



Our Guiding Principles Towards Liberty, Equality and Justice for All Namibians

LANDLESS PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT



LPM





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# A MESSAGE FROM THE LEADER AND CHIEF CHANGE CAMPAIGNER



The historic phenomenon of capitalism, as Terry Eagleton astutely observed in Why Marx was Right (2011), has deeply imprinted itself upon Namibian society. Yet, what we witness is not the promised prosperity of capitalism, but a legacy of exploitation and dispossession, perpetuated by an alliance between the ruling regime, capital and transnational elites. Over the past thirty-four years, these ruling capitalist forces have systematically mismanaged public resources and state institutions, plunging the majority of Namibians into destitution. The consequence is a society mired in

staggering levels of poverty, unemployment, and inequality—conditions rarely paralleled even within the most oppressed corners of the Global South. While capitalism once held forth the illusion of material progress and abundance, the belief that the wealth generated through this mode of production would inevitably benefit all citizens has been exposed as nothing more than a pernicious myth.

The state has therefore the political responsibility of economic growth and redistribution, and thereby, the eradication of entrenched poverty and inequality. The state, therefore, must not be a passive overseer but an active, interventionist institution-a

developmental state. It must embody a transformative and emancipatory role—because true socio-economic liberation is contingent on a state apparatus that actively intervenes to redirect economic resources in favor of the oppressed, marginalized and underprivileged forces of society. The private sector must be reimagined not as a dominant force, but as a strategic actor in the service of socio-economic objectives. The afore-going is relevant to note, so that it is understood that as a leftist party, LPM fully supports and understands the role of capital in society, and underscores the wealth generation capacity of capitalism as an economic system.

As Vishwas Satgar notes though, in Marxism's in the 21st Century (2013), the deepening structural crisis of capitalism has catalyzed the rise of a democratic historical materialism. This is expressed through grassroots movements, radical political formations, revolutionary intellectuals, and transnational activist networks. It is within this global movement for justice and equality that the Landless People's Movement (LPM) finds its ideological alignment. We situate ourselves firmly within the struggle for a new socio-economic order that prioritizes human needs over exclusive profit motives, and collective well-being over individual accumulation and areed.

In Namibia, the struggle is multifaceted. It is a struggle for a truly representative democracy, one which extends beyond the ballot box to encompass economic democracy—where businesses, industry and the people, especially the dispossessed and marginalized, are given a substantive voice in shaping the material realities of their existence. This dual and legitimate struggle seeks to dismantle the triad of poverty, inequality, and unemployment.

Mismanaged, however, the youth's discontent will inevitably erupt into social unrest, disorder, and an escalation of the very poverty and inequality that currently plague our society. A well-balanced intergenerational policy framework is therefore imperative—not only to safeguard the future of our nation but also to instill a sense of shared destiny and belonging for all Namibians.

# A MESSAGE FROM THE LEADER AND CHIEF CHANGE CAMPAIGNER (CONTD)

The LPM stands ready as a steadfast advocate for change. Over the next five years, we commit to tirelessly working towards altering the trajectory of this nation for the better, with the help of the Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.

Vote LPM in November—for a future that belongs to the people.

Bernadus Swartbooi Leader and Chief Change Campaigner



# THE POLITICAL PARTY LANDLESS PEOPLES MOVEMENT IN CONTEXT

#### Who is LPM?

Landless People's Movement (LPM) is a political party registered with the ECN on 8 February 2019. The Party was created out of the struggles for restorative justice for land, housing and propertylessness of the vast majority of Namibians. We are established to fight for urban dwellers, peasants, the workers, the youth and the land dispossessed. The fight against corruption, and the advancement of restoration of the dignity of Namibians, through housing, land and employment are what we stand for. Essential in our character is the transformation of society for the sake of the youth and future of this country. Our historic mission is the economic liberation of our people, thereby transforming the objective material conditions of society. The deteriorating urban land crisis, dysfunctional and illogical land reform concern us.

The lack of agrarian reform, citizen's hunger and malnutrition, youth despair and poverty, pre- occupies daily struggles of LPM. We engage thus, in a class struggle, based on a class analytical political approach, focusing on state corruption, elite capture of public resources, the in-dignification of society through policies that create and embolden poverty, joblessness, inequality and consequently, severe hunger and malnutrition upon all our people. Our task right now is to take over government and form an alternative caring government for all, putting people first, restoring our people's dignity.

#### OUR VALUES

#### THE LANDLESS PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT believes:

•That the natural resources of the state belong to all her people, and that the equitable sharing of these resources for national benefit is only better achievable with state leadership and strategic involvement of the state in the national economy;

 In inspiring all Namibians to move from being good citizens to being active and exemplary citizens everywhere in the world, leveraging our strategic natural resources and human heritage and capabilities, to develop the full talent of all our citizens;

• In making government work for all Namibians, in particular women, youth, the poor, the elderly and those in rural areas, by deliberate, strategic and tactical redirection of economic resources to spur and accelerate rural and equitable development

• To eradicate poverty; to create decent jobs with decent pay, and other appropriate income earning opportunities such as through agriculture and well-crafted agrarian reform policies; to protect society and state institutions from elite-led-corruption; to advance citizen participation and full development in all spheres of public life;

•To improve and protect people's health through appropriate measures, including through adequate staffing, infrastructure development and maintenance, medication, the provision of adequate protection; research and development efforts

•To provide high standard education to our children; to develop and conserve human resources and to promote equal opportunity for all to prosper; and to focus on the future at all times to prevent social, economic, cultural and political unpreparedness;

•To promote and defend our Constitution and the territorial unity and integrity of our state; and to provide strong, firm, even-handed, intellectually and morally capable leadership to society;

# THE POLITICAL PARTY LANDLESS PEOPLES **MOVEMENT IN CONTEXT**(CONTD)

•To encourage free, ethical economic activity, upholding transparent and arms-length relations between political and business interests; and to create trustworthy and transformative partnership with the local and global business and industry community;

•To protect, prepare for and defend the future of our nation and its children, by the creation of all necessary instruments, including funds, for advance research and development, science and industry, in order to be globally competitive and innovative, enable economic development and growth, and the equitable distribution of the benefits of economic arowth.

#### WHY VOTE FOR LPM?

Drawing on Amartya Sen's (1999) principles, LPM is a progressive political formation grounded in a nuanced understanding of economic structures and social dynamics. We recognize the latent potential and limitations within our state apparatus and the broader socio-political landscape. Our policy commitments are shaped by a transformative vision that prioritizes expanding individual freedoms, rooted in the well-being of all of society, and enhancing human capabilities, while remaining grounded in practical and attainable policy outcomes (Sen, 1999). Our strategic engagement in the Namibian Parliament, alongside our active role in local and regional councils, equips us with the insight and experience necessary to navigate complex governance landscapes. This comprehensive political and economic understanding of our nation-state, positions LPM as a compelling and prudent force in the new age leadership that Namibia urgently requires. We possess not only the ideological clarity and policy depth but also the political acumen to implement robust socio-economic frameworks that promote inclusive growth, equitable development, and a truly empowered citizenry.

#### LPM ELECTIVE DEPLOYMENTS BY THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA 2020-2025

#### NATIONAL ASSAMBLY - CURRENT MEMBERS









Hon. Aanes

TWO REGIONAL CHAIRPERSONS:

Francois Gershon Dausab (Hardap) Hon Josef Isaack (//Kharas)

LOCAL AUTHORITY COUNCILORS

A total of 69 Councilors

Hon. Bernadus Swarthooi

Hon. Utaara Hon. Aina Kodi Mootu

Tjiramba

NATIONAL COUNCIL - CURRENT MEMBERS



Isaak



The Landless People's Movement is the elected government in the Hardap and //Kharas regional levels of government. We also won over fifteen local governments, where we have achieved significant transformation.

Hon, Jeremias

Goeieman

Hon. Harald



Hon, Anseline P. Labuschagne V. Beukes

Hon, Paul



### THE POLITICAL PARTY LANDLESS PEOPLES MOVEMENT IN CONTEXT - MOTIONS PASSED

### CURRENT

In our education sector, with a view to find immediate and long-term interventions to overcome the post-COVID-19 impact within the education system.

#### WATER DEBT

Write-off in Local Authorities

### THE INITIATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE

Green Hydrogen industrial sector in the Republic of Namibia with a view to becoming a global hub in the Green Hydrogen space.

### THE DOUBLE

(DTR) and its implications for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the country, with the purpose of finding an appropriate national taxing regime that would enhance our standing as an investment destination of choice.

### SUITABLE HOUSING

In Namibia to address housing shortage and funding gaps.

### ELECTRICITY

Write-off in Local Authorities

#### INVESTIGATION INTO THE ACTIVITIES OF

The Lithium mining in the Uis locality, Dâures constituency in the Erongo Region.

### THE PLIGHT OF

Miners in the Erongo Region (merged with the findings of the Standing Committee on Natural Resources).

### THE CREATION OF THE NAMIBIAN HALL OF

Fame for the Creatives and Athletes in Namibia.

#### UNOPPOSED MOTION IN SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINE

Calling for an end to Israeli violations of international humanitarian law and violence, and endorsing a Two-State solution for Israel and Palestine to peacefully coexist.



# NAMIBIA IN 2024

"It became apparent to me that, due to the complexity of the problems that face humanity today, those who do not know should not lead." (Tshilidzi Marwala-Leading in the 21st Century: The Call for a New Type of African Leader, 2021).



#### THE FAILED ECONOMY

Our economy is not delivering the opportunities for the people of Namibia: it does not work for everyone. It works only for a few. Leadership change is urgently needed in Namibia. Thoughts of Marwala, as captured above, that those that do not understand the "complexity of the state," should not occupy any strategic centre of state (Marwala, 2020), are right. To amplify this point, see the data: in 2022 the economy grew at 5,3%, receding to 4,2% in 2023. While about N\$49 billion worth of oil money entered the economy, the GDP growth moved from N\$200 billion to N\$227 billion up to the first quarter of the 2024 (Bank of Namibia, 2024).

#### Yet, Namibians are unable to access economic

opportunities to build a better live. Evidently, the trickle-down economic model is not working, and there is a need for leadership to incorporate the frontal attack on fighting poverty and inequality more directly. Tax relief only works for those that are employed, but excludes the majority of Namibians unemployed. Tax reliefs have been used as political campaign tools recently, but it doesn't impact broader society positively.

One of the reasons why the frontal economic approach, through direct cash transfers of state resources to society is needed, is because the elite and their cronies are exclusive beneficiaries from the public resources of the country. Resultantly, poverty expands, inequality grows and the future looks unpromising. This illustrates a class struggle in society, over and above the capture of the state by the elite and their unelected affiliates. Inevitably the concentration of capital and wealth consolidates around specific privileged class categories (Ndjarakana, 2023).

Meanwhile the workers of this country, the peasantry, the youth and the urban poor, are at the fringes of the economy and of state services. Income inequality, unemployment and poverty remain at staggering levels.

For example, in 2024, 43.3% of Namibians are living in multidimensional poverty. Poverty in rural areas is 59.3%. Poverty in urban areas is 25.3%.

# NAMIBIA IN 2024 (CONTD)

Poverty is 46.2% amongst women-headed households, higher than men-headed household at 40.8%, and is more profound in subsistence farmers at 39%, and old age pensioners at 44%, whereas 27% of Namibians are categorized as working poor (earning less than N\$1200.00 per month). Rural unemployment is 33.5 %, while youth unemployment in rural areas stands at 52%. When one looks at these statistics, the material conditions of the people of this country is in a state of crisis.

For these reasons above, a new, transformative micro-and macro-economic policy framework is required. Besides the afore-going, a strong emphasize has to be laid on preparing ourselves very deliberately for the new oil-and-gas economy, with a combined effort to push the renewable energy drive to a higher gear, to create new jobs, new opportunities and to build our economy around our own people.

To build our economy around our own people means to add value to raw materials leaving the country, to expedite skills and capacity development of our youthful population, and to invest in enterprises that will bring Namibians to the main table of wealth and prosperity.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE PILLARS OF THIS MANIFESTO

The Party Manifesto for the 2019 National Election resonated deeply with the Namibian populace, offering a powerful message of hope and a vision for a united Namibia. As we advance toward the 2024 National Election, this Manifesto serves as a testament to our commitment to the obligations set forth in 2019. Emphasizing trust and reliability, we aim to strengthen our previous promises, ensuring that the 2024 Manifesto builds on the foundations established earlier. The text intertwines historical reflections that illuminate lessons learned from our struggles against colonialism and systemic inequality, informing our strategies for radical reform in four critical sectors: agriculture, education, health care, and housing (Ngcukaitobi, 2018).

Guided by leftist doctrinal philosophy, we advocate for cooperatives in agriculture to empower young farmers, without denigrating the commercial and communal farmers, free quality education for all, universal health care, and comprehensive housing programs to address homelessness. Through this manifesto, we aspire to inspire collective action and solidarity among Namibians, fostering a more equitable society where the benefits of our labor are shared by all, dismantling the remnants of our oppressive past.

As a party we've learned the lesson that has taken ages for others to comprehend. We are bringing to the electorate a well- defined perspective of the flaws in the applied government system and the introduction of alternatives for taking forward the transformative Agenda 2024 LPM Manifesto.

For ease of clarity to the reading electorate, the programmes in this Manifesto are condensed in Four Pillars each accounting for one sector of development with its cross-sectorial synergies to developmental overlaps:

- 1) Economy and Governance
- 2) Education, Social development & Environmental Sustainability
- 3) Land and Agriculture
- 4) International Relations

# NAMIBIA IN 2024 (CONTD)

#### PARTY ACCOUNTABILITY

Through this approach LPM wishes to invite its followers to hold the party to account for what it promised to do. We want to make it easier for the electorate to evaluate the party's performance by following the pattern as charted for each sector in the Pillar. The political statement in the document covers wide spectrum of government affairs which are equally important to the LPM party. However, some sectoral aspects that are critical for the advancement of our programs are also those very sectorial aspects that are largely responsible for stifling progress in the process of development.

Those are the aspects within the sectors that are addressing the material conditions of the citizen. Each Pillar tells a story about LPM's approach to transform not only the system but the elements that determine people's material conditions. Marxist maintain that the material conditions determine the consciousness of people, but also social being determines consciousness.



# PILLAR 1: THE ECONOMY

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THE CONSTRUCTION OF A STRONG ECONOMY

#### THE ECONOMY TODAY

In 2022 the economic growth peaked at 5,3%, receding to 4,2% in 2023. While about N\$49 billion worth of oil money entered the system, and the GDP growth moved from N\$200 billion to N\$227 billion in the first quarter of the 2024, Namibians are unable to access opportunities to build a better live.

This is because the elite and their cronies are exclusive beneficiaries from the system. Drought, poor rural development strategies and policies that hinder the expansion and diversification of the agriculture sector, have led to hunger, greater poverty among our people. Unemployment, hunger and malnutrition define the landscape of today's Namibia.

This reflects a class struggle in society, where the concentration of capital and wealth consolidates around specific privileged class categories. The workers of this country, the peasantry and the urban poor, are at the fringes of the economy and of state services. Income inequality, unemployment and poverty remain at staggering levels.

#### A different path in Summary:

A different path in Summary: African Continental Free Trade Agreement offers grand opportunities in a market of about 1,4 billion African people. This is an opportunity that an LPM government will aggressively pursue. Our fish, mineral, oil and agriculture products, amongst others, are particularly well-suited for such an extensive market space. We will create investor-attracting policies and programs, seeking investors globally, without neglecting local investors and local ownership. In this regard, we will attract greater number of multinationals corporations, including in the technology and innovations sectors.

We will fund our commercial and communal agriculture and the resettlement farmers' sector with fuel, fodder and soft loans and grants, to expand and diversify their portfolios. We will institute sustainable and decent funding through public banking institutions, venture capital sourcing, equity funding, foreign direct investment, and grant funding schemes to invest in key growth sectors technology, tourism, agriculture innovation SMME promotion sounds like a cliché, but when incorporated into well-structured and industry supported programs, as will be done by the LPM government, many Namibians, especially our youth, will be placed at the forefront of building a credible and loval economic and industrial class. The agenda will be to grow the middle - class rapidly and sustainably

The policy and program objectives will be reached through creating categories of SMME's,

in the public procurement system, which sets tender limits for each category of an enterprise, to allow for sectoral growth: there will be room for small enterprises to compete with alike companies, while medium companies will compete with their peers. This is different from the current system, where there is no segmentation among and between these companies, and the smaller enterprises are outcompeted by the medium size corporates.

#### MANAGING AND REMAKING POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

The LPM is resolute in its pursuit of a transformative governance structure grounded in the principles of federalism. The entrenched centralization of state power that has historically confined economic and political control within a small elite, must be done away with. The alienation of the people from meaningful participation in their own governance must become something of the past: the people must govern.

To this end, we propose the establishment of six to eight federal states, each endowed with substantive administrative and fiscal autonomy to directly govern and allocate resources according to local needs, thereby dismantling the monopolization of public funds at the center and a referendum will be called to decide this matter. Transferring decision-making authority to the people (Watts, 2008).

Where this full federal structure cannot be realized, we advocate for a formidable provincial system that strengthens sub-national governance as true loci of power, rendering them not mere appendages of central government but fully empowered agents of socioeconomic transformation.

Local authorities, often suffocated by legislative and institutional constraints, will be reconstituted into potent institutions of grassroots democracy. Comprehensive legal reforms that vest them with expanded jurisdiction over land administration, financial management, and direct budgeting will be promulgated. Executive Councils and Executive Mayors, will be created, to spearhead a new era of accountable urban governance. Such reforms will necessitate the revision of councilor remuneration structures to dis-incentivize corruption and attract officials who are motivated by a genuine commitment to public service, making local governments the fulcrum of a developmental state responsive to the needs of its citizenry. Urban development must be sharpened under this new political dispensation.



This separation of power will be complemented by a strict separation of the executive and legislative branches, thus eliminating the current conflation that has led to the erosion of public trust and the dilution of accountability—an aberration, contrary to the vision of checks and balances articulated in the Namibian Constitution (Namibian Constitution, Article 1(3)). Simultaneously, the judiciary, plagued by systematic elite interference, thereby pulverized, will undergo a radical overhaul to reinforce its independence, restoring the sanctity of law as the supreme arbiter against the excesses of capital and political power.

The reinforcement of the Office of the Prosecutor-General, whose officials are demoralized by inadequate remuneration and political victimization, is imperative to building a criminal justice system that operates without fear or favor, guaranteeing that justice is not a privilege of the powerful but a right accessible to all citizens. In line with this vision, a comprehensive prisoner audit will be conducted to ensure that the incarcerated are not languishing in cells without legal justification. Their appeals are still unresolved, and their sentences arbitrarily prolonged. The principles of human dignity and due process in our correctional system, are thoroughly strengthened by protecting the dignity.

At the legislative level, the near dormant Law Reform and Development Commission will be revitalized and charged with the mission of aligning the nation's legal framework to the revolutionary aspirations of the Namibian people, breaking the fetters of archaic colonial-era statutes that still serve to perpetuate inequality and subjugation.

Through these sweeping structural reforms, LPM envisions a reconstituted Namibian state: one where power flows upwards from the people, where governance is localized and accountable, and where the machinery of the state serves not as an instrument of domination, but as a vehicle for liberation and the full realization of human potential (Ngcukaitobi, 2018).

#### PUBLIC ENTERPRISE TRANSFORMATION

The LPM Government envisions a radical transformation of Namibia's political and economic institutions, pivoting the state apparatus toward a developmentalist orientation capable of driving profound structural changes. Public institutions will be re-engineered to prioritize a long-term developmental agenda, harmonizing state intervention with strategic corporate methodologies to optimize efficiency without sacrificing public accountability and public service affordability.

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#### DEVELOPMENT BANK OF NAMIBIA

In this context, the LPM's approach rejects the neoliberal emphasis on privatization and market deregulation, arguing instead for a state-led developmental model that positions the government as the prime actor in managing national resources and directing economic growth. Institutions that demonstrate an inherent incapacity for transformation will be liquidated. Leaner and more effective network of public enterprises are desirable.



The Development Bank of Namibia, for instance, has long deviated from its foundational purpose of providing catalytic funding for underdeveloped sectors. Under an LPM administration, it will be refocused on developmental lending that prioritizes sectors with high growth potential. It will also be a stakeholder of rebooting the rural economy. The economy must be rebooted with appropriate public funding.

#### GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS PENSION FUND

Similarly, the Government Institutions Pension Fund (GIPF) will be restructured to ensure the equitable disbursement of pension funds, currently marred by exploitative practices that erode the financial security of civil servants, post retirement. Pension taxation will be recalibrated, and a new formula developed to balance the GIPF's solvency against the need for fair returns, ensuring pensioners are not unwitting victims of financial mismanagement.

Furthermore, non-banking financial institutions, controlling assets exceeding N\$400 billion, will be compelled, albeit with the necessary structural balance, to reinvest domestically under a policy regime that privileges local development over offshore profiteering. This will be done in careful consultation to with the sector, so not to hasten therafter capital uplift within the sector. This reconfiguration of Namibia's financial architecture will be anchored by a robust framework of political accountability and performance management, consolidating oversight within the Office of the Prime Minister and relevant ministries to ensure unified and strategic governance across all public entities.

#### NEW ENERGY REGIME

The LPM's energy policy will dismantle the monopolistic hold of NAMPOWER, whose centralized control stifles competition and innovation in the sector. A new, state-owned utility focused on renewable energy generation will be established, prioritizing decentralized energy production through partnerships with private enterprises, local authorities, and community-based organizations.

This restructuring will not merely serve to diversify the energy mix—drawing from wind, solar, thermal, and biomass—but also to create an inclusive energy market where private sector can participate as independent producers, in a rapid fashion. By enabling broad-based participation, Namibia will transition from being a net importer of electricity to a leading regional exporter, leveraging its renewable capacity to drive down domestic energy costs and spur industrial growth. This transition is not just an energy policy but a revolutionary strategy to emancipate the nation from energy dependency and lay the groundwork for a self-sustaining economic base.

LPM's economic philosophy rejects the historical confinement of African economies to the status of raw material exporters within the global economic system. Instead, we seeks to construct a self-sufficient, diversified industry-led economy that addresses both historical injustices and contemporary class contradictions. In Namibia, value chains remain deeply skewed, with wealth extraction benefiting external actors while local producers, particularly in agriculture and mines, are consigned to subsistence-level and exclusive export earnings models The LPM government will undertake a comprehensive overhaul of these value chains by introducing joint state-owned processing facilities and establishing cooperative ownership models that redistribute profits equitably among small-scale farmers and local communities.

The agrarian sector, which has been systematically undermined by exploitative land relations and external market pressures, will be restructured through extensive land redistribution and investments in agro-industrial development, ensuring that local production meets domestic needs before targeting international markets. Positioning Namibia as a regional leader in equitable and sustainable development in agriculture and as a lead exporter in goods where we have surplus in.

#### ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT AND SOCIAL EQUITY

In essence, economic empowerment, divorced from social equity, is a hollow endeavor that merely reinforces existing hierarchies. Conversely, the LPM's integrated approach to economic and social transformation aims to dismantle these structures of domination by creating a new economic paradigm—one that is inclusive, just, and rooted in the principles of collective ownership and solidarity. This vision will be achieved through aggressive policies that promote the growth of small and medium enterprises (SMEs), strategic investments in high-potential sectors like tourism, technology, and renewable energy, and the creation of a supportive ecosystem for entrepreneurship among women and youth. The objective is not merely to grow the economy but to fundamentally transform the material conditions of all Namibians, breaking the cycle of dependency and creating a truly self-determined nation capable of charting its own course in the global arena by applying the following initiatives:

#### Initiative 1: Natural and Mineral Resources

 Stop the auction of fish in the market and enhance the private sector companies in the sector.

 Provide fishing quotas to regional and local authorities as identified and help investment in local development

 Establish a network of fish processing facilities to transform marine resources into value-added products, ensuring that fish becomes and affordable staple for all households.

 Intensify the extraction of omega-rich marine resources for medicinal purposes, prioritizing sustainable practices that empower communities.

• Restructuring must involve the establishment of independent and robust framework to effectively monitor and regulate the fishing sector. Foster closer partnership with the fishing sector, to build new areas of sector development.

Be robust in dealing with corruption in the fishing sector, while fighting hard to stop the stealing of Namibia's fishing resources by outside companies.

#### Initiative 2. Renegotiation of Mining Deals

 Renegotiate all mining deals for the state to own not less than 50% stake in all mining activities similar to the De Beers & GRN 50/50 deal.

• Higher levy on export of raw materials from Namibia with the aim to encourage and support local processing and value addition.

 Mandate all mining companies to build houses, clinics, sports fields, and community halls to ensure building new towns around mining activities to prevent ghost towns beyond mining activity.

• LPM will ensure 70% local beneficiation from immediate to medium-term of all-natural resources to create industries and much needed employment. We will reach 100% in the long-term.

 Review trade and export through better trade agreements and infrastructure to access new markets.

 Support and add value to sectors with high export potential, such as seafood, craft products and renewable energy technologies.



#### Initiative 3. Finance and Banking

• Seize exploitative profits, like the N\$1.6 billion annually extracted by private banks, and channel them into social investments—hospitals, schools, housing, and essential infrastructure that uplift the oppressed.

 Mandate the GIPF to reinvest 30% of its assets into the local economy to eradicate housing insecurity,

#### Initiative 4. Labour Sector.

 Abolishment of all labour hire companies that exploit workers and undermine job security by employing them through intermediaries. This will ensure that all workers are directly employed by host companies, with full rights and benefits guaranteed.

 Implementation of a National Living Wage through a National Living Wage Council, enforcing Article 95(i) of the Namibian Constitution by setting a binding wage that provides for a decent standard of living and replaces the inadequate minimum wage system.

 Revocation of business licenses for companies found guilty of labour exploitation, wage theft, or providing unsafe working conditions, enforced by a Business Compliance Registry that will routinely audit companies and penalize violators to protect worker rights.

 Transformation of the Social Security Commission into a National Insurance Fund to provide comprehensive social protection, including universal healthcare, unemployment insurance, and family support benefits to ensure the financial security and wellbeing of workers.

• Extension of maternity leave to 16 weeks months with full pay, introduction of 2 months of paid paternity leave, and the establishment of a Family Care Fund to provide additional support for families, promoting gender equality and holistic family welfare.

 Strengthening worker protections by amending the Labour Act to criminalize wage theft, expand collective bargaining rights, and require worker representation on corporate boards, creating a more equitable and democratic workplace.

#### Initiative 5. Access to Credit and Loan

Introduce collateral free loan for livestock and crop farming from Agribank.

• Avail more loan facilities at 4% or less interest rate or interest free loan for commercial and communal farmer.

 Diversify into tourism, charcoal, wood production and feedlot establishment.

• Enter into irrigated crop production, ensure local production of fruits, vegetables, maize, grain, wheat, millet, and Lucern, thereby creating jobs, fight drought, hunger, malnutrition. Export excess produce for export earnings.

#### Initiative 6. Water and Sanitation

- Replace canal system by adding piped water system to ensure clean and safe drinking water for the people in the four Northern Regions.
- Build a Desalination plant in Kunene, //Kharas Regions, as well as developing the Ohangwena and Eiseb Water Aquifiers.
- Roll-out water sanitation initiatives across the country.
- Roll-out major programs on water provision.



### Initiative 7. Economic diversification.

 Establish state-led industries in technology, renewable energy, and biotechnology to counteract Namibia's neocolonial economic structure, reduce dependency on extractive sectors, and emancipate productive forces trapped in low-value activities.

• Build timber factories in the Kavango region to transform rural labor into productive, wage-based employment and retain value locally.

 Transform Ramatex into a garment production hub to manufacture uniforms for state agencies.

 Mandate 50% local procurement by retailers to dismantle monopolies and support domestic producers.

• Direct all SME and development programs to benefit women, youth, and workers to dismantle class and gender oppression.

#### Initiative 8. Equity Participation for Women and Youth in Mainstream Economic Activities in country.

 Allocate 20% of mining revenues to a fund dedicated to youth and women, alongside an 80% employment quote for youth in new projects, and 40% of tourism concession rights.

 Enforce an 80% airtime quota for Namibian music on local Radio, increasing revenue for young artists and enhancing the creative economy.

• Require private companies operating in national parks to grant local communities a 30% equity share to ensure revenue benefits for park or near-park residents with historic and cultural ties to parks and the land.

 Align CBNRM regulations to ensure community ownership, prioritize youth and women in decision-making, and enforce compliance with new benefit-sharing models.

#### Initiative 9. Trade and Export.

• LPM will enhance trade exports by pursuing equitable trade agreements under AfCFTA and improving infrastructure for fair market access, especially for marginalized communities.

 Support high-export sector like seafood, indigenous crafts, and renewable energy ensuring private investment aligns with social equity and worker protection.

 Implement trade regulations that protect natural resources, promote sustainability, and ensure equitable distribution of benefits for long term growth.

 Invest in renewable energy, ensuring local control, job creation, and energy independence across Africa.

#### Initiative 10. Importance of Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge, and related Access and Benefit Sharing.

• LPM led government recognize and support the implementation of ABS law providing for access to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization.

#### Initiative 11. Fiscal Consolidation and Reduction of Domestic Debt.

• Total restructuring of parastatal's and public service to reduce wage bill and Improve monitoring and reporting systems to ensure accountability and transparency in public spending.

spending. Strike a balance between achieving fiscal health, while supporting economic and social objectives and thereby avoiding uneven effect on vulnerable members of the Namibian society.

#### Initiative 12. Fiscal Rules.

 Establish an Independent Fiscal Council with statutory authority to oversee and enforce fiscal rules, ensuring long-term budgetary discipline and independent analysis of national fiscal policies.

 Implement Clear Fiscal Guidelines by setting measurable debt-to-GDP and annual budget deficit targets, promoting sustainable public debt management and preventing fiscal slippage

 Cap Public Debt and Budget Deficits within predefined limits to ensure economic stability, with a focus on maintaining national debt below a sustainable threshold and limiting annual deficits.

• Enhance Transparency and Accountability through regular independent reports on fiscal health, requiring government responses and corrective actions when targets are missed.

• Align Fiscal Policies with International Best Practices to strengthen investor confidence, maintain economic stability, and establish long-term strategies that prevent unsustainable debt burdens for future generations.

#### Initiative 13: Community Based Tourism.

• LPM led government will invest in infrastructure, marketing, training and community-based tourism to increase employment, revenue through the participation of women and youth enterprises.

• Promote entrepreneurship in agribusinesses in food processing and packaging

#### **Initiative 14: Transportation**

• Revamp and develop transportation networks, including roads, ports, and railways, to facilitate easier movement of goods and people, and reduce pressure on our roads by heavy trucking.

#### Initiative 15: Industrialization

• LPM led government will take steps, to encourage and promote agriculture led- industrialization in this country through dedicated programs for tangible results.

#### Initiative 16: Science Innovation and Technology

 Support culture of innovation and technology transfer to start-ups and ensure access to funding, technology transfer to key sectors of development.

#### Initiative 17: State Owned enterprises

 Merge State Owned enterprises with similar mandates and objectives such as Roads Fund Administration, and Roads Contractor and MVA. Dissolve majority of State-Owned Enterprises and revert them to Departments as before. They were formed based on the Job for Comrades

#### Initiative 18: Land and Housing

• Regulate land and housing prices to ensure affordability. Housing is not a commodity but a basic human need. Housing development will be spearheaded by local authorities. Limiting the regulator role of minister to thereby avoid delays and hold-ups

• Disband NHE and mandate Local Authorities to build houses, with them as the provider of land in the anew arrangement. Local authorities will also become aggregate job creators, and revive local economic activities even further.

### Initiative 19: Empower Traditional Leadership and Change the Mining and Oil Regimes

• Empower traditional authorities to have a greater say in the management of communal lands and natural resources under their jurisdiction, through land boards and conservancies, with particular bearing on genetic resources associated with traditional knowledge. The state will exculpate itself from recognition of traditional Chiefs. This has become a political tool for rewarding and punishing non-Swapo Chiefs. The State should leave recognitions and elections of their Chiefs/Hombas/Fumus etc, to the people of those traditional communities. We will also amend the Minerals Act to allow the communities where resources are found, to have a veto right over the use of their land. They can block any mining development and be empowered to demand appropriate shareholdership for their resources.

\* Establish a fund for each traditional authority, with a dedicated budget of N\$ 200 million. These funds will be used to support traditional festivals and cultural preservation campaigns, monument buildings and improved memory politics.



#### Initiative 20: Formalizing Informal settlements.

• LPM led government will focus on inclusive urban development through upgrading and formalisation of existing informal settlements.

 Identify land close to bulk service infrastructure to provide erven for low income residents.

 Identify sources of funding, including private international sector funding to finance the housing provision programme. The housing programme will be led by the local authorities.

 Additional sources will include donor funding, public/private partnerships, local private sector financing and government grants and/or subsidies.

#### Initiative 21: Satellite technology development

• During its first term the LPM led government will ensure immediate building of satellite and placing into orbit to put Namibia in a better position to package information on various issues including safety and security and meteorological updates. This will make Namibia a player in the satellite information industry, with good financial gains therein.

#### Initiative 22: WIFI Country

 Mandate Telecom and MTC to roll out WIFI services to key government institutions such as schools, hospitals, police stations, etc.

 Involve global telecoms businesses such as Starlink, to aid the closing of the digital divide by investing in rural areas where Telecom and MTC reach is not present nor reliable

#### Initiative 23: Oil and Gas Revenues

• Revenues will partly be spend on direct transfer of cash to citizens to relieve poverty, hunger and malnutrition whilst creating state-led infrastructure development programmes.

 Ensure Namibian citizens and enterprises participate in the Oil, Gas and Hydrogen industry.

### Initiative 24: Progressive Taxation.

• Implementing a progressive tax system to ensure that those with higher incomes contribute fair share, for reinvested in social programs. Reducing personal income tax to 25% and reducing corporate tax to 27%.

#### Initiative 25: Oil Revenue fund

 Which will be in charge of direct transfers of some of the oilrevenues directly to the people. There must be direct transfers of oil monies to thepeople of Namibia. We can no longer rely on a single economic theory of trickle down economics. We will create the Oil and Oil Products Administration Act, including the Gas and Gas Products Administration Act, to management these resources well, and we will associate with Saudi Arabia amongst others, to learn further best practices of how to devolve the oil revenues into economically diverse social and economic development programmes.

#### Initiative 26: Comprehensive African Agriculture

• We will invest N\$8.9 billion annually (Comprehensive African Agriculture Initiative) in agriculture development to curb hunger and malnutrition, create jobs, create value chains of productionand sale and diversify the economy.

### PILLAR 2: EDUCATION, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT & ENVIROMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

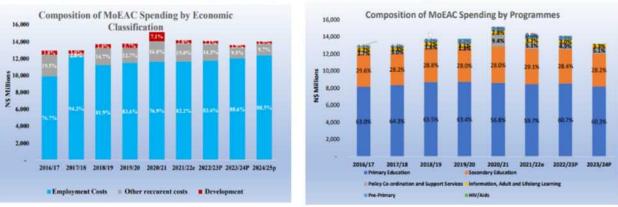
### PILLAR 2: EDUCATION, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT & ENVIROMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (CONTD)

#### THE EDUCATION SECTOR

Since 2016 the budget spending of education is between 76% (lowest) and 94% (highest) on salaries. With such a spending model, it is easy to conclude why there are children studying under trees, that there are no textbooks, nor other resources to ensure education takes place.

Between 2020 and 2021, the state only built one new school. With child dropout rates steady increasing, about 40% of learners dropping out in grade 7 already, another 30% dropping out in grade 10, we have a crisis of tomorrow. Specifically in the regions Omaheke, Otjozondjupa, Hardap, Kavango West, Kunene, and //Kharas. The efficiency of the system is also in question with 125,394 learners repeating grades. This is nearly half the population of Windhoek, and is the entire population of Walvis Bay, Okahandja and Otjiwarongo put together.

More so we are displacing several of the Namibian youth, closing their doors of opportunity. Over the past three years between 78.6 % and 81.5% of learners failed to reach grade 12. Therefore, unable to gain a school leaving certificate, or to get a job, youth are left in poverty.



### What Constitutes the MoEAC Budget?

Wage costs accounts for a significant share of the budget and projected to increase to 83.62% in 2022/23 – should be a big determinant of quality
outcomes

- Development budget remain significantly underfunded relative to other expenditure lines, at 2,1% from 7.1% in 2020/21
- Low public spending on the development budget negatively impacts on the quality and adequacy of school infrastructure. Currently the gap is estimated at 4,000 classroom (N\$2.4bln) – ICT penetration in schools also remain low
- Primary gets the highest share of the Budget whilst pre-primary gets a small share of the education budget at 2.9%
- <u>Infrastructure</u> + <u>pre-primary</u> investments key to transforming education

unicef 🗐 for every child

### PILLAR 2: EDUCATION, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT & ENVIROMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (CONTD)

#### The LPM alternative is:

#### Initiative 1: Overhaul Education by Integrating Various Educational Streams to one Curriculum.

Reform educational system to integrate vocational, technical, academic, arts, sports and recreational streams into the curriculum to exploit the full potential of the Namibian child and do away with the so-called school drop-outs.

#### Initiative 2: Use of NEMIF System

Adopting (National Education and Management Information Framework) similar to Botswana system, LPM led government will reform Namibia's education system, through the effective management of data and information dissemination.

Comprehensive data collection on educational institutions, teachers, students and available resources in support of policy development and reforming education system of Namibia.

Introduce data-driven decision-making in terms of real-time tracking of educational metrics – budgetary requirements, resource needs, enrolment, attendance, performance and educational outcomes.

#### Initiative 3: (STEM)

LPM led government will activate Regional Education Forums throughout all the regions, to ensure that science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education are implemented for children from early age to equip students for careers in technology driven sectors.

#### Initiative 4: The 4th Revolution

LPM led government will focus on infrastructure investment to improve digital and internet access and to support technological advancements.

Encourage entrepreneurship through funding incubation initiatives and support for start-ups that are promoting the 4th industrial technologies.

### Initiative 5: Management and Information Framework.

Implement a national educational management and information framework (NEMIF) to ensure equity in enrolment, placement, and funding.

#### **Initiative 6: Tertiary Enrolment**

Increase University enrolment from 8% to 15% within the next 5 years by rolling out educational infrastructure development. Ensure that all regions host VTCs

#### Initiative 7: Technology and Innovation

LPM led government will support innovation, research and development to enhance education in support of diversification of the economy.

#### Initiative 8: Youth Centre.

Ensure Youth Centre are equipped with libraries, computer labs, gyms, hostels, community radios, free WIFI and sports facilities.

#### Initiative 9: High Performance Centre.

Build a high performance Centre with the help of international sporting partnership for sports enhancement.

### Initiative 10: Investment in different Sports Codes.

Investment in horse racing league, school athletics and athletics in general, swimming, hockey, netball, soccer, rugby, tennis, volleyball, cycling and other sports codes with State support to the value of 500 million per year.

An amount of N\$200 million annually for arts, creative arts, music

#### Initiative 11: Education Merger.

Merge the Education Ministries to ensure proper management and administration of the education sector.

#### Initiative 12: ICT for Education.

Provide accessible, universal, affordable, reliable, modern and high-quality levels of ICT equipment, facilities and services in the education sector

Rollout digitals equipment and services by phase in primary and secondary schools

### PILLAR 2: EDUCATION, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT & ENVIROMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (CONTD)

#### Initiative 13: Free Education.

LPM led government will ensure that education shall be free up to tertiary level in Namibia.

### Initiative 14: Accommodation for Children with Special Needs.

Focus of LPM led government include children with special needs such as: Deaf, Blind, Autism, and Down-syndrome, Physical challenges, Support Children with academic differentiation, including Braille.

Sign language for the deaf and braille for the blind, and special provision for Autism and Down-syndrome, and accessibility for physically challenged children, and those with academic shortcomings, constitute central policy directive of the envisioned reforms.

### Initiative 15: Artificial Intelligence and Cyber Security.

For handling Artificial Intelligence, LPM led government will provide targeted investment in education to build a workforce appropriately skilled in Al activities.

Support local research efforts and maintain collaboration with Universities and technology companies to for modernization.

For Cyber Security, LPM led government shall regularly update incident response plans to effectively managed and mitigate cyber incidents.

#### Initiative 16: Teacher Empowerment

Teachers are the prime source of a developed nation. No nation develops by leaving teachers behind. They shape minds, they shape societies present and future. LPM will deliberately expand the capacity development of our teachers. This include expanding in-service training, enhancing salary and wages, expanding on housing and vehicle allowance, and protecting teacher rights and conditions of work. LPM also believes that teachers must have a greater say in the development of curriculum and that the excessive overload with administrative tasks upon teachers be reduced. We will also introduce a recognition system to encourage, preserve and acknowledge the good work done by teachers. Emphasize will be placed on both urban and rural teacher development.

#### Initiative 17: Nurses Empowerment

The LPM will ensure fair wages for nurses through inflation-linked salary adjustments, improving living conditions and strengthening public healthcare retention.

We propose subsidized housing programs with financial institutions to ensure nurses can access affordable home loans at lower interest rates. This initiative aims to improve living conditions for our healthcare workers.

#### Initiative 18: Affordable Housing for Police Officers & members of the NDF

Forge partnerships with housing developers to establish affordable housing options for police personnel, leveraging incentives and prioritizing officer access to strengthen community relationships.

Implement comprehensive assistance programs that provide down payment support and financial literacy resources, along with tailored home loan solutions that address the unique financial circumstances of law enforcement officers and defense personal.

### PILLAR 2: EDUCATION, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT & ENVIROMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (CONT)

#### SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Social development encompasses a broad range of activities aimed at improving the well-being and quality of life of individuals and communities. It involves enhancing social, economic, and cultural conditions to foster equitable and sustainable progress. Economic Growth and Poverty alleviation – are fundamental to social development. Promoting economic opportunities, reducing poverty, and ensuring equitable distribution of resources will make out the key characteristics of the LPM led government. This includes job-creation, access to financial services and support for small businesses.

**Universal Health Care** – ensuring access to quality health care services and improving public health infrastructure as a matter of priority issues. This includes addressing issues like maternal and child health, disease prevention, and mental health services. Promoting social and restorative justice and reducing inequality involves addressing discrimination and ensuring that marginalized groups have equal support. This includes efforts to support gender equality, disability rights, and the rights of minorities. Community Development - strengthening communities through local initiatives, civic engagement, and empowerment to foster resilience and self-reliance.

This will also include supporting local leadership and encouraging community-based solutions. Infrastructure Development – Investing in infrastructure such as transportation, housing and public utilities enhances living standards and supports economic activities. Good infrastructure also improves access to essential services and the overall quality of life of citizens. Urban areas are decreasing and LPM government will strengthen urban development

**Environmental Sustainability** – Integrating environmental protection into social development efforts ensures that progress does not come at the expense of the environment. This includes promoting sustainable practices and addressing climate change.

Governance and institutional strengthening – effective governance and robust institutions are considered crucial by LPM led government for implementing and sustaining social development initiatives. This will involve ensuring transparency, accountability, and public participation.

Social development is known for its multidimensional progressions, which cannot be done without properly coordinated approach across various sectors and levels of society to create a more equitable, prosperous, and sustainable future for all. It also need constant reinforcement through civic and community activism without which fairness is a distance

**Economic Empowerment and Social Equity**, are the ultimate premiums for breaking from historical injustices, land dispossession and propertylessness that has left many Namibians without access to land. For those resettled under the post-independence resettlement process, and those under the Affirmative Action Loans are left without development help. Reforming land ownership without assistance for agricultural productivity has proven unsustainable in Namibia.

LPM led government will therefore introduce radical changes, not only for improved access to land, but also support to advance land management and agricultural productivity. Government spending in the agriculture sector is miniscule. The organization of the value chain in livestock market remains a typical perpetuation of geographic disparity between livestock farmers from distant regions and those closer to market: higher prices and better trading conditions compared for nearby farmers-higher transaction costs and lack of competitive market for those afar.

Value Chain Imbalances: value chain in Namibia is often skewed, with processors and traders capturing significantly higher share of profits while large-and-small-scale producers receive a much smaller portion for their products. This imbalance exacerbates and limit bargaining power and access to processing facilities for small scale farmers. Unable to access the meat market directly, small farmers are open to this abuse.

LPM led government will not condone such inconsistencies. These disparities will be addressed through government policies aimed at improving infrastructure and market access with enhanced support for small scale farmers to ensure more equitable distribution of benefits across the value chain. Economic empowerment and social equity are closely linked concepts. Pursuing economic empowerment without attention to social equity widens disparities and reinforces existing inequalities.

Conversely, promoting social equity can help leveling the playing field – allowing more people to participate in and benefit from economic opportunities. Combining both these approaches is the LPM led government's fulcrum upon which inclusivity and fair society will be build; where everyone shall have a chance to succeed in-and-contribute to economic development.

**Entrepreneurial Support:** focusing on marginalized groups, including women and youth, LPM led government shall provide free education and vocational training programs as provided for under the Pillar for Education. Positioning Namibia against economic vulnerabilities: diversification of the economy with the aim to reduce reliance on traditional sectors such as mining, and investing in agriculture, tourism, renewable energy and technology, more specifically for purposes of agrarian reform, with the aim to diversify the economy and strengthen Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to enhance their capacity and resilience against economic shocks. The idea with enterprise support is to build a resilient business class for the Namibian society, so that enterprising individuals succeed in their business.

#### SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY DEVELOPMENT OF THE 71% YOUTH POPULATION OF NAMIBIA

Namibia is a nation with a youthful population, with 71.1 % of the population being 35 and below. 43% of youth are unemployed. For the past 3 years, 78.6% to 81.5% of grade 11 candidates have not made it to grade 12, shattering their window of opportunity of a bright future, as they do not possess a school leaving certificate. This leads to employment difficulties.

It is common cause that 43.3% Namibians are experiencing multidimensional poverty. This is a country that is coined to be the second most unequal country in the world, where about 1763 people own about 85% of the Namibian wealth. The capitalist mode of production in Namibia, combined with a weak state that is unable to manage public resources fairly, on an evidence-based strategy, rendered vast swathes of society multi-dimensionally poor.

Today, most Namibians are at the fringes of opportunity, excluded from the economic mainstream

The above-mentioned statistics show the correctness of what Issa Shivji stated many years ago, that a liberation movement must continue an activist role in government if it wants to transform society. Namibian society has not been transformed for the better, it has been deformed to the maximum. Therefore, to reboot society and to regain unity of purpose for a better tomorrow, a need to capture the momentum of the youth in the country during this election cycle.

The former liberation movement must be removed from state-power: it wasted 35 years of society and stunted our collective development. As a party of the left, the numerical strength of the youth must be amalgamated under the leftist umbrella, to fight the progressive fight for economic and social development.

#### OUR PATH:

As a disciplined leftist movement, our ideology informs us that the governments mandate is to form the economic policy foundation that uplifts the people--via economic development programs, It must implement just redistributive policies on the one hand, and business-friendly innovative policies on the other. State must find a balance among the motive forces of society in advancing toward a common future of common prosperity amidst often contradictory interests.

LPM therefore will convene a National Conversation on: Economic Development and the Construction of the Vibrant Namibia. This will be a whole national effort to obtain input from society on where we want to take our country forward, and to develop specific action plans that would be implemented by the state institutions. Part of such a conversation is the reach a commonly accepted understanding of what the Namibian developmental state must look like.

It would appear for us as LPM, that the current Namibian state has been reduced to an administrative organ of society writ large. Its transformative mandate has ceased, and is most being pursued. Policy imagination has dissipated.

### ADDITIONAL ACTIONS FOR TRANSFORMATION LEADERSHIP TRAINING, FIRST NATION FUND AND BUSINESS EXPOSURE INDABA

Leadership investment to be done with global leadership institutions of great repute. The idea is to generate a class of Namibians with essential global exposure and understanding of how the world operates. Global technology and business internships to Namibian youth, targeting 500 per year to Forbes 500 companies as well as other global enterprises of repute. This is to expose our youth to cutting edge technology and on the job exposure and experiences, with a view to open up Namibian society to a stronger pivot toward innovation and creativity.

The target would be about 500 Namibians annually Set up a First Nation Fund for the reconstruction and development of the San community in particular, sourcing global funding, as well as for the developmental transformation of other smaller groups in society whose lives are at the fringes of economic social strata.

Creating linkages with 100 reputable universities globally and to intake at least 350 youth and students per year, with a view to diversify and deepen our higher educational investment and expand the mental and intellectual capacity all of our youth and students for the construction of a vibrant and dynamic society, thriving with and generating multitudes of ideas of how to build Namibia and the world around us. This will be the business and technology exposure indaba.

#### COORDINATING AND TRANSFORMING NAMIBIAN SPORTS

The current Namibian sports scene is a display of raw talent shown by Namibians, with skill sets that places them on par with international talents, but with poor upkeep, support and management at any level when it comes to government intervention. There is a mere superficial stance from the government as to the coordination of sports and talent. There are no seeds in place to grow new talent. There are no programs to maintain talent. Neither is there a set system to pay homage to those who excel in the sport.

The LPM government, does not merely believe more money should be thrown into this field but that the management of sports be uplifted. This up-liftment from management should include sports facilities, academies and funneling Namibians into studying sports related fields and working closely with private third parties to ensure that there is balance in supporting the excelling sports stars. Creating and beginning sports leagues to generate competitive nature, professionalizing our athletes, with half a billion invested into the ministry to ensure there is growth.

#### CREATIVE APPROACHES FOR THE CREATIVE INDUSTRY

The creative industry is growing within the country without a relationship of the government. Limping into existence and gaining strides with international communities. Internationally the creative industries are successful branches of the economy and tend to generates revenue from other nations.

It is of instrumental measure to ensure that government begins to create inroads into the creative industry. With not only investment of two hundred million Namibian dollars annually (N\$ 200 million) into the arts to not only promote works and products but the LPM government should also begin to straighten the governmental institutions such as regulatory arts bodies that need to be more innovative, transparent and active in ensuring that they work to the best benefit of our artists to ensure efficiency and coordination occurs in this space.

#### VIOLENCE IN THE COUNTRY

There is mental health and gender-based violence that has gripped Namibian society. The manifestation of mental health challenges comes through, amongst others, suicide among young men and women. LPM government would build mental institutions, to assist and intervene with the mental health issues. We will promote the inclusion of psychologists, in clinics to ensure mental health is also at the forefront of the health questions.

An LPM government is aware that there is insufficient information as to the root causes of the violence generated in our country. In particular gender-based violence and child afflicting violence, including child rape, are all matters that require in-depth studies and redress to be sought. The focus also should be on the boy-child, who these days is left behind, and society is already witnessing the sad state of the boy child in Namibia.

Even at tertiary education levels, young men have fallen behind in the graduating numbers. This should be of concern. Therefore with immediate effect, ministry of gender would be directed to work with local scholars and institutions to do research as to what may be the particular causes of violence, gender based violence. This research then can derive applicable solutions that the ministry can adopt and use.

#### UNITY AND RECONCILIATION OF THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE

LPM will lead discussions and examination of ways to find a solution with the former SWATF/Koevoet members in an embrace to foster unity within the Namibian people. In light of reconciliation and peace, we wish to resolve the missing monetary issues affecting these Namibians, while finding ways to ease their livelihood challenges. These efforts would place us historically on the right path of addressing differences between us as a people and recognizing that there is a space for Namibians in Namibia with various historic backgrounds. Apartheid was hard, reconciliation is harder, but we have to do our best to reach out to each other in real terms.



#### SPECIFIC SOCIAL INITIATIVES: DEVELOPMENT

#### Initiative 1: Social Safety Nets.

LPM will intervene by providing economic opportunities, social safety nets, i.e. (BIG), and increase OVC grants to N\$1500.00 per months.

Initiative 2: Exemptions and Tax-Free Pensions for Retirees.

LPM led government will provide tax free pension grant from GIPF, as we reform GIPF itself.

Reduction in rates and taxes to bare minimum, or provide government subsidy to water and electricity costs for old age citizens.

Introduce domestic law on old-age citizens to formalize safe housing environment for old-age Namibian citizens.

Increase social grant to N\$3 000.00 per month and progressively maintain market related adjustments.

#### Initiative 3: Regional and Local Development Growth

LPM led regional and local councils will have greater role in the diversification of the economy to reduce dependency on mining, agriculture and stimulate regional and local growth.

Regional and local councils will promote sustainable tourism, capitalize on natural beauty, wildlife, and unique landscapes. Funds for development will be decentralized to regional and local govern-ment, so that unhindered development occurs where Namibians live.

Housing development will be carried out by local governments, and if it is a settlement, then the Regional Councils.

Upgrade: Rosh Pinah to a town, Noordoewer and Aussenkherr to Village Councils, as well as Kongola a village, Divindu a town and Otjinene a town as well and Oshakati to a 2nd tier Municipality

### Initiative 4: Empower Traditional Leadership and Change the Mining and Oil Regimes

Empower traditional authorities to have a greater say in the management of commu-nal lands and natural resources under their jurisdiction, through land boards and conservancies, with particular bearing on genetic resources associated with tradi-tional knowledge.

The state will exculpate itself from recogni-tion of traditional Chiefs. This has become a political tool for rewarding and punishing non-Swapo Chiefs. The State should leave recognitions and elections of their Chiefs/Hombas/Fumus etc, to the people of those traditional communities. We will also amend the Minerals Act to allow the communities where resources are found, to have a veto right over the use of their land. They can block any mining development and be empowered to demand appropriate shareholdership for their resources.

Establish a fund for each traditional authority, with a dedicated budget of N\$ 200 million. These funds will be used to support traditional festivals and cultural preservation campaigns, monument buildings and improved memory polities preservation campaigns, monument builidings and improved memory politics.

#### Initiative 5: Genocide and Reparation

LPM will pursue Genocide and reparation for the 1904-1905 victim whilst not excluding other affected communities.

Ensure that 2006 Riruako, initiated Parliamentary Motion is implemented as Adopted.

Pursue litigation against the Bilateral Agreement between the government of Namibia and Germany.

Support communities to champion and advocate for just reparations.

Enact genocide legislation in line with Article 23 of the Constitution to preserve the memory and remembrance of the genocide, identify genocide sites and building a memorial museum.

#### Initiative 6: Healthcare access.

Ensuring that all Namibians have access to affordable healthcare, and ensure medical expenses are not a barrier for accessing health, by creating a Universal Health Insurance Policy and ensure access to decent medical care is a right, not a privilege of the few.

#### Initiative 7: Political and Social Participation of Women.

Support women entrepreneurs through access to capital, education and skills development.

Access to health care and reproductive rights.

Ensure more impactful political and social participation for women and youth.

#### Initiative 8: Civil Society

Promote collaboration with civil society organizations, including in-sourcing of civil society organizations in Government work, and active engagement with communities to promote a more equitable and inclusive society.

#### Initiative 9: Sustainable Development Goals.

In pursued of restoring the dignity of Namibians, the LPM led government endorses principles (1 to 17) of the Sustainable Development Goals on (1. No Poverty, 2. Zero hunger, 3. Good health and well-being, 4. Quality and inclusive education system, 5. Gender equality, 6. Clean water and Sanitation, 7. Affordable and clean energy, 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth, 9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, 10. Reduce Inequalities, inclusion of the disability and other minority groups, 11. Sustainable cities and Communities, 12. Responsible consumption and production, 13. Climate action, 14. Life below water, 15. Life on land, 16. Peace justice and strong institutions, 17. Partnerships for the goals

#### Initiative 10: Roll-out of Pre-Paid Water Meters throughout the Country.

Under the LPM led government all water distribution areas will be installed with pre-paid water meters and the first 25 liters of water will be subsidized by the state.

#### Initiative 11: Reform the Central Procurement Board of Namibia.

Central Procurement Board will be reformed and be substituted by decentralized procurement system using regional structures.

#### Initiative 12: Creating a Real Commission against Corruption.

LPM led government will revamp the current Anti-Corruption Commission and establish a full Commission, and establish departmental anti-corruption unit in each department of state institutions, including regional and local authorities, as internal units that will deal with corruption matters immediately and directly.

Initiative 13: Judicial Reforms.

LPM led government will introduce judicial reforms to safeguard the courts and their integrity.

The excessive trust in single judges presiding over matters is of grave concern. Lifestyle audits of judges must be done and be made public to avoid decision-making and therefore our court decision potentially being corrupted. Magistrates without civil law experience will be barred from becoming High court judges.

### Initiative 14: Boosting internal tourism and external tourism

LPM led government will push for tourism market to accommodate internal markets by creating stronger native incentives and equity programs to boost native national tourism. Additionally to revise current billing and price schemes such as "2 persons sharing" in order to create a more accommodating and equitable system Generally, push the external tourist number to about 3 million visitors per year, to double the tourism sector.

# PILLAR 3: LAND & AGRICULTURE

Unequal land distribution stemming from Namibia's colonial history remains a post-independence political and socio-economic challenge. Redistributing land with the aim to alleviate poverty is both an economic and political aim of resettlement. (Revised National Resettlement Policy 2018-2027). This policy is based on the dictations of the Agricultural (Commercial) Land Reform Act, 1995 (Act No. 6 of 1995). Today 29 years post-facto, we have a conflated situation of fiction and reality where the historically land dispossessed are detached from redistribution, and also relatively have no opportunity for employment during the rise of the economy.

While the rich are benefitting and by so doing widening disparities, poverty and inequalities at faster rates than at any time in our post-independence period. LPM Led government will not tolerate such jobless, ruthless, futureless and rootless development in agriculture, tourism, fisheries, mining or any industry where economic growth is not at the same time the growth in human capital. Frontal attack on poverty, landlessness, and agrarian reform are central to the remedial action program for the next round of the LPM party goals.

The linkages between land and food security are symbiotic, involving access to land, tenure security, agricultural productivity, and sustainable natural resource management. At the core of the under-development and poverty nexus is the role of agriculture in ensuring food self-sufficiency and poverty alleviation for predominantly rural communities. Land lies at the center of rural livelihoods and is the linchpin of rural economic development. An LPM-led government will implement strategies to halt the deagrarianisation of the agricultural sector in rural areas, where livelihoods are becoming increasingly detached from the land, leading to a growing dependence on off-farm incomes. For instance, an average of 73% of total household income in north-central Namibia comes from non-farming activities, while a staggering 82% of income in the Kavango region is derived from non-farming sources (Wolfgang Werner, LPM Lecture, 5-10-2019).

LPM will reverse this worrying trend by introducing a radical land and agrarian reform program designed to cater to subsistence and SME farmers, ensuring both food sufficiency and food security. All land must be productively used to the fullest extent possible. LPM recognizes the immense impact of small-scale farming on the agricultural economy. However, the majority of small-scale farmers are hindered by the use of outdated technology, making farming a high-risk endeavor due to erratic rainfall patterns. Consequently, LPM will fast-track agriculture-led industrialization to build a robust food production system, concomitant with a strong manufacturing sector, to ensure that Namibian products can compete in lucrative international markets. A viable sovereign food production system must promote subsistence and smallholder farming for both rural and urban communities, thereby laying the foundation for sustainable agricultural development and broad-based economic growth.

#### THE PATH OF AGRARIAN REFORM

The eradication of poverty, the narrowing of inequality, and the defeat of unemployment are not mere utopian ideals, but achievable realities under a people-oriented economic framework.

The Landless People's Movement asserts that only through and class-conscious economic restructuring can we secure a dignified existence for all Namibians. The stark reality that over 900,000 Namibians are actively engaged in agriculture and land-based activities is a testament to the sector's latent potential. A transformative agricultural policy, fortified with adequate financial resources, equitable land redistribution, and protective mechanisms against corporate exploitation, could serve as the linchpin for socio-economic emancipation in Namibia.

#### RURAL POVERTY

However, the structural ailments afflicting our economy are unmistakable. Rural unemployment remains entrenched, exacerbated by gendered economic disparities that limit women's access to income-generating opportunities and financial support. The persistence of food and nutrition insecurity, coupled with the chronic underperformance of rural production, is a direct consequence of systemic policy contradictions and the state's inability to mobilize resources effectively for the benefit of the rural proletariat. The solution, therefore, lies not in superficial remedies, but in a radical reorientation of state priorities to uplift rural communities from the throes of poverty and to dismantle the capitalist tendencies that perpetuate these conditions.

#### A DIFFERENT PATH:

**Expropriation of Foreign-Owned Agricultural Land with Just Compensation:** The policy framework mandates the expropriation of foreign-owned agricultural land with fair and just compensation where such land is idle, underutilized, or serves no strategic purpose to the nation. Agricultural land transactions involving foreign entities will only be permitted if they yield demonstrable and verifiable benefits for the Namibian people, ensuring that land ownership serves collective national interests rather than private accumulation.

**Targeted Investment in Communal Land Areas:** A comprehensive agrarian investment strategy will prioritize the Northern Communal Areas and other communal regions, such as Kunene, //Kharas, and Otjozondjupa, by opening the Eiseb and Ohangwena aquifers to ensure water security for agriculture. This will unlock vast tracts of currently unproductive land, increase crop yields, and open up African markets for Namibian agricultural products. With improved water infrastructure, these regions will be transformed into productive agrarian hubs.

**Electrification and Agricultural Mechanization:** The electrification of communal land areas will be accelerated to facilitate the modernization and mechanization of agriculture, thereby enhancing productivity, food security, and job creation. This infrastructure expansion will enable farmers to adopt advanced farming techniques, increase outputs, and boost Namibia's standing as a competitive exporter of agricultural products.



**Fair Land Redistribution and Post-Settlement Support:** A cornerstone of the policy is ensuring fair and equitable land distribution, prioritizing historically land-dispossessed communities. The post-settlement support funding for resettled farmers will be increased to N\$ 1 million, providing necessary financial assistance for farm inputs, capacity-building, and infrastructure development, thereby fostering the long-term success and self-sufficiency of resettled farmers.

Agrarian Self-Sufficiency and Reduced Imports: The framework emphasizes the need to bolster local production of maize, millet, and other staple crops to minimize reliance on imports. By strengthening agrarian self-sufficiency, the policy aims to secure food security, reduce the import bill, and ensure that locally producible crops are grown within Namibia.

**Comprehensive Subsidy Program:** A targeted subsidy scheme will support commercial, communal, and resettled farmers with access to fuel, fodder, and essential farming equipment. This initiative is intended to encourage mixed irrigation and livestock farming, thereby maximizing land use and boosting Namibia's capacity as a major agricultural producer.

Access to Finance and Charcoal Industry Expansion: Soft loans through Agribank will be made available to facilitate investment on resettled and communal land. Simultaneously, the charcoal industry will be supported as a key export commodity through tax incentives and protection measures, ensuring it becomes a robust contributor to the agrarian economy.

Implementation of the 2019 LPM Manifesto Provisions: The policy framework will enforce all relevant land and agrarian reform provisions from the 2019 Landless People's Movement Manifesto, ensuring sustainable development, economic empowerment of marginalized communities, and environmental stewardship. This transformative strategy aims to position Namibia as a self-sufficient agrarian economy that prioritizes the welfare and prosperity of its citizens over the interests of foreign capital.

These are the transformative policies and reforms that the LPM will spearhead to address historical injustices and reshape Namibia's land and agricultural sectors for inclusive and sustainable development:

#### Initiative 1: Land Expropriation

Expropriate foreign-owned farmland with just compensation.

Prohibit foreign sales unless benefiting Namibians.

Expropriate idle foreign-held land without compensation for public interest. Redistribute land equitably, considering historical injustices.

#### Initiative 2: Technical Support

Implement a comprehensive support program for agrarian reform beneficiaries, including access to seeds, fertilizers, equipment, and technology.

Establish mentorship and training initiatives, connecting experienced farmers with new entrants to strengthen capacity and skills.

Facilitate access to credit and markets, ensuring that small-scale farmers can effectively compete and succeed in commercial agriculture.

#### Initiative 3: Orange River Border Dispute

The LPM-led government will resolve the Orange River Border Dispute with South Africa through diplomatic negotiations based on international border laws to protect Namibian territorial rights and secure resources for local farmers.

#### Initiative 4: Loans to Farmers

Provide low-interest loans (4% or less) to support commercial, resettled, and communal farmers, focusing on women, youth, indigenous minority groups, and people with disabilities. This initiative aims to boost crop production and promote inclusive growth.

#### Initiative 5: Collateral-Free Loans

Restructure Agribank to offer collateral-free loans for livestock and crop farming, targeting women, youth, and experienced farmers to expand access to capital and strengthen rural productivity.

#### ABATTOIR AND AALS REVAMPS

To transform the agricultural economy and reinforce the position of local farmers within the capitalist market framework, we must fundamentally re-engineer and modernize regional abattoirs to optimize meat processing, ensuring the capture of greater value within local supply chains. Simultaneously, we should revitalize and expand tanneries for the effective utilization of animal by-products, specifically skins and hides, thereby stimulating a robust value addition sector that secures domestic industrial growth. Furthermore, it is imperative to establish comprehensive support mechanisms for Affirmative Action Loan Scheme (AALS) farmers, shielding them from the capricious nature of market fluctuations and the exploitative tendencies of financial institutions, such as Agribank, which precipitate cycles of debt, farm repossession, and economic disenfranchisement.

To enhance the resilience and profitability of the livestock sector, it is also crucial to restructure Meatco to serve as a central pillar in this agricultural transformation. This requires the establishment of regional feedlots to maintain a consistent livestock supply, stabilizing prices, and delivering significant benefits to local farmers. Additionally, a revision of Meatco's pricing structure is necessary to guarantee fair compensation for farmers, thereby incentivizing increased production and ensuring sustainable sectoral growth. To complement these reforms, new facilities must be developed to expand Meatco's processing capacity, ensuring the long-term sustainability of the livestock sector while fortifying Namibia's position as a key player in regional and international meat markets.

The AALS scheme itself requires a transformative overhaul, transitioning from its current debt-driven structure, which perpetuates subjugation and financial precariousness, to a model rooted in genuine empowerment, equitable land ownership, and sustainable development. This reformed structure should prioritize accessibility and affordability, grounded in the principles of economic justice and agrarian self-sufficiency, thereby dismantling the neo-feudalistic dynamics that have historically undermined the autonomy and prosperity of emerging black farmers. By shifting the scheme's focus towards emancipation from capital-driven exploitation, we can realign it as an instrument of socioeconomic liberation rather than a mechanism of systemic impoverishment.

#### ESTABLISH FEEDLOTS

Establishing and adequately funding the development of strategically located feedlots across the nation is imperative to safeguarding the sustainability and profitability of our cattle and broader livestock sectors. This initiative should not merely focus on the protection of existing livestock but must also serve as a catalyst for the structural transformation of animal husbandry.

Such a strategy will mitigate the impact of erratic climatic conditions, stabilize market prices, and ensure consistent quality and supply. Simultaneously, it is crucial to expand our vision by reinforcing and deepening investment in the pig and poultry farming industries. These sectors must be developed with equal vigor to diversify the agricultural economy, ensure food security, and reduce dependency on external imports.

To achieve this, the implementation of targeted subsidies, research and development programs, and the establishment of local breeding centers must be prioritized. This dual-pronged approach would not only strengthen domestic agricultural production but also pave the way for a self-sustaining and diversified livestock industry, enabling the rural economy to thrive and ensuring that surplus production can penetrate both local and regional markets.

#### YOUTH AND WOMEN

Establish a Rural and Urban Agriculture Development Fund designed to enhance the living standards of citizens across Namibia. This initiative will deliver targeted support to smallholder farmers through comprehensive training, financial assistance, mentorship programs, and peer-supported interventions. Furthermore, there is a pressing need to consolidate existing agricultural boards—such as Agribusdev and AMTA—to streamline operations and maximize efficiency in service delivery.

In a Landless People's Movement-led government, there will be intentional programs aimed at empowering women, with a specific focus on prioritizing them in land redistribution efforts. The pursuit of gender equity in land reform is not merely an ethical imperative but a fundamental necessity for fostering sustainable development and social justice. Such measures will ensure that women are not only beneficiaries but also active participants in the agricultural sector, thus promoting a more equitable distribution of resources and opportunities.

#### THE VETERINARY CORDON FENCE (REDLINE)

The Landless People's Movement (LPM) is committed to engaging in substantive and earnest dialogues with all relevant stakeholders to rectify the prevailing challenges within the agricultural sector. Our approach is deeply rooted in the historical injustices that have shaped Namibia's agricultural landscape, particularly concerning the impact of the Redline, which has historically segregated commercial and communal farming areas, perpetuating inequities and stifling the full potential of our agricultural resources.



In light of this, we advocate for the gradual and consensual dismantling of the Redline, a strategy that aims to enhance inclusivity and equity in agricultural practices without compromising the advancements made in the sector. We emphasize the necessity of free movement and sale of livestock, enabling farmers to trade their livestock freely across the country without the constraints imposed by the Redline

This freedom is essential for the economic empowerment of our communities, allowing them to access markets and improve their livelihoods. It is imperative to acknowledge the significant investments made to enhance herd quality and export standards for Namibian beef in the global market. As we move forward, an LPM-led government will prioritize the gradual removal of this artificial barrier while implementing robust policies to support farmers affected by these changes. Our approach will involve comprehensive strategies such as fostering collaboration among farmers, providing access to resources, and ensuring that all voices are heard in the decision-making process.

By doing so, we will not only uphold the integrity of our agricultural sector but also rectify the historical injustices faced by our communities, ultimately paving the way for a more equitable and prosperous future for all Namibians.

#### NECKARTAL DAM

Transforming the Necktartal Dam into a multifaceted water sports and tourism facility is a strategic move that aligns with the broader socio-economic aspirations of Namibia. This development should not merely cater to affluent global tourists; instead, it must be designed to foster local engagement and provide substantial employment opportunities for Namibians, particularly in areas grappling with unemployment and economic marginalization.

Incorporating high-quality hotel and accommodation services, as well as recreational amenities like golf courses, can create a vibrant ecosystem that attracts international visitors while simultaneously boosting local economies. However, this must be complemented by a comprehensive strategy to ensure that local communities benefit from these developments. Investments in training programs for hospitality and service industry skills are essential, enabling Namibians to take on roles within these facilities.

Moreover, expanding the irrigation areas downstream to the Naute Dam will cultivate agricultural opportunities, integrating tourism with food production.

This dual approach not only enhances food security but also creates a sustainable model that promotes agri-tourism—where visitors can experience and participate in local agricultural practices. By building these interlinked industries—tourism, hospitality, and agriculture—Namibia can create a robust, multi-sectoral economy that prioritizes job creation and empowers its citizens.

This vision embodies a Marxist perspective by advocating for the equitable distribution of resources and opportunities, ensuring that the benefits of such developments are shared widely among the populace rather than concentrated in the hands of a few.

#### LAND REDISTRIBUTION

The Landless People's Movement (LPM) government is committed to implementing a comprehensive land redistribution program aimed at rectifying the historical injustices of Namibia's colonial and apartheid past.

This initiative seeks to address the longstanding racial disparities in land ownership while confronting the current government's inequitable land allocations, often characterized by corruption and inefficiency in acquisition, processing, and settlement procedures.

Recognizing the state's position as the largest landowner, the LPM government will actively promote the establishment of additional farming units in the Kavango, Zambezi, Kunene, and Omaheke regions. These historically marginalized areas will receive targeted support through the provision of adequate water resources, essential for sustainable agricultural practices.

Additionally, the government will enhance access to veterinary services in remote communities, including Eiseb and Gam, to empower rural populations and foster local economic development.

By prioritizing land access for previously disadvantaged groups and improving rural livelihoods, the LPM government aims to create a more just and inclusive society, facilitating Namibia's transition towards equitable resource distribution and empowering its citizens.

#### LAND RESTITUTION

LPM government will consider on a case-per-case basis land restitution claims as it relates to ancestral land claims. An ancestral land claims unit will be opened in the Ministry of Land Reform, to deal with the ancestral land question.



An interpretation at High/Supreme Court will be sought for ancestral land. An ancestral land value determination will be examined and promulgated through the Value- General's Office, for the purposes of issuing state restitution pay-outs to affected community members, who show sufficient cause and historic title, as one of the alternatives to the ancestral land question.

#### LAND TENURE SECURITY

LPM government will protect the rights of farm workers and farm dwellers, labour tenants and those living in the rural areas of the former Odendaal Commission reserves. Equally, an Act of Parliament shall be passed that will protect Generational Farm Workers and their families. These category of people fall victim to land sales transactions, even when the state is the buyer of land, and are left landless anew.

#### LAND EXPROPRIATION WITH JUST COMPENSATION

Absentee landlords will be issued formal expropriation notices within the first 30 days of an LPM government's tenure, clearly outlining the State's intention to reclaim underutilized or neglected landholdings that have remained in the hands of owners with minimal or no presence in Namibia. These notices will serve as an initial step in redressing historical injustices linked to absentee ownership patterns, which have perpetuated inequality and stagnation in rural development.

Landlords will be required to provide a comprehensive, justifiable explanation within the stipulated period, detailing why such properties cannot be targeted for expropriation and what socio-economic contributions they have made to the local communities where these farms are situated. Should they fail to offer a sound and reasonable argument that demonstrates active land utilization or tangible investments benefiting local economies, the government will proceed with the expropriation process under constitutional mandates that prioritize the public interest over absentee property rights.

Furthermore, this policy will establish a structured framework for determining just compensation. The compensation formula will consider not only market value but also the extent to which the absentee landholding has contributed—or failed to contribute—to the national imperative of rural empowerment and economic growth. This means that properties that have been held merely as speculative assets, with no tangible output, will attract lower compensatory values, reflecting the diminished role they have played in economic development.

The overarching goal of this initiative is to ensure that landownership aligns with Namibia's socio-economic objectives, enhancing productivity, fostering sustainable rural development, and correcting patterns of exclusion. The government will utilize legal mechanisms that uphold constitutional values while firmly advancing national priorities to reclaim land for communities that have been systematically marginalized. This process will be executed transparently, ensuring public accountability, while signaling the government's commitment to land justice and the revitalization of the agricultural sector.

#### NEW BENEFICIARIES OF LAND ACQUISITION PROGRAMS

LPM government will ensure that land redistribution program would address land need. Farm workers and farm dwellers and smallholder farmers will also be attended to with assistance to help them have assets while working at farms, and to retire to a decent life after farm-work.

Key priority will be given to those individuals who have demonstrated commitment to a land-based lifestyle and are working the land, and are involved in horticulture and keeping livestock. Beneficiary selection shall be demand-driven process whereby citizens are encouraged and supported to articulate their land demands. A need for open, democratic and transparent processes through which the state will respond to

#### OFFICE OF THE LAND RIGHTS PROTECTOR

LPM led government will create a law to create Office of the Land Protector for oversight, and to investigate allegations of corruption, illegal fencing in communal land and refer such cases for prosecution to relevant authorities. This Office will also prosecute these land disputes in the Land Tribunal, and will also have criminal prosecutorial and civil authority.

#### MINERAL RESOURCE OVERSIGHT COUNCIL

Similar to the Labor court system, LPM shall establish a Mineral Resource Protection Court, established under Citizens Council. This Council will be independent. State Budgetary support will be given through Parliament, to protection water, oceanic, soil, mining ore, oil, gas, and all other natural resources of the state, below and on top soil, as well as in the atmosphere.

This Council will work closely with the Ombuds Office, and nominations to serve on the Council will be done through open public nominations to be handled by the National Assembly. The term of Office shall be four years, but not exceeding two terms for any individual.

This body will have powers to charge anyone, including elected officials, and to litigate on mineral resource management. It will have oversight function on the natural resources O/M/A's, and will work closely with the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Natural Resources and Public Accounts, to hold officials accountable.

This body will have civil and criminal powers of claim in protecting our resources. This is to act as a watchdog and ensure that there is no safe haven or repeat for criminal activities such as "fishrot," where our resources are misused for selfish elite gain. The Executive Chairperson of the Council shall be a retired judge. The body therefore is to actively ensure transparent and functioning oversight of natural resources related fields. We cannot trust the executive to manage these resources alone. This is to create a more efficient system and a more responsive accountability measure.

# PILLAR 4: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### PILLAR 4: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (CONTD)

#### LPM GOVERNMENT IN THE WORLD:

The global peasant, landless working class, urban dwellers movement configured in the expressions of global peasants' movements and landless working-class formations. The expressions of the Marxist that all "history of hitherto existing society has been the history of class struggle', impresses upon us the consciousness to forge forward with our class struggle in the local and international public space.

An LPM government will therefore align with global forces of the left, while exercising a deep understanding of, and partnership, where relevant, with the global social and economic forces that determine the world political, military and economic directions. We will be a pragmatic and open government, working with all development partners, and building economic relations with all nations of the world. We will not have a dogmatic outlook of the world, a type of philosophical isolationism that is contrary to economic interest of society. We will exercise an open-minded approach to global partnership, while protecting our cultural, political, sociological and historic values and virtues.

As a government therefore, we will work together with global philanthropic, public bodies of global standing and scope, sub-regional bodies and associations, scientific research bodies, private business corporations and all other progressive forces and states, that share the believe that Namibia is a respectable and forward-moving constitutional democracy. We will ensure that Namibia staff quota in international bodies is met, and that our people can get as much global exposure and footprint to international legal, business and technological systems and institutions.

We will without any apology, promote this country to the worlds business empires and business and opinion-makers, to generate an environment of a country that is confident in building a future for its youth, in association with the world's greatest influencers, business personalities and international bodies of repute.

#### SMALLER STATES' GLOBAL COMMUNITY GROUPING (SSGCG)

Namibia will work toward the establishment of an international grouping of states that share certain commonalities. These areas of convergence include nominal GDP size, a comparable population size with Namibia, a shared philosophy on democracy, rule of constitutional order and the promotion of global peace and human development oriented international posture.

The purpose of such a forum would be to collectively enhance the bargaining power on the global stage, and to push for the common interest of these smaller states. Matters such as climate change convergences, and the need for more support for the global smaller states' economies to be better prepared for climate crisis, are such areas of interest.

Collective need and collaboration on human development, so that the investment in people is tangible and contributes to economic growth. Additionally, collective push for opening a common market for intra-state trade

common market for intra-state trade among such nations, and improvement of public service delivery models and sharing of such models, are part of the important matters that should bring such states together.

## PILLAR 4: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (CONTD)

These efforts will be undertaken as the BRICS model is also not suitable for smaller states like Namibia. Curtailed by our limited size, both numerical and economically, and reduced to a follower of the "big states" and their interests, we often do not get a decent share of our share of investments, technology alignment and faster economic growth. The 12% economic growth target requires us to associate with as many global states as possible.

Indeed we are not attempting to play small in the midst of significant oil resource findings in Namibia. That too will help solidify our place in the world, provided we do so exemplary, deliberately and with the right partners to assist us to make the right public investments, the right public savings in sovereign wealth protection and stabilization efforts, as well as the right technical investments for a diversified economy.

Such an association of smaller states as intimated, will not be focused on mere South-South cooperation, but is in essence a global body of states defined above. The South-South cooperation dynamic is also loaded with major complexities of national interests as well as global power play, in which some of the state of the global South are themselves imperial in their new political and economic character and diplomatic posture.

The emerging trends, solidified over four decades now, shows that nation-states with larger population sizes will always draw greater international private sector capital and FDI's, due to strong internal market capacity, under the neo-liberal global economic order. Then smaller states will always be at the peripheral space of the global economy. Together with western powers, such new large economic and military powerhouses will constitute the first-and-second economic core statehood respectively. African states and societies will be on the fringes, as usual. We must fight against this pre-determined global economic fate that is accorded to us, by seeking new alliances with new strategies and tactics.

Therefore, countries in the AU, EU, the former Eastern bloc- which are also emerging economies of scale-Pacific and Caribbean nations and so forth, are suitable alliance partners. This does not mean that Namibia will assume a negative posture with bigger nations of the world.

It merely means that we are looking for intensified collaboration with newer well-defined partners to help leverage for a better bargain in the global community of nations. The concept will be further developed with local academics and foreign policy experts and commentators, to sharpen the application and management of the idea.

#### NAMIBIA AND OPEC

Namibia will carefully analyze the benefits of OPEC membership, and consult African members of the body, before joining that body. LPM government has an interest in making Namibia one of the oil refining oil producing states in the world. Our international relations and our diplomacy will be targeting the attainment of that economic goal.



## PILLAR 4: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (CONTD)

#### NAMIBIA AND IAEA

Namibia imports its electricity from South Africa and the SADC energy pool. LPM government intend on transforming Namibia into an aggregate exporter of electricity. First, our goal is to make ourselves energy dependent, by securing our demands capacity, including with a diverse portfolio with renewables. Secondly, we would activate the use of nuclear energy for peaceful energy means, so that the SADC and African states can benefit from electricity at affordable rates from the Republic of Namibia.

#### AFRICA AND SADC

LPM shall maintain and expand progressive alliances in social, economic and political dimensions. Our relations with countries on the continent shall not only be about historic relations, but about economic and trade considerations. Our Embassies and High Commissions to Africa and the world at large, shall be tailored and instructed to double-down on the pursuit of Namibia's economic and developmental interests.

Country representatives that do not have the strength, innovation and business mind to draw investments into Namibia cannot be deployed to these key pints, where our economic development agenda intersects with the world forces, and where we should be ready and faster than all other peers, to take advantage of every inch of our strength

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Youth Command Element

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PLAN (2024)

LANDLESS PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT



LPM



# FOREWORD

As we launch this blueprint themed "The Youth Empowerment Plan," we are reminded of the class-and-generational struggle of the permanent majority that constitute 71% of our population, namely, the youth of Namibia. Today, youth unemployment stands at a staggering forty-three percent (43%), more than five hundred thousand (500 000) Namibians are hungry, most of these are youth. Many degree holding university graduates roam the streets of Namibia, without any prospects of a job or funding for their business. Many more are under-or-un-educated, unable to move to another level of life, where they can renew their hope in a better tomorrow.

Indeed, the thrust of the Namibia's economic and social development policies will have to pivot toward a staggering effort to demolish the mountain of poverty afflicting our youth. As Marxist opine, and we concur, that "the history of all hitherto existing society, has been a history of class struggle." This afore-mentioned statement, of the Marxist philosophy, determines the context within which the youth find themselves: to fight for a better tomorrow, by engaging in a fierce class struggle, or betray our generational mandate as espoused by Franz Fanon. In the betrayal of that generational mission, as stated afore, today's youth will become subservient to the dominant classes of society.

The idea of this Youth Manifesto is motivated by the overwhelming representation of youth in the country that constitute two-thirds (2/3) of society. Presenting an opportunity for us to articulate and address issues of unemployment, hunger and poverty amongst others. Whereas the conventional party Manifesto does not address.

Our foundation as a youth wing will remain entrenched in the ideals and idea of creating a society that seeks for the inclusion of young people in strategic positions, that aims to improve the material conditions of young people, and lastly, that seeks to reintegrate young people in the mainstream economy, and thereby, permanently transform material condition of the young people of Namibia.

It is through our call for youth inclusion in politics that we have witnessed a significant influx of youth representation in mainstream politics. In particular, the LPM has answered to the call by appointing young people as Mayors, Chairpersons of Management Committees in Council, Members of Parliament and members of National Convention and Political Action Committee, the highest decision-making bodies within the party.

We found inspiration in the words of Franz Fanon who expressed that 'Each generation must out of relative obscurity, discover its mission, fulfill it or betray it'. It is within this context that this blueprint was drafted to craft a new dawn for the Namibian youth that has committed themselves to the fight of economic emancipation. We must never forget that we are the principal motive force of society, and in conjunction with other motive forces of society, we must stand up and stand tall for a Namibia where our dreams and aspirations become true.

This blueprint highlights pillars namely: Governance, Health, Agriculture, Education, Mining, Sports, Tourism, and the Creative Arts Industry. These pillars address two issues, one, the class agenda of young people and, two, the unemployment question that has engulfed the us.

As we enter this new political dawn, we believe a new society is being born. A Namibia that prioritizes the needs and aspirations of young people. A Namibia that is cognizant of the realities of this important populace in society and lastly a Namibia that is committed to the economic emancipation of young people.

Let's vote LPM in November, lets change ourselves to see the change we want to have in society.

#### Duminga Ndala

Youth Command Leader



# **YOUTH DIAGNOSIS**

About 43% of young people in Namibia are unemployed. Structural issues within the economy such as over-dependence on the primary sector, exacerbate this problem. Unemployment is not unique to Namibian youth: it's a global question, especially in the global south. The class struggle within which the youth find themselves, therefore, is underpinned by a global economic capitalist system, which seeks to maintain a massive reserve labour system. It can be asserted that both local and global youth unemployment, is the result of the critical contradiction within the capitalist production mode.

The tendency of capitalism to concentrate, and therefore drawing wealth to those that already have, forms the pinnacle of the capitalist system of production. For this reason, as afore-mentioned, capitalism can create wealth, but the just distribution of opportunities and wealth is not built-in that system. It is within this contradiction of global capitalism, that young people must navigate a future that meets their needs of jobs, housing, food, and a dignified life. Whereas, as a party of the left, we understand that only capitalism has the capacity to produce wealth, only a social democratic set-up can distribute that wealth fairly and much more humanely. In this context therefore, the state has a critical role to play to secure the present generations from the abyss of poverty.

The state must be a strong and active advocate in the global class struggle, and participate strongly with alliances and other social partners, to draw opportunities and advantages wherein which Namibian society can use its vast and wealthy means of productions to the total benefit of society and her wellbeing. The point for our youth, at this juncture of our nations political journey, is to elect representatives that are attuned with the class struggles, the capitalist contradictions and the need to strategically use our advantages for the best of Namibian at large.

As we enter the oil and gas era, with profound wealth at our disposal, our critical analysis reveals that with the current SWAPO government in charge of administering the affairs of the state, nothing will change for the youth and for society. Need we to elaborate on the public failures of "fishrot", "diamondrot" and other scandals of public resources misappropriations?

We have noted that the ruling elite claim success in education and health care, that they have delivered and that they trusted by society. To the contrary, a whole litany of Namibia Statistics Agency Reports show a dismal education situation: that only 21,5% of children complete grade 12, and only about 8% enter tertiary education institutions. This latter data shows that public investments to build a stronger future, led by humans with strong academic endowments, is simply not there. More and more of our children and youth are thrown out onto the street, without any opportunity for business development and self-help programmes, with a view to transform their lives.

Access to land as a means of production, lack of land and home ownership, access to affordable loans schemes, malnutrition and hunger afflict the youth. These myriad of socio-economic challenges are real and painful to live-in. The windows of opportunity youth have, as limited, as that window is, continues to grow smaller.

Without, access to quality education, coupled by the adaptation of the new curriculum Advance Subsidiary Level (ASL) that has done a great injustice to the youth with many falling by the wayside. With several battles on many fronts, being lack of access to affordable health, lack of access to gainful employment, lack of access to sustainable and decent quality education, the youth have no option but to stand up and stand together. The election of November 2024 is a watershed moment for all Namibians: do we take the road we have taken for the past 35 years? Or do we entrust a new generation of leaders with bold and dynamic ideas and energy, willing to listen to the people, to take country and citizen forward?

# YOUTH DIAGNOSIS (CONTD)

That choice lies in the hands of the 71% of the youth.

Countries in the global south are also leapfrogging to secure the economic space for their youth. No wonder that even communist China has adopted a capitalist mode of production to increase the wealth of the nation. Our challenge as Namibia is that we have not transformed the structural bottlenecks within the economy, and those with the wealth are not willing to invest in our economy, as corruption and mismanagement have taken root in public institutions.

# GOVERNANCE

The LPM Youth Command Element believes that, to achieve genuine and adequate representation of young people in society there should be effective policy frameworks, and interventions aimed at accelerating authentic youth representation. To facilitate this, we propose the following interventions:

**Establishment of a Youth Quota:** We propose such an Act of Parliament is implemented to ensure a meaningful and genuine representation of young people in Public and Private institutions. This law will aim to ensure that 70 % of jobs and opportunities in public and private sectors are reserved for youth, for inclusivity and empowerment.

**Legislate a Youth Empowerment Legislation Act:** We propose the establishment of a Youth Empowerment Act that mandates public and private institutions to allocate 50% of tenders to youth small and medium enterprises (SMEs). This legislation aims to enhance economic opportunities for young entrepreneurs, foster innovation, and ensure meaningful participation of youth in the economy.

**Implement a Comprehensive Integrated Youth Development Strategy (CIYDS):** That such a strategy aimed at enhancing the ability of young people to access opportunities and meaningfully participate in the broader economy is integrated in our national youth governing policies such as the National Youth Policy.





### BASIC EDUCATION

The Namibian education system stands at crossroads, with about 82% of learners, being pushed out of the school system due to high failure rate, as well as other prevalent social problems. Despite education receiving 27.3% of the total budget, the system struggles to deliver effective education outcomes. This alarming trend underscores the urgent need for reforms to keep our children in schools and educated.

We propose the following interventions:

#### **Basic and Secondary Education**

The urgency to shift towards a

competence-based curriculum (CBC) is

undeniable, particularly in primary and secondary education. This model emphasizes practical skills, critical thinking, problem-solving, and the holistic development of learners, ensuring they are equipped not only with knowledge but also with the necessary tools to apply it meaningfully in real-world contexts.

A competence-based curriculum focuses on the learner's ability to demonstrate mastery in a specific set of skills. It moves away from the traditional exam-based model that evaluates learners solely on their ability to recall information. Instead, it nurtures creativity, innovation, and adaptability. This is particularly important in the Namibian context, where learners face an evolving job market and societal challenges that require them to be self-reliant, critical thinkers, and effective communicators.

At the primary school level, the curriculum will be structured to lay a strong foundation for literacy and numeracy, but also to introduce basic problem-solving skills. Learners must be encouraged to question, explore, and engage with the world around them. They must be taught to understand the socio-economic challenges facing Namibia and be empowered to think about solutions, even from a young age. Moreover, basic digital literacy should be integrated at this stage, ensuring that children are introduced to technology early, equipping them for a world increasingly driven by ICT. At the secondary school level, the curriculum should deepen its focus on developing technical skills that can be applied directly in various sectors, such as agriculture technology, and the creative industries. Learners should be provided with opportunities to engage in entrepreneurial activities, thereby preparing them to not only seek employment but also create it. The CBC should also emphasize STEM education (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), encouraging students to pursue innovative solutions to the country's challenges, whether in energy, agriculture, or technology.

In addition, life skills education should be a core component of the curriculum, addressing essential topics like financial literacy, civic responsibility, environmental awareness, and mental health. This will foster a generation that is not only academically proficient but socially conscious and emotionally resilient.

For educators, the CBC demands a shift in both mindset and teaching methodology. Teachers should transition from the role of instructors to facilitators of learning, guiding students in discovering knowledge for themselves. This requires comprehensive and continuous teacher training and professional development programs, ensuring that educators are well-versed in student-centered, inquiry-based teaching methods.



### BASIC EDUCATION (CONTD)

Furthermore, assessment methods must also evolve. Rather than focusing solely on written examinations, there should be a blend of formative and summative assessments, including project work, group assignments, practical demonstrations, and portfolios that allow students to showcase their competencies over time.

Ultimately, this competence-based curriculum will equip Namibian learners with the ability to compete not only on a national level but on the global stage. They will leave school not just as students who have memorized facts, but as individuals who can think critically, innovate, and contribute meaningfully to society. This approach will serve as the backbone of Namibia's educational reform, ensuring that future generations are prepared to tackle the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

## **HIGHER EDUCATION**

The Youth Command Element advocates for a comprehensive reform of the higher and tertiary education system in the Republic of Namibia. Central to this reform is the transformation of the Namibia Student Assistance Fund (NSFAF) into a fully independent institution, free from the Ministry of Higher Education. We assert that the NSFAF must shift from a loan-based model to a grant-based system, recognizing the immense challenges facing graduates in today's saturated job market.

Upon completing their studies, graduates encounter significant barriers to entering the labor market, where opportunities are limited and competition is fierce. Even for those fortunate enough to secure employment, the remuneration they receive is often inadequate to cover basic living expenses, familial responsibilities, and the burden of student loan repayments. This creates a cycle of financial strain, hindering graduates from achieving economic independence and contributing meaningfully to the nation's development.

By reforming the NSFAF into a non-repayable grant-based system, we aim to alleviate this burden, allowing young Namibians to focus on building their futures without being encumbered by debt. This reform is not only an investment in our youth but also a strategic step towards fostering a more equitable and sustainable economy. We believe that free and accessible education, supported by a grant-based NSFAF, is essential for unlocking the full potential of Namibian students and ensuring that education remains a vehicle for social and economic mobility in our nation.

### **VOCATIONAL TRAINING EDUCATION**

The vocational training sector has been unjustly marginalized for too long, despite its pivotal role in driving Namibia's economic and infrastructural development. Our homes, buildings, and essential infrastructure are all products of skilled laborers trained in these institutions. These are the artisans, electricians, welders, and builders who possess the practical expertise that our country's growth depends on.

### VOCATIONAL TRAINING EDUCATION (CONTD)

It is therefore unacceptable that students in vocational training continue to face disparities in funding and resources compared to their peers at institutions like NUST, UNAM, and IUM. The Youth Wing demands equal treatment and recognition for vocational trainees. We call for full financial support for every trainee, ensuring they receive comprehensive funding, which includes both tuition and non-tuition expenses. Furthermore, we advocate for each trainee at VTC, KAVEC, and other vocational institutions to be fully equipped with the necessary tools and equipment required for their practical training. This will enable them to participate meaningfully in lessons and ultimately contribute effectively to our national development.

In essence, this is about empowering young Namibians, unlocking their potential, and recognizing the immense value vocational skills bring to our society. Vocational training should no longer be viewed as secondary to academic education but as an equally important pillar in shaping our nation's future.

### HEALTHCARE

Namibia faces significant challenges within its healthcare sector, despite receiving substantial budget allocations over the past years. The inadequacies in infrastructure and the lack of modern medical equipment have hindered the delivery of quality healthcare services.

Consequently, many members of the elite class seek medical treatment abroad, leaving many Namibians to endure dire conditions. This disparity has contributed to a troubling rise in mental health issues and unhealthy lifestyle choices among the youth, exacerbating an already critical public health crisis. Furthermore, Namibia is experiencing a shortage of adequately trained healthcare professionals, which undermines efforts to ensure that every citizen can lead a healthy lifestyle.

Under a government led by the Landless People's Movement (LPM), we commit to implementing changes in our healthcare system:

**Investment in Healthcare Infrastructure:** The youth wing will advocate for substantial investments in medical infrastructure and state-of-the-art technology. This initiative will ensure that all Namibians have access to healthcare in a conducive environment, reducing the need for medical travel abroad.

**Mental Health Support Enhancement:** We will prioritize the enhancement of mental health support services within schools and communities. This will include the establishment of comprehensive counselling programs and improved access to qualified mental health professionals, addressing the growing mental health crisis among the youth.



### HEALTHCARE (CONTD)

**Promotion of Healthy Lifestyle Choices:** Our government will actively promote awareness and education on healthy lifestyle choices. By implementing community-based programs focused on nutrition, exercise, and wellness, we aim to counteract the alarming trends of unhealthy living that currently afflict our youth.

**Strengthening Primary Healthcare Services:** We will focus on strengthening primary healthcare services in every community. By ensuring that every constituency has access to quality healthcare, to improve health outcomes and foster a culture of wellness across Namibia. Coupled to that, at every clinic there should a provision of one doctor to diagnosis the sick.

### MINING

The Landless People's Movement (LPM) Youth Command Element recognizes the need for revolutionary reforms within Namibia's mining sector, an industry that, while contributing approximately 10% to the nation's GDP, continues to under deliver in terms of local ownership, job creation, and youth empowerment. Current policies leave Namibians, particularly young people and local communities in mining regions, marginalized from the wealth that flows out of the country into foreign hands.

#### Pillar 1: Economic Justice through Local Ownership

We advocate for increased Namibian ownership in all mining operations. The LPM Youth Command Element proposes a minimum 30%-50% local shareholding in mining companies, with a mandatory 10% allocated to youth and communities in mining regions. This policy ensures that the wealth generated by Namibia's natural resources directly benefits its people, reducing foreign exploitation and addressing the economic exclusion of young Namibians.

#### Pillar 2: Beneficiation and Value Addition

The LPM Youth Command Element demands the local beneficiation of Namibia's minerals to stimulate industrial growth and job creation. We propose legislation requiring a significant portion of raw materials to be processed domestically, maximizing the value of Namibia's resources. This initiative will promote the development of a strong industrial base, reduce dependency on exports, and create employment opportunities for young Namibians, particularly in mining regions

#### **Pillar 3: Community Partnership Model**

We propose the creation of Community Trusts funded by 20% of mining revenues. These Trusts will support local youth through investments in education, infrastructure, and entrepreneurial programs. By ensuring that mining revenues directly benefit affected communities, this model promotes economic inclusion and fosters long-term development. This is inspired by, but goes beyond, similar reforms seen in South Africa, ensuring Namibia's youth are empowered to take ownership of their future.

### MINING (CONTD)

#### Pillar 4: Employment Quotas for Namibian Youth

To combat the high levels of unemployment among Namibian youth, the LPM Youth Command Element advocates for 80% of all mining jobs to be reserved for Namibians, with a strong focus on youth employment in regions where mining operations take place. We will push for vocational training programs to be implemented in partnership with mining companies, equipping young Namibians with the skills needed to secure high-paying jobs and reducing reliance on foreign labor.

#### Pillar 5: Environmental and Social Accountability

Mining should not come at the expense of Namibia's environment or the well-being of its people. The LPM Youth Command Element insists that mining operations be tied to environmental rehabilitation programs and social accountability frameworks, ensuring that companies are responsible for restoring the land and contributing to the sustainable development of local communities. These initiatives will be overseen by independent bodies, with youth representation, to ensure transparency and effectiveness.

#### **Pillar 6: Mobile Mining Plants**

We propose that each mine shall have a mobile plant separate of its mining activities, specially designated for the Youth. This will be used for practical trainings, internships and to generate funds that will be used to finance salaries, internship allowances and all operational liabilities. The profit of this plant will be deposited into the Youth Investment Fund.



# TOURISM

Namibia, renowned for its breathtaking landscapes and rich cultural heritage, holds immense potential as a top global tourist destination. However, the country's tourism sector faces significant challenges that hinder its full potential, particularly in terms of infrastructure development. There is an urgent need for comprehensive improvements in road networks, accommodation facilities, and service delivery systems to accommodate the rising influx of tourists. Moreover, for tourism to truly drive sustainable development, its benefits must be equitably distributed among all Namibians, not merely concentrated in the hands of large corporations or foreign investors.

Central to our vision is ensuring that local youth, become active participants and beneficiaries of the tourism industry. Empowering young Namibians to harness the opportunities within this vital sector is crucial for driving inclusive economic growth and reducing unemployment.

### POLICY PROPOSALS:

### Establishment of a National Youth Tourism Fund:

A dedicated Youth fund of N\$ 200 000 million should be established to provide financial support, mentorship, and skills development to young Namibians aspiring to enter the tourism industry. This fund will serve as tool to empower young entrepreneurs in the tourism sector and help them to compete effectively in the domestic and International markets. The fund will be managed under the custodianship of the Namibia Tourism Board to ensure effective administration and Industry alignment.

### 40% Allocation of Tourism Concessions to Youth

To promote equitable access to resources and enhance economic empowerment, the government should allocate 40% of all tourism concessions to young people.

### Online Registration System for Youth-Owned Tourism Enterprises:

An Online Registration System will be implemented through the Namibia Tourism Board to track young entrepreneurs' businesses in the tourism sector, ensuring they are prioritized in tender allocations and opportunities within this lucrative industry. This digital infrastructure will also enhance transparency and reduce bureaucratic bottlenecks, creating a faster and more efficient pathway for young people to enter the tourism market.

By adopting these measures, Namibia can not only strengthen its tourism infrastructure but also ensure that the wealth generated from this sector is more broadly shared. Youth participation is essential for the long-term sustainability and growth of tourism in Namibia, and these initiatives are designed to foster an inclusive and socially just industry that contributes to national development.

## **SPORTS**

Sports have long been recognized as a powerful force for social cohesion, youth empowerment, and national pride. In Namibia, however, the sports sector remains severely underdeveloped due to inadequate investment in infrastructure and programs, coupled with limited support for emerging athletes. This neglect stifles the immense potential of Namibian youth to excel in sports, both locally and internationally.

The Landless People's Movement (LPM) Youth Command Element is committed to transforming this landscape. We believe that sports must not only be seen as recreation but as a key component of nation-building, youth development, and social progress. To achieve this, we propose a series of strategic interventions aimed at professionalizing and expanding Namibia's sports sector:

#### Investment in Sports Infrastructure:

We will advocate for substantial public and private sector investments to construct and maintain modern, state-of-the-art sports facilities across Namibia. Equal access to these venues will ensure that all young Namibians, regardless of geographic location, can benefit from world-class training environments and competitive arenas.

#### **Comprehensive Talent Identification and Development Programs:**

We will push for the creation of robust grassroots programs to identify and nurture athletic talent at an early age. These programs will be designed to offer sustained support, including coaching, access to resources, and progression pathways from community levels to the professional sphere.

### Promotion of Inclusivity Through Diverse Sports Codes:

In addition to mainstream sports, we will emphasize the development of underrepresented disciplines such as cricket, swimming, and hockey. This approach fosters inclusivity, broadens Namibia's athletic diversity, and provides opportunities for all youth to find their passion in sports.

### Mentorship and Athlete Support Programs:

Beyond athletic performance, our strategy will include the establishment of mentorship programs focused on financial literacy, skill development, and career planning. Athletes must be equipped with the knowledge and tools to manage their finances and future careers, ensuring smooth reintegration into society when their athletic careers end. Retirement packages and career transition programs will be crucial to this effort.



## SPORTS (CONTD)

### Strengthening Inter-School Sports Competitions:

We recognize the role of school-based competitions in talent development. Therefore, we will intensify efforts to expand and enhance inter-school athletic competitions, creating a platform for young athletes to showcase their skills, learn teamwork, and prepare for professional leagues.

### Creation of Professional Leagues for All Sports Codes:

Lastly, we will work towards the establishment of professional leagues for a wide range of sports codes, moving beyond a narrow focus on football or netball. By professionalizing multiple sports, we create career pathways, increase national and international visibility, and position Namibia as a competitive sporting nation. LPM government to invest N\$ 500 million in sports professionalization.

These interventions are not merely about improving sports; they are about building a future where Namibian youth can see their potential realized on a global stage, where our nation can unify under the banner of excellence, and where sports serve as a vehicle for social democracy and youth empowerment. The LPM Youth Command Element is ready to lead this charge.

## **CREATIVE ARTS INDUSTRY**

The creative arts industry in Namibia has been sidelined for far too long, marked by chronic underfunding and insufficient institutional support. This persistent neglect has stifled the emergence of a dynamic and innovative arts scene, curtailing its potential to contribute significantly to both the cultural richness and economic advancement of our nation. For Namibia to truly realize the power of its creative sector, we must transform our approach, offering comprehensive reforms that position arts and culture as cornerstones of national identity and economic growth.

### Key Strategic Interventions for the Creative Arts Sector:

### Establish Comprehensive Funding Mechanisms for Emerging Artists and Producers

We must institute well-funded, accessible programs dedicated to providing financial support for young artists, musicians, filmmakers, and creative producers. By investing in their talent, we will cultivate a new wave of cultural pioneers capable of shaping Namibia's artistic future.

# CREATIVE ARTS INDUSTRY (CONTD)

### Enforce an 80% Local Music and 10% African Genre Quota on Radio Stations

To nurture local talent and preserve Namibian cultural expression, radio stations should be mandated to play a minimum of 80% Namibian music and 10% African music. This policy would ensure that local artists are given the exposure they need to thrive within their own country, while also solidifying the nation's artistic identity. The African dimension of music and culture is also taken care of.

### **Reform NASCAM to Maximize Artist Earnings**

The Namibian Society of Composers and Authors of Music (NASCAM) must undergo reforms to ensure that artists receive fair and equitable compensation. By restructuring its operations and policies, we can guarantee that musicians and creatives benefit directly from the use of their intellectual property.

### Accredit the College of the Arts for Greater Educational and Employment Opportunities

Immediate accreditation of the College of the Arts is essential. By ensuring that its programs meet national and international standards, graduates will emerge with accredited qualifications, enhancing their competitiveness in both local and global job markets.

### Incorporate Arts Education into the National Curriculum

Arts education must be formally integrated into the national school curriculum to empower the next generation of Namibian artists, musicians, filmmakers, and innovators. Early exposure to creative disciplines will foster talent and create pathways for future employment in the arts. Investment about N\$ 200 million in music and art to change these areas into viable and financial sectors of society.

### Industrialize and Professionalize the Performing Arts Sector

The professionalization and industrialization of the performing arts are paramount. With a vision to create a flourishing creative ecosystem comparable to Nigeria's Nollywood, we must establish frameworks that promote the business of performing arts, from theatre and dance to film and music production.

### Forge Partnerships between the Private Sector and Local Film Producers

Compel the private sector to collaborate with local filmmakers and content creators. Through co-investment and partnerships, we can foster innovation, expand distribution networks, and create more opportunities for Namibian filmmakers to compete on the global stage.

# AGRICULTURE

To cultivate a robust agricultural sector capable of addressing food insecurity and fostering economic growth, Namibia must build its strategy upon three foundational pillars: comprehensive agrarian reform, the expropriation of land with just compensation, and the establishment of specialized agricultural education. Each of these pillars can be expanded with additional initiatives that collectively create a sustainable framework for agricultural development.

### 1. Comprehensive Agrarian Reform

Land Redistribution and Access: A fundamental aspect of agrarian reform is the equitable redistribution of land to rectify the historical injustices stemming from colonialism and apartheid. This initiative should focus on:

**Identifying and Returning Land:** Establish a framework for identifying lands that were dispossessed during colonial rule, prioritizing their return to original communities. This would require meticulous record-keeping and community engagement to ensure the rightful return of land.

**Community Land Trusts: Implement** community land trusts that allow local communities to collectively manage and cultivate land, ensuring that benefits from agricultural production are reinvested in the community. Support for Smallholder Farmers: In addition to land redistribution, the reform should include comprehensive support systems for smallholder farmers:

Access to Finance: Develop microfinance and cooperative banking initiatives to provide affordable credit to youth small farmers, enabling them to invest in equipment, seeds, and other inputs. AgriBank to play a leading role in this financing as well.

Agricultural Cooperatives: Encourage the formation of agricultural cooperatives that allow farmers to pool resources, share knowledge, and increase bargaining power in the marketplace.

**Sustainable Agricultural Practices:** Promote sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural methods to enhance productivity while preserving natural resources:

**Training and Capacity Building:** Provide training in sustainable farming practices, including agroecology, permaculture, and organic farming. This will enhance soil health, increase biodiversity, and improve resilience to climate change.

## AGRICULTURE (CONTD)

### 2. Expropriation of Land with Just Compensation

**Legal Framework for Expropriation:** Establish a clear and transparent legal framework governing the expropriation of land (there is existing case law on expropriation), ensuring that the process is fair, equitable, and just:

**Criteria for Expropriation:** Prioritizing land held by foreign absentee landlords who are not actively using it for agricultural production.

Provide land in communal areas for youth to enter productive agriculture, including youth north of the red line, to stimulate agricultures' full potential.

Establishment of Specialized Agricultural Education Curriculum Development: Develop curricula for specialized agricultural colleges that reflect contemporary agricultural challenges and practices:

**Focus Areas:** Incorporate areas such as climate-smart, irrigated agriculture, agrobusiness management, and advanced livestock breeding to equip students with relevant skills.

**Practical Training:** Emphasize hands-on training and internships with local farms and agribusinesses to ensure students gain practical experience.

**Community Extension Services:** Enhance agricultural extension services to provide ongoing education and support to farmers:

**Mobile Extension Units:** Deploy mobile units that can reach rural areas to provide training, resources, and advice directly to farmers, ensuring they have access to the latest agricultural practices and technologies.

Allocate 50% of Green-schemes to young people: We propose that government allocate 50% of the Green-schemes to young people in Kavango East, Kavango West and Zambezi to help accelerate food production and food security in Namibia in lieu of the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme. This will help to foster economic growth and job creation amongst young people in these regions.

## **VOTE FOR LPM**

IN THE 2024 PRESIDENTIAL AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS