



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR KUNENE REGION

# STATE OF THE REGION ADDRESS 2020

DELIVERED  
BY

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REGIONAL GOVERNOR OF THE KUNENE REGION



UNITY



DEVELOPMENT



PROGRESS

29 JULY 2020

# OPUWO

STEP BY STEP - SHOULDER BY SHOULDER  
WE MOVE KUNENE COLLECTIVELY



# SORA KUNENE REGION

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It is not only a privilege but also a great honour to stand before you, the people of the Kunene Region, the Ultimate Frontier as Governor and Representative of the Head of State and Government in the Kunene Region to address this August House in compliance with the provisions of Article 110(b) sub article 5 and 6 of the Namibian Constitution.

This Constitutional mandate obligates me to report on the state of the region and in the same vain allow me to introduce you to the vision of a United Kunene Unlocking its Potential for Shared Prosperity.

**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

Grant me first an opportunity to congratulate His Excellency Dr. Hage G Geingob on his re-election as President of the Republic of Namibia, we are fully cognizant and appreciative of your leadership, wisdom and guidance, you remain our country's symbol of development, peace and unity.

We are grateful for your vision for a government – of creating an inclusive society. We are grateful because every fibre of your being is committed to meeting our deepest and most basic desires – of being free from want, free from ignorance, free from suppression and free from fear. You remind us daily never to give up the fight for a better Namibia because you understand and care for us. You embody the integrity of mind that has become rare in today's politics.

**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

This year's State of the Region Address is more than a speech, it is a targeted approach to create conditions that will galvanise the energy and creativity of all sectors of our population to take deliberate actions that unlocks the potential of our region for shared prosperity.

We all have a role and part to play.

Kunene has a responsibility to conceptually, practically and programmatically unlock its potential, it cannot be business as usual.

We must first acknowledge as we embark on this journey towards the Kunene we want, that we are in trying times, the world is undergoing multiple transitions due to a new normal that is fundamentally altering the way we live.





# COVID -19 REPORT

These transitions have been forced upon us by the Covid-19 pandemic, the pandemic has severe health effects, as well as serious economic and social adverse complications. Quarantines and social distancing measures, which are needed to curb the rapid spread of the virus and save lives are leading to income loss.

The loss of income is primarily affecting the broad layers of the population. It has further aggravated the flaws in our society and continues to deepen the existing vulnerabilities that plague our society.

**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

We have one positive cases reported to date, The case in Opuwo is of a 27 year old female with no traveling history and no COVID19 related symptoms, cumulative quarantines in the Kunene are 161, discharged 114 and currently in quarantine is 47 Opuwo Urban 37, Outjo 4 and Khorixas 6.

**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

The regional health reports that the Virus has instilled fear in the community, it has also increased the Regional budget expenditures through fuel, transport repairs, services and maintenances costs and food for the quarantined people in the facilities, thereby heavily impacting negatively on our budget outturn during investigations, contact tracing and follow-up in the community. However, it is worth noting, as this was important measures to prevent, control and contain the disease outbreak.

We have taken an approach of being proactive towards the fight of COVID-19 our Regional strategy has worked thus far of public education, activation of Regional Disaster Risks Management committees at Regional and Local level, COVID Tasks committees at Regional, Local, village and street levels. We must adhere to the regulations set out in order to save lives. At this juncture I wish to thank the community of Kunene Region for the cooperation and willingness during this trying times.

Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members

As basic service provider's government have employed various measures to assist the community members in different areas, income grants for the unemployed, water supply, food supply, shelter provision, sanitation provision, safety and security. We shall continue being on the ground and assisting our communities as a caring government during this trying times

We also extend our gratitude and appreciation to the private sector, conservancies, traditional authorities and NGO's for their donations and assistance during this difficult times





# UNITY

**Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members**

Tribalism is one of the main issues that keeps democracy and transformation of people's lives at a slow pace. It is the evil of tribal politics that is derailing the development of economically prosperous societies, it is damaging as it erodes our people's sense of belonging and reduce the trust we have in each other.

We pride ourselves on being one of the most diverse regions in the country, but this also comes with its challenges that require us to pay attention to our identity and culture.

That is why after my appointment as Governor in 2018, I embarked on a journey of reconciling and reconstructing the social landscape of the Kunene Region with the aim of building a society that reaffirms our common humanity and common nationality.

Today I emphasize yet again that there is no region called Kunene north or Kunene south, we live in Kunene Region, this context of north and south is a tribal connotation being used by opportunist people for personal gain when it suits them hence until it is declared as such by the Government of the Republic of Namibia we only have one Kunene Region.

**Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members**

We are determined to promote unity because we believe that this is the only way of creating a winning region economically and socially.

We will continue to put our energies to work on social cohesion and moral regeneration, it is imperative for us to generate a positive spirit, UBUNTU and reaching out to each other. Because these lead to collective action, a necessary ingredient for the transformation of our society into one region united in diversity.

We are bound together that is why as government we are committed to promoting the culture of peaceful coexistence, political tolerance, fighting tribalism and promoting equality.

That is why I am making this clarion call today that we must unite against tribalism and other intolerances, let us fight intolerances wherever and whenever they manifest themselves.

Traditional authorities are an important part of us achieving unity, hence we call on them to continue doing their good work and part in building a united Namibia







# DEVELOPMENT

Challenges are not uncommon to the people of the Kunene Region, one thing we have learned from them is that they do one of two things to us; they either break us or they force us to go back to the original ground of our being. Adversity wakes us up. It reminds us not who we think we are in our pride, but who we really are in our simplicity. It is in difficult times that the great times ahead are dreamt and built, brick by brick, shoulder by shoulder, with maturity and the hope that comes from collective wise action.

Our actions must reflect our developmental ambitions thus it is imperative that every sphere of government takes steps to connect the dots that facilitate talent discovery, promote human capital development and create intragovernmental cooperation.

To ensure better lives for all our people is a complex and difficult task thus we need to synergise these three elements to strengthen us by tapping as much as possible from the expertise employed at all our institutions.

**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

We value partnerships! We believe that our successes, over the past two years and in the remaining period of our administration will depend largely on us creating transformative and enduring partnerships with private sector. We will surely perish at the altar of the triple challenges of poverty, hunger and unemployment if we cannot foster partnerships for shared prosperity.





# INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

The catalytic properties of infrastructure is beneficial for sustainable economic development, infrastructure transcends and goes beyond the visible aspects of construction and leads into socioeconomic empowerment.

The jobs created by the construction of economic infrastructure is a game changer in the fight against poverty, hunger and unemployment.

**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

Allow me to report on the progress of government activities and projects in the Kunene region for the 2019/2020 financial year.







# HOUSING & LAND DELIVERY

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The most fundamental reason for the existence of any government is to ensure the provision of services to its people. Housing and Land is of utmost importance as this particular time of our being and local authorities have a huge task to deliver.

Services provided by local authorities have a direct and immediate effect on the quality of lives of the people in the community. Being one of the core tasks of local authorities, basic services represent a tangible and direct link between government and the people.

**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

## ***Kamanjab Local Authority***

The local authority of Kamanjab has Installed Water reticulation network in Nuweland Informal Settlement and Ou Rab connecting **347** households at the amount of **N\$ 3,985,000.00**, a further **181** households in "Ou Rab informal settlement" will be connected to water reticulation network at a cost of **N\$ 4,000,000.00** by next month (August 2020).

Kamanjab Village Council is also busy installing pre-paid meters, this includes meters, pipes and fitting, the exercise cost is at **N\$ 1,200,000.00**, so far **280** meters have been installed, a 70% of the targeted amount.

Through the Road Fund Administration Kamanjab have re-gravelled, gravelled roads and repaired potholes on bitumen roads at a cost of **N\$ 800,000.00** for 18 km.

## ***Khorixas Local Authority***

With the objective of constructing services infrastructure (water & roads) in order to ensure reliable infrastructure for servicing **628** erven in Khorixas Informal Settlement and to connect households. Construction of Water Services & Roads network in Khorixas Informal Settlement, Extension **11 & 12**, the following were achieved at an amount of **N\$ 6,000,000.00**:

- Formalization of Erf **3385** into **628** erven in Informal Settlement
- Water reticulation was completed.
- **268** pre-paid water meters were installed and connected to households.
- Construction and graveling of **1.2km** accessible road completed.
- Ada-//Gaugu new Informal Settlement have been created where people were relocated and Additional work of water reticulation was constructed and completed, and **19** communal standpipes were installed for 136 households.

## ***Outjo Municipality***

The Outjo local authority is busy with water and sewerage reticulation networks in the informal settlements **65%** completion, the project cost is **N\$ 7,000,000.00**. Once completed 600 households will be connected which will benefit **2500** people.

A legacy centre is being constructed in the informal settlement of Outjo municipality, the centre will house:

- Clinic
- Police Station
- Library/Small Study hall
- Municipal Office
- Ablution block









The construction of the centre is to bring services closer to the people in the informal settlement and is being funded by local businesses and individuals with 20 volunteers doing the actual work. 20 houses were constructed under the Mass Housing Development Programme 18 have been allocated and NHE is in the process of finalizing the allocation of the remaining 2 houses.

## **Opuwo Town Council**

A total of 20 houses were constructed in Opuwo Extension 6 and 27 by the Shack Dwellers Federation.

Opuwo Town Council rolled out the following electrification projects through NORED:

1. Orutjandja informal settlement
2. Katutura Extension 2

Opuwo Town Council also extended street lighting in Mbumbijazo Muharukua Street

Under the Road Fund Administration funds Opuwo Town Council re-gravelled 3.2 km of roads in Otuzemba location. Further Opuwo Town Council carried maintenance of 2.2 km of gravel roads in Okatuwo also under Road Fund Administration.

### **Honourable Chairperson Honourable Members**

Local authorities face a myriad of obstructions that block their path to sustainability. One of these factors is debt collections, the complex nature of debt management and the lack of expertise creates hurdles for local authorities to collect debt that is owed to them.

The delivery of land should be our priority for the next five years, we have the land planned, mapped, surveyed but we sit with challenges of raising the funds hence it should be our mandate to come up with innovative ways to deliver land.





# EDUCATION

Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members

Education lays a strong foundation for the development of all our talents and capabilities and advances the democratic transformation of the society.

There is a direct relationship between school infrastructure and academic performance particularly in the dimensions of learner attendance and completion of academic cycles, teacher motivation and learning results.

We are adamant that education of our children is sacrosanct and thus nothing should be allowed to get between learners and quality education.

During the 2019/2020 financial thirty six projects were done under the Directorate of Education, Arts and Culture, at an amount of N\$ 168,704,511.68 worth of completed projects. Project breakdown is as follows:

NO.	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	CONSTITUENCY	PROJECT VALUE	PROJECT STATUS
1	Building and electrification of dining hall and kitchen at <b>Ehomba Combined School</b>	Epupa	<b>1,665,000.08</b> (New Zealand donors and one third to be funded by the Directorate)	95% Minor work outstanding (not handed over)
2	<b>Okondaunue Primary School</b> – Ablution block and electrification.	Opuwo Urban	<b>783,831.29</b>	99% Minor work remaining
3	Module 2 Classroom Block at <b>Musaso Combined School</b> for Pre-primary.	Opuwo Rural	<b>743,779.66</b>	100% Completed
4	Renovation of blocks A and B hostel blocks at <b>Frans Frederick Combined School</b> .	Khorixas	<b>1,482,092.40</b>	99% Minor work remaining
5	Renovation of old toilets at school and construction and electrification of new ablution block at school at <b>Frans Frederick Combined School</b> .	Khorixas	<b>765,860.00</b>	100% Completed
6	Electrification of blocks A, B, C and D at <b>Frans Frederick Combined School</b> .	Khorixas	<b>458,479.05</b>	100% Completed
7	<b>Etoshapoort Junior Secondary School</b> – Ablution block and electrification.	Outjo	<b>683,830.62</b>	100% Completed
8	Renovation of <b>Outjo Secondary School Hostel</b> (Huis Nordia).	Outjo	<b>1,139,611.63</b>	95% Deviations from Bill of Quantity specifications noted)
9	Major renovations of sewerage system and water supply & electrical renovations to Girls, Boys Hostels, Kitchen, classrooms, office, ablution blocks; alteration of existing shades and construction of dining hall & minor repairs & maintenance & connections at <b>Alpha Combined School</b> .	Opuwo Urban	<b>6,831,529.50</b>	40% Contractor still on site and renovations ongoing
10	Water supply to <b>Otjapitjapi Primary School</b> . Construction of water facilities & waterline from the fountain to school.	Opuwo Rural	<b>232,635.96</b>	20% Water tank stands were erected; no connection of pipes yet

PROJECT BREAKDOWN





PROJECT BREAKDOWN

11	Replacement of PVC pipes with galvanized pipes at Orumana Combined School. In continuation of a project of Namibia German Special Initiative Program (NGSIP) for replacing water pipes for approximately 3.5 kilometers from borehole to school.	Opuwo Rural	859,600.00	
12	Module 1 Classroom Block at Welwitschia Primary School for Pre-Primary.	Khorixas	299,063.75	
13	Module 1 Classroom Block at Warmquelle Primary School for Pre-Primary.	Sesfontein	320,031.25	
14	Module 1 Classroom Block at Otjondoka Primary School for Pre-Primary.	Opuwo Rural	320,691.89	
15	Module 1 Classroom Block at Otjikojo Primary School for Pre-Primary.	Epupa	347,766.21	
16	Module 1 Classroom Block at Otjapitjapi Primary School for Pre-Primary.	Opuwo	346,449.40	
17	Module 1 Classroom Block at Etanga Primary School for Pre-Primary.	Epupa	343,203.75	
18	Construction of new ablution block and staff room at Mureti Senior Secondary School	Opuwo Urban	8,000,000	Capital Project
19	Module 2 Classroom Block at Okanguati Combined School	Epupa	919,221.92	
20	Module 2 Classroom Block at Okanguati Combined School for Pre-primary	Epupa	919,221.92	Completed
21	Module 2 Classroom Block at Otjitanda Primary School for pre-primary	Epupa	876,621.20	Completed
22	Module 2 Classroom Block at Okondaunue Primary School for Pre-primary.	Opuwo Urban	823,293.12	Completed
23	Katutura Project School – Ablution block construction and electrification	Opuwo Urban	784,685.30	Completed
24	Module 2 Classroom Block at Alpha Combined School	Opuwo Urban	925,543.11	Completed
25	Module 2 Classroom Block at Ombombo Combined School	Opuwo Rural	919,221.92	Completed
26	Module 2 Classroom Block at Orumana Combined School	Opuwo Urban	776,456.20	Completed
27	Module 2 Classroom Block at Orotjtombo Primary School for Pre-primary.	Opuwo Rural	801,302.98	Completed
28	Module 2 Classroom Block at Elias Amxab Combined School	Sesfontein	823,293.12	Completed
29	Module 2 Classroom Block at Kamanjab Combined School	Kamanjab	830,298.48	Completed
30	Module 2 Classroom Block at D.F. Uirab Primary School for Pre-primary.	Kamanjab	680,073.30	Completed
31	Renovation of blocks C and D hostel blocks and kitchen at Frans Frederick Combined School.	Khorixas	1,871,280.63	95% (minor work remaining)
32	Module 2 Classroom Block at Maarsen Primary School for Pre-primary.	Outjo	798,227.41	Completed
33	Repair of sewerage pumping machine at Braunfels Technical High School	Khorixas	93,049.53	Completed
34	Electrification of school and hostel at Omuangete Unit - NORED	Epupa	206,053.70	100% Completed
New Schools currently under way to be constructed from the ground				
35	Otuzemba Project School -Construction of 10 x classrooms -Administration & Computer Lab block -4 x Ablution block -3 x Classes for pre-primary -Gate house -Fencing, -Drainage system.	Opuwo Urban	44, 969,834.31	5% The contract is awarded



The government has allocated **N\$ 38,465,890.00** to address challenges posed by COVID-19 at schools, budget allocation received for:

- **Construction and renovations of ablution facilities at schools - N\$ 21,000,000.00,**
  - o 26 schools and hostels will benefit from this allocation.
- **Construction and renovation of hostels - N\$ 15,147,890.00,**
  - o New hostels (2 x 32 Modules & ABL2) will be constructed at six (6) schools
  - o A total of nine (9) schools will have their hostels renovated
- **Water Provision – N\$ 2,318,000.00**
  - o This budget allocation will be channeled to the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry to address the water issues at our schools in the region, including the water challenges at the Ondao Mobile units.
  - o As temporary measures, the MAWF is currently busy ferrying water to selected identified schools. These are schools such as Orumana CS and Kaoko-Otavi CS.
  - o Schools where the MAWF cannot reach (ferry water), the MAWF is busy fixing the problems associated with the water issues, and these are schools such as Ohaijiuua PS and Otjikojo PS.
- The budget will also cater for hostel furniture at **N\$ 1,312,467.00** and the procurement of cleaning material **N\$ 4,125,800.00**

The Kunene Vocational Training Center has moved to phase two which involves actual building construction on site and the contract has been awarded, hence we request NTA to fasten the process of completion, this project is important for our regional development.







# AGRICULTURE



Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members

Climate change and its effects are real, it is evident that we will be facing the negative effects of the prolonged drought for some time especially in the areas of agriculture.

Economically the inhabitants of the region depend heavily on subsistence agriculture as the preferred point of intervention in raising living standards, improving livelihoods and mitigating poverty, this method of farming is very vulnerable to climate change/variability as these farmers are highly dependent on weather patterns and climate change which exacerbate poverty and hunger levels.

To mitigate the effects of drought and expand the impact of the agriculture sector, I am pleased to announce that in the period under review through the **Drought Intervention Programme** period government has successfully drilled 16 boreholes, installed 19, and rehabilitated 18 boreholes at an amount of **N\$ 21,000,000.00**, the implementation breakdown of the programme is as follows

Allocation as per constituencies	CONSTITUECY	DRILLING	Installation	Rehabilitation
	KAMANJAB	1	1	3
	OPUWO - URBAN	2	0	1
	OPUWO - RURAL	3	5	1
	EPUPA	4	3	4
	SESFONTEIN	2	5	4
	OUTJO	3	1	0
	KHORIXAS	1	5	5
TOTAL		16	19	18



PROJECT NAME	CONSTITUENCY	LOCATION	EXPECTED OUT PUT	ALLOCATION	STATUS
Installation	Khorixas	Kalbron	Portable water	337,960.00	Completed
Installation	Khorixas	Dagbreek	Portable water	340,443.00	70%Completed
Installation	Khorixas	Mesopotamia	Portable water	336,744.00	90%Completed
Installation	Khorixas	Goeiehoop h/s	Portable water	338,550.57	Completed
Installation	Khorixas	Berg post	Portable water	329,670.27	Completed
Installation	Opuwo-Rural	Otjiwore	Portable water	371,169.00	Completed
Installation	Opuwo-Rural	Omao no 3	Portable water	395 515.00	Completed
Installation	Opuwo-Rural	Otuvero	Portable water	289,362.00	Completed
Installation	Opuwo-Rural	Okatapati	Portable water	336,947.04	Completed
Installation	Opuwo-Rural	Okauaaka	Portable water	343,925.00	Completed
Installation	Epupa	Omataurirua	Portable water	398,961.45	Completed
Installation	Epupa	Otjisoko tjamuhanguzi	Portable water	370,016.64	Completed
Installation	Epupa	Okaerere	Portable water	324,016.10	Completed
Installation	Sesfontein	Otijkakaneno tjaihejakotuua	Portable water	334,945.80	Completed
Installation	Sesfontein	Otijkakaneno tjomininga	Portable water	425,926.80	Completed
Installation	Sesfontein	Eendrag	Portable water	352,759.05	Completed
Installation	Sesfontein	Quavandus	Portable water	339,714.50	Completed
Installation	Outjo	Werda	Portable water	338,550.57	Completed
	Khorixas	Duineveld			
Installation	Kamanjab	Lemoen plaas(Ou piet)	Portable water	294,160.50	Completed
Rehabilitation	Epupa	Otjakati (maundu)	Portable water	384,097.19	Completed

CAPITAL PROJECTS 2019/2020





Rehabilitation	Khorixas	Soul straat/Dieprevier	Portable water	351,728.19	Completed
Rehabilitation	Khorixas	Middle plaas	Portable water	377,584.15	Completed
Rehabilitation	Khorixas	Vaalhoek	Portable water	326,973.00	Completed
Rehabilitation	Khorixas	Goeiehoop post	Portable water	341,073.00	75%Completed
Rehabilitation	Khorixas	Moreson	Portable water	376,193.11	Completed
Rehabilitation	Kamanjab	/Naraxams post	Portable water	337,230.50	Completed
Rehabilitation	Kamanjab	/Naraxams post5	Portable water	342,973.00	Completed
Rehabilitation	Opuwo-Urban	Otjigambu	Portable water	327,567.56	Completed
Rehabilitation	Opuwo-Rural	Outjoue	Portable water	298,726.00	Completed
Rehabilitation	Epupa	Ovijere	Portable water	337,250.80	Completed
Rehabilitation	Epupa	Oruseu	Portable water	342,255.50	Completed
Rehabilitation	Epupa	Otjiwarongo	Portable water	321,603.48	Completed
Rehabilitation	Sesfontein	Onguta	Portable water	342,765.00	Completed
Rehabilitation	Sesfontein	Immanuel (Titus)	Portable water	353,131.65	Completed
Rehabilitation	Sesfontein	Erwee post 2	Portable water	331,182.00	Completed
Rehabilitation	Sesfontein	Omuheke	Portable water	361,502.73	Completed
Rehabilitation	Kamanjab	Eastwood		324,202.93	Completed
Drilling A	Opuwo-Rural	Okongutirua	Portable water		Successful
Drilling	Opuwo-Rural	Otjomupanda	Portable water		Not Successful
Drilling	Opuwo-Urban	Otjerunda	Portable water	862,507.35	Successful
Drilling B	Opuwo-Rural	Okatumba west	Portable water		Cancelled
Drilling	<u>Epupa/</u>	Ourundu Oungondo/Okapembe	Portable water		Cancelled
Drilling	Opuwo-Urban	Otjiyarua	Portable water	1,004,430.00	Successful



In-house rehabilitation under 1 million project		
Name of village	constituency	Status
Arbeidsadel	Khorixas	90% completed
Okovasiona	Sesfontein	50% completed/low yield new borehole to be drilled if funds are available
Ouondjupa	Opuwo-Rural	50% completed
Otjouye	Opuwo-Urban	50% completed
Ondauka	Epupa	50% completed

**Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members**

It is noteworthy to mention that all water points have been equipped with either a solar or diesel engine pump, plastic tanks on tank stands, domestic tap stand and cattle troughs, but those with pending status the inhouse team is on the ground finalizing the work.

With the assistance of Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) we have successfully provided three communities access to water, namely Noupoot in the Khorixas constituency, Ondiombo vomakongo and Omirora both in the Epupa Constituency.

A total of 21 borehole were drilled with all of them completion and successful installation through the donation of the former President of the Republic of South Africa His Excellency Jaco Zuma, the following areas benefitted from this programme:

**Epupa Constituency:**

- 1. Orusoromutati
- 2. Okambere
- 3. Okomindumbiri
- 4. Otjerivanga/Ovituambu
- 5. Okatapati
- 6. Owatjipawe
- 7. Otjirunga/Otengua
- 8. Otjiwakomitiri

**Opuwo Rural Constituency:**

- 9. Okozombandje/Ometuherera
- 10. Ouambandje
- 11. Ondie
- 12. Otjikunda
- 13. Outokotorua/Orozonungu
- 14. Okomuhona
- 15. Otjijaua

**Sesfontein Constituency:**

- 16. Otjandaue (Engine)
- 17. Otjiperongo
- 18. Ororupize
- 19. Odewete
- 20. Erindirauhinda
- 21. Ovimbandagoma (Engine)

Drilling, solar pump installation and the installation of plastic tanks and tap stand were successfully completed at the villages of Oruhona, Okatumbona, Okauwa and Otjaparakaha through the RFA project.



**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

The Ministry of Agriculture, Water, Forestry and Land Reform through the Directorate of Agriculture Production, Extension and Engineering Services (DAPEES) has the mandate to advise on the maintaining and improving production, create linkages between stakeholders and implement programs and projects.

Through the Dry Land Crop Production Programme (DCPP), we have ploughed 950.8 hectares of agricultural land for planting of which **487.7** hectares were ploughed by the **8** state owned tractors and the remaining 463.1 hectares were ploughed through privately owned tractors at a cost of **N\$ 216,125.00**. A total of **1,005** people benefitted from the programme

Agricultural subsidies play a valuable role in the quest for food security, by subsidizing agricultural inputs government shrinks the burden placed on poor families to acquire these inputs and focus their energies on using their own human capital to produce food.

A total of **1026** farmers received seed subsidies worth **N\$ 100,500.00** through DCPP, **69.1%** of the recipients were women.

A total of **26** farmers in the Khorixas and Sesfontein constituencies benefitted from the Small Stock Development and Distribution to Communal Areas (SSDDCA) project, the programme is aimed at empowering the vulnerable farmers to help themselves through goat donations. **18** farmers in Khorixas and **8** in Sesfontein, each benefactor received **20** does and 1 buck in June **2016** to **2019**, a total of **546** animals were distributed. The programme is designed in such a way that after 3-5 years each benefactor donates back **20** goats to the Ministry for revolving purpose to assist another vulnerable farmer for empowerment and self-sustenance.

The NHSI is an initiative that has been designed to boost horticultural production, a total of **50** farmers were subsidized for seeds, pesticides and fertilizers, while 35 benefitted from irrigation materials and tools. A further 15 farmers benefited a total **N\$ 134,055.00** through this initiative.

**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

Government has during the period under review constructed staff houses, office blocks and animal handling facilities under the Development of Animal and Plant Health Inspection Centres at Border Entry Points at Oronditi Border Post for an amount of **N\$ 26,681,969.62** and at Swartbooidrift Border **N\$ 18,968,053.00**.

The Directorate of Veterinary Services also through the Improvement of Animal Health and Marketing Services in North Central Areas embarked on a triple approach campaign of vaccination, cattle identification and surveillance and census collection, though the programme is only at **50%** completion, the efforts are laudable.

A total of **1,425** dogs were vaccinated in villages through the Dog mediated rabies elimination campaign in the constituencies of Epupa, Opuwo Rural, Opuwo Urban and Sesfontein at the amount of **N\$ 101,556.00**

A total of **13,232** cattle were vaccinated and **2,799** heads were tagged, these totals only constitute half of the animals in the Epupa and Opuwo Urban constituencies.

**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

Kunene region remain one of the prioritized regions as far as the Environment Investment Fund intervention is concerned towards supporting sustainable utilization of natural resources and sustainable development.

Over the reporting period the Fund has to date committed funding of a total value of around N\$163,000,000.00 in support of Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) with activities at different stage of development during the reporting period.



As approximately 70% of Namibia's population is directly dependent on subsistence agriculture and livestock husbandry, climate change poses an acute challenge to livelihoods of our people, and this includes Kunene region. In dealing with these challenges, the following interventions has been committed to Kunene region with the following progress;

1. **Under the Enhance Direct Access (EDA) project funded through the Green Climate Fund (GCF), Kunene region is one of the regions with most Community Based Organisation (CBO) that has benefited so far. On that, the following activities and impact are recorded;**
  - a. A total number of seven (7) grants were awarded to Kunene region valued at N\$ 29,966,937.26 and benefiting 16 Communal Conservancy and Community Forest in the region.
  - b. Furthermore, 14 boreholes have been rehabilitated in the following Conservancies: Doro! Nawas Conservancy, Khoadi //Hôas Conservancy !Khoró-!Goreb Conservancy, Uibasen Twyfelfontein Conservancy, Sorri-Sorris Conservancy and /Audi Conservancy.
  - c. Two (2) Commercial Hydroponic Fodder Production Plant powered by solar energy were developed at Ehrovipuka Conservancy.
  - d. Two (2) Solar Plants developed at Sorri-Sorris and Omatendeka Conservancies respectively to supply the much needed energy.
  - e. And a total number of 4 380 households is benefiting from this grants interventions with 65 employment opportunities under this project.
  - f. The project will continue to monitor the implementation of the remaining activities for example, the operationalization of commercial fodder plant at Ehrovipuka, benefits sharing towards conservancy members from the Solar Plant installed at Sorri-Sorris and Omatendeka conservancies, and many others.





2. **The one hundred and thirty million dollar (N\$ 130 million) project called “Improving rangeland and ecosystem management practices of smallholder farmers under conditions of climate change in Sesfontein, Fransfontein, and Warmquelle areas”, renamed as “IREMA Kunene Project” has made the following progress during the reporting period.**
  - a. The project procured and disseminated about 1.5 ton of drought tolerant seed varieties including maize, sorghum, pumpkin and sweet melons to about 150 farmers in the region.
  - b. The project managed to conduct ‘Capacity Building Need Assessment’ of the nine (9) Farmer’s Associations in Kunene region who will be benefiting directly from this project.
  - c. Technical Field Assessment work has been completed at the three sites namely; Fransfontein, Sesfontein and Warmquelle that will be turned into successful green scheme production sites. A draft Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) between EIF and AgriBusDev is developed to facilitate institutional arrangements to this end.
  - d. Water Quality Sampling assessment is completed at Fransfontein, Sesfontein and Warmquelle with positive scientific analytical results on crop production.
  - e. The project has also managed to commission a ‘Topographic survey’ by Land Surveyors and the full report is already produced. This leads to positive progressive procurement process for the contractors to start with the rehabilitation and operationalization of the production sites.
  - f. Furthermore, the procurement of “drought resilient Small Stock” is at advance stage and very soon beneficiaries will be receiving their goats.
  - g. The project is currently in its second year of implementation and more productive actions are anticipated during 2020/2021 financial year. This includes; the operationalization of the green scheme production sites, setting up of the early warning system for Kunene region, rolling out of the small stock revolving scheme, supporting of the backyard household gardens, energy efficient stoves provisions and many others.
3. **Furthermore, another great project intervention valued at three (3) million looking at ‘Big Cat’ population has been commissioned over the reporting period by the Small Grant Programme which is hosted by the Environment Investment Fund.**
  - a. The Big Cats Conservation Program seeks to advance conservation efforts benefitting big cat’s populations, protecting and restoring them and their habitats via field-based, action-oriented, direct, and quantifiable strategic programs initiated by local communities. The implementation of this projects is aligned to the National Policy on Human Wildlife Conflict Management, Northwest Human-Lion Conflict Management Strategy, National Large Carnivore Conservation and Management Policy, and any other relevant strategy. The implementation period is two years and have started in August 2019 ending August 2021.
4. **The Game Products Trust Fund which is equally hosted by the EIF has approved and funded the following activities in Kunene region over the reporting period;**
  - a. Construction of patrol camps to be used for monitoring and crime prevention teams
  - b. Construction of a fence and installation of water infrastructure at Okonjota School
  - c. Implementation of the Human Wildlife Conflict Management Policy through the payment of claims for losses incurred by communities as a result of Human Wildlife Conflict
  - d. Installation of a solar water pump at Ohakarungu, Okongoro conservancy (Otjiu East) and protection wall for the pump system and trough for the elephants and local community. Repair broken windmill pump and install solar water system at Spaarwater Pos, Bersig Village, Kunene Region Construction of an elephant protection wall and drinking reservoir for elephant away from the reservoir Provision of food rations for the police anti-poaching teams based in Etosha National and the Palmwag Concession Area.



**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

Land as a location for economic production activities, it also acts as a productive soil that provide organic and inorganic materials for agriculture, it is a source of prestige and an organising principle for socioeconomic relationship.

Land is an important component of the equation for economic development.

A total of **54** farms that cover **296,600** hectares were acquired under the national resettlement programme:

- **11** farms acquired before the enactment of the ACLRA (form part of Queen Sofia Group Resettlement)
- **33** farms for resettlement purposes (3 Game/tourism establishments)
- **7** farms OPM/OVP (Hai//oms)
- **3** farms Veteran Affairs

Since **2017**, **7** farms were purchased and allocated to **11** beneficiaries, of which **8** were male and **3** females.

We have also to date allocated **7,181** Customary Land Rights, **239** Leasehold Land Rights and **1** Occupational Land Right has been approved by CLB under the Security of Tenure Programme.

Let me assure our farmers that we hear your cry hence it is our duty to ensure that we transform Kunene Region into one of the agriculture productive regions of Namibia. I edge the leadership and the farmers let us hold hands and embark on this interesting journey of transformation into an agriculture region within the next 5 years, with bold and pragmatic strategies.







# HEALTH

Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members

Better health is central to human well-being, it makes an important contribution to economic progress, healthy populations live longer, are more productive and save more.

Access to comprehensive health service is important for promoting and maintaining health, preventing and managing disease, reducing unnecessary disability and premature death, and achieving health equity for all Namibians.

The health of the Namibian population comes first.

Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members

During the 2019/2020 financial year, government spent a total of **N\$ 2,966,400.95** in the health sector, budget breakdown is as follows:

Project description	Constituency	Project value	Project status
Renovations of doctors flat house 1&2 at Opuwo district hospital	Opuwo Urban	198,651.72	Completed
Renovations of doctors flat house 3 at Opuwo district hospital	Opuwo Urban	181,163.90	
Renovations of doctors flat house 4&5 at Opuwo district hospital	Opuwo Urban	132,143.86	Completed
Renovation works at Khorixas district hospital wards	Khorixas	262,987.75	Completed
Renovations at Orumana clinic	Opuwo Rural	205,321.76	Completed
Fencing off Ministry's accommodation erf/ land near Opotuvanga Secondary School	Opuwo Urban	1,059,430.60	Completed
Renovation of Anichab clinic and staff accommodation	Khorixas	417,713.36	Completed
Renovation at Outjo Old Age Home	Outjo	137,005.94	Completed
Minor renovation of Casualty and Theatre in Khorixas hospital	Khorixas	371,982.06	Completed
Renovations of Opuwo hospital clinic, kitchen, laundry and wards	Opuwo Urban	556,811.19	Ongoing/in progress
Renovations of Cubans Volunteers house at Opuwo district hospital	Opuwo Urban	178.172.94	Ongoing/in progress
Construction of outstanding works at Etoto clinic	Opuwo Rural	327,689.99	Ongoing
Minor Renovation of Outjo hospital maternity ward	Outjo	1,081,249.30	Ongoing/in progress
Electrical repairs in Outjo hospital maternity ward	Outjo	263,519.46	Ongoing/in progress
Renovation works at Khorixas district hospital wards, OPD, CDC and TB Departments	Khorixas	432,762.47	Ongoing/in progress
Construction of COVID 19 insolation center at Opuwo District Hospital	Opuwo urban	N/A	completed



# SAFETY



**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

The safety and security of our people remains paramount, we are committed on building safer communities in our region.

This commitment obligates us to improve overall police performance, increase police visibility and establish of specialised policing units to focus on the problems of drugs, gender-based violence and other priority crimes.

Gender based violence is inexcusable and completely unacceptable. Let us all agree that men are the main culprits of this atrocious act of GBV which mainly directed at women and children. The menace of gender-based violence continue to manifest itself across various institutions in society such as homes, churches and workplaces.

We therefore unequivocally call for the law to bite without fear or favour, I ask the leadership to come up with initiatives and collaborate with those doing it to root out this curse from society we all have a part to play and lead from the front.

It is imperative that we address this social construct in all its forms and manifestations.

**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

Allow me to announce the commencing of the construction of the Kunene Police Regional Headquarters in Opuwo, the project value is N\$65 438 453.80, expected to be completed by 2022

I am also happy to announce that crime levels are gradually falling within the region as can be observed from the following,

Incident	2018/19	2019/20	Diff	%
Accidents	298	257	41	-13%
Slight injuries	94	73	21	-22%
Serious injuries	53	45	8	-15%
Fatalities	20	19	1	-5%

General Crimes in the region dropped with 12% during the 2019/20 financial year compared to 2018/2019 financial year, Kunene Region is regarded as one of the safest regions in the country.

We applaud the Namibian Police force for their hard work and dedication to fighting.





# TELECOMMUNICATION

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**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

Science, technology and innovation have become key factors contributing to economic growth in both advanced and developing economies. In the knowledge based economy, information circulates through trade in goods and services, direct investment and technology flows, and the movement of people.

Information communication technology plays an important role, notably by contributing to rapid technological progress and productivity growth.

There is no doubt that economic competitiveness depends on the productivity of the ICT sector.

Through the MTC 081Every1 campaign, a total of 3 network towers were constructed during the 2019/2020 financial year to boost network coverage in the region, as well as ensure that every customer has connectivity and can access it affordably and at zero installation cost, since the roll out of the project the following areas in Kunene are connected and on air.

- Sorris Sorris
- Anabeb (TN)
- Otjomatempa (TN)

We thank MTC and Telecom for this patriotic and noble act of service delivery. We also call on them to accelerate the construction of the remaining planned towers for the entire region to be under network coverage. At this Juncture let me also thank MTC for its Project MTC Rural School as they intend to build 4 classrooms at Okondaune Primary School, indeed our smart partnerships are bearing fruit.



# ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

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## Honourable Chairperson Honourable Members

Economic activities cannot take place without a proper road infrastructure, it provides economic and social opportunities and benefits that result in positive multiplier effects such as better accessibility to markets, employment, and additional investments.

Roads connect communities and serve as economic arteries, considering our regional geographical characteristics and distance between locations, the transport industry plays a pivotal role in connecting businesses to markets, driving trade, creating employment and uniting humanity.

The road network in Kunene region comprises of about 4,899.93 km, of which 515.5 km bitumen road, 2,642.0 km gravel road, 1,521.0 km earth track, 25 km salt road and 196.4 km are proclaimed.

The Swakopmund - Henties Bay - Kamanjab Road Project Single Lane construction is ongoing and we await the many opportunities it will create.

The project is divided in into two Phases, Phase 1 and Phase 2 and again each Phase is divided into two Sections, Section A and Section B.

Phase II: (220KMs)

- Section A: Kamanjab – Khorixas (105KMs)
- Section B: Khorixas – Uis (115KMs)

As we change with times, quicker access to communities and economic markets is becoming a necessity that is why gravel roads need to be upgraded, the RA is planning on upgrading the following roads to bitumen standards by 2022/23 FY and beyond as per Medium to Long-Term Roads Master Plan (MLTRMP);

- MR 124 Opuwo – Sesfontein (150km), Kunene region.
- DR 3700 Opuwo – Epupa (180km), Kunene region.

To enhance service delivery, the Roads Authority have the following activities planned for the next few years:

- The Roads Authority is envisaging introducing Learner Licence testing at Khorixas.
- The Roads Authority is also investigating possibilities to provide NaTIS mobile services to Kamanjab.
- A Roads Authority team will conduct a familiarization visit to Kamanjab. Thereafter draft a project plan on how to provide the services.
- Computerized Learner Licence testing will be introduced to test more applicants at the NaTIS centres.
- Online services will also be introduced whereby customers can apply for certain transactions such as booking of Learners, Driving licence and renewal of motor vehicles in the comfort of their homes.
- The Roads Authority has finalized the translation of Learner Licence question papers from English to the local vehicular and are in procurement process to print the question papers.





# ENERGY

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Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members

Electricity is one of the catalysts of development. We can only accelerate social and economic prosperity when we grant our people access to electricity.

In the current financial year (2019/20), CENORED has continued to make its presence known in the Region. CENORED invested approximately **N\$ 3,000,000.00** in operating and maintaining the electricity networks in Outjo, Khorixas, Fransfontein, Kamanjab, Palmwag, Anker and all the lines that interconnect these towns including settlements. The operating and maintenance efforts are key to ensure reliable and secure supply to the inhabitants of the Region and sustaining of government operations and the doing of business activities in the Region.

In terms of new electrical infrastructure developments and house connections, CENORED developed a new dedicated power line from Gerus Transmission Station near Otjiwarongo in the Otjozondjupa Region to Outjo town in the Kunene Region. This investment, which cost **N\$ 11,000,000.00** was necessary in order to firm the power supply to the growing town of Outjo and ensure redundant and reliable power supply to the inhabitants and the surroundings of Outjo.

In addition to the bulk upgrade, CENORED connected a total of **22** households in the town of Outjo at a cost of just below **N\$ 500,000.00**, an initiative that benefited over 100 inhabitants in that town.

Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members

In the period under review NORED another electricity utility that operates in the Kunene region has through their CSR programme the electrification of the Katutura location in Opuwo with 294 connections at a cost of **N\$ 1,995,610.65**

During the period under review Nampower constructed a 61km medium voltage line from Opuwo to Omakange and 4.5km low voltage line in Omakange to a tune of **N\$ 22,000,000.00**. This project benefited

- government institutions (school, clinic, police station and **12** staff houses)
- community projects (**152** businesses, kindergarten and borehole)
- Omakange Vocational training center
- 144 community houses

Under the Ministry of Mines and Energy rural electrification project Ongongo School will be electrified and the Etanga settlement area in Epupa Constituencies.



# RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Honourable Members  
Honourable Chairperson

Most of Kunene region's population is scattered within the boundaries of the region, which makes service delivery a challenge. Despite this challenge and other obstacles that hinder the delivery of services and the construction of economic infrastructure the Kunene Regional Council has relentlessly been implementing the rural development budget to ensure the rural population has access to socioeconomic development.

For the financial year 2019/2020 the rural development expenditure stood at **N\$ 5,523,043.06**.



During the 2019/2020 financial year the Regional Council also implemented the following capital projects at a cost of **N\$ 5,960,617.39**.

Project name	Constituency	Activity	Expenditure
Maintenance of gravel roads within the Okanguati Settlement Area	Sesfontein	Re-Graveling of roads within the Sesfontein	554,416.66
Construction of the Ohamaremba –Okanguatti water pipeline	Epupa	Design, construction supervision and construction of a water pipeline, water reservoirs, pump station and electrical power line	5,406,200.73





# SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAMMES



## Honourable Chairperson Honourable Members

In the efforts to intensify the war against poverty and hunger, government has been consistently assisting the most vulnerable individuals in the communities through various social safety nets.

These social safety nets have been a lifeline for most households especially those battling poverty and other shocks which has been worsened by drought and other factors.

A part of its poverty strategy through Office of the Vice President, Government spends **N\$ 6,701,000.00** per month, distributed to a total of **26,798**:

- Maintenance Grant – **13,888**
- Foster Placement – **560**
- Special Maintenance – (under 16 years grant) – **299**
- Vulnerable Grant (Harambee) – **12 051**

**N\$ 10,855,000.00** monthly on old age grant:

- Old Age grant – **8350**

**N\$ 4,332,900.00** monthly on disability grant

- Disability Grant – **2300**

## Honourable Chairperson Honourable Members

A child's early years play a key role in the emotional, social and physical development of young children which in turn has an overall development on their overall development and the adult they will become.

Thus the need to invest in very young children is very important as it maximise their future well-being.

The Minister of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare is continuously investing in the early childhood initiatives so as to create fostering environments for children to make positive and constructive decisions

During the period under review **N\$ 3,272,119.56** was spent to construct early childhood development centers in the following constituencies Otuvero (Opuwo Rural) **N\$ 867,081.67**, Puros (Sesfontein) **N\$ 1,011,179.76** and Oritjirindi (Epupa) **N\$ 1,393,858.13**. There is also ongoing construction of an early childhood model center in Opuwo, Katutura location (Opuwo Urban) **N\$1,908,050.00**.



The following early childhood centres were also renovated during the 2019/2020 financial year at a cost of N\$ 509,396.78:

• Renovation of Ombombo ECD (Opuwo Rural)	N\$ 162,735.95
• Warmquelle ECD (Sesfontein)	N\$ 156,650.14
• Ivonne Pickering ECD (Outjo)	N\$ 190,010.69
• ECD centre (Kamanjab) Budgeted	N\$ 200,000.00

We are cognisant of the role early childhood development educators play in the moulding of children through the creation of safe and interactive learning environments where children can develop social skills, build self-esteem and become lifelong learners.

Considering this important aspects of ECD educators, government has during the period under review spent a total of N\$ 110,000.00 in training 15 ECD educators in Opuwo. Government also subsidized 75 educators at a total amount of N\$112,500.00, each educator receives N\$ 1,500.00 per month.

The following budgetary allocation has been received for the programmes earmarked for the next financial year.

- N\$ 20,000.00 For Training ( Project members)
- N\$ 1,504,000.00 Subsidy For Public Entrepreneurs
- N\$ 90,000.00 IGAs (Income Generating Activities)
- N\$ 1,370,000.00 SUBSIDY FOR ECD Educators
- N\$ 10,000.00 For WIBA
- N\$ 1,000,000.00 For GBV Campaign
- N\$ 20,000.00 For African/Namibia Child Days
- N\$ 10,000.00 For Shelters

**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

During the 2019/2020 financial year the Outjo Municipality Mayoral Fund, the Opuwo Trade fair we care project and private sector assisted the community, it is encouraging to see the connect and empathy displayed by the local authorities towards those in need through donations, hence I implore on Kunene Regional Council to come up with a social development initiative to assist different members of our communities.







# PROGRESSION

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Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members

Allow me to share the poem called  
"The Awakening Age" by a Nigerian poet Ben Okri

*O ye who travel the meridian line,  
May the vision of a new world within you shine.*

*May eyes that have lived with poverty's rage,  
See through to the glory of the awakening age.*

*For we are richly linked in hope,  
Woven in history, like a mountain rope.*

*Together we can ascend to a new height,  
Guided by our heart's clearest light.*

*When perceptions are changed there's much to gain,  
A flowering of truth instead of pain.*

*There is more to people than their poverty,  
There's their work, wisdom, and creation*

*Along the line may our lives rhyme,  
To make a loving harvest of space and time.*

Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members

This poem is a reflection of the Kunene story. It tells a story of how we the inhabitants of Kunene have travelled a long path of hunger, poverty, unemployment and other aspects that has made us a vulnerable community.

It tells a story of a people driven by an unseen force, a hope that connects them together like a glue. It tells a story of a people eager to change their perception to show that they are more than their challenges. It tells a story of a hopeful people eager to discover their talents and use their efficiently not only to suit themselves but also others.

It tells a story of a Kunene ready and desperate to ascend to new heights propelled by its people and resources.

Behind this story is a vision,

A vision of a United Kunene Unlocking its Potential for Shared Prosperity.

This vision is a five year blueprint based on the principles of accountability, cooperation and unity. We speak of the spirit of Harambee and harnessing its properties to put the Kunene Region on a growth path that is sustainable, inclusive and transformative.

This five year plan place its emphasis on talent recognition, accelerated project implementation and collective action to unlock, jump-start and re-ignite a sustainable and inclusive growth trajectory for key sectors in our region.

The multi – pronged approach of the vision highlights and is geared towards capitalising on the different talents in our institutions and those in society for maximising intrinsic goods of institutions and their deliverables. By intentionally and deliberately centring our energies on creating harmonised workplace environments we will unblock delays in the completion of development projects.

We dedicate ourselves to breaking the impediment of bureaucratic apathy in our institutions when it comes to project implementation.

This can only be achieved if we place deliberate attention on the importance of collective actions, creating synergies between various talents and institutions for the greater good of the society.



**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Member**

We are now more determined to build a thriving region. We are ready to take the hard, but necessary decisions, we are going to focus and capitalise on our spatial potential. The objective of this game changing initiative is to ignite our economy, create employment, academic improvement and skills development, and create safe and healthy communities.

We have prioritised agricultural as the central pillar of 5 year growth strategy, the other priority sectors are health, human capital development, tourism, mining, arts and sports.

## Agriculture

**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

The challenges of the past few years have not only maximised the effects of poverty and hunger, but they have also given use a lens to view our region from a different perspective. Despite the impact of climate change and drought, the region is blessed with water sources that is scattered all over the region.

This new perspective has also caused a paradigm shift of viewing our vastness not as an hinderance to service delivery but as the availability of land that can be utilised in a countless of ways for the production of food security. This land, our land gives us the opportunity to dream endless dreams of possibility. one of the example I can give in terms of our potential for agro-business is an interesting discovery which was unearthed through the census that was conducted by the State Veterinary Directorate, that a total of 15,615 head of cattle are in Epupa and Opuwo urban and these cattle have a combined value of **N\$ 109,305,000.00** and this is only from half of the total cattle population in the two constituencies (Opuwo Urban and Epupa).

When perceptions are changed there is much to gain.

I am also inspired to announce that our Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform is an institution that oozes with limitless possibility, the talent and technical expertise. Talent that are crucial for our regional development.

Talents backed by master's degrees, talents that need us to create conducive environments for them to thrive. I laud everyone that has achieved that academic goal, I request you all to employ your passions expressed in your thesis in the betterment of the Kunene region.

**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

We will not only focus the next five years on the intensification of the project implementation of agriculture sector but also intensify the impact and distribution of implemented projects. We welcome the programmes and activities under DAPEES and will strengthen the influence of the Directorate.

We will create employment through the NAMSIP program, increase the area ploughed for cultivation with the 19 new tractors that will be received, the construction of water infrastructure and installation of irrigation systems will increase agricultural production as we move from rain-fed agriculture to more stable method of farming.

Equally we are also excited about the Poultry subsidy, which will assist Poultry farmers to be productive, to this effect Kunene has been allocated **N\$ 300,000.00** for this project in the current financial year.

We plan to decrease the amount of fodder and animal feed imported into the region, by collaborating and capacitating Commercial farmers, Communal farmers, Resettlement Farmers and back yard farmers in urban areas.

**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

We must be inspired by the commitment and dedication of our farmers and as Regional Leadership bring or create markets for them. It will be unrealistic and unpatriotic if we are unable to create value addition processes for the animal and horticulture farmers, equally we have for years been sitting without markets once our farmers produce, it is our duty to create a market for them to earn an income and grow their production in that way creating jobs.



I use this opportunity to invite local and foreign investors to invest in the areas of feedlot, abattoir, meat processing and agro processing. Our four local authorities are ready and eager to engage investors in that regard.

## Health

**Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members**

A healthy nation is a productive nation

We must strive to create a conducive environment that will attract the needed health expertise and skills to the region.

Through targeted initiatives of local government, we dedicate ourselves to be the region for choice for medical graduates and specialist.

**Where we don't have hospitals, we will intensify outreach programmes to bring health professionals to the people to minimize the burden of the people travelling to reach health professionals.**

**We will also strengthen outreach programmes for the Home Affairs, in the next two years to improve access to national documents.**

**Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members**

I must add that we will continue renovating all state hospitals and clinics in the region during this period to address and later eliminate the impediments that hamper health service delivery like long queues that might lead to premature death and disability.

We also dedicate the next 5 years to extending invitations to private medical hospitals, clinics, and practitioners to the region, as mentioned above we have an abundance of land available that needs to be occupied for those focused on developing the region and its people.

## Human Capital Development

Education is the most decisive instrument of national and self-cultivation, we will pay meticulous attention to education and our human capital development, we emphasis this because people are our most valuable resource.

With this in mind and honouring the commitment made at the SORA last year, the Kunene Regional Education Fund was launched on the 1st of November 2019 in Outjo, we are in the process to finalize its operation guideline to achieve the objective of the fund.

**Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members**

We will devote the next five years on the gradual transformation of the education landscape of the Kunene Region, after 5 years our words must speak only of quality and not quantity in the education sector.

What we are talking about is an education sector that constantly and consistently improve regional academic results, increase the number of learners that enrol into institutions of higher learning, and create a conducive environment that will ensure the attainment of academic goals guaranteeing a knowledgeable and skilled human resource fully capable of transforming the Kunene Region.

We are not stopping there, we go further and say that we are talking about education that challenge learners to the point that they discover and practice their talents fully, we want to proudly speak about education that nurtures these talents.





**Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members**

Allow me to introduce to the new phenomenon that is STEAMAC, this is the new approach of study that expands the popular STEM to accommodate children and youth with talents.

The first "A" stands for Arts, we mean business when we say that education must speak to the whole person. Thus, we will explore innovative ways to incorporate Arts education in the social space, one such area is the construction and establishment of centres of excellence to promote arts programmes and that creates arts as a career choice for our children.

The second "A" is agriculture, and this speaks directly to our key priority area. For strategic and smart regional development to take place, education must be in the equation. Education must speak to our development agenda and needs, by imparting the skills that are crucial for the agricultural sector.

We will take deliberate action on advancing the agriculture agenda through education, we request all schools to establish school gardens as modes of introduction into the quest for food security, I am sure this is already a Ministerial requisite, I further urge schools to marry their school gardens with entrepreneurship subjects to introduce learners practically to business models and the workings of a market.

**Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members**

Will it not be exciting to visit Khorixas for a farmer's day organised by learners to sell produce from their school garden or walk down the street to a farmer's market organised by the learners in Etanga. That will be a beautiful sight to behold.

I believe we can.

The "C" stands for coding, the 4th Industrial Revolution is upon us and we need to take advantage of what it offers, being a bit ambitious in this regard considering our infrastructural challenges, but I am confident that with the resources currently available namely Wi-Fi and computers at most schools it is a lucrative space to explore.

## **Tourism**

**Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members**

The tourism sector in the Kunene Region shows great potential, contrary to popular belief we are a region characterised by more than elephants. We are the lion that hunts in the camouflage of the sand, we are the oryx that drinks from the dew, and we are the ostrich that feeds off the insects. We are a region filled with diversity of things, within things from people to plants to animals.

The current COVID 19 has challenged us to be innovative to better what it had destroyed which was built over years, tourism has been heavily affected as our income source for conservancies and communities benefiting from it has been reversed. In the next five years we must aim to rewrite the formula of the tourism sector in the Kunene region. It is time that the people of this region start benefitting from the institutions that are within this region. Business cannot come and not leave economic impact in the area of operation. It is not logical; it is not economical, and it is not patriotic.

We must plan to increase the number of tourists that visit our region within the next ten years, we want these visits to be economically impactful and meaningful. That is why we will strongly encourage the construction of municipal bungalows and community driven or owned hospitality establishments, encourage and capacitate local tour operators during this period. We also implore conservancies to up their game and play a meaningful part in the transformation of the tourism sector.

We are developing a vigorous marketing strategy to sell the Kunene region as the preferred tourist destination. The strategy that is purely organic and reflective of the Kunene story will fully utilise the opportunities presented by social media platforms.



## Energy

The much anticipated and awaited project of Bayness Hydro plant is well underway and at an advance stage in terms of planning. This project will change the landscape of Kunene Region in terms of opening new markets Energy production, linking Kunene to Angola, Road infrastructure (Opuwo to Epupa road), tourism industry and employment provision. I thank the traditional Authority under chief Kapika for agreeing to this development and urge all residents of Kunene Region to stand together and firm for this project to be successfully implemented without delay.

## Mining

The potential of Mining industry in Kunene Region is huge and untapped, from diamonds, cobalt, rear earth minerals, copper to mention but a few, we have a great opportunity to develop this industry and change the socioeconomic status of Kunene Region, for years individuals or businesses sit on Exclusive Prospecting Licenses without doing anything, we have engaged the Minister of Mines and Energy, we shall in due course address issue concerning the industry in the Region.

### Honourable Chairperson

### Honourable Members

The Deep Field Mining operation on the 6th May 2020 delivered 32 tons of copper to Dundee Precious Metals and looking forward to this mine employing 35 locals at Otjokavare going into full production.

We are waiting in anticipation of the opening of the mines in Khorixas and the Opuwo Urban constituencies, it is without any doubt that these two economic forces will transform the socioeconomic landscape of the whole region.

It is against this background that I direct the regional leadership to revive the Regional Council's Trust with the aim of the trust becoming a shareholder in the operations that pertains to the mining of natural resources in the region. This will guide us away from the CSR phenomenon that is the current trend in our investor relationships.

The funds of the trust must be used for the sole purpose of community development projects and not administrative dilemmas.

We need to use our economic natural resources smartly to construct new clinics, houses, sports facilities, schools, SME funding too mention a few.



# ARTS & SPORTS

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**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

These two phenomena are two of most powerful vehicles of unity, their power and impact is felt beyond tribal boundaries. Language, culture or sex can hold them, their burst through socially constructed confinements and unite people from different tribes, races and nationalities.

Arts and sports are two of the areas in which our youth have been endowed with talents thus we must capitalise on these two sectors and elevate their commercial value as a driver for economic advancement and employment creation. Hence I implore region council and local authorities as well as private sector to avail funds in their budgets that prioritise infrastructure development and promote social events that broaden the impact of the two sectors.

We must also turn our attention to the embedded talents of individuals so that talent is discovered and talent is used.

**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

We need to transform the perception we have about these two socioeconomic elements and use their advantages to enhance social cohesion as a means of economic development and poverty eradication. Social capital produce through these factors encourage unity, as most people interact with each other based on arts, sports team or occasion, which produce relatability and belonging.

I am happy to report that the Opuwo Town Council has fenced off the site for the new sport's stadium, this will create the needed space for the youth to practice for local and national sport's activities to sharpen their skills and nurture their talents. Let us cooperate and build the infrastructure we want.

I urge Khorixas Town Council to collaborate with the relevant stakeholders to really take a serious look at the situation of the Khorixas sport's stadium, serious work needs to be done there with urgency.

I urge the Outjo Municipality and Kamanjab Village Council to keep maintaining the infrastructure they have and invest in making them better.







# YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

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**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

At the centre of our 5 year vision, are the youth, the young people of our region who are frustrated and dismayed by the economic trends that have them unemployed, the young people of this region that are hopeless because society does not have any mechanism in place to support their talents. Yes, this SORA is about the youth, for the youth by the youth. We have heard you and we will work for you.

As your leaders, we will ensure that agriculture, mining ,tourism ,arts and sport creates opportunities so that you can **participate in the economy** not only as employees but also employment creators.

We will work to ensure that **education and skills development** introduce you to your talents, we will work until markets are created that allow you to practice those talents.

We will work until your **health and welfare** are at optimal level so you have nothing to worry about and so that you are fully able and productive.

We will work and strengthen our communication channels so that our policies and projects are communicated and influenced by you.

**Honourable Chairperson**  
**Honourable Members**

Allow me then at this juncture to introduce to you the Kunene Youth Development Strategy, a roadmap aimed at improving the socioeconomic situation of the youth of Kunene, a reflection of the Kunene story as told by Ben Okri.

A framework based on the priorities of:

- Youth Economic participation
- Youth Health and Welfare
- Youth Sport and Creation
- Youth Education and skills development
- Youth political and Civic participation



# POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

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**Honourable Chairperson  
Honourable Members**

Little fights distract us from the real needs of the people, little fights rob us of the time, energy and resources needed to fight for the needs of the people, little fights are fought with wise words that are empty because they have no meaning, little fights are disrespecting elders and blind us with a perception that chaos is progressive.

Like last year I borrow from **Thomas Sankara when he said .... “Our revolution is not a public-speaking tournament. Our revolution is not a battle of fine phrases. Our revolution is not simply for spouting slogans that are no more than signals used by manipulators trying to use them as catchwords, as code words, as a foil for their own display. Our revolution is, and should continue to be, the collective effort of revolutionaries to transform reality, to improve the concrete situation of the masses of our country”.**

I implore the residents of Kunene Region as we are going this year to Regional and Local Authority Elections to condemn the insulting and personality driven politics making its ugly head in the Namibian political landscape at the cost of society, we should with strong content stand against the insults of any candidate and using the avenue of leadership of this important organizations mandated to serve the people for opportunities for people to settle personal scores with one another, we live in an era where leaders need to identify individual talent for the collective benefit.

Politics has always been about ideas and finding best solutions towards the greater good of society. I single out this pillar as it is the year of elections and I call on all Namibians age 18 years and above in Kunene Region to go and register in the month of September and elect in the month of November 2020 leaders to unite and unlock the true potential of Kunene Region, your vote counts and it is your right to vote.

**Honorable Chairperson  
Honorable Members**

In conclusion, let me assure you the room called Kunene Region in the Namibian house is in a good state and intact.

To the people of Kunene Region we live in exciting times and we pledge to work collectively with you. At this moment which will define a generation fighting for prosperity it is a spirit of collectiveness which should embody us all, for as much as Government can do, it is ultimately the faith and determination of the people upon which these Region realise that will finally see us attain prosperity, our challenges maybe new, the instruments which we meet them with maybe new, but those values upon which our success depends are honesty, hard work, courage, fair play, tolerance, curiosity, loyalty and patriotism.

These things are old, these things are true, and they have been our instruments to success in the past and what is demanded than is a return to these values.

What is required from us in a new era of responsibility is a recognition on the part of all of us, that we have duties to ourselves, our region and country.

Duties that we accept are going to be difficult before us. As united people of Kunene Region in these difficult times Lets brave the difficulties and endure what storms may come, let it be said by generations after us that when we were tested we refused to let this journey end, that we did not turn back and that we did not fallback that with eyes fixed on the purpose and faith unto our God we delivered prosperity to our region and Nation step by step, shoulder to shoulder collectively.

I urge to all of you to wash your hands, wear your masks, maintain social distancing and adhere to all regulations.

God bless the Kunene Region  
God bless Namibia

**I thank you.**

