

Women in the Harambee Prosperity Plan

Does the HPP fast track women's development toward the achievement of Vision 2030, the AU's Agenda 2063, and the Sustainable Development Goals?



**Institute for Public
Policy Research**



Why the focus on women?



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“A comprehensive, gender-specific understanding of poverty improves national development strategy efforts in terms of both justice and efficiency. ...When given the opportunity to unfold their full economic potential, women can increase production and household income. This increases productivity throughout the entire economy, promotes economic growth and reduces poverty.”

-GTZ Governance & Democracy Division

Is gender neutrality enough?

Good governance is recognised as essential to poverty reduction efforts and respect for human rights, as well as conflict prevention, growth, and environmental protection. According to the expansive definition, good governance implies democratic governance, meaning an agenda for participation, human rights, and social justice.

Women ought to benefit as much as men from governance reforms.

If governance reforms do not address the social relations that undermine women's capacity to participate in public decisions, they run the risk of reproducing gender biases and patterns of exclusion in the management of public affairs.

- UN Women



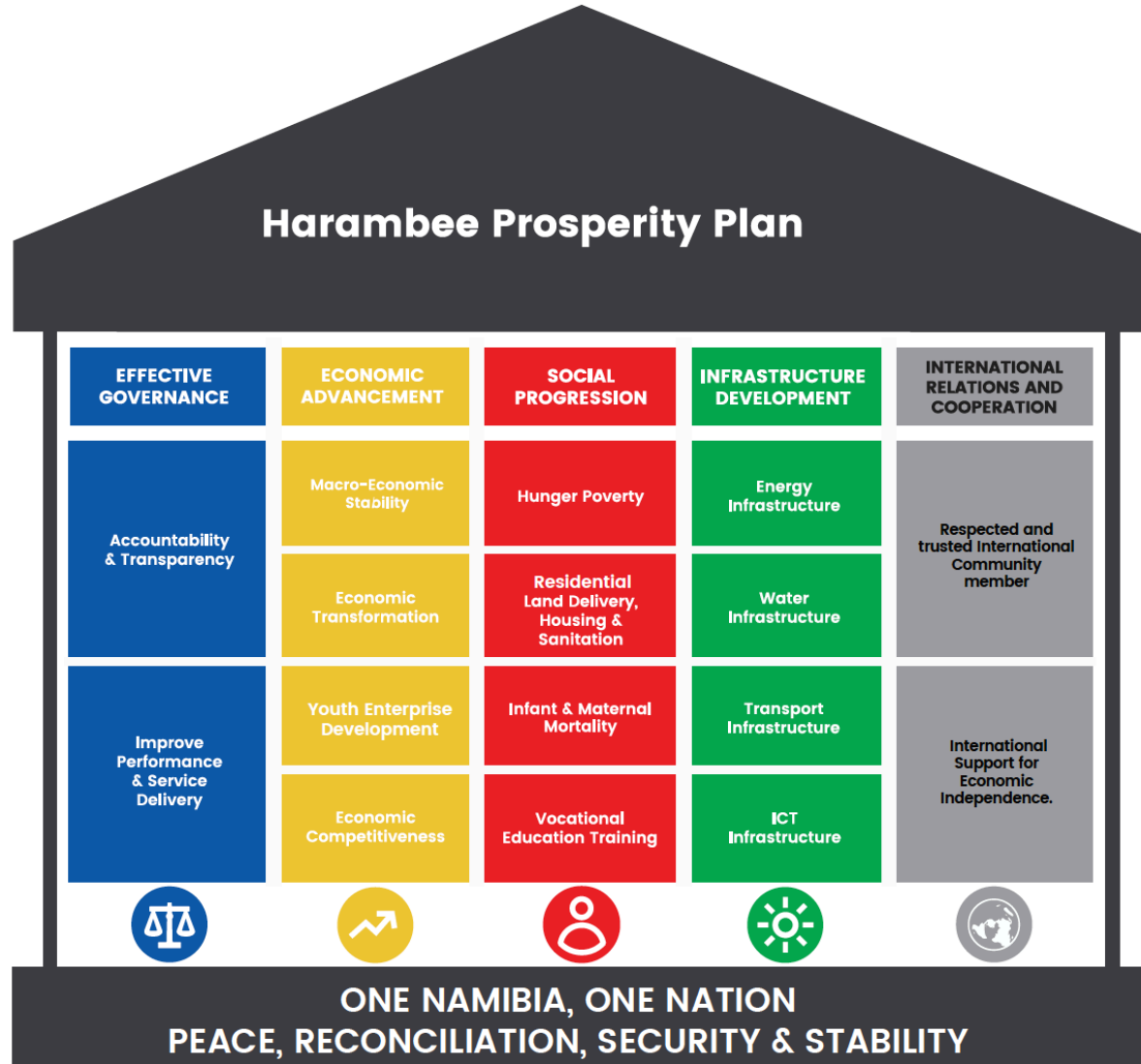
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What is the HPP?



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Mentions related to women in HPP

Words	Mentions
<p>1</p> <p><u>Gender</u></p>	<p>Context: In Chapter 2, titled ‘Building the Legacy’</p> <p>“As a result of the ruling Party’s decision to promote 50/50 zebra style gender representation across all structures of the Party, Namibia now ranks number 2 in Africa and number 4 in the world.”</p>
<p>3</p> <p><u>Woman</u></p>	<p>Context: Under the Youth Enterprise Development pillar (in situational analysis):</p> <p>“The Harambee Plan to deliver prosperity to a youthful nation therefore identifies youth in particular young women, as key target beneficiaries for development and also key implementing partners and participants.”</p> <p>Context: Under the Social Progression pillar (Infant and Maternal Mortality sub-pillar)</p> <p>“Provision of Essential Drugs: We will ensure that essential drugs, such as ergometrine and antihypertensives, as well as monitoring equipment, in case of diabetic pregnancies to measure blood sugar level are available to pregnant women. One mother who dies while giving birth is one mother too many” and we must, therefore, do everything we can to prevent it from happening. This will allow for women to be discharged earlier, thereby freeing up bed space and minimising risks of infection rates and thrombosis.”</p>





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Mentions related to women in HPP

Words	Mentions
<p>2 Female</p>	<p>Context: In Chapter 2, titled 'Building the Legacy' "Moreover, all Namibians meaningfully participate in democratic processes and structures and our female population has not been left behind. As a result of the ruling Party's decision to promote 50/50 zebra style gender representation across all structures of the Party, Namibia now ranks number 2 in Africa and number 4 in the world. Female representation in Parliament will go a long way, to further reinforce our shared beliefs of inclusivity and fair opportunity."</p>
<p>21 Maternal</p>	<p>Context: All mentions of the word 'maternal' or 'mother' relate to the Social Progression sub-pillar on addressing infant and maternal mortality. In this vein (summarily), the report notes that "Infant and Maternal Mortality will be significantly reduced through the provision of essential drugs, deployment of community health workers and community midwives, introduction of a dedicated maternal/neonatal ambulance system and increased training in obstetrics and gynaecology."</p>
<p>10 Mother</p>	





The State of Namibia's women...

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Indicator	Measure
Namibian Population	2,247,021
Male	1,091,005 (48.6%)
Female	1,156,119 (51.4%)
Urban	1,066,044 (47.4%)
Rural	1,181,080 (52.6%)
Poverty	28.7%
Male-headed households	26.2%
Female-headed households	32.2%
Severe Poverty	15.3%
Head of Household	
Male	56%
Female	44%



The State of Namibia's women...

Indicator	Measure
Unemployment	28.1%
Male	24.3%
Female	31.7%
Male (Rural)	26.9%
Female (Rural)	33.2%
Male (Urban)	22.2%
Female (Urban)	30.4%
Annual Income per Capita (2010 NHIES)	N\$16,895
Male	N\$20,939
Female	N\$11,645
Average Monthly Wage for Paid Employees (2014 NLFS)	N\$6,626
Male	N\$6,965
Female	N\$6,164



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The State of Namibia's women...

Gender-Based Violence in Namibia is widespread, with the most common forms of GBV being domestic violence perpetrated by an intimate partner, rape, sexual harassment and forced marriages.

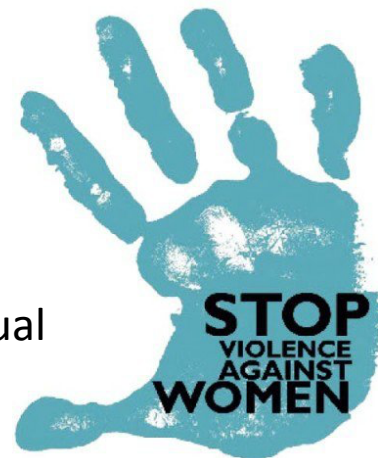
1075 reported cases of rape nationwide for each year between 2009-2012

33% of rape victims are below the age of 18 and approximately

30% of young women report their early sexual experiences prior to age 15 as forced

In **+92%** of rape cases, women and girls are the victims

28.2% of female respondents (aged 15 to 49) to the NDHS survey stated that it was justifiable for a man to beat his wife for at least one of the specified reasons





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The State of Namibia's women...



Indicator	Measure
% Women in Governance*	
National Assembly	42%
National Council	26%
Regional Councils	16%
Local Authorities	≥ 42%
% Women in Decision-Making	
Women in management in private sector (incl. executive directors (19.8%) & senior management (32.6%))	29.5%
Women in management in parastatals	27%





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Policies on Women



National gender policies & international or regional instruments on gender, signed/ratified by Namibia

National policies linked to gender equality & women's empowerment

- Vision 2030
- National Development Plans (especially 1-3)
- Married Persons Equality Act (1996)
- Combating of Domestic Violence Act (2003)
- Traditional Authorities Act (1995)
- Local Authorities Act (1992)
- (Revised) National Gender Policy (2010-2020) (2010)
- National Gender Plan of Action (2011)
- National Plan of Action on Gender Based Violence (2012-2016)
- Labour Act 11 of 2007 (sexual harrasment)

Regional or continental conventions/protocols related to gender, to which Namibia is signatory

- SADC Declaration on Gender and Development and its Addendum on the Prevention and Eradication of Violence against Women and Children
- The Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa
- SADC Protocol on Gender and Development
- African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child

International conventions/protocols related to gender, to which Namibia is signatory

- The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPFA)
- The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of discrimination Against Women (CEDAW, 1997), and its Optional Protocol
- The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)(2000)
- The Convention on the Rights of the Child (1990)
- The UN Convention against Transnational Crime, 2000 (UNTOC) and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, known as the Palermo Protocol
- The UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (2000)
- The International Conference on Population and Development (1994)
- The Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR)
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)





Vision 2030

- Namibia's long term development plan
- A prosperous and industrialised Namibia, developed by her human resources, enjoying peace, harmony and political stability
- Gender equality highlighted as one of the driving forces
- 7 key targets wrt gender & development



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Agenda 2063

- Strategic framework for the socio-economic transformation of the continent
- Highlights 7 aspirations for 'The Africa We Want'
- Women's development as a key theme
- 4 targets specific to gender

Agenda 2030 (SDGs)

- A universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity.
- 17 major goals – 169 targets
- SDG5 focus on gender equality – 9 targets
- Cross-cutting focus on gender



Does HPP tick the boxes for women?

L-T Strategy	Gender target boxes ticked?	Issues addressed
Vision 2030	7 targets 2 “somewhat” scores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intensifying implementation of existing gender-and related policies, programmes and legislations. Building capacity of researchers, trainers and planners in participatory and gender responsive methods for data collection, analysis, interpretation and planning.
AU Agenda 2063	5 targets 1 “yes” score 1 “somewhat” score	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Africa shall be an inclusive continent where no child, woman or man will be left behind or excluded, on the basis of gender, political affiliation, religion, ethnic affiliation, locality, age or other factors. Africa of 2063 will have full gender parity, with women occupying at least 50% of elected public offices at all levels and half of managerial positions in the public and the private sector.
The SDGs – Agenda 2030	9 targets 3 “somewhat” scores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources



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Conclusion & Recommendations

- HPP, while a medium-term goal, does little to fast-track our achievement of long term goals
- **Women's development and gender equality requires a more pronounced presence in the policy space**
- NDP5 should take note of the importance of gender equality in achieving poverty eradication
- **MGE CW needs to assert itself as a Ministry with a cross-cutting focus with broad impacts**
- **Four key conditions to be applied across the board:**
 - Gender mainstreaming
 - Gender budgeting
 - Monitoring and evaluation of gender impacts (including tracking of gender disaggregated data)
 - Accountability with regards to gender





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**THANK
YOU!**

Questions?

CONTACT US:

T: +264 61 240514

F: +264 61 240516

E: info@ippr.org.na

www.ippr.org.na

FB: [IPPR Namibia](#)

Twitter: [@ipprnamibia](#)