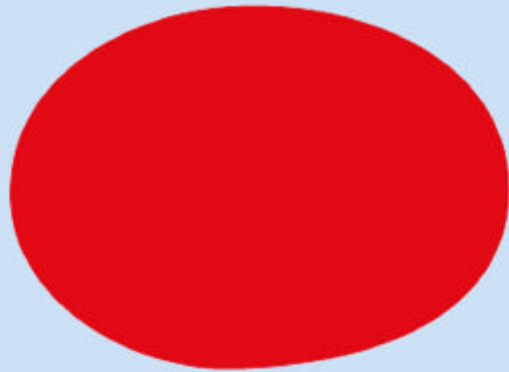




Institute for Public Policy Research

Annual Report
2000/01 - 2002/03



IPPR Annual Report 2000/01 - 2002/03

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Chairman's Statement



“Development is best promoted through free and critical debate informed by quality research.”

This was the conviction that led us to establish the Institute for Public Policy Research back in November 2000. Free and critical debate is a wonderful thing but if it is not based on any recognition of the facts it is only through luck that Namibia will take the right decisions.

While many consultancy companies existed in Namibia at the time, we felt passionately that there was a need for an independent public policy research organisation whose job it would be to provide rigorous research to Namibian decision-makers and the public at large on the important issues of the day. This kind of research does not easily lend itself to private financing – either because often there is not a single identifiable client or because, for one reason or another, private clients do not have an interest in researching a topic, however important.

An important characteristic of the IPPR is that it produces high-quality readable research, which it then makes available to everyone free of charge by email, through the Internet and as printed papers. In a country where the value of research is not yet fully recognised, it is important that the expense of producing the research in the first place does not then go to waste because key people are not able to get hold of it.

We believe the results of our first two years have been encouraging. The IPPR mailing list has grown to almost 600 people and the number of people using our website has increased significantly to a stage where it has received 6,000 hits in a month. Our readers' surveys suggest more people than ever are reading our research and forwarding it to others. Our research is invariably covered by the media, especially the press. Careful monitoring shows that we are the most widely quoted research institute in Namibia. Moreover, our research is actually used by policy makers. This has been achieved at a relatively low cost, as proven by our financial statements. Furthermore, we have developed close links with key organisations in Government, the private sector and elsewhere and we now receive funds for projects from all these sections of society. The hope is that, over time, the IPPR will become less dependent on foreign donor funding and more able to tap domestic sources of money, while at the same time maintaining its public policy focus and critical independence.

This report covers the period 1 November 2000 to 28 February 2003. Having established itself within Namibian society, the IPPR is now ready to grow in a modest and sustainable way. We hope to continue making the contribution that we have started to make in our first two years well into the distant future.

Mihe Gaomab
Chairman of the Board
August 2003



About the IPPR

The IPPR is a grant-funded public policy research institute, autonomous of Government, political parties, business, trade unions and other interest groups. It is governed by a board of seven independently minded trustees with experience and expertise from a number of different areas of society including the public and private sectors, academia, the media, and the NGO sector.



Trustees

(from left to right)

Prof André du Pisani – Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Management Science at the University of Namibia

Mr Josephat Mwatotele – General Manager at Prosperity Health

Mr Nama S Goabab – Managing Director of SWABOU

Mr Christiaan J Keulder – Political Scientist

Mr Heinrich Mihe Gaomab II – President of the Namibia Economic Society (Chairman of the IPPR board)

Mr Robin C D Sherbourne – Economist

Ms Monica M C Koep – Senior Development Programme Specialist

Interns & Guest Researchers

The IPPR is very small with only three full-time employees: the directors, Christiaan Keulder and Robin Sherbourne, and an office manager. The IPPR participates in the internship programme of the University of Namibia (UNAM), as well as hosting visiting and guest researchers. The IPPR aims to create an intellectually stimulating environment where researchers apply their skills to the practical problems of development, producing research of interest and relevance to the Namibian people. Below are details of the people who have worked with the IPPR during our first two years.

Shihepo Kavambi is responsible for maintaining the IPPR database. He is currently studying a B. Accounting at UNAM.

Peter Shidiwe works at the IPPR during his vacations from the University of Port Elizabeth where he is studying for a B.Com. majoring in economics and accounting. Peter was a member of the winning team in the 2000 Namibian Scholars' Investment Challenge organised by the Namibian Stock Exchange. He receives annual sponsorship for his studies from IJG Stockbrokers.

Ntwala Mwilima joined the IPPR as office manager in December 2002 after completing her B.A. Degree in Industrial Psychology and Sociology at UNAM.

Rauna Mukumangeni worked with the IPPR during October 2002 as an intern from the Faculty of Economics and Management Science at UNAM.

Erich-Dennis Petrus worked with the IPPR during February and June 2002 as an intern from the Faculty of Agriculture at UNAM.

Jerry Mameja worked on HIV/AIDS for the IPPR from April to June 2002, after completing his course in Economics and Industrial Psychology at the UNAM, where he won awards for best student.

Gretchen Bauer is a Professor at the University of Delaware in the US. She was the IPPR's first visiting scholar from overseas. She is currently undertaking research on the problems faced by women parliamentarians in southern Africa.

Cellesta Maasdorp joined the IPPR in February 2002 as an office assistant. She studied photography, graphics and advertising design at INTEC.

Laura Breu was a visiting scholar from the University of Valparaiso in the US where she studied political science. She was working on electoral systems at the IPPR.

Makani Mudenda worked for the IPPR between July and September 2001 as an intern from the Faculty of Economics and Management Science at UNAM. Makani won the best final-year student award for economics in 2001.

Rochelle du Preez and Tataleni Nampila worked as interns at the IPPR from July to October 2002 from the Faculty of Economics and Management Science at UNAM.

Martin Angula worked with the IPPR during February 2003 as an intern from the Faculty of Agriculture at UNAM.

Deon van Zyl worked with the IPPR as a researcher and helped set up the IPPR's computer system between 2000 and 2003. Deon has a degree in political science from the University of Stellenbosch.



Directors' Review 2000/01 - 2002/03

From the beginning the IPPR knew it had a big job to do in producing **accessible and objective policy research**, which people would read and which would make a difference to the way public policy decisions were taken in Namibia. The IPPR's strategy was to establish itself first as a **useful resource** to Namibian decision-makers during an initial phase by focusing on areas of research that were not being addressed, as well as to stay **small and cost-effective**. During this period the Institute rarely had more than three full-time staff. Many non-core functions were outsourced to reduce costs and maintain flexibility. Even research was outsourced to specialists and freelancers. After a two-year start-up phase, we believe these initial goals have been achieved and that the time for **modest expansion** has arrived. This will take place on the basis of finding the right people to staff the Institute. Good researchers are a special and rare breed of people.

The work of the IPPR is divided into three programmes which are described in more detail below:

- ?? Democracy and Governance Programme
- ?? Public Opinion Programme
- ?? Public Policy Analysis Programme



The **Democracy and Governance Programme** produced a variety of research papers during the first two years, often based on data collected as part of the Public Opinion Programme and extensive international literature reviews. The IPPR subscribes to **J-STOR**, an electronic library based in the US. This is an extremely cost-effective way of accessing important international journals. The papers produced include a number on the political effects of electoral systems, women and representation, and the state of democracy in Namibia.

The programme got involved in intensely practical issues when, with the consent of the Electoral Commission of Namibia, it undertook **research on the 1999 voters' roll**. Early in 2003 the IPPR was appointed to manage the **monitoring and evaluation of the civic and voter education programme** implemented by a consortium of organisations consisting of the Electoral Commission of Namibia, the Legal Assistance Centre (LAC), and the Namibia Institute for Democracy (NiD). The IPPR also made a **submission to the Third Delimitation Commission** on how to reduce malapportionment during the constituency review process. The IPPR collaborated with two other civic society agencies, the NiD and the Namibian Non-governmental Forum (NANGOF) to produce a focus group report on **youth perceptions on human rights**.

The aim of the **Public Opinion Programme** is to generate opinion data which can complement data used in the other two research programmes. In its first two years the IPPR completed **two rounds of the Afrobarometer Survey** with the Institute for Democracy in South Africa (IDASA), as well as two pioneering national surveys: the **Youth and Politics Survey** and the **Women and Politics Survey**. The Afrobarometer is a continuous project with the next round of surveys to be completed during the second half of 2003. With 2003 being an election year, the IPPR is planning a number of **election specific projects**. These include a study of the impact of various types of media on citizens' political and civic knowledge, a study on the attitudes and opinions of representatives and an exit poll study.

The **Public Policy Analysis Programme** has continued to produce a range of papers on topical public policy issues including fiscal policy, education policy, financial sector reform, land reform and corruption. The IPPR worked with **Transparency International** to produce a critique of the proposed legislation to establish an Anti-corruption Commission in Namibia. The Institute invited representatives of the **US Embassy** to write an opinion piece on the aftermath of the attacks of September 11. It was requested to undertake a study of future options for the **Namibian Stock Exchange** paid for by industry stakeholders. The Institute also cooperated with the **Multi-disciplinary Research and Consultancy Centre** at the University of Namibia to produce a briefing paper on the issue of land reform. For the first time, the IPPR has been contracted by Government to investigate the **reform of welfare grants** for the Ministry of Women's Affairs and Child Welfare. This project has led to useful cooperation with researchers in South Africa.



become a useful way in which the IPPR can comment on topical issues on a monthly basis and has led to the IPPR becoming the most regularly quoted research institute in Namibia.

The Public Policy Analysis Programme has continued to participate in the **University of Namibian internship programme**. Students learn valuable research skills and publish papers as main authors. Over the first two years, a total of eight UNAM students benefited from this arrangement.

The programme has become a regular contributor to the **Ministry of Finance's management committee workshops**. This is a wonderful opportunity for the IPPR to present its research findings to key decision-makers. The IPPR has also been invited to

present to **parliamentarians** on the National Budget on two occasions. Parliamentarians have approached the IPPR and specifically requested views on the National Budget, the Competition Bill, and the NAMFISA Bill. IPPR analysis regularly crops up in parliamentary debates. All in all it is fair to say that the IPPR is regularly consulted on a range of important and interesting public policy issues by key ministries as well as by donors, NGOs and businesses.



Developments at the IPPR as a whole have been extremely encouraging. The **electronic mailing list** has continued to expand greatly. By the beginning of 2003 it included almost 600 up-to-date addresses. Towards the end of 2002/03, the IPPR **website** was receiving close to 6,000 hits a month. This increase in dissemination of research has also been reflected in the annual IPPR readers' survey and the number of citations in the local media, especially newspapers. The IPPR continues to distribute 500 printed copies of every paper it produces to parliamentarians, permanent secretaries, government officials, businesses, trades unions, embassies, donors, libraries and bookshops.

The composition of the **IPPR board** has not changed since its launch. The board continues to oversee the activities of the Institute, although the frequency of board meetings has declined reflecting the fact that the IPPR is now well established.

The IPPR has now undergone **two audits** — for the periods of 1 November 2000 to 28 February 2002 and 1 March 2002 to 28 February 2003. Both audits gave the IPPR a clean bill of health and resulted in some minor modifications in financial management. Highlights from the audited financial statements are posted on the IPPR website and are presented below.

“The IPPR is a welcome addition to information and analysis on Namibia’s economy and politics. Keep it up!” Dr Dirk Hansohm, Director of Namibian Economic Policy Research Unit

The IPPR has worked with a number of leading research institutes, including: the **Namibian Economic Policy Research Unit (NEPRU)**; the **Institute for Democracy in South Africa (IDASA)**; the **Multi-disciplinary Research Consultancy Centre at the University of Namibia (MRCC at UNAM)**; **Transparency International (TI)**; **Johns Hopkins University**; the **Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)** and **Irwin Jacobs Greene Stockbrokers (IJG)**.

We would like to thank our funders for their belief in our mission and their generous support. The IPPR started off with core support from the **Ford Foundation** and project support from the **Netherlands Embassy**. In 2002 the **Finnish Embassy** and the **Netherlands Embassy** became core funders on the basis of a two-year work programme. In addition, consultancy and project funds have been raised from the **Konrad Adenauer Foundation**, **IDASA**, the **Namibian Stock Exchange**, the **Ministry of Women’s Affairs and Child Welfare**, and the **British High Commission**. Sponsorship has also been received from **IJG Stockbrokers** and **NIB Namibia**.

The IPPR is currently in the process of putting together a five-year development strategy including a **five-year research programme**. The challenge will be to develop the IPPR’s programmatic way of doing research while at the same time remaining flexible enough to tackle issues as they arise. We look forward to the challenge.

Christiaan Keulder and Robin Sherbourne
Directors

Audited Income and Expenditure Statements 2000/01 - 2002/03

Core Account (N\$)

	1 March 02 - 28 Feb 03	27 Sept 00 - 28 Feb 02
Income	1,028,071	1,720,438
Grant received: Ford Foundation	571,378	1,693,369
Grant received: Embassy of Finland	443,000	
Sponsorships		15,000
Consulting fees	10,703	5,993
Interest received	2,990	6,076
Expenditure	1,196,227	1,025,233
Administrative costs	114,245	87,150
Publications and dissemination	75,634	59,288
Salaries and benefits	746,676	557,415
Overheads	111,771	96,943
Travel costs	5,880	6,701
Capital expenditure	97,021	217,736
Contracting costs	45,000	
Accumulated funds at end of period	527,049	695,205

Governance Account (N\$)

	1 Oct 00 - 28 Feb 03
Income	1,145,132
Grant received: Embassy of Netherlands	1,141,500
Interest received	3,632
Expenditure	1,144,713
Youth and Politics Survey	357,933
Electoral Review Programme	45,000
South African Democracy Barometer	308,365
Women and Politics	429,350
Audit fees	2,622
Bank charges	1,443
Accumulated funds at end of period	419



The IJG Business Climate Monitor for February 2003

Namibia is ranked 53rd in the latest Global Competitiveness Report produced by the World Economic Forum.

One Lump or Two? IPPR Economic Outlook for 2003

Growth in the Namibian economy this year is likely to be modest with the exception of two very large new investments: the Skorpion zinc mine and refinery and the Ramatex textile plant. A gradually declining interest rate should help to ensure that the economic environment for a broader section of the economy – both businesses and consumers – improves over the year. At this stage, however, prospects are generally subdued. (IPPR Economic Outlook for 2003, February 2003; by Robin Sherbourne)

The IPPR Readers' Survey 2002

The IPPR conducted its second readers' survey during December 2002 and January 2003. Most respondents appear largely satisfied with the way research is being disseminated by the IPPR. (IPPR Readers' Survey No. 2, February 2003)



Elections, the Electoral System and a Gender Quota: Views of Namibians

During recent parliamentary debates representatives from various political parties presented their arguments as to what kind of electoral system would be 'best' for local authority elections. In general, the ruling party called for a proportional representation type, whilst opposition parties called for a first-past-the-post type. But what do ordinary Namibians want? (IPPR Briefing Paper No. 17, February 2003; by Hermann Thiel)

Agricultural Employment in Namibia: Not the Engine of Wage Employment Growth

This paper examines trends in national agricultural employment between 1991 and 2000 using official government statistics. It finds that employment in commercial agriculture has fallen, a result which contrasts with estimates from the Agricultural Employers Association. Employment in subsistence agriculture, on the other hand, has increased over the period. There is evidence that employment in informal sector activities in the agriculture sector has also experienced some growth. (IPPR Briefing Paper No. 16, February 2003; by Martin Angula & Robin Sherbourne)

The IJG Business Climate Monitor for January 2003

Data on patents collected by the IPPR suggest Namibia has a very low level of economic innovation.

The IJG Business Climate Monitor for December 2002

There appears to be a good correlation between the IJG Business Climate Index and estimates of quarterly GDP.

The IJG Business Climate Monitor for November 2002

Recent statistics suggest 1999 and 2000 were difficult years for Namibia's tourist industry.

The Commercial Farm Market in Namibia: Evidence from the First Eleven Years

This report examines the performance of the commercial farmland market in Namibia during the first 11 years of independence. Aspects such as yearly transactions, movement of land from white into black ownership, gender-related aspects of land ownership, and the role of corporations in land ownership are considered. A key underlying question of this paper is whether or not the concept of willing seller, willing buyer is working. (IPPR Briefing Paper No. 15, November 2002; by Dr Ben Fuller & George Eiseb)

To PR or to Ward? Notes on the Political Consequences of Electoral Systems in Namibia

Namibian legislators are currently debating the merits of two types of electoral systems, namely proportional representation (PR or List) and plurality (FPTP or Ward). Their ultimate objective is to decide which of these two systems is the most appropriate for future local authority elections. This paper reviews some of the key arguments in the debate by highlighting the political consequences of the two systems. (IPPR Briefing Paper No. 14, November 2002; by Christiaan Keulder)

The IJG Business Climate Monitor for October 2002

The additional budget suggests Government has considerable problems forecasting corporate tax revenue from non-mining companies. The latest National Accounts released by the Central Bureau of Statistics show that the Namibian economy grew by 2.4% in 2001. Average incomes as measured by GDP per capita fell for the first time since 1993.

Additional Budget 2002/03: Old Habits Die Hard

Finance Minister Nangolo Mbumba presented the additional budget to the National Assembly on Thursday 31 October 2002. As is now the norm, the budget included substantially higher revenue and expenditure estimates. As expected a significant proportion of additional expenditure has been allocated to troubled state-owned enterprises and to honour guarantees given to companies which have defaulted on their loans. (IPPR Opinion No. 7, October 2002; by Robin Sherbourne)

The IJG Business Climate Monitor for September 2002

The new Competition Bill requires further scrutiny and some far-reaching changes. New statistics confirm the slow pace of commercial land reform. The proposed minimum wage in agriculture may be more of a gesture rather than making a tangible difference to farmworkers' wages.

Maintaining Economic Independence: Government Debt and Fiscal Sustainability

A sound fiscal policy is vital for economic development and the maintenance of economic independence. This paper analyses fiscal policy trends from 1992/93 to 2001/02 and assesses the sustainability of Government's current fiscal path. The paper makes suggestions about how the present approach to debt management could be improved and the independence of Namibian economic policy makers maintained. (IPPR Briefing Paper No. 13, October 2002; by Robin Sherbourne, Tataleni Nampila & Rochelle du Preez)

Delimiting Regional and Constituency Boundaries: Considering the Impact of Malapportionment, Population Size, Population Density, and Area Size

This paper focuses on the challenges facing the Third Delimitation Commission of Namibia on the Determination of Regions and Constituencies in its task to find the optimum number of constituencies for each of the country's 13 administrative regions. It highlights data constraints and draws attention to the issue of malapportionment. (IPPR Briefing Paper No.12, September 2002; by Christiaan Keulder & Deon van Zyl)

The IJG Business Climate Monitor for August 2002

The August Cabinet reshuffle does not appear to signal fundamental changes to Namibia's economic policies. Comprehensive statistics on commercial land ownership by race do not exist. The available evidence suggests land

sustained level of public spending on education. Recent budgets, however, suggest this may not continue. The share of education spending going towards tertiary and non-formal education has increased while the share allocated to secondary education has declined steadily. The distribution of public resources per learner within primary education appears to have become more equal across the country's seven education regions but the opposite seems the case in secondary education. (IPPR Briefing Paper No. 11, June 2002; by Robin Sherbourne)

The IJG Business Climate Monitor for May 2002

The NCCI is soon to launch a video which looks at the role Namibian companies can play in addressing the problems caused by HIV/AIDS. The Ministry of Agriculture has published its Agricultural Statistics Bulletin for 2001. The Development Bank of Namibia Bill has been tabled in the National Assembly.

"I would also like to credit the Namibian media and other civic organisations, such as the Institute for Public Policy Research, for their valuable and objective economic analysis of the Revised Appropriation Bill." Reply by Nangolo Mbumba, former Minister of Finance, to the 2002/03 Additional Budget in Parliament

redistribution is proceeding very slowly. Namibia has been ranked 28th out of 102 countries in Transparency International's latest Corruption Perceptions Index. However, Namibia's score is subject to the greatest uncertainties out of all the countries surveyed.

The IJG Business Climate Monitor for July 2002

Increases in interest rates appear to have had a negative effect on investment expectations in the economy.

"The biggest challenge facing women in Namibia today is to convince men to change their roles in society."

Interview with Hon Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, Minister of Women's Affairs and Child Welfare on gender equality in Namibia. (IPPR Interview No. 6, August 2002; by Gretchen Bauer)

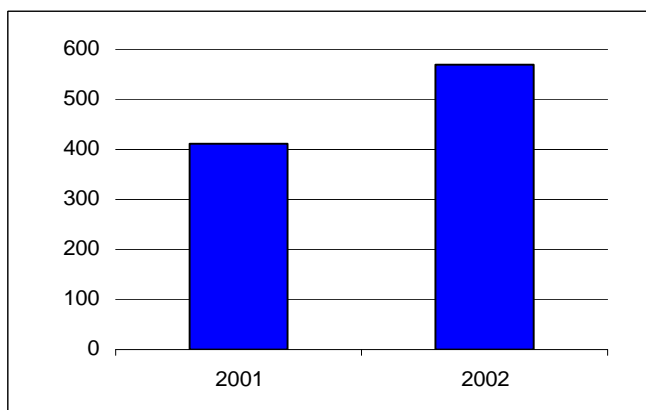
The IJG Business Climate Monitor for June 2002

TransNamib is likely to provide a severe test of Government's new approach to parastatals. The omens are not good.

A Secondary Consideration? Public Spending on Education Since 1990

Since independence, Namibia has maintained a high and

Number of addresses on IPPR electronic mailing list at the end of 2001 and 2002



In Search of Democrats: Youth Attitudes Towards Democracy and Non-democratic Alternatives

The IPPR Youth and Politics Survey 2000 explored the extent to which young Namibians show preference and support for democracy over non-democratic alternatives. In this paper, we search for a better understanding of who shows a clear and strong preference for democracy and, at the same time, rejects alternative forms of government. (IPPR Briefing Paper No. 10, May 2002; by Christiaan Keulder & Dirk Spilker)

The IJG Business Climate Monitor for April 2002

The IPPR's sectoral growth forecasts for 2001 differ greatly from the preliminary estimates presented by the Central Bureau of Statistics. These preliminary estimates, however, are likely to be substantially revised over time.

The IJG Business Climate Monitor for March 2002

Growth estimates for the Namibian economy for 2002 vary between 3% and 4%.

National Budget 2002/03: We've Been Here Before

Finance Minister Nangolo Mbumba presented the National Budget to the National Assembly on Wednesday 3 April 2002. The budget contained few new tax or expenditure proposals but the Minister did reaffirm the commitment made in November to reduce public spending to 30% of GDP. Although his revenue and expenditure proposals suggest he is making some attempt to meet this target, we are sceptical this target can be achieved within the next three years without a significant departure from past budgeting practices. (IPPR Opinion No. 6, April 2002; by Robin Sherbourne)

The IJG Business Climate Monitor for February 2002

A stable and growing Angolan economy would represent an enormous boost for Namibia's strategy of becoming a major transport and manufacturing hub. The Government has announced that it intends to increase the social pension in Namibia from N\$200 a month to N\$250 in the forthcoming budget.

Globalisation Marches On: Economic Outlook for 2002

Although events in Zimbabwe are likely to continue to cast a



shadow over the economic prospects of the whole southern African region, Namibia's economic outlook for 2002 is generally positive. With the South African Reserve Bank showing firm leadership on monetary policy, the Namibian economy can expect to benefit from the fall in the exchange rate and the improvement in the economic prospects of the US and other industrialised economies. (IPPR Economic Outlook for 2002, February 2002; by Robin Sherbourne)

The IJG Business Climate Monitor for January 2002

The rise in interest rates sends a strong signal that the Reserve Bank of South Africa is an independent institution serious about meeting its inflation target. It is difficult to see how comments made during January by President Nujoma and the President of the NUNW on events in Zimbabwe can have helped the business climate in Namibia.

Is Anybody Out There? The IPPR Readers' Survey 2001

The IPPR first readers' survey revealed that, already in its first year, IPPR research has managed to attract a large number of devoted readers, who are interested in the Interview, Briefing Paper, and Opinion Piece series. (IPPR Readers' Survey No. 1, January 2002)

"Thorough economic analysis and research is in short supply in Namibia, so the IPPR has certainly filled the gap to a very large extent, giving access to what is otherwise not readily available." Gwen Lister, Editor of *The Namibian* newspaper

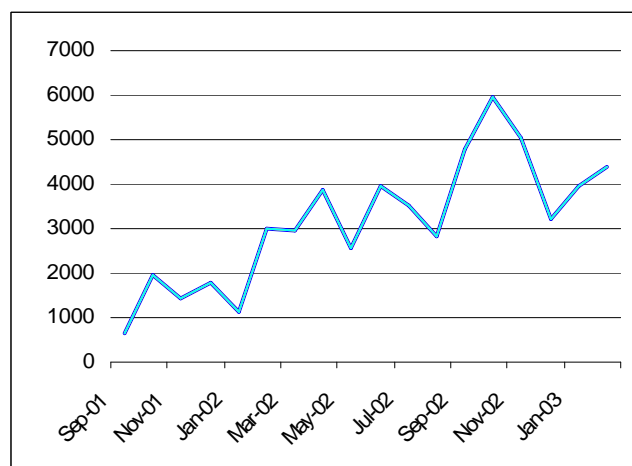
The IJG Business Climate Monitor for December 2001

The results of the Business Survey support the overall picture of an improved business climate despite the sharp depreciation of the Rand.

The IJG Business Climate Monitor for November 2001

Minister of Agriculture Helmut Angula has announced that his report on a governance policy framework for state-owned enterprises had been approved by Cabinet.

Number of hits on IPPR website, 2001-03



An Overview of the Youth and Politics Survey 2000/2001 Findings

This briefing paper presents the reader with an overview of the most significant findings of the *Youth and Politics Survey 2000/2001*. (IPPR Briefing Paper No.9, December 2001; by Christiaan Keulder & Deon van Zyl)

Political and Social Participation Among Namibia's Youth

The *IPPR Youth and Politics Survey 2000* explored the extent to which young Namibians are active in social and political life. In this paper, we search for a better understanding of who does what with regard to political and civic activity. (IPPR Briefing Paper No.8, November 2001; by Christiaan Keulder & Dirk Spilker)

Namibia's Anti-corruption Bill

Several years after a major conference on corruption, Namibia's National Assembly recently passed the Anti-corruption Bill. Here Jeremy Pope of Transparency International, an organisation dedicated to rooting out corruption worldwide, gives his views on the Bill. (IPPR Opinion No. 5, November 2001; by Jeremy Pope, Executive Director of Transparency International)

Additional Budget 2001/02: More Special Circumstances

Finance Minister Nangolo Mbumba presented the additional budget for 2001/02 to Parliament on 24 October 2001. The budget contained little good news but this was hardly unexpected. (IPPR Opinion No. 4, October 2001; by Robin Sherbourne)

Women and Proportional Representation

This briefing paper looks at the political consequences of two electoral systems (First-Past-The-Post and Proportional Representation) in the context of the current debate on more representation for women in local authority elections. It evaluates the merits of the various arguments and raises questions about some of the key assumptions in this debate. (IPPR Opinion No. 3, October 2001; by Christiaan Keulder)

Do We Need a Development Bank?

The Government of Namibia is considering how to establish a development bank to provide finance for projects which it believes are viable but are not being financed by existing lending institutions. What are the arguments for and against? (IPPR Opinion No.2, October 2001; by Robin Sherbourne)

"The Development Bank of Namibia will be an autonomous professional institution."

Interview with Lazarus Ipangelwa, Deputy Governor of the Bank of Namibia, on the proposed development bank. (IPPR Interview No. 5, October 2001; by Robin Sherbourne)

"This is an opportunity to accomplish great good in the world."

Interview with Joseph P. Cassidy, Political Officer at the US Embassy Windhoek, on the implications of the September 11 Attacks in the US. (IPPR Interview No. 4, September 2001; by Robin Sherbourne)

Namibia's Great White Hope

This briefing paper examines the performance of Namibia's fishing sector since 1990 using statistics produced by the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources. It finds that the white fish sub-sector, comprising mostly of hake, has provided the greatest source of dynamism in the industry, while other sub-sectors are either in decline or failing to fulfil their early promise. As the quantity of fish harvested in Namibian waters

appears to be reaching a limit, the challenge for policy now must be to spur greater innovation in the rest of the industry. (IPPR Briefing Paper No 7, August 2001; by Robin Sherbourne)

Some Encouraging Macroeconomic Trends

This briefing paper examines changes in inflation, interest rates and the exchange rate in Namibia since 1990. It finds the trends encouraging since internationally they are associated with improved growth performance. (IPPR Briefing Paper No. 6, August 2001; by Makani Mudenda & Robin Sherbourne)

“If democracy is to survive, it will only survive provided the grassroots people see democracy as their own.”

Interview with Dr Nickey Iyambo, Minister of Regional and Local Government and Housing on decentralisation. (IPPR Interview No. 3, August 2001; by Christiaan Keulder)

Feelings of Closeness: Public Opinion and its Implications for Decentralisation

Decentralisation means that political power, administrative authority and human and financial resources will be devolved from the national level of government to the sub-national levels. This long and cumbersome process of institutional reform will impact on ordinary Namibians' relations with public agencies. One commonly perceived outcome of the reform process is to bring Government “closer to the people”. Here we have used survey data to assess the current feelings of “closeness to Government”. (IPPR Briefing Paper No. 5, July 2001; by Christiaan Keulder)

How Well Does the Government Budget?

This paper uses publicly available information on the National Budget to assess how accurately Government forecasts revenues and sticks to spending plans. It suggests that the Government has shown a consistent tendency to underestimate both revenue and expenditure in the main budget and then to revise them upwards in the additional budget later in the year. (IPPR Briefing Paper No.4, July 2001; by Robin Sherbourne)

“If the majority are suffering it is just a matter of time before they start fighting back.”

Interview with John Walenga, President of the Indigenous People's Business Council, on black economic empowerment. (IPPR Interview No.2, June 2001; by Robin Sherbourne)

Contracting HIV/AIDS: High Risk Sexual Behaviour Among Namibian Youth

Certain young Namibians are exhibiting high-risk sexual behaviour increasing the odds of them contracting HIV/AIDS. A survey has revealed that the participants are well informed regarding the dangers surrounding HIV/AIDS, including knowledge on how it can be contracted and how one can protect oneself against infection, but that many are not acting upon this knowledge in order to protect themselves against contracting the virus. (IPPR Briefing Paper No.3, May 2001; by Deon van Zyl & Dirk Spilker)

Support for the Political System and Democratic Regime Among Namibian Youth

The IPPR *Youth and Politics Survey 2000* revealed that young Namibians prefer democracy to non-democratic alternatives. Although the number of young Namibians that are unhappy about their current economic conditions is quite high, most felt



that matters would improve in the near future. The Namibian youth is no longer very active in the public sphere of life, but does have a strong sense of what it would like to see on the public agenda. (IPPR Briefing Paper No. 2, May 2001; by Christiaan Keulder)

Namibian National Budget 2001/02: A Driving Force for Change?

Finance Minister Nangolo Mbumba presented the National Budget for 2001/02 to Parliament on Wednesday 14 March 2001. This paper highlights what it believes to be the good and the bad contained in the budget confining comments to issues that have a more immediate impact on the budget. (IPPR Opinion No. 1, April 2001; by Robin Sherbourne)

“If we expand the deficit we expand debt and we will get ourselves into hot water.”

Interview with Nangolo Mbumba, Minister of Finance, on the 2001/02 National Budget. (IPPR Interview No.1, April 2001; by Robin Sherbourne)

Defending the Indefensible? Namibian Defence Expenditure since 1990

Defence expenditure in Namibia has come under increasing scrutiny since the entry of the Namibian armed forces on the side of the Allies in the war in the DRC in August 1998. This paper presents trends in defence expenditure since independence and compares Namibian defence expenditure with that of a selection of other countries around the world. (IPPR Briefing Paper No.1, April 2001; by Robin Sherbourne)

Waiting for Skorpion: Economic Outlook for 2001

With most sectors showing little sign of growth this year, the economy awaits the coming on stream of the Skorpion zinc mine planned for the end of 2002 before it receives any major boost. (IPPR Economic Outlook for 2001, February 2001; by Robin Sherbourne)

Abracadabra! Namibia's Latest National Accounts

Statisticians are powerful people. Statistical estimates presented in the latest national accounts suggest Namibia's economy is almost a fifth bigger than we believed it to be last year. (IPPR Briefing Paper, December 2000; by Robin Sherbourne)

Almost All the Ingredients for Trouble Ahead: The Economics of Corruption and the Implications for Namibia

This paper was commissioned by the Namibia Institute for Democracy as a contribution to the publication “*Ethics and Good Governance in Namibia*”. It tries to summarise the conclusions economists have reached on the relationship between corruption and economic development, and then to identify what the implications of these conclusions might be for Namibia. (IPPR Briefing Paper, December 2000; by Robin Sherbourne)



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Contact Details:

14 Nachtigal Street Windhoek
PO Box 86058 Eros Windhoek Namibia
Tel: +264 61 240514/5 Fax: +264 61 240516
Email: info@ippr.org.na Web: www.ippr.org.na

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Trustees: H M Gaomab II, N S Goabab, C J Keulder, M M C Koep, J Mwatotele, A du Pisani, R C D Sherbourne