

Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR)

2023 Annual Report



*Windhoek
Namibia*

IPPR Annual Report

January 1 - December 31 2023

Key highlights

During 2023, the IPPR produced 26 publications, 44 fact checks and one fact check video, held 17 activities/events, and organised eight focus group discussions.

In addition, IPPR researchers gave presentations or addresses to 24 conferences, workshops, and public meetings held both in Namibia and internationally. IPPR researchers were also invited to participate in a range of conferences, workshops, and meetings - 14 in total.

- The IPPR obtained a significant victory in its constitutional case (alongside co-applicants the Legal Assistance Centre (LAC) and The Namibian) against the research law which infringes a number of basic rights and would have a chilling effect on the research environment in Namibia if implemented in its present form. After a five-year court battle, government agreed to substantially change the law in the next year in response to the applicants' concerns (see below for further details).
- The IPPR was the leading organisation raising concerns during the year about the way in which the mandatory registration of SIM cards was being carried out, particularly the MTC requirement for clients to provide biometric data including face images and fingerprints without any legal basis. Cellphone users were pressured to comply by an arbitrary deadline of the end of 2023. In the end government extended the deadline and MTC dropped the requirement for biometric data. This was a partial victory, but citizens remain vulnerable to such moves as long as Namibia does not have adequate privacy and data protection laws (contributing to the development of these laws is a key focus area for the IPPR).
- Namibia remained a leading civil society organisation in Namibia and its work was enhanced through collaboration with the Civil Society Information Centre (also known as CIVIC +264). Together the two organisations coordinated key CSO consultations on green hydrogen (with Green Hydrogen Commissioner James Mnyupe and German government green hydrogen envoy Rainer Baake) and on national budget priorities (with Minister of Finance Iipumbu Shiimi and NPC DG Obeth Kandjoze).
- The expertise within the IPPR was in demand both locally and internationally with researchers asked to speak and give presentations at 24 events. Highlights included Frederico Links addressing the Countering Transnational Organised Crime in Africa conference in South Africa and Graham Hopwood being invited to speak on a panel at the Conference of State Parties discussing corruption held in Atlanta, USA.
- The IPPR was invited to send two representatives to the African Fact-checking summit in Mauritius in October - a sign that the Namibia Fact Check project is increasingly being recognised. Further work with Africa Check is expected to be developed during 2024 including a project on countering electoral disinformation.

- The IPPR increasingly involved government figures in its events as speakers and respondents such as Francois Brandt from the Procurement Policy Unit, Helvi Fillipus from the Ministry of Finance, Environmental Commissioner Timo Mufeti, and Erna van der Merwe, Deputy Director-General of the Anti-Corruption Commission. The IPPR's impact is greatly increased by involving such figures in policy dialogues.
- The IPPR's work continued to receive strong media coverage, particularly from international outlets including the BBC (the IPPR was a key part of a radio documentary on Fishrot), Der Spiegel (the IPPR featured in an extensive article on green hydrogen), and international news agencies such as Reuters who are turning to the IPPR to provide informed independent commentary on issues like green hydrogen and oil/gas.
- The IPPR continued to develop and train young Namibian researchers. In total 17 research associates contributed to the IPPR's programme in 2023. Several had the opportunity to attend regional training conferences and capacity-building workshops
- The IPPR is well-placed to develop its work further in 2024 - especially in the areas of transparency, accountability, and anti-corruption strategies as well as climate change-related issues. Main areas of focus in 2024 will include advancing the Integrity Namibia project, intensifying work on the impact of the Fishrot scandal and the need for remediation and redress, and contributing to public discourse through independent analysis of electoral issues.

A. IPPR Publications 2023:

January 7 2023: Parliamentary Perspectives bulletin: Thinking About Data Protection (Democracy Report)

January 23 2023: Namibia QER Quarter 4 2022; special focus on public debt (HSF)

January 23 2023: Blog: Questionable Harvesting of Biometric Data

February 1 2023: Procurement Tracker 1 2023: CPBN In Crosshairs Over Health Tender (no donor)

February 14 2023: Parliamentary Perspectives bulletin: MPs' Assets Register (Democracy Report)

February 21 2023: Parliamentary Perspectives bulletin: Party political funding (Democracy Report)

February 26 2023: Parliamentary Perspectives bulletin: Changes to Electoral Law (Democracy Report)

March 16 2023: Parliamentary Perspectives bulletin: Agenda for Change (Democracy Report)

March 16 2023: Procurement Tracker 2 2023: Investigating Procurement (HSF)

March 21 2023: Parliamentary Perspectives bulletin: Parliament in the Budget (Democracy Report)

March 22 2023: Briefing Paper: 2023-24 National Budget Review (HSF)

May 5 2023: Namibia QER Quarter 1 2023; special focus on Namibia's electricity supply (HSF)

May 17 2023: Procurement Tracker 3 2023: TransNamib Irregularities (HSF)

June 20 2023: Blog: Quality of Democracy Under Threat

July 7 2023: Namibia QER Quarter 2 2023; special focus on land reform statistics (HSF)

August 24 2023: Blog: Data Protection in the Age of Mass Surveillance - Part 1

August 24 2023: Procurement Tracker 3 2023: Is Namibia Meeting its Commitments (HSF)
August 27 2023: Presentation: State of the Namibian Economy - A Fork in the Road (HSF)
August 27 2023: Blog: Data Protection in the Age of Mass Surveillance - Part 2
September 1 2023: Blog: Struggling to Consult
October 17 2023: Namibia QER Quarter 3 2023; special focus Namcor (HSF)
October 18 2023: Briefing Paper: The Cost of Living Crisis: From a Namibian Perspective (HSF)
October 27 2023: Briefing Paper: Media Viability & Growth in Namibia (HSF)
October 30 2023: Briefing Paper: SME Financing in Namibia (HSF)
November 26 2023: Briefing Paper: Namibia's Foreign Policy on Human Rights (with SAIIA)
December 24 2023: Blog: Namibia's Unfolding Identity Crisis

44 Fact Check pieces and one video were published on key issues in Namibia during the first half of 2023 including on fake recruitment drives at the Electoral Commission of Namibia and the Namibia Statistics Agency, fake competitions at MTC, a fake Samherji apology on Fishrot, an explainer on the right to protest in Namibia, and a review of Namibia's youth unemployment figures.

The 44 Fact Check pieces published consisted of 28 Fact Check articles, 16 news items.

Fact Check articles:

14 December 2023: [No, Namibia Breweries is not mass hiring](#)
13 December 2023: [No, Steers is not promoting a 'Pack Famaly' meal](#)
13 December 2023: [No, Hage Geingob is not giving away free data to supporters](#)
13 December 2023: [No municipality is hiring in bulk right now](#)
09 November 2023: [No, there is no 'poisonous' bottled water in Namibia](#)
09 November 2023: [No number plate robberies have been reported in Namibia](#)
09 November 2023: [Viral airport recruitment posts are jobs scams](#)
21 September 2023: [No, the UN is not recruiting via a UNICEF portal](#)
21 September 2023: [SCAM ALERT: There is no Global Mega Yearly Promotion](#)
21 September 2023: [No, the World Food Programme is not recruiting via a WhatsApp post](#)
07 September 2023: [Real teaching post used to scam job seekers](#)
05 September 2023: [TikTok is not giving away 30GB to users](#)
05 September 2023: [No, there is no German government grant for Namibians](#)
15 July 2023: [No, there is no Canada visa lottery](#)
14 July 2023: [Sponsored post promotes fake UN jobs](#)
03 July 2023: [No, the electoral commission is not hiring via a 'recruitment portal'](#)
06 June 2023: [No, the electoral commission is not recruiting staff via a WhatsApp link](#)
06 June 2023: [No, there is no '\\$750 million donation to eradicate poverty'](#)
11 May 2023: [Fake Samherji Fishrot apology circulating](#)
03 May 2023: [No, Bill Gates is not poisoning your fruit](#)
02 May 2023: [SCAM ALERT: There is no Hage Geingob Hichilema cash grant](#)
31 March 2023: [No, there's no recruiting happening for the population and housing census](#)
31 March 2023: [No, there is no 'Hustlers Empowerment Fund'](#)
31 March 2023: [No, there is no Covid-19 phone scam currently going around in Namibia](#)
31 March 2023: [No, a 'World Court of Human Rights' did not rule on same-sex marriage](#)

22 March 2023: [No, MTC is not giving away 10GB free data](#)
21 March 2023: [No, electric rocks from Congo are not real](#)
24 February 2023: [SCAM ALERT: There is no student laptops and smartphones scheme](#)

News Items:

06 September 2023: [Tax refund scams doing the rounds](#)
05 September 2023: [Zombie claims resurface in August](#)
15 July 2023: [Fake lodge jobs scam circulates in June](#)
14 June 2023: [Beware of scholarship scams](#)
31 May 2023: [Job scams flood Namibian online spaces](#)
31 May 2023: [Another scam statistics agency recruitment ad circulating](#)
17 May 2023: [We're Sorry' artist comes into the open](#)
02 May 2023: [WFPD 2023: 'Shaping a Future of Rights'](#)
02 May 2023: [State media fumble basic reporting and misinformation dogs jobless rate](#)
02 April 2023: [Marking International Fact-Checking Day 2023](#)
30 March 2023: [MEDIA MONITOR: Misleading use of words and terms rife in reporting](#)
25 March 2023: [How High is Namibia's Youth Joblessness Really? \(video\)](#)
(<https://namibiafactcheck.org.na/video/how-high-is-namibias-youth-joblessness-really/>)
23 March 2023: [EXPLAINER: The right to protest in Namibia](#)
28 February 2023: [MEDIA MONITOR: Missing N\\$60 billion and problematic presidential utterances](#)
28 February 2023: [Debunked claim of conspiracy to depopulate Africa resurfaces](#)
14 February 2023: [SCAM ALERT: Looking for a place to rent?](#)
09 February: [EXPLAINER: Satire and parody](#)

B. IPPR events and activities 2023:

February 21 2023 - Namibia's Foreign Policy and Human Rights - Presentation & Panel Discussion. Speakers: Kitty Mcgirr (IPPR research associate), Ambassador Tuliameni Kalomoh (former Assistant UN Secretary-General), Gwen Lister (Founder of The Namibian and veteran journalist), Uendjiundja Black (Social Policy Analyst), Steven Gruzd (South African Institute of International Affairs). Venue: Hilton Hotel (Democracy Report project).

March 6 2023 - The IPPR and CIVIC +264 facilitated a consultation between a visiting team from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and civil society and development partner representatives. Issues discussed included public debt, corruption, the Basic Income Grant, and green hydrogen proposals. Venue: House of Democracy

March 15 2023 - The second edition of Procurement Tracker Namibia for 2023 was launched. The issue looked at strengthening the investigative capacities of the procurement system should be a priority in the light of recent controversies such as the NSFAF HQ construction. IPPR research associate Frederico Links presented on the theme of publication, while Francois Brandt, head of the Procurement Policy Unit in the Ministry of Finance spoke in response. Venue: House of Democracy. (HSF)

March 23 2023 - The IPPR's annual national budget review was launched at an event which addressed the topic 'Budget Transparency: Where Are We Now?' IPPR Executive Director Graham Hopwood presented on the theme and Helvi Fillipus, Economic Advisor to the Minister of Finance, spoke in response. Venue: House of Democracy. (HSF)

April 5 2023 - IPPR collaborated with CIVIC +264 on organizing a briefing meeting for civil society on green hydrogen developments - with German green hydrogen envoy Rainer Baake and Namibia's Green Hydrogen Commissioner James Mnyupe. (HSF)

May 10 2023 - The IPPR's Integrity Namibia project held its second regional conference in Gobabis. Speakers included Environmental Commissioner Timo Mufeti, ACC Deputy Director General Erna van der Merwe, Peter Watson and Chloe Brandt from the Legal Assistance Centre, and Rob Parker from the Economic and Social Justice Trust. Gobabis Mayor Melba Tjonzongoro opened proceedings. Venue: Goba Lodge, Gobabis. (US Embassy).

May 17 - The third edition of Procurement Tracker Namibia for 2023 was launched. The issue looked at concerns arising out of an official report on irregularities at TransNamib and procurement issues raised by the draft local content policy on oil and gas. Frederico Links presented on TransNamib while Graham Hopwood spoke about the local content policy. Venue: House of Democracy. (HSF)

August 14 - The IPPR and CIVIC +264 collaborated on organising a civil consultation meeting on the national budget with the Ministry of Finance and the National Planning Commission. Venue: Protea Fuerstenhof Hotel (HSF)

August 22 - The IPPR held the second annual State of the Economy presentation with economist Robin Sherbourne. Venue: Avani Hotel (HSF)

August 24 - The fourth edition of Procurement Tracker Namibia for 2023 was launched. This issue looked at the controversial clinical supplies tender, considered how tainted companies could be barred from procurement processes, and provided a focus on whether Namibia is meeting its international commitments. Venue: House of Democracy. (HSF)

October 2 - The IPPR held a focus group discussion with civil society to discuss the creation of a toolkit on the Access to Information law. Protea Fuerstenhof Hotel (Canada)

October 11-12 The IPPR as part of its New Voices, New Narratives project with DW Akademie and the Namibia Media Trust held training sessions for civil society activists on Promoting Digital Rights. Venue: House of Democracy (EU)

October 16 - The IPPR held a focus group discussion with members of the ACTION Coalition to discuss the creation of a toolkit on the Access to Information law. Protea Fuerstenhof Hotel (Canada)

October 17-19 - The IPPR as part of its New Voices, New Narratives project with DW Akademie and the Namibia Media Trust held training sessions for civil society activists on Disarming Disinformation. Venue: House of Democracy (EU)

October 20 - A briefing paper on the Cost of Living Crisis: From a Namibian Perspective was launched. The author Kitty Mcgirr gave a presentation on the issue. Venue: House of Democracy (HSF)

October 27 - A Panel Discussion was held to launch the paper Media Viability & Growth in Namibia. Panellists were: Dietrich Remmert (paper author), Zoe Titus (Namibia Media Trust), and Nrupesh Soni (Digital Strategist). Venue: House of Democracy (HSF)

October 30 - The IPPR launched a paper on SME Financing in Namibia with a presentation by paper authors Martha Nangolo and Hafeni Hamukoto. Venue: House of Democracy (HSF)

November 28 - A public meeting was held in Walvis Bay to discuss how the Fishrot corruption scandal has impacted the human rights of the local community. (British High Commission)

November 30 - The IPPR launched a Namibia Renewable Energy Fellowship for young Namibians together with partners Future African International Namibia and 10 Billion Strong. Venue: National Youth Council (US Embassy)

December 12-13 - The IPPR held consultations with civil society on Namibia's compliance with the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights. Venue: House of Democracy (Center for Civil and Political Rights)

In addition, between February and May, six focus group discussions were held as part of the Integrity Namibia project with the media, lawyers, youth, private sector, labour, and churches about corruption-related issues.

C. Speaking engagements/presentations 2023:

January 19 2023 - Graham Hopwood gave a presentation to the NIPDB Policy Advisory Committee on the WEF global competitiveness report. Venue: NIPDB

January 20 2023 - Graham Hopwood spoke at the Landless People's Movement (LPM) leadership consultation meeting on how the oil and gas discoveries can deliver for Namibia. Venue: Droombos

February 3 2023 - IPPR research associate Kitty Mcgirr addressed the annual conference of LPM elected councillors on local and regional governance risks arising out of the HSF-backed report of 2022. Venue: Hilton Hotel.

February 10 2023 - Graham Hopwood facilitated a half-day discussion on media viability in Namibia with the Editors Forum of Namibia. Venue: The Village Opera House

February 23 2023 - Graham Hopwood spoke at a conference on the 30th anniversary of the National Council on the role of the National Council vis-à-vis civil society. Venue: Safari Conference Centre

March 1 2023 - IPPR research associate Frederico Links addressed the Countering Transnational Organised Crime in Africa conference which took place in Johannesburg South Africa on the issue of Transnational Corruption in Namibia. The conference was organised by Good Governance Africa and the Attorney General Alliance-Africa.

March 15 2023 - Graham Hopwood addressed the Namibian French Business Association (NFBA) on Namibia - Political Prospects 2023-24. Venue: French Embassy

March 17 2023 - Graham Hopwood addressed the Namibia Institute of Corporate Governance annual conference on the issues of 'Transparency & Whistleblowing'. Venue: Windhoek Country Club and Resort

March 27 2023 - Graham Hopwood addressed a workshop on the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative at the invitation of the Trade Union Congress of Namibia (TUCNA). Venue: Rooster & Co. Restaurant, Windhoek

April 26 2023 - Graham Hopwood addressed an Integrity Summit organised by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) on the issue of Public Integrity. The summit looked at the role being played by Integrity Committees within the offices, ministries, and agencies of government. Venue: Ministry of Home Affairs

May 16 2023 - Graham Hopwood and Frederico Links spoke at the launch of the EU-funded New Voices, New Narratives project of which the IPPR is a part about the role of the project and the state of civil society. Venue: Goethe Centre

May 29-June 2 2023 - IPPR research associate Frederico Links participated in a SADC, UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and Government of Angola conference on combating corruption in Luanda, Angola, held under the theme 'The challenges of regional cooperation in the implementation of the UNCAC'. He gave a presentation on the Namibian CSO perspective. Links was part of the official Namibian delegation led by the Anti-Corruption Commission as UNODC had requested that delegations include a civil society representative.

June 12-16 2023 - Frederico Links co-facilitated training workshops for journalists, civil society, editors and broadcast managers on the Access to Information Act. Organised by the Namibia Media Trust, Unesco, and the EFN. Venue: NUST

June 28 2023 - IPPR Research Associate Frederico Links addressed a workshop on 'Assessing Cybersecurity and Digital Surveillance in Botswana,' via an online link. Links gave a regional perspective on the topic of 'Cyber security and the surveillance of citizens, civil society and media: What laws are being passed & why should we pay attention?'. The workshop was organized by international media support organisation InterNews.

June 29 2023 - IPPR Research Associate Frederico Links gave a presentation on 'State surveillance practices and trends across Southern Africa' at a virtual conference organised by MISA Lesotho, Advancing Rights in Southern Africa (ARISA), and InterNews.

July 13 2023 - IPPR Executive Director Graham Hopwood gave the keynote address at the launch of the book 'Dominant Parties as Governments in Southern Africa' published by the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung. Venue: KAS office

August 17 2023 - Graham Hopwood presented at the national Oil & Gas Conference on the subject of 'Governance Challenges facing the Oil & Gas Sector'. Venue: Mercure Hotel and Conference Centre

August 24 2023 - Graham Hopwood gave the vote of thanks at a panel discussion on 'Fatherlessness in Namibia'. Venue: The Village Opera House

September 15 2023 - Graham Hopwood took part in a panel discussion at parliament on the relationship between the National Assembly and civil society, facilitated by the Enhancing Participatory Democracy in Namibia project.

September 28 2023 - Graham Hopwood was a panellist addressing governance and transparency issues at civil society workshop on Green Hydrogen organized by the Economic and Social Justice Trust, the University of Hamburg, and GermanWatch. Venue: Thuringerhof Hotel

October 13 2023 - Graham Hopwood addressed a conference of the Heads of Anti-Corruption Agencies in the SADC region in Swakopmund. He spoke about the importance of international agreements such as the UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC).

November 21 - Frederico Links was a panellist at the African Investigative Journalism Conference in Johannesburg, discussing corporate transparency.

December 13 2023 - Graham Hopwood was part of a panel discussion at the Conference of State Parties on the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) in Atlanta, USA. The topic of the discussion was Combatting Corruption to Protect the Environment. Venue: Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta.

D. Notable issues:

*The IPPR along with the Legal Assistance Centre and The Namibian newspaper reached a settlement agreement with the government over the contested research law. As a result, the Minister of Education will ask parliament to repeal and replace several sections of the Science, Research and Technology Act that were the subject of a constitutional challenge in the High Court.

The settlement agreement was signed by lawyers representing the LAC, The Namibian, the IPPR, the Minister of Education, the National Commission on Research, Science and Technology, the Attorney General and the President on October 30 2023.

The IPPR and its fellow applicants had argued that the research law and its regulations were over-broad and infringed a number of constitutional rights.

For further details see - <https://namibian.com.na/govt-agrees-to-change-contested-research-law/>

*The IPPR continued to work alongside Transparency International Iceland, the International Lawyers Project and other global and Namibian organisations to advocate for international accountability, including asset recovery, in the Fishrot corruption case. Towards the end of 2023, the IPPR commenced work on a human rights impact study at Walvis Bay in relation to Fishrot.

*The IPPR continued to be an active member of the UNCAC Coalition Sub-Saharan Africa group and the UNCAC Coalition Asset Recovery Group.

* The IPPR continued to be a member of the Data for Governance Alliance - a project to promote data-based advocacy and engagement between African civil society organisations and the African Union.

*The IPPR is a member of the Civil Society Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) Working Group alongside TUCNA, the LAC, EJST, the Comrades Association, and LaRRI.

*The IPPR is a member of the Southern African Anti-Corruption Network (SAACoN).

*The IPPR continues to serve as a member of the Cluster 3 group for the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan which is coordinated by the Anti-Corruption Commission. Research associate Rosevitha Ndumbu is the IPPR representative.

*The IPPR continues to serve as a member of the steering committee for the Enhancing Participatory Democracy in Namibia project based at parliament. Research associate Rosevitha Ndumbu is the IPPR representative.

*IPPR Executive Director Graham Hopwood was elected as the Chairperson of CIVIC +264 for 2023.

* At the end of 2023, the IPPR co-published its paper on Namibia's Foreign Policy & Human Rights with the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA) - a collaboration that should see the paper being more widely noticed and read.

*From September 2022 until December 31 2023, the IPPR had sold 720 copies of the Guide to the Namibian Economy publication. The income derived from sales was put towards covering the basic running costs of the IPPR office.

E. Social media statistics:

8 663 people liked or followed the IPPR Namibia Facebook page at the end of 2023 (compared with 8 167 at the end of 2022) - an increase of 6% over the calendar year.

18 300 people followed the IPPR Namibia Twitter (X) account at the end of 2023 (compared with 17 702 at the end of 2022) - an increase of 3% over the calendar year.

2 933 people liked or followed the Namibia Fact Check Facebook page at the end of 2023 (compared with 2 896 at the end of 2022) - an increase of 1% over the calendar year.

2 773 people followed the Namibia Fact Check Twitter (X) account at the end of the year (compared with 2 663 at the end of 2022) - an increase of 4% over the calendar year.

As of the end of 2023, the IPPR Instagram page had 1 003 followers (up from 883 at the end of 2022 - a 14% increase), while the IPPR LinkedIn page had 789 connections (up from 679 at the end of 2022 - a 16% increase).

F. Website statistics:

ippr.org.na

Overall, there were 12 899 users of the IPPR website between January 1 and December 31 2023.

Total page views for the same period: 56 696

Device breakdown: Desktop (69%), Mobile (29%), Tablet (2%)

Top countries visiting the IPPR website (January 1 - December 31 2023):

	Users
1. Namibia	10 742
2. US	1 674
3. South Africa	977
4. Germany	605
5. UK	546
6. China	478
7. India	239
8. Australia	213
9. France	197
10. Netherlands	169

Most viewed publications on the IPPR website (January 1 - December 31 2023):

	Page views
1. Role of the Ombudsman (blog)	1 613
2. Harvesting of Biometric Data (blog)	1 040
3. 4IR faces fundamental issues (blog)	743
4. Annual reports and financials	440
5. Thoughts on the Pandemic (blog)	310
6. Agriculture in Namibia (paper)	297
7. Unpacking the Cybercrime Bill (paper)	295
8. Curt von Francois - Time to Fall (blog)	290
9. 23/24 National Budget Review (paper)	274
10. Quality of Democracy under Threat (blog)	252
11. QER Quarter 1 2023	248
12. Procurement Tracker	240
13. QER Quarter 2 2023	231

14. Spying on Speech (paper)	231
15. Struggling to Consult (blog)	227
16. QER Quarter 4 2022	221
17. Data Protection Bill Not Fit for Purpose (paper)	216
18. State of the Economy 2023 presentation	213
19. Time to Reward the Vaccinated (blog)	202
20. Fishrot: Call for Restorative Justice	197

namibiafactcheck.org.na

Overall, there were 24 013 users of the Fact Check website between January 1 and December 31 2023.

Total page views for the same period were 43 550.

Most viewed publications on the Fact Check website (January 1 - December 31 2023):

	Page Views
1. No evidence that PW Botha uttered viral racist statements	8 325
2. Bill Gates is not poisoning your fruit	2 220
3. There is no Canada visa lottery	1 925
4. The US Supreme court did not rule that brothers & sisters can marry	1 197
5. There is no financial aid for orphans who drop out	952
6. A world court of human rights did not rule on same sex marriage	854
7. There is no Nuremberg-2 trial over Covid 19 interventions	714
8. We will not be experiencing an aphelion until August	602
9. The UN did not issue an organ trafficking alert	599
10. Paracetamol p-500 does not contain deadly virus	412

G. Media coverage:

There were 190 media reports, interviews, and citations featuring the IPPR in 2023. This compares with 211 reports in 2022. Despite the lower figure, the coverage still averaged well over 3 media reports per week. The IPPR received more international coverage in 2023 - including featuring in a documentary on Fishrot on the BBC World Service, cited in a feature in Der Spiegel on green hydrogen, quoted in a Reuters report on green hydrogen, quoted in an assessment of Namcor by Bloomberg, and mentioned in Yale University's environmental magazine. The majority of media reports featuring the IPPR are comments on political, economic and social developments in Namibia.

Media	No. of articles/reports
Print/online:	
The Namibian	37
Namibian Sun	16
Allgemeine Zeitung	12
New Era	11
The Brief	10
Windhoek Observer	6
Republikein	5
The Villager	2
Der Spiegel (Germany)	1
BBC News	1
Reuters	1
Bloomberg	1
Sunday Times (South Africa)	1
Yahoo Finance	1
Yale 360 magazine (US)	1
Helmidlin (Iceland)	1
Good Governance Africa	1
Biometric Update	1
North Africa Post	1
Sub-total	110
Television:	
NBC TV	15
One Africa	3
Sub-total	18
Radio:	
Future Media	24
Desert FM	15
Kosmos FM	12
NBC National Radio	6
Eagle FM	3
Power Talk (South Africa)	1
BBC World Service	1
Sub-total	62
TOTAL	190

H. Staffing situation

The IPPR continued to receive institutional funding for 3 positions from HSF - Executive Director (Graham Hopwood), Accountant/Administrator (Johanna Wolf), and Office Manager (Ndeshi Fikameni). During 2023 the IPPR utilised 17 research associates on a range of projects.

I. Projects and funding:

The table below outlines funding received during 2023.

Description	Period	Donor	Total Funding N\$
HSF Activities*	2023	HSF	610 917
HSF Institutional	2023	HSF	760 200
Integrity Namibia	2023-24	US Embassy	2 932 234
New Voices, New Narratives	2023-25	European Union	342 785
Access to Information	2023-24	Canadian High Commission	424 973
Open Budget Survey	2023-24	International Budget Partnership	94 083
Cyber Laws & Regulations	2023-24	CIPESA	143 651
Fishrot Human Rights	2023-24	British High Commission	203 040
Human Rights Report	2023-24	Centre for Civil & Political Rights	69 956
Executive Opinion Survey	2023	World Economic Forum	17 758
Guide to Economy sales	2023		168 600

*HSF Projects for 2023 included: Procurement Tracker, Namibia Fact Check, Quarterly Economic Review, Media & Digitalisation Study, Tourism & Covid paper, SME Financing, and Cost of Living Impacts.

Graham Hopwood
IPPR Executive Director
January 2024