



**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
OHANGWENA REGION**

**STATE OF THE REGION ADDRESS 2022
BY
HON. WALDE NATANGWE NDEVASHIYA
REGIONAL GOVERNOR**

**22 JUNE 2022
10H00**

**EENHANA
OHANGWENA REGION**

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- **Honourable Erickson Ndawanifa, Chairperson of Ohangwena Regional Council**
- **Honourable Members of Parliament and All Regional Councillors**
- **Mr. Phillipus Shilongo, Chief Regional Officer of Ohangwena Regional Council.**
- **Your Worship the Mayors of Eenhana, Helao Nafidi Town Councils and Chairperson of Okongo Village Council**
- **Comrade Hafeni Hatutale, SWAPO Party Regional Coordinator and other Political Party Representatives**
- **Esteemed Traditional Authority Leaders**
- **Church Leaders**
- **Members of the Business Community**
- **Fellow residents of Ohangwena Region**
- **Members of the Media**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen**

Good Morning!!

In accordance with Article 110B, Sub-Articles 5 and 6 of the Namibian Constitution, it gives me great pleasure and honour to once again deliver my third State of the Region Address (SORA) under the theme “**Working for a Stronger, Just and United Namibia**” as set out by His Excellency Dr. Hage G. Geingob during the 2022 State of the Nation Address, earlier this year.

Permit me at this juncture, Hon. Chairperson, Hon. Councillors, fellow residents of Ohangwena Region, to express my profound appreciation to all of you for the support you have given me as Governor of this great Region since I took office two years ago.

Having said that, let us not forget that the socio-economic challenges being experienced by our inhabitants are not unique to this Region, however, I strongly believe that these challenges can be addressed through joint leadership and concerted efforts by all people in the Region to bring about the much needed development and ultimately prosperity.

It is for this reason that the State of the Region Address for 2022 is structured along the guiding Pillars of the Harambee Prosperity Plan II, as the roadmap for poverty eradication intervention programmes and a vehicle to improve the quality of life for all our people, as I will elaborate further in the Statement.

EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE

Under the Effective Governance Pillar, which is geared towards entrenching governance measures aimed at improved accountability and transparency, the Region continues with the implementation of Performance Management System at various levels of public Institutions in the Region. This further demonstrates our commitment to fast track the implementation of developmental programs and projects, which will eventually translate into quality service delivery.

On 16th March 2022, we participated in the launching of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2025 (NACSAP) by the Rt. Honourable Saara Kuugongelwa –Amadhila, Prime Minister of the Republic of Namibia. This Strategy will see the establishment of Regional Forums as one of the monitoring structures which will ensure the implementation of the Strategy, which will be spearheaded by the Regional Governors and will serve as a monitoring body to ensure the implementation of the Strategy by all sectors at the Regional level.

ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

HON. CHAIRPERSON

HON. COUNCILLORS

The turbulent international geo-political developments presented uncertainties for the global village of which Namibia is no exception, which has ultimately affected commodity prices, capital markets and both domestic and foreign direct investments. Accordingly, these developments, coupled with the detrimental effects on the Covid-19 pandemic, are certainly having a direct bearing on Namibia's economic prospects and recovery projections. However, as a Region, we have embarked upon new initiatives and projects targeted at reviving the Regional economic trajectory, which will eventually lead to improved livelihoods of our inhabitants.

The following are some of the highlights of the initiatives and Projects

- **Namibia Integrated Landscape Approach for Enhancing Livelihoods and Environmental Governance to Eradicate Poverty (NILALEG).** The NILALEG Project is funded through the Environmental Investment Fund (EIF) and the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT), running for five years (2019-2024) in the five delineated landscapes. In Okongo Focal Landscape, the Project has focused on water infrastructure, with the drilling five new boreholes at Oshikome, Eloo, Omupanda and Okatope which are now fully functional. One borehole was rehabilitated at Otutunda, and one at Okongo Conservancy Wildlife Core Area (WCA) was converted from a windmill to solar. All these Projects were completed to the tune of **N\$ 4, 774, 509.26.**
- **The Project invited Proposals through the Environmental Investment Fund and Ministry of Environment, Tourism and Forestry,** which benefitted four (4) Community Based Organizations within the Okongo Focal Landscape, namely, Odjele Farmers' Cooperative for the establishment of Bulls Project to the tune of N\$ 736,000.00, Okongo Programme for Communal Land Development (PCLD) led by Small Scale Commercial Farmers, funded to upgrade the existing pens into a functional Auction pens to the tune of **N\$ 730,250.00.**

- Linelao Community Garden funded for the establishment of a Horticulture Project to the value of N\$ 570,985.80 and Oshalande Community Development Project to develop an Open Market to the value of N\$736,000.00. This brings the total value of these projects to **N\$ 2,773,235.80**.
- **Small Stock Grant Distribution**, A total of N\$ 370 000.00 was spent on the procurement of Two Hundred and Twenty (220) Goats. In total, Two Hundred and Thirty Four (234) goats were distributed among Twenty Two (22) Beneficiaries, Sixteen (16) of whom were women, Four (4) from the San community and while Four (4) from People Living with Disabilities.
- **Capacity Building and Training for Water Point Committee** and caretakers for Seven (7) Boreholes of which Thirty Six (36) participants were trained within the Okongo Focal Landscape.

In addition, as part of the community initiative to promote food security and nutrition, the community of Enghandja Village in Ohangwena Constituency established the **Aquaculture Project**. The Project is community driven, consisting of Two Hundred and Thirty Five (235) households, established in 2019 with the primary aim of fish farming for consumption and income generating purposes. During the year under review, the Project harvested Four Hundred and Eighty Four Kilograms (484 kg) of fish from a stock of 3000 fingerlings supplied by the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources.

Furthermore, as part of the strategy to empower the communities with food sustainability, the Directorate of Forestry is spearheading the Project of planting fruit trees and orchard development in the Region. The Project was initiated to provide seedlings to each household in all 12 Constituencies.

To date, 808 households in Ohangwena and 352 households Oshikango Constituencies have received 1616 and 704 seedlings respectively, as a pilot phase, all for free. The seedlings ranges from guava, mango, moringa and lemon trees. Public institutions in those Constituencies also received fruit bearing trees for free.

It is therefore gratifying to report that most of these Trees are bearing the fruits and the communities are already reaping benefits as part of this Project.. It is therefore commendable that the Ohangwena Regional Council and the Directorate of Forestry has initiated this Project and we are looking forward to the further rolling out the Programme to the rest of the Region, as planned.

SOCIAL PROGRESSION

HON CHAIRPERSON

HON COUNCILLORS

With regards to improved quality of life for all Namibians and particularly the vulnerable members of our society, the Social Progression Pillar is the cornerstone of the HPP II. To deliver on the promise of prosperity for all, the social progression outcomes demand a social compact and enduring partnership between Government, development partners, the business fraternity, academia, and civil societies, including the youth organizations.

During the year under review, the Regional Health Management Team reported a number of scabies cases, averaging between 400 and 800 treated at public health facilities across the Region. However, during the year under review, the number of cases exponentially increased between March 2021 and February 2022. A total number of 1815 cases were reported in 2021 while 4441 cases were reported between January and April 2022 alone, depicting an outbreak. To curb further scabies transmission, the Region received a stock of Benzyl Benzoate creams to treat all patients who fell victim to the infection.

Furthermore, during the period under review, a total of 675 deaths were recorded in the Region, of which 167 were as a result of Covid-19, 1 from Malaria, 2 maternal deaths and 450 due to other various causes.

As of 20 June 2022, the Region tested **28 354** people for Covid-19 of which 6 477 tested positive (22.84%), with 17 active positive cases, 0 active cases in isolation and 9 active cases being hospitalized thus far. In terms of vaccination against COVID-19, 33 563 (19.23%) people have received the 1st dose, 19 415 (15.84%) people have received their 2nd dose, 27 590 people have been fully vaccinated (15.81) and 1 347 (0.78%) people have received the booster dose.

I would therefore like to encourage the residents of Oshana Region to get vaccinated and to continue observing the COVID-19 protocols - social distancing, sanitizing and wearing of masks.

The health challenges facing the Region includes the need for ICU and High Care Units in our Hospitals, to admit critically ill patients. There is also a need for increased ICT infrastructures in order to improve data management. In addition, there is a general shortage of transport combined with an aging fleet of ambulances. Furthermore, a lack of accommodation for medical specialists at Engela District Hospital are surely hampering effective health service delivery in the Region. At this juncture, I would like to extend our sincere appreciation to DebMarine Namibia for the donation of two Industrial Laundry Machines for Okongo and Eenhana District Hospitals to the tune of **N\$ 900,000.00**.

During the 2021/2022 Financial Year, a total of 61 students enrolled at various tertiary education institutions benefited through the Office of the Governor **Student Tuition Support Programme** to the tune of **N\$ 317,105.15**. These funds were mobilized from Development Partners, Individuals and Corporate entities. We would like to express our profound appreciation for their generous support.

Furthermore, the Office of the Governor initiated a Programme aimed at assisting the marginalized and vulnerable people in the Region. In this regard, the following projects were undertaken and funded with the assistance from development partners:

- Onakalunga San Community Project funded through the donation from the Development Bank of Namibia to the tune of **N\$ 300, 000.00**, which includes fencing off the Settlement area, development of a Garden and the installation of a modern Irrigation System. The Project also includes extension of water Infrastructure, pipelines and water storage facilities. In addition, the project received garden tools funded by the Office of the Governor worth **N\$ 13,337.15**. This Project is ongoing.
- Through Friends of Education, the Office of the Governor managed to donate school uniforms to the learners from vulnerable communities/households at various Schools in the Region at a total value of **N\$ 17,464.00**.
- The Office of the Governor with the support from individuals and the Business Fraternity in the Region organized a Christmas Party for the Elderly in Ongenga Constituency to the **N\$16,456.20**. The Namibia Fish Consumption Promotion Trust also donated Boxes of Fish which were distributed to the Elderly from Onakalunga in Omundaungilo and Ongenga Constituencies respectively. Free Medical checkups, which includes high blood pressure, diabetes were conducted free of charge by a team of medical Doctors, who were specifically invited for that purpose.

- Building Materials worth **N\$ 12,333.77** were donated for the construction of a shelter for the two (2) women living with disability in Epembe Constituency.
- Sponsorship worth **N\$ 19,295.70** to the Namibia School Sports Union and other Sport Clubs for the youth in the region. In addition, the Office of the Governor spearheaded the mobilization of funds which enabled Ms. Epifania Johannes, a young athlete from the Region, to participate in the International School Sports Federation – World Sport Games which took place in Belgrade, Serbia in September 2021. A total of **N\$ 128,406.50** was raised for this purpose.
- Building Materials worth **N\$ 21,354.65** were donated for the construction of houses of the San Settlement in Oshikunde Constituency by Camill Fishing Company.

HON CHAIRPERSON

HON COUNCILLORS

During the reporting period, 212 veterans were registered to receive the monthly subvention of N\$ 2,200.00, bringing the total number of Veterans on this Programme to 3500. Five (5) Veterans were registered to receive the N\$ 3,000.00 monthly improvement grant, bringing the total to 67 Veterans on this Programme. A number of 109 Veterans were registered to receive the N\$ 4,000.00 monthly improvement grant, bringing the total to 995 Veterans on this Programme.

Furthermore, a total number of ninety five (95) funeral assistance was granted to the deceased veterans to the tune of **N\$ 950,000.00**. In addition, a total number of 31 tombstones for the war veterans were erected in Ohangwena Region to the value of **N\$ 496,000.00**. Twenty three (23) veterans received psycho-social counseling over the same period. During the same period, a total number of (Number) Individual Veterans Projects (IVPs) have been approved and funded at the cost of **N\$ 5,610,000.00**.

During the period under review, 4 602 birth notifications and 2 799 late births were registered across all offices in the Region, while 7 401 new birth certificates were issued. In addition, 4 869 new Identity Documents (IDs) were captured and 6 579 IDs have been collected. However, the Region is still faced with the challenge of late birth registrations. I therefore call upon all parents and care-takers of children to put more efforts and ensure that all children under their care have acquired the necessary national documents, not only to avoid statelessness but also to enable them to access the different social safety nets that the Government provides to its citizens.

In terms of safety and security, the Region has ten (10) Police Stations, however, we continue to record a higher number of cases of crimes committed. During the reporting period, the Region recorded 4 491 different cases, of which crimes of concern ranges from theft (983), assault and grievous bodily harm (667), house breaking (516), Gender Based Violence (3 131), rape (185), robbery (123), and stock theft (101) bringing the total number **2 888** crimes of serious concern committed in the Region. In an effort to curb the high crime rate in the Region, plans are underway to construct new Police Stations at Ondobe, Epembe and Omboloka.

The Namibian Police in the Region is committed to the provision of safety and security by creating a conducive working environment for the men and women in the uniform, so as to ensure their social wellbeing. Therefore, the following projects are currently underway.

- Construction of a Police Station with charge office, cell block, male and female single quarters and married quarters at Endola.
- Construction of a Police station at Ongha, and
- Construction of Police Barracks at Eenhana.

HON CHAIRPERSON

HON COUNCILLORS

In terms of land delivery in urban areas, Eenhana Town Council have serviced 420 low cost plots with electricity at Ekolola (Extension 10 and 11) to the tune of **N\$ 5,6 Million**.

In order to further address the housing shortages in Eenhana Town, the following housing projects were realized through Public Private Partnerships during the 2021/2022 financial year:

- 30 houses have been constructed at Omhito Ext. 6 by Eenhana United Construction to the value of **N\$ 27,million**.
- Seventeen (17) houses were constructed at Eenhana Ext. 6 by Formosa Islands at the value of **N\$ 12,4 Million**
- Fourteen (14) houses were constructed at Omhito Proper by Eenhana Town Council in partnership with the Development Bank of Namibia Project, at the value of **N\$9,100,000**.
- Eight (8) houses have been constructed at Omhito Ext 2 &3 by Greywall Properties: **N\$3,840,000.00**.

Additionally, during the said Financial Year, 7 individual high and low-cost houses were also constructed at Eenhana Proper and Eenhana Ext. 2 & 3 respectively at an estimated value of **N\$2,350,000.00**. This brings the total number of the houses constructed in Eenhana during the period starting June 2021 to May 2022 to 76 houses, with a combined value of about **N\$54,530,000.00**. During the 2022/2023 Financial Year, Council will avail more than 380 plots for allocation at Ekolola. This will go a long way in addressing the pressing need of housing in Eenhana.

Furthermore, Ohangwena Regional Council has embarked upon the construction of a Sewer Reticulation, Lifting Station and Rising Main in Omungwelume Settlement, Construction of New Kitchen-dining Facility at Billy William Mwaningange (BWM) Rural Development Centre (RDC) at Eembaxu and the construction of Rural Sanitation Facilities in rural areas across the Region, at a combined cost of **N\$ 36,154,000.00**.

Ongha as a growth point has recently been proclaimed as a settlement and 2,424 plots are currently being surveyed at Ongha Proper and Ext. 1 and 2 to the tune of **N\$ 3 million**.

During the 2021/2022 financial year, the Region received 112 applications for resettlement purposes and only one applicant was successfully resettled. To this effect, this is a cause for great concern to the Regional leadership, as the number of applicants in need of resettlement keeps rising every year. Furthermore, the Region has also registered a high number of Customary Land Rights totaling 1355. Of those, ten (10) people applied for right of leasehold and 19 applied for occupational land rights. In total, 1 384 land rights were registered.

In addition, Helao-Nafidi Town Council has implemented 6 Infrastructure projects ranging from sewerage reticulations, roads upgrading to bitumen and maintenance of gravel roads to the tune of **N\$ 15,168,861.64**. A total of 204 plots were fully serviced at Engela-Omafo Extension 3.

At Ohangwena Proper, 104 plots have been fully serviced with complete sewer reticulation. Moreover, 31 business plots with sewer reticulation have been serviced in Ohangwena proper business area, whereas construction of an Open Market is at advanced stage. Ohangwena Proper has also been earmarked for further electrification at a cost of **N\$ 8, 500,000.00**. In the same vein 50 business stalls are being constructed at Onhuno. The Council plans to further construct gravel roads in Omafo extension 4 at a cost of **N\$2,500,000.00**

Similarly, Okongo Village Council has completed Phase 2 of the electrification of Extension 1, as well as Phase 4 of the gravelling of roads in Extension 2. Phase 1 of the construction of the Open market at a tune of N\$ **4,000,000.00** is still on going.

Furthermore, Council plans to implement the following Projects during the 2022/2023 Financial Year; namely,

- The Construction of municipal of services at a cost of **N\$ 709,000.00**,
- Re-gravelling an maintenance of Roads at the cost of **N\$ 1,159,300.00**
- Planning and surveying, at the cost of **N\$ 2,000,000.00**
- Home stead compensation, at the cost of **N\$ 3,000,000.00**
- Build Together Housing Programme at the cost of **N\$ 365,000.00**

HON CHAIRPERSON

HON COUNCILLORS

During the period under review, the Directorate of Education has recorded an increase in the Learner enrollments from **115 262** in 2021 to **117 310** in 2022, an increase of 1.75%. The number of teachers has equally increased from **4213** in 2021 to **4286** in 2022. The number of Tutorial Centres has also increased from three (3) to seven (7) Tutorial Centres in 2022. The number of Schools has also increased from **273** in 2021 to **276** in 2022. Furthermore, the number of Schools offering Namibia Senior Secondary Certificate Advanced Subsidiary has increased **from 6 to 8** Schools due to the high enrollment of learners in the Region. This implies that many learners are progressing well from Grade 11 to grade 12. The teacher to learner ratio at the regional level is fairly manageable. However, the rural-urban migration has picked up and this is a concern to urban schools.

With regards to Technical Vocational Education and Training, the Region hosts Eenhana Vocational Training Centre, offering Seven (7) training Programmes with 700 Trainees. During the period under review, the Centre received Facilities and Equipment worth **N\$ 14, 647, 997.00** from Namibia Training Authority (NTA) and Germany Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ). The Facilities and Equipment consisted:

- Trainees Accommodation (Hostel) Construction
- Plumbing and Pipe Fitting workshop
- Workshop Equipment and Tools

- ICT Equipment
- Solar installation and maintenance

Furthermore, I am pleased to inform this August House that the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) has officially opened the Eenhana Satellite Campus at Billy William Mwaningange Rural Development Centre at Eembaxu. The Campus offers 19 assortment of programs with particular focus on Natural Science, Management Science as well as Technical and Vocational Education Training, which are offered from undergraduate to postgraduate levels. The Campus currently has an enrolment of over Four Hundred (400) students on fulltime, part-time and distance study modes. In addition, NUST will in the near future undertake the Ground Breaking Ceremony to commence with the construction of the Campus in Eenhana.

Additionally, the Region has noted the efforts from the private sector in complementing the government efforts to provide Technical Vocational Education and Training. I am therefore proud to inform you that, the Region is hosting three (3) Private Vocational Education and Training institutions namely, Ongha Vocational Training Centre in Ohangwena, Ongula Homestead Academy in Ongula yaNetanga and Ongenga Technical College in Ongenga.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

HON CHAIRPERSON

HON COUNCILLORS

Ohangwena is one of the Regions with poor road networks especially the eastern Constituencies of the Region. Due to the fact that many access roads in the Region are in a bad state or non-existent, many government institutions are very difficult to access, resulting in poor service delivery.

During the period under review, the rehabilitation of Trunk Road 10/2 between Onhuno and Eenhana has commenced and is progressing well. Furthermore, the construction of DR 4113: Endola-Eemboo and DR 3650: Epinga-Onakalunga have commenced and are ongoing. These roads are being constructed with the financial support from KfW- Germany government on labor based method.

Other Roads to be considered under this Programme in Ohangwena region are:

- TR10/2 : Oupili – Onkumbula (40km)

- DR 3622: Omboloka- Omukukutu (25 Km)
- DR 3624: Omundaungilo- Omboloka (86 Km)

In addition, Nine (9) access Gravel Roads to Schools and Clinics are under constructed in Endola, Engela and Ongenga Constituencies under the Flood Mitigation Programme by KfW Development Bank, funded by the German Federal Government to provide access to Schools and Clinics during rainy seasons when Oshanas are flooded.

Helao Nafidi Town Council and Eenhana Town Council have maintained roads within their localities to the tune of N\$ 1,086,647.65 and N\$ 927,367.52 respectively. In addition, the Construction of Five (5) Kilometre Gravel Roads in Ohangwena and Omafo Extensions at the cost of **N\$ 1,4 million** were completed.

Despite financial challenges, the Region has prioritized the upgrading of the following Roads to bitumen standards.

- DR3602 Elundu/Oushake – Okankolo
- DR3625 Ondobe/Okahenge - Oshigambo
- DR3611 TR 10/2 Oshidute – Omundaungilo
- DR3639 Ohengobe – Odibo – Oshikango
- DR3647 Onawa – Ohailulu

HON CHAIRPERSON

HON COUNCILLORS

During the period under review, Five (5) boreholes have been drilled in Epembe, Okongo and Omundaungilo Constituencies at a cost of **N\$ 2 427 721.09**, while Four (4) boreholes were installed in Okongo Constituency at the cost of **N\$ 1 371 728.4**. In addition, two boreholes were rehabilitated in Okongo Constituency at the cost of **N\$601 412.00**.

Furthermore, thirty two (32) short Kilometre pipelines were constructed in Eenhana, Endola, Engela, Epembe, Ohangwena, Ondobe, Ongenga, Omulonga and Oshikango Constituencies. In addition, Six Hundred Thirty Six (636) private off-takes have been connected to individual households in Eenhana, Endola, Engela, Epembe, Ohangwena, Ondobe, Ongenga, Omulonga and Oshikango Constituencies.

One thousand and one (**1001**) households were trained on the impact of Open Defecation Free through (Community Led Total Sanitation) programs in Eenhana Constituency. Furthermore, Eight (8) shallow boreholes were drilled in Okongo and Oshikunde Constituencies at the cost of **N\$2,4 million**. 17 boreholes were installed in Omundaungilo, Okongo and Oshikunde Constituencies at the cost of **N\$ 16, 2 million**.

The Region is continually engaging the Ministry of Agriculture Water and Land Reform and NamWater regarding the water situation in the Region. In this regard, the Government through the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform has secured funding from the African Development Bank for the implementation of the Namibia Water Sector Support Programme. Part of the funding has been earmarked for the development of Ohangwena Aquifer II which was launched in March 2022 at Omulondo in Oshikunde Constituency.

This project will increase the supply of clean water and build water storage capacity in the region as well as ground water quality improvement through treatment plants at Eenhana 500m³ new reservoir, new booster station at Oshandi, new pipeline between Omakango and Onambutu, new pipeline from Etope, through Ondobe, Etomba to Oshandi to increase the supply towards Eenhana. Additionally, 32 Short Kilometre Pipelines were installed in various constituencies across the region at a cost of **N\$ 3,4 Million** and 776 individual households were connected with private off-takes.

With regards to Sanitation, the Region continues to experience the poor sanitation. Therefore, the Region strives to provide both clean water and proper sanitation to its people. The Regional Council constructed 120 toilets, and through awareness campaigns, 1,863 toilets were constructed by the community itself.

For the 2022/2023 Financial Year

- Six (6) boreholes are planned to be drilled in Okongo and Oshikunde Constituencies
- Three (3) deep boreholes planned to be installed in Epembe and Oshikunde Constituencies
- One (1) borehole planned to be rehabilitated
- Six hundred and seventy (670) private off-takes (POT) would be connected in all the constituencies with pipeline network
- One hundred and fifty (150) sanitation facilities are planned to be constructed in the Region through Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) program

- Four (4) traditional wells are planned to be upgraded to modern traditional wells in Omundaungilo and Oshikunde Constituencies.
- Seven (7) Short Kilometre pipelines planned to be constructed in Ongenga, Endola, Engela, Oshikango, Ohangwena, Omulonga, Ondobe, Eenhana and Epembe Constituencies
- The Office of the Governor with the support from the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency installed water pipelines at Onaimwandi and Okanghwiyoona Communities in Oshikunde Constituency.

HON CHAIRPERSON

HON COUNCILLORS

During the period under review, seven (7) classrooms and a store as well as an ablution block were constructed at Olivia Nakale Primary School in Eenhana at cost of **N\$ 2,056,462.20**, a block of four classrooms and a store room was constructed at Endola Combined School at an amount of **N\$ 1,229,544.29**. Furthermore, Okongo Community Library in Okongo was constructed at amount **N\$ 3,867,006.10**. Renovation of a total of 17 Classrooms and five Storerooms were successfully completed at Eexumba Combined School, Onankali North Combined School, Kornelius Combined School and Eengendjo Secondary School at a cost of **N\$ 2,813,588.43**.

The provision of school hygiene and sanitation ensures that the rights and dignity of both learners and teachers are upheld through acceptable hygiene practices such as supply of clean water, provision of latrines and keeping a healthy school environment in general. Through the Covid-19 Emergency Fund, construction of a 1500PE trickling filter and sewage treatment plant as well as an evaporation ponds at Mwadikange Kaulinge SS has been completed.

Similarly, the refurbishment of a sewage pump station at Ponhofi SS, construction of an ablution facility (ABL2) at Olivia Nakale PS, construction of a pit latrine (PIT9) at Namhadi SS were all successfully completed at a combined value of **N\$ 10,6 million**. Additionally, 48 Hostel double decker beds were procured and successfully delivered at Otunganga CS, Oluwaya CS, Hainyeko CS, and Oshisho CS. Sixty fourth (64) hostel mattresses were also procured and delivered at Otunganga Combined School from the COVID19 Emergency Fund.

Early Childhood Development plays an important role in children's upbringing and provides valuable support to families with young children. In this regard, and with the support of the European Union, 13

pre-primary classrooms were constructed at different schools across the Region at the cost of **N\$ 6,867,775.85** . In addition, Budgetary provisions for the current financial year have been made to commence with the following projects:

- Construction of 10 Classrooms at five different Schools across the region at a cost of **N\$ 3,801,000.00**
- Renovation of a four classrooms block at Ehafo Combined School at a cost **N\$ 420,000.00**
- Allocation of Covid-19 Emergency Funds in the amount **N\$ 10,000,000.00** has been made to construct hostels and ablution facilities as support to schools hosting Advanced Subsidiary learners.
- Upgrading and extension of Oshikunde Secondary School valued at **N\$ 8 Million**.
- Extension of Ohangwena Regional Council Offices Phase 1 valued at **N\$ 10 Million**.
- The construction of Ohangwena Directorate of Education Regional Office: **N\$ 52 million**.

The following infrastructure donations have been received from Friends in Education

- Olupaha Primary School: Received a two classrooms block and a storeroom from Namibia Community Trust.
- Edward Primary School received a two classrooms block from Amruh Fishing.
- Omutaku Combined School received a four classrooms block and 1 storeroom from NAMPOWER.
- Oshamukweni Combined School received a kitchen and dining Hall from Footsteps for Africa to the tune of **N\$ 1,465,394.00** and two module 32 Hostel Blocks and an ablution Block from Kalahari Holdings (Pty) Ltd at a combined value 1,488,137.69
- Oipya Primary School, received a Three Classroom Block by the Japanese Embassy at a cost of **N\$ 755,540.00**.

Furthermore, during the year under review, the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service has budgeted **N\$3,900,000.00** for the construction of Eenhana Sport Complex Phase 5, which includes the following components:

- Substation and mini sub (sewer services),
- Renovation of the pavilion,
- Renovation to the public entrance, soccer field,
- Tartan track,
- 3 x Multi-Purpose Courts (netball, volleyball, and basketball) and services.

The works commenced on 31 August 2021 and was completed on 06 June 2021. For the 2022/2023 Financial Year, the Ministry has allocated **N\$5,000,000.00** to cater for the following components: soccer field, tartan track, and 3 x multi-purpose court. This work is scheduled to commence at the end of June 2022.

HON CHAIRPERSON

HON COUNCILLORS

Ohangwena Region is not only vast, but it is also the second populous Region in Namibia after Khomas Region. As vast as it is, people in Eenhana and Okongo Health Districts continue to walk long distances to access health care services.

This has prompted the Region to focus its plans on the construction of new health facilities in Constituencies mostly affected such as Okongo, Oshikunde, Epembe, Omulonga and Eenhana in order to shorten distances and provide equitable health services to the people. The regional priority, as per the planned projects is to construct 8 (eight) health facilities in the following localities: Okanaimbula and Ohamikoka in Epembe Constituency; Ombudiya, Oshalumbu and Oshitishiwa-shaHaihonya in Okongo Constituency; Onamahoka in Omulonga Constituency as well as Onambaladi, and Oluwaya in Oshikunde Constituency.

In total, the Region has 39 public Health facilities and 144 Outreach points which provides health care to the people across the Region. While there are a number of private Doctors in Helao Nafidi, Eenhana and Okongo, the Region has one fully fledged private hospital in Eenhana.

As part of the Regional Health Directorate's commitments to provide primary health care, the erection of the following infrastructure commenced during the period under review and still in progress.

- Construction of two Primary Health Care Clinics, Onanghulo and Onamafila in Ohangwena and Oshikunde Constituencies respectively.
- Two more Primary Health Clinics are approved for construction at Elundu/Ohenghono and Oshuuli in Omundaungilo and Oshikunde Constituencies respectively. The construction will start as soon as funds become available.

HON CHAIRPERSON

HON COUNCILLORS

Apart from the electrifications by Local Authorities, Rural Electrification has been undertaken in different parts of the Region.

The establishment of a Substation 5MVA33/11KV at Oshikango to increase/upgrade capacity at Omafo Settlement and erecting a 2MVA transformer at Ongenga to the tune of **N\$ 6,900, 000.00** are work in progress.

Furthermore, NORED is currently busy finalizing the installation of a 33KV Load Breaker in Endola Constituency, Rehabilitation of 33kV/11kV, 1MVA Okongo Bulk Supply, Fencing off of 11kV Mini-Substations and de-bushing of MV Networks in the Region at the tune of **N\$ 2, 010, 000.00**.

The street lights connection is equally taking place in the entire region with a budget provision of **N\$ 280 813.71**.

Ohangwena Region is set to benefit from NamPower's rural electrification projects worth **N\$14 million**. These projects involve the construction of medium- and low-voltage networks in different areas in the region including the construction of 50km of medium-voltage (33kV) overhead lines, installation of 11 medium- to low-voltage transformers, low-voltage distribution systems, outside lighting, as well as the wiring of School buildings.

Furthermore, the Construction of a Medium and Low Voltage Networks to provide electricity to Oshali shaKanhalelo Locality in Endola Constituency to the tune of **N\$ 1,600.000** is almost completed. The Construction of the two million dollar (**N\$2 Million**) Medium and low Voltage Networks to provide electricity to Onaisaati locality in Eenhana constituency is also at an advanced stage.

The construction of medium and low voltage networks to provide electricity to Loide Nadunya PS, Hafyenanye PS and Omishe PS localities in Epembe Constituency has been successfully completed at an amount of **N\$ 3.5 million**.

In addition, Oshalumbu, Eengete and Omipapa localities in Okongo Constituency have been fully electrified at the tune of **N\$4.5 million**. Whereas construction of medium and low voltage networks to provide electricity to Okanghalulwena, Onghalulu, Okakango, and Omauni localities in Okongo Constituency is almost completed at the tune amount of **N\$ 9 million**. These projects provided electricity to public institutions in the area such as Schools and Clinics.

HON CHAIRPERSON

HON COUNCILLORS

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION

Due to Covid-19, the Borders between Namibia and Angola were closed. On the 04th May 2022, all the Border posts between Namibia and Angola that were still closed were declared open, which was announced jointly by Honourable Dr. Albert Kawana, Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security of the Republic of Namibia and His Excellency Eugénio Cesar Laborinho, Minister of Interior of the Republic of Angola. The opening of the Borders will facilitate the movements of goods and especially the movements of our nationals leaving near the Border.

During the reporting period, we participated at the 21st Session of the Joint Commission on Defence and Security held in Swakopmund, Namibia, in November 2021.

In terms of trade relations, Ohangwena Region hosted the launch of the first ever Namibia-Angola Business Forum at the Helao Nafidi Busess Expo in May 2022. The Business Forum was officially launched by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Honourable Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah. The Forum was attended by more than 300 business people from both countries and our business people, both Corporate and SMEs actively participated. The Forum will serve as a platform revive the business activities at Oshikango which has been declining over years.

HON CHAIRPERSON

HON COUNCILLORS

Despite the achievements stated above, our Region is faced with numerous challenges that hampers the successful implementation of developmental programs, which ultimately have a direct impact on

speedy delivery of services to the public. Amongst some of the challenges in the Region are poor road infrastructures, limited access to potable water and slow pace of water infrastructure development, insufficient budgetary allocation for Crop fields compensation which affect land delivery in urban areas, the challenge of one gazetted entry point on a stretch of over 260 km along the Namibia-Angola common border, forces people to enter and leave the country illegally using ungazetted entry points.

High rate of unemployment, slow pace of enterprise development especially among youth, as well as absence of a referral hospital in the Region, all poses a serious challenge to the betterment of the lives of the people in the Region. The Region relies heavily on Oshakati and Onandjokwe intermediate hospitals for referral of patients. Oshakati is +- 200 km from Okongo, 65kms from Engela and about 100km from Eenhana. Referral is done on daily basis for emergencies and weekly for appointment referrals or cold cases.

In conclusion, I would like to call on all of us as residents of Ohangwena Region to demonstrate unity of purpose and pull in the same direction, in the spirit of Harambee to overcome the challenges facing our Region. His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Namibia, Dr. Hage G. Geingob declared the year 2022, as a year of Reimaging, therefore we are expected to re-double our efforts and rethink in terms of executing our functions in order to improve service delivery as guided by the NDP5, the Harambee Prosperity Plan II and ultimately Vision 2030.

Let us all be united “*Working for a stronger, just and united Namibia*”.

May God bless Ohangwena region.

Long Live the Republic of Namibia.

I thank you