 2017, the primary sector's contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increased from 18.3% to 20.6%, on the back of large investments in new mining operations. The principal products extracted are diamonds, copper, gold and increasingly uranium.

5.1 Trade Environment

Namibia, like other countries with high income inequality is often described as having two economies. The first is a modern industrial economy, heavily dependent on the extraction and processing of minerals (diamonds and/ uranium) for export and to a lesser extent commercial

agricultural and fisheries sectors. The second economy is dominated by subsistence farming, where livelihoods are highly vulnerable to environmental changes and social shocks. The total exports in 2017 amounted to N\$63,545 million and imports totalled N\$87,994 million.

5.2 Trade Agreements

Namibia has bilateral and multilateral trade agreements with neighbouring countries in SADC region, as well as other developed and developing countries. The main trade agreements are outlined in Table 4.

Table 4: Namibia's main trade agreements

Type of Agreement	Countries
SACU	Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland
SACU-EFTA Free Trade Agreement	SACU and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland
SACU-Mercosur Preferential Trade Agreement	The Mercosur members are Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay
SADC Protocols (Trade and Transport)	SADC Member States
Free Trade Agreement (SADC FTA)	Between 12 SADC Member States Angola, DRC and Seychelles not members
SADC EPA Group	Six SADC member countries – Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland – signed an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the European Union
AGOA	It is a unilateral and non-reciprocal program that provides African countries with duty-free access to the US market for more than 6,400 products.

Namibia also has bilateral agreements with Angola, Tunisia, Zimbabwe, Cuba, Ghana, India, Malaysia and Russia.

6. EASE OF DOING BUSINESS

According to the World Bank, Namibia was ranked at 106 in 2018 for ease of doing business out of a total of 190 economies. The ease of doing business covers 10 themes namely Starting a business, dealing with construction permits, getting electricity, registering property, getting

credit, protecting minority investors, paying taxes, trading across borders, enforcing contracts, and resolving insolvency. When comparing Namibia with South Africa using these 10 themes, it shows that Namibia is performing better than South Africa in three areas namely getting electricity, trading across borders and enforcing contracts. Namibia made enforcing contracts easier by introducing an electronic filing system and an electronic case management system for the use of judges and lawyers.

7. REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION

7.1 Importation requirements

Importations between SACU countries are free of Customs and Excise duty with all importations to the Union being at a Common Customs external tariff. The revenue collected from those duties is pooled and shared under an agreed mechanism. All imported goods are subject to Value Added Tax of 15%. The documents required for importation of goods are: inland bill of lading, commercial invoice, Customs Import Declaration (SAD 500), packing list, customs transit document and VAT Deferral form.

Namibia is a party to the WTO Agreement on Import Licensing. All imports are subject to licensing, but most licenses are automatically granted. A limited number of products are subject to non-automatic licenses, including medicines; chemicals; frozen and chilled fish and meat; live animals and genetic materials; controlled petroleum products; firearms and explosives; diamonds, gold and other minerals; and seemingly all second-hand goods such as clothing and motor vehicles. In practice, however, Ministry of Industrialization, Trade and SME Development (MITSMED) does not issue licenses for imported used clothing.

Most agricultural imports require a permit issued by MITSMED. The Namibian Agronomic Board issues permits for the import, export, and transit of controlled agronomic crops such as wheat and wheat products as well as corn and corn products. Imports of agronomic crops and derivatives, as well as all plants and plant products, also require the issuance of phytosanitary certificates by the Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry (MWAF). The Namibian Meat Board regulates the import and export of live animals (cattle, sheep, goats and pigs) and derivative meat products. Importers of live animals and meat products must demonstrate compliance with the country's animal health standards by obtaining a veterinary import permit from the Directorate of Veterinary Services.

7.2 Exportation requirements

An export permit is required for certain goods. The export documents are filed with Namibia customs electronically. For customs clearance purposes, the exporter should submit the following documents: Bill of lading, Cargo Release Order, Commercial invoice, packing list, Customs Export Declaration, terminal handling receipt, booking confirmation (by shipping line), EUR 1 - Certificate of origin, Health certificate, Form F178 (Foreign Exchange Control Form) and SOLAS certificate.

The Directorate of Customs and Excise within the Department of Revenue Management under the Ministry of Finance is encompassing; protect the society with respect to the international movement of goods and people to collect control and secure revenue; to facilitate trade whilst exercising appropriate control, and to advance Namibia's interests regionally and internationally in these areas.

The efficiency of the Customs Clearance process is depended on having the valid documents, the accuracy of the information provided in the documents as well as the promptness in submitting the documents and filing the necessary applications for the Customs Clearance. It is the responsibility of the exporter to make sure that all export documents that are required to get the goods delivered through the ports and customs satisfies all compliance and regulatory requirements.

8. OPPORTUNITIES

The following opportunities exist in Namibia

- **Passenger Transport:** Opportunities exist for cross-border road transport operators to conduct passenger transport operations, and operators should tap into this market.
- **Tourism sector:** The Namibian tourism sector offers numerous opportunities for investment through direct investments or joint ventures in areas such as business tourism, recuperation tourism, also known as health or medical tourism and cultural tourism.
- **Logistics and Transport:** The port of Walvis Bay is ideally located for shipments to and from Europe and America. There is significantly high volume of freight destined to and from SADC coming through the port. Namibia has a well-established road infrastructure, regarded as one of the best on the continent.
- **Infrastructure Investment:** Investment opportunities may take the form of public-private partnerships (PPPs) either on a basis of per project or with equity holdings. Current focal areas are the development of water infrastructure, power generation,

transmission infrastructure, as well as the transport and logistics infrastructure; notably road, rail and port.

- **Mining sector:** The mining sector is incredibly lucrative and hugely an important sector for Namibia. Opportunities include; mineral exploration, beneficiation of minerals, processing of precious and semi-precious stones, provision of services and joint ventures with state companies and jewellery manufacturing.
- **Fisheries:** To a large extent, Namibia's fishing industry has been, and remains a raw material producer. Opportunities exist in fish processing, shellfish production downstream activities, ship and marine exploration maintenance and components and mari-culture.
- **Manufacturing:** Opportunities exist in steel manufacturing and metal fabrication, automotive industry, fodder and pet food production, jewellery industry and production of chemicals and manufacturing of leather, wool and textiles.
- **Agriculture sector:** Opportunities in this sector include processing of meat and meat products, manufacturing of milk products as well as milk-based drinks, cream, butter, yoghurt, cheese and ice-cream, processing of vegetables and fruits, irrigation technologies, establishment of feed lots and management, leather training and production of sodium stearate.

9. CONTACT DETAILS OF RELEVANT AUTHORITIES

Table 5 below lists contact details of key stakeholders in the cross-border road transport environment for both South Africa and Namibia. Should a cross-border transport operator, trader or any other stakeholder face challenges or need assistance in the course of conducting cross-border business, it is recommended that they contact the following stakeholders.

Table 5: Contact Details

South Africa	Cross-border Road Transport Agency	+27 (0)12 471 2000
	South African Revenue Service (SARS) Customs	0800 00 7277
	Department of Home Affairs (DHA)	+27 (0)13 793 7311
	South African Police Service (SAPS)	+27 (0)12 393 1000
	Agriculture	+27 (0)12 319 6000
	South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL)	+27 (0)12 844 8000
Namibia	Trans-Kalahari Corridor Secretariat	+264 61 250 071
	Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications	+264 61 2088111
	Road Fund Administration	+264 61 433 3000
	Road Authority	+264 61 284 7000
	Ministry of Environment and Tourism	+264 61 284 2111
	Namibia Tourism Board	+264 61 2906000
	Museums Association of Namibia	+264 61 302230
	Ministry of Trade and Industry	+264 61 283 7258
	Ministry of Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development	+264 65 251 087
Namibia Revenue Agency	+264-61-2099111/ +264 61 411 800	



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