

# Election WatchX

Produced by the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR)

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## KNOW YOUR COUNTRY

On November 27th, 2015, registered Namibian voters will head to the polls to cast their votes in the Local Authority and Regional Council elections. The election of leaders at this level has been viewed as a means of bringing government closer to the people, by focusing on creating development, and delivering essential services. This bulletin provides an overview of the two elections, and a graphic illustration (see the centre-spread) of all the 14 regions and 121 constituencies in Namibia.

### KNOW YOUR REGIONS & CONSTITUENCIES

Following the work of the Fourth Delimitation Commission in early 2013, Namibia is now made up of 14 Regions and 121 Constituencies (increased from 13 regions and 107 constituencies previously). Are you clued up on all the changes to Namibia's political map? Below is a list of all four-

teen regions and their constituencies.

During the Regional Council elections, "each constituency shall elect one member to the Regional Council for the region in which it is situated" through a 'First Past the Post system. For example, the Hardap Regional Council will be made up of eight members – one from each of its constituencies (Gibeon, Mariental Rural, Mariental Urban, Rehoboth Rural, Rehoboth East Urban, Rehoboth West Urban, Aranos and Daweb). The smallest Regional Council will be that of the Kavango East region, made up of six constituencies, and the largest will be those of the Ohangwena and Omusati regions – each made up of 12 constituencies. (According to the Regional Councils Act, a Region must have a minimum of 6, and a maximum of 12 constituencies).

Amongst several other tasks, the Regional Councils are essentially responsible for planning the development of the

region for which they have been established, advising the line Minister on regional development concerns; and assisting the local authorities situated within the region.

With the 2014 amendments to the Constitution, the National Council – known as the House of Review because it considers all bills passed in the National Assembly – will now be made up of 42 members – 3 members from each Regional Council (up from 2 members per Regional Council previously). "The National Council's members are the only MPs who are elected to represent territorial constituencies and are therefore expected to raise regional concerns during debates on legislation".<sup>2</sup>

1 The Constitution of the Republic of Namibia, Article 106(2).

2 Hopwood, G. (2007). Guide to Namibian Politics. Namibia Institute for Democracy.

### NAMIBIA'S 14 REGIONS AND THEIR CONSTITUENCIES:

#### ERONGO REGION

Arandis  
Däures  
Karibib  
Omaruru  
Swakopmund  
Walvis Bay Rural  
Walvis Bay Urban

#### HARDAP REGION

Aranos  
Daweb  
Gibeon  
Mariental Rural  
Mariental Urban  
Rehoboth Rural  
Rehoboth East Urban  
Rehoboth West Urban

#### //KARAS REGION

!Nami#Nus  
Berseba  
Karasburg East  
Karasburg West  
Keetmanshoop Rural  
Keetmanshoop Urban  
Oranjemund

#### KAVANGO EAST REGION

Mashare  
Mukwe  
Ndiyona  
Ndonga Linena  
Rundu Rural  
Rundu Urban

#### KAVANGO WEST REGION

Kapako  
Mankumpi  
Mpungu  
Musese  
Ncamangoro  
Ncuncuni  
Nkurenkuru  
Tondoro

#### KHOMAS REGION

John Pandeni  
Katutura Central  
Katutura East  
Khomasdal  
Moses IlGaroëb  
Samora Machel  
Tobias Hainyeko

Windhoek East  
Windhoek Rural  
Windhoek West

#### KUNENE REGION

Epupa  
Kamanjab  
Khorixas  
Opuwo Rural  
Opuwo Urban  
Outjo  
Sesfontein

#### OHANGWENA REGION

Eenhana  
Endola  
Engela  
Epembe  
Ohangwena  
Okongo  
Omulonga  
Omundaungilo  
Ondobe  
Ongenga  
Oshikango  
Oshikunde

#### OMAHEKE REGION

Aminuis  
Epukiro  
Gobabis  
Kalahari  
Okarukambe  
Otjinene  
Otjombinde

#### OMUSATI REGION

Anamulenge  
Elim  
Etayi  
Ogongo  
Okahao  
Okalongo  
Onesi  
Oshikuku  
Otamanzi  
Outapi  
Ruacana  
Tsandi

#### OSHANA REGION

Okaku  
Okatana  
Okatyali  
Ompundja  
Ondangwa Rural  
Ondangwa Urban  
Ongwediva  
Oshakati East  
Oshakati West  
Uukwiya  
Uuvudhiya

#### OSHIKOTO REGION

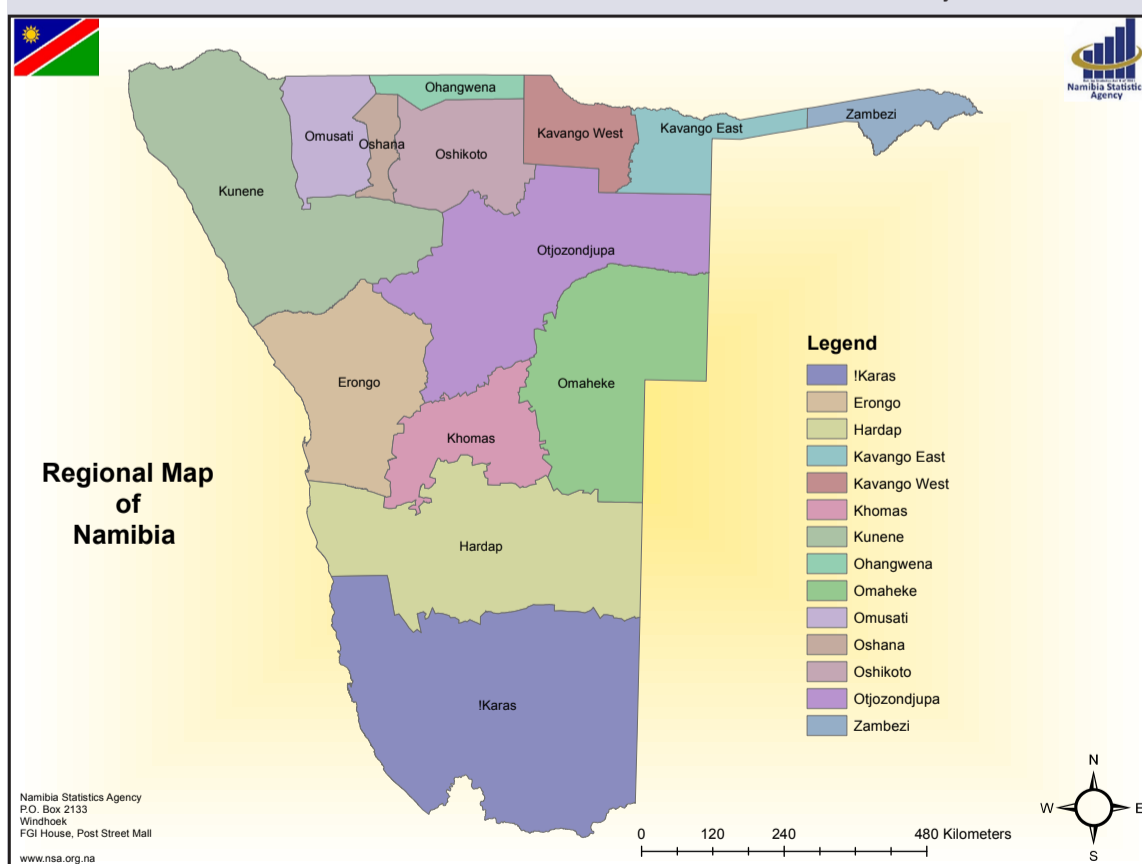
Eengodi  
Guinas  
Nehale IyaMpingana  
Okankolo  
Olukonda  
Omuntele  
Omuthiyagwiipundi  
Onayena  
Oniipa  
Onyaanya  
Tsumeb

#### OTJOZONDJUPA REGION

Grootfontein  
Okahandja  
Okakarara  
Omatoko  
Otavi  
Otjiwarongo  
Tsumkwe

#### ZAMBEZI REGION

Judea Lyaboloma  
Kabbe North  
Kabbe South  
Katima Mulilo Rural  
Katima Mulilo Urban  
Kongola  
Linyanti  
Sibbinda



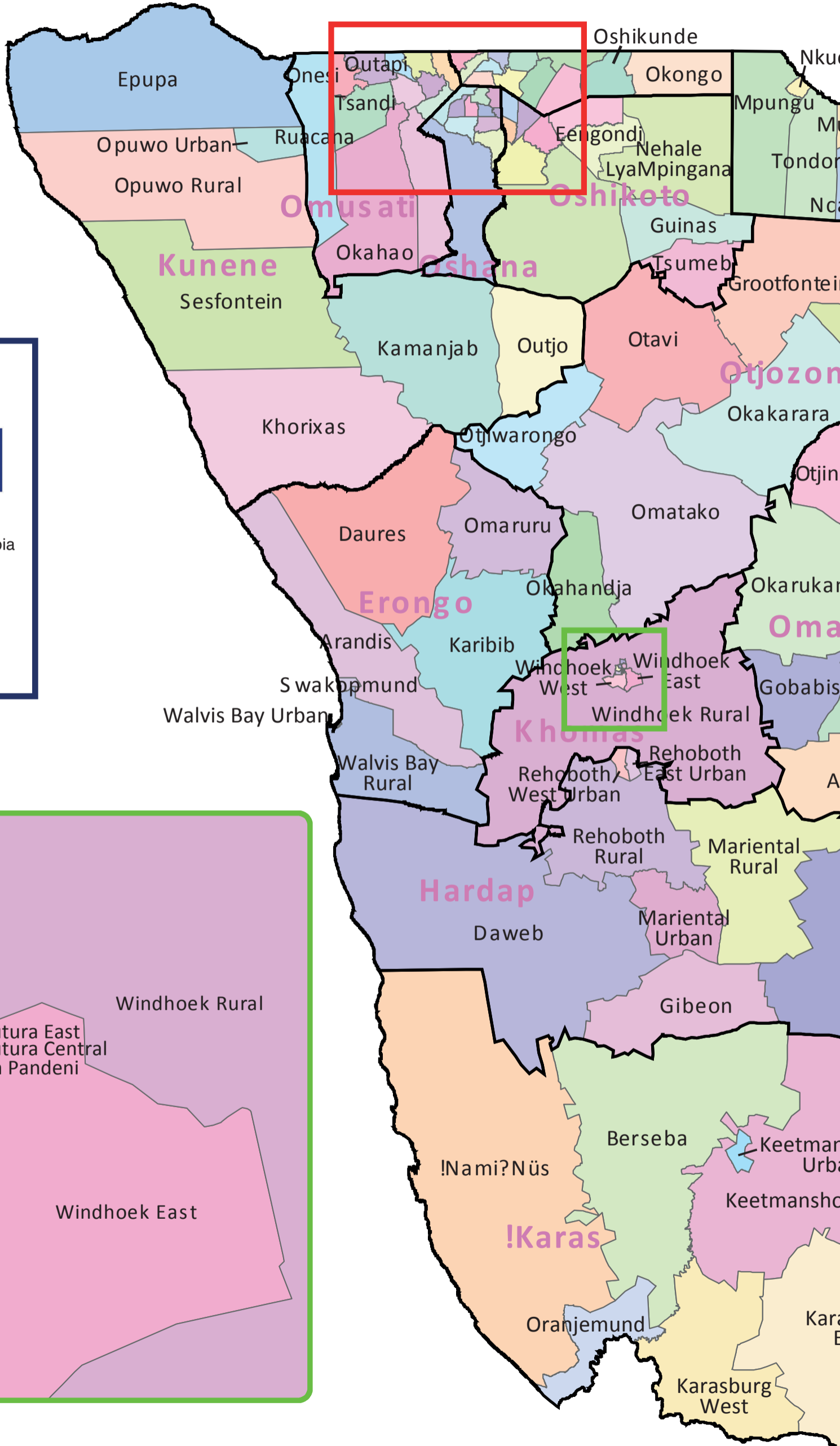
### ABOUT ELECTION WATCH

Election Watch is a bulletin containing electoral analysis and voter education that will appear regularly in the run up to the 2014 National Assembly and Presidential Elections. It is produced as a PDF download and as a printed newspaper insert. Election Watch is a project of the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR). It is produced with the support of the European Union and *The Namibian newspaper*. The content of Election Watch is the sole responsibility of the IPPR.

Comments and feedback should be sent to the IPPR, PO Box 6566, Windhoek, Namibia.

Tel: (061) 240514; fax: (061) 240516; email: info@ippr.org.na. For more on Election Watch check <http://www.electionwatch.org.na>

# NAMIBIA'S 14 REGIONS AND MUNICIPALITIES



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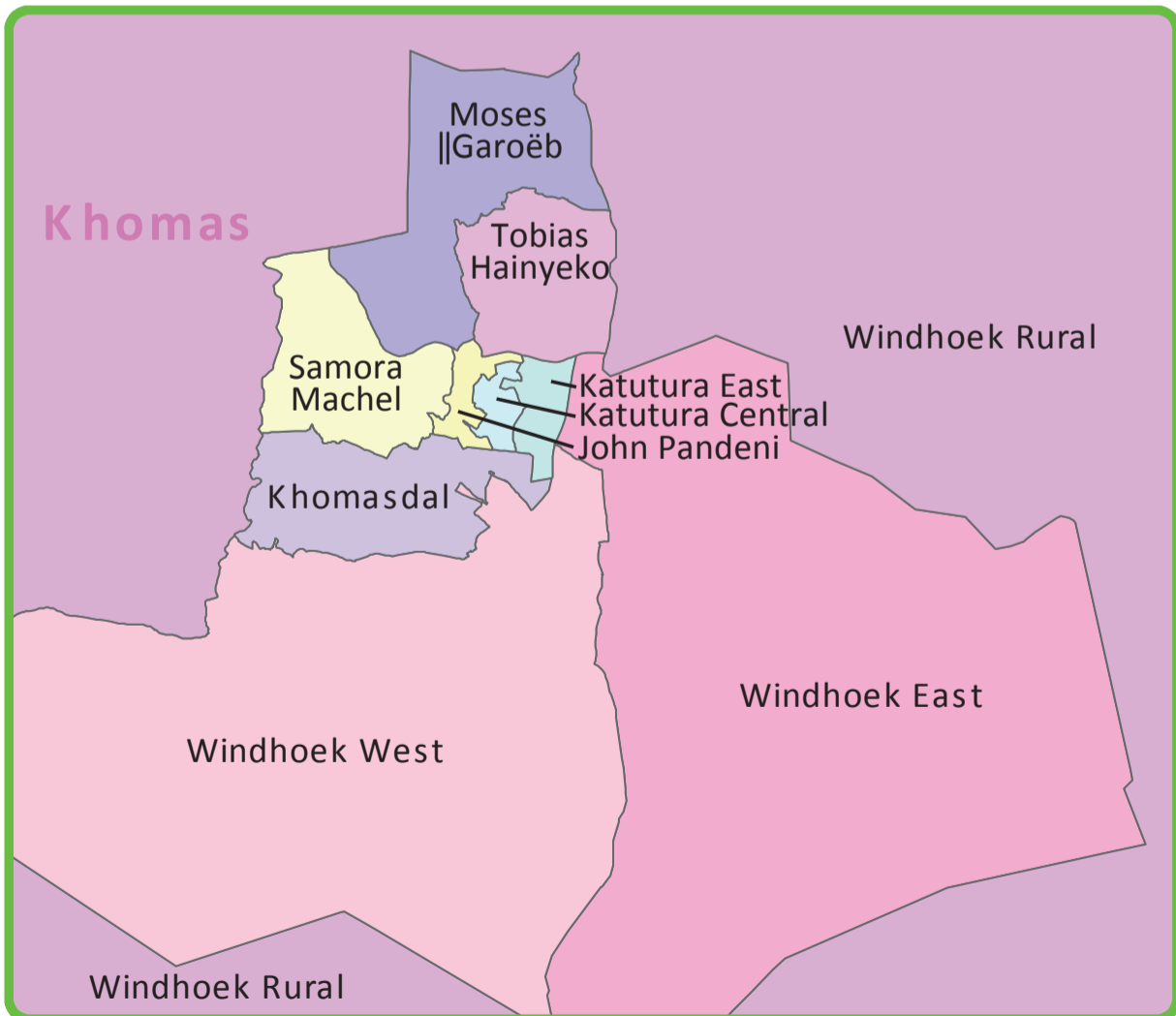
THE FREE PRESS OF NAMIBIA (PTY) LTD  
  
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The European Union  

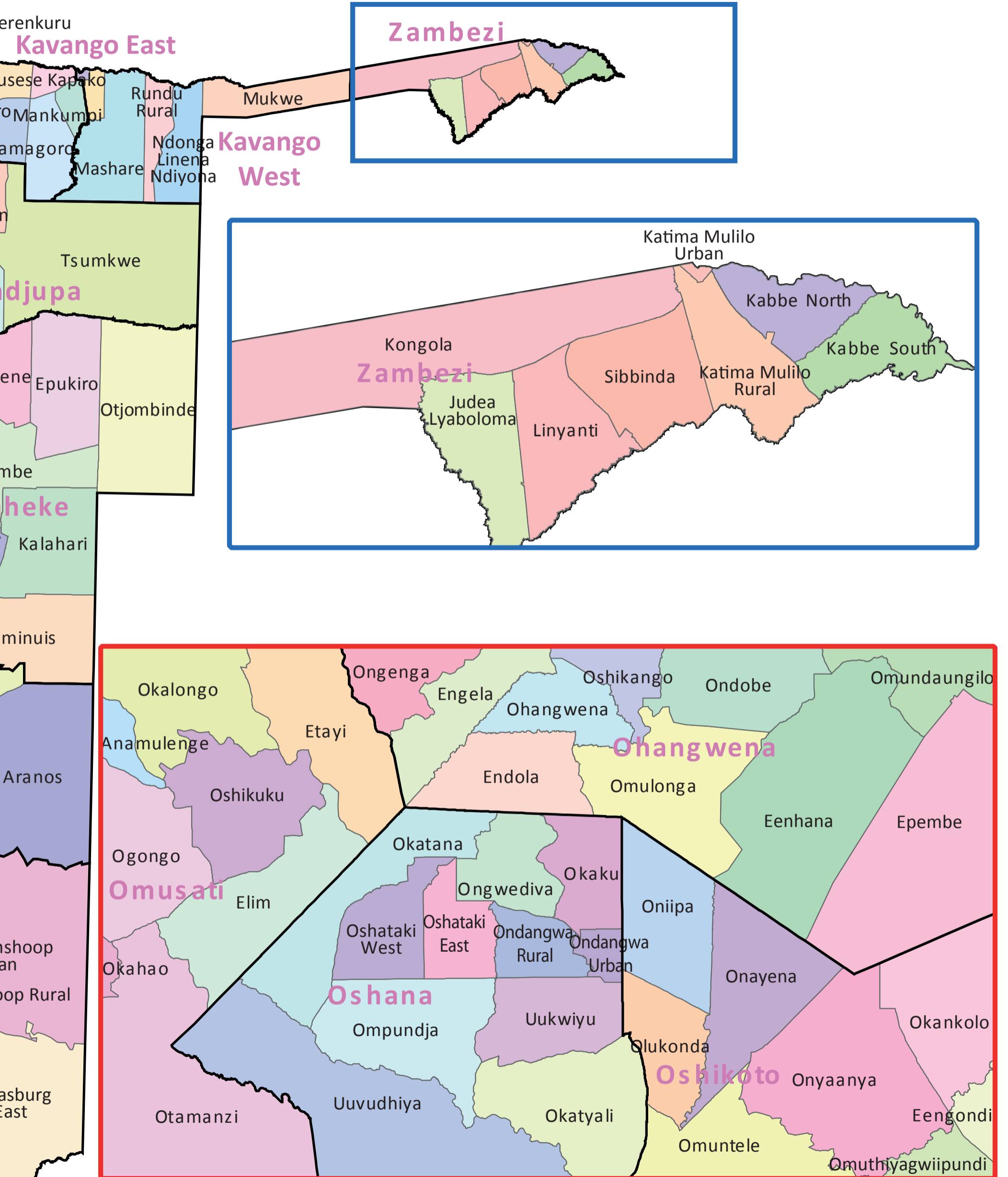

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# AND 121 CONSTITUENCIES



\* Source: Namibia Statistics Agency

# KNOW YOUR LOCAL AUTHORITY

During the upcoming Local Authorities election, 57 Local Authority Councils will be elected into office, based on a proportional representation system. This means that for each local authority – as is the case with National Assembly elections – eligible registered voters will vote for the party of their choice, and the councils will be constituted based on the percentage

vote the different parties receive – with councillors being derived from the stated party lists for these elections. Local Authorities include municipalities, Town Councils and Village Councils. The Minister of Urban and Rural Development decides how to classify each Local Authority, by looking at what services the Local Authority is able to provide to its residents, and what finan-

cial resources are available to it. A Local Authority can be re-classified as it changes and develops.

According to the Local Authorities Act, Village Councils have to be made up of five members; Town Councils of a minimum of seven and a maximum of 12 members; and Municipalities of a minimum of seven, and a maximum of 15 members.

## THE POWERS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

### 1. VILLAGES, TOWNS AND MUNICIPALITIES

- supply water
- cemeteries
- sewerage and drainage
- streets and public places
- markets
- refuse disposal
- pounds
- bands and orchestras
- beautification of local areas
- promotion of tourism
- power to accept donations from sources inside Namibia
- power to buy and sell land and buildings
- power to set fees for services provided
- power to operate farms on the townlands

### 2. MUNICIPALITIES AND TOWNS, plus VILLAGES WITH MINISTER'S APPROVAL

- supply electricity and gas
- dipping tanks
- ambulance services
- fire brigades
- construct and maintain community buildings and structures
- power to buy and sell property other than land and buildings

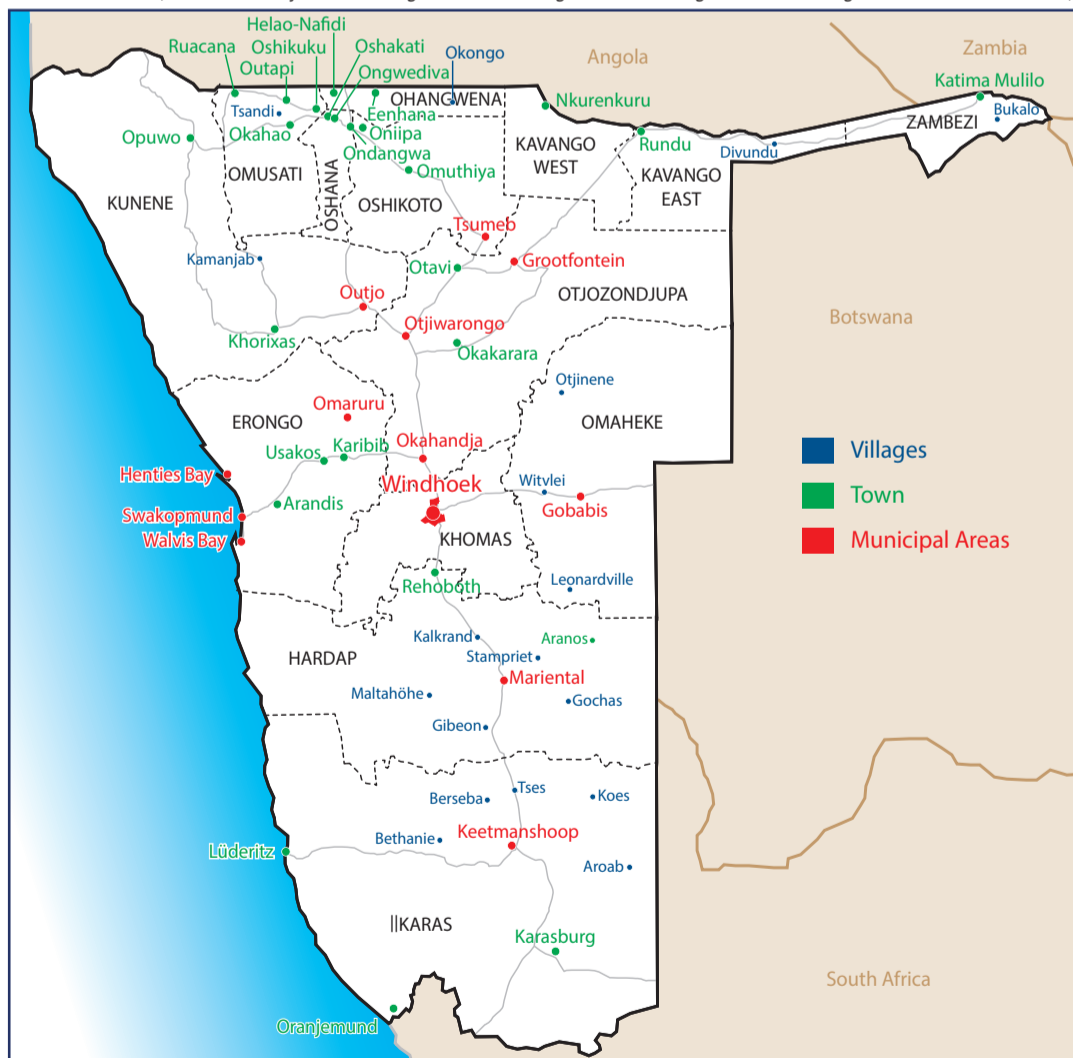
### 3. MUNICIPALITIES, plus TOWNS AND VILLAGES WITH MINISTER'S APPROVAL

- public transport services
- quarries
- housing schemes
- museums and libraries
- abattoirs
- aerodromes
- plant nurseries
- parking areas
- railway sidings
- traffic services
- bursaries
- storage of perishable goods (goods which may spoil)
- power to confer honours for service to community
- power to enter into joint business ventures
- power to privatise functions and services

### 4. ALL LOCAL AUTHORITIES, BUT ONLY WITH THE APPROVAL OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

- power to borrow money from any source inside Namibia
- power to loan money to sports clubs and charities
- power to accept donations from sources outside Namibia
- power to make grants or donations

\*Source: Legal Assistance Centre, 2007. *Advocacy in Action – A guide to influencing decision-making in Namibia.* © Legal Assistance Centre 2004, updated 2007



LOCAL AUTHORITY	Classification: Municipality, Town, Village	Number of Council seats (2015 election)
<b>//KARAS REGION</b>		
Aroab	Village	5
Berseba	Village	5
Bethanie	Village	5
Karasburg	Town	7
Keetmanshoop	Municipality	7
Koes	Village	5
Luderitz	Town	7
Oranjemund	Town	7
Tses	Village	5
<b>ERONGO</b>		
Arandis	Town	7
Henties Bay	Municipality	7
Karibib	Town	7
Omaruru	Municipality	7
Usakos	Town	7
Walvis Bay	Municipality	10
Swakopmund	Municipality	10
<b>HARDAP</b>		
Aranos	Town	7
Gibeon	Village	5
Gochas	Village	5
Kalkrand	Village	5
Mariental	Municipality	7
Rehoboth	Town	7
Stampriet	Village	5
Maltahohe	Village	5
<b>KAVANGO EAST</b>		
Rundu	Town	7
Divundu	Village	5
<b>KAVANGO WEST</b>		
Nkurenkuru	Town	7
<b>KHOMAS</b>		
Windhoek	Municipality	15
<b>KUNENE</b>		
Kamanjab	Village	5
Khorixas	Town	7
Opuwo	Town	7
Outjo	Municipality	7
<b>OHANGWENA</b>		
Eenhana	Town	7
Helao Nafidi	Town	7
Okongo	Village	5
<b>OMAHEKE</b>		
Gobabis	Municipality	7
Leonardville	Village	5
Witvlei	Village	5
Otjinene	Village	5
<b>OMUSATI</b>		
Okahao	Town	7
Oshikuku	Town	7
Outapi	Town	7
Ruacana	Town	7
Tsandi	Village	5
<b>OSHANA</b>		
Ondangwa	Town	7
Ongwediva	Town	7
Oshakati	Town	7
<b>OSHIKOTO</b>		
Omuthiya	Town	7
Tsumeb	Municipality	7
Oniipa	Town	7
<b>OTJOZONDJUPA</b>		
Grootfontein	Municipality	7
Okahandja	Municipality	7
Okakarara	Town	7
Otavi	Town	7
Otjiwarongo	Municipality	7
<b>ZAMBEZI</b>		
Katima Mulilo	Town	7
Bukalo	Village	5

## WHAT IS THE IPPR?

The Institute for Public Policy Research was established in 2001 as a not-for-profit organisation with a mission to deliver, independent, analytical, critical yet constructive research on social, political and economic issues which affect development Namibia. The IPPR was established in the belief that development is best promoted through free and critical debate informed by quality research. The IPPR is independent of government, political parties, business, trade unions and other interest groups and is governed by a board of directors consisting of Monica Koep (chairperson), Graham Hopwood, Ndiitah Nghipondoka-Robiati, Daniel Motinga, Justin Ellis and Michael Humavindu.

Anyone can receive the IPPR's research free of charge by contacting the organisation at 70-72 Frans Indongo Street, Windhoek; PO Box 6566, Windhoek; tel: (061) 240514; fax (061) 240516;

email: [info@ippr.org.na](mailto:info@ippr.org.na). All IPPR research is available at <http://www.ippr.org.na>. Material related to Election Watch is available at <http://www.electionwatch.org.na>