

Institute for Public Policy Research



2025

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

Advancing Good Governance Through Research & Dialogue



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IPPR Annual Report

1 January – 31 December 2025

Introduction

The Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) maintained a strong and diverse programme of work in 2025, focusing on governance, transparency, economic policy, and Namibia's emerging energy transition. Despite a challenging funding environment, the Institute continued to produce high-quality research and convene public dialogues on key national issues.

During the year, IPPR delivered significant outputs, including publications, fact-checking work, and public events, while strengthening partnerships with both local and international stakeholders. New initiatives in the areas of green economy governance, extractive industries, and civil society engagement positioned the organisation at the forefront of debates around Namibia's development trajectory.

The Institute continues to expand its networks, influence policy discussions, and contribute to regional and global platforms on governance and accountability.

Highlights

- During 2025, the IPPR produced **20 publications, 10 fact-checks**, and organised **21 events and activities**
- Launched the **EU-funded Eco Dialogue Collective** (3-year project on green economy governance) with DW Akademie, Legal Assistance Centre, and the NMT Media Foundation
- Concluded the **EU-funded New Voices, New Narratives** project in August
- Secured new funding from:
 - **Pooled Fund on International Energy (PIE)** for energy transition work
 - **Irish Embassy** for a series of policy papers
- Began a **civil society mapping study** on energy sector engagement
- Continued collaboration with **Transparency International** on Fishrot
- Hosted major public events including:
 - **State of the Economy** presentation
 - **Procurement Tracker Namibia** launches
 - **Green Hydrogen Monitor** launches
- Convened high-level dialogues with government, civil society, and international partners
- Participated in major regional and global platforms, including:
 - **EITI meetings**, the **SADC think tank forum**, and international **anti-corruption networks**
- Maintained strong institutional partnerships, including with:

- **International Budget Partnership, World Economic Forum, International Fact Checking Network, UNCAC Coalition, Whistleblowing International Network, and CIVIC +264**
- Recorded **146 media mentions**, maintaining a strong public profile
- Continued growth in **digital engagement**, with increased website users and social media presence

1. Events/Activities Organised by the IPPR in 2025

December 6 – The NMT Media Foundation together with the IPPR, DW Akademie and the Legal Assistance Centre, launched the Green Screen, a new media hub designed to strengthen transparency, public participation, and informed debate around Namibia’s fast-moving green transition

November 20 – Presentation: Beyond the Hype: Views on Namibia’s Oil and Gas Prospects, Swakopmund Museum (funder: Energy Transition Fund)

November 10 – Launch of Procurement Tracker Namibia – Issue No. 30, “Unlocking Public Procurement Transparency” (funder: HSF)

October 27 – Launch of the fourth edition of the Green Hydrogen Monitor: “Will we have the skills?” HoD, Windhoek (funder: HSF)

October 23 – Presentation: Beyond the Hype: Views on Namibia’s Oil and Gas Prospects, HoD, Windhoek (funder: Energy Transition Fund)

October 22 – Launch of Briefing Paper, “Fraying Dominance, Fragmented Opposition: Inside the Numbers of Namibia’s 2024 Vote”. HoD Windhoek. (funder: HSF)

October 13 – Launch of Procurement Tracker Namibia: “Into the Void – The threat of widespread use of exemptions.” HoD, Windhoek. (funder: HSF)

October 9 – The IPPR together with CIVIC +264 hosted a civil society consultation with Minister of Finance Ericah Shafudah to discuss national budget priorities. Hilton Hotel (funder: HSF)

September 5 – Beneficial Ownership Transparency (BOT) Workshop for civil society organisations and journalists in Namibia organised by IPPR and CIVIC +264. Hilton Hotel (funder: EU)

August 20 – 146 people attended the HSF-funded annual State of the Economy presentation held at the Hilton Hotel on 20 August. In addition, according to The Namibian’s analytics over 30 800 people watched online on the newspaper’s social media platforms (funder: HSF)

August 6 – Launch of Procurement Tracker Namibia, “Red Flags, Recommendations, Reforms”, HoD, Windhoek (funder: HSF)

July 31 – The New Voices, New Narratives project hosted a policy dialogue on “Combatting LGBTQ+ Discrimination: Policy & Legal Responses, Hilton hotel, Windhoek (funder: EU)

July 11 – Launch of third edition of Green Hydrogen Monitor, “Youth and Green Hydrogen: Plans, Promises & Prospects”, HoD, Windhoek (funder: HSF)

July 8-9 – Cyber Safety training for civil society, New Voices, New Narratives project, HoD, Windhoek (funder: EU)

May 15 – The New Voices, New Narratives project hosted a policy dialogue on endangered languages in Namibia, Hilton hotel, Windhoek (funder: EU)

May 14 – Launch of Procurement Tracker Namibia, “Procurement Court: Will It Work?”, HoD, Windhoek (funder: HSF)

April 15-16 – Training on Fact-Checking & Verification for Journalism Students and Recent Graduates. HoD, Windhoek (funder: International Fact-Checking Network)

March 27 – Eco Dialogue Collective project on transparency and accountability in Namibia’s green economy and extractive industries launched. NMT, Windhoek (funder: EU)

March 17 – The New Voices, New Narratives showcased the work of RuralRise Namibia – an organisation dedicated to serving and uplifting rural communities in Namibia. Hilton hotel, Windhoek (funder: EU)

March 12 – The New Voices, New Narratives project hosted a policy dialogue on gender-based violence (GBV), highlighting the work of the Step Up Ark Community Organisation in the Hardap region. Hilton hotel, Windhoek (funder: EU)

February 7 – The IPPR hosted Mark Robinson, the Executive Director of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), for a consultation meeting with civil society.

2. IPPR Publications 2025

November 10 – Procurement Tracker Namibia – Issue No. 30: “Unlocking Public Procurement Transparency”. (funder: HSF)

October 27 – Green Hydrogen Monitor – Issue 4: “Will We Have The Skills?” (funder: HSF)

October 22 – “Fraying Dominance, Fragmented Opposition: Inside The Numbers Of Namibia’s 2024 Vote”. (funder: HSF)

October 19 – Oil In Namibia: Economic Opportunity or Overstated Potential? (funder: Climate Strategies)

October 13 – Procurement Tracker Namibia – Issue No.29: “Into the Void – The Threat Of Widespread Use Of Exemptions.” (funder: HSF)

October 2 – Quarterly Economic Review (QER); Focus: NIPDB Performance (funder: HSF)

August 20 – State Of The Economy presentation (funder: HSF)

August 6 – Procurement Tracker Namibia – Issue No.28: “Red Flags, Recommendations, Reforms”. (funder: HSF)

July 1 – Quarterly Economic Review (QER); Focus: Free Tertiary Education (funder: HSF)

July 11 – Green Hydrogen Monitor – Issue 3: “Youth & Green Hydrogen: Plans, Promises & Prospects”. (funder: HSF)

June 16 – AI and 2024 Election Disinformation (funder: Canada/CFLI)

June 16 – Disinformation & Foreign Influence (funder: Canada/CFLI)

June 16 – Poor Journalism Fuels Election Disinformation (funder: Canada/CFLI)

June 16 – Political Smear Campaigns (funder: Canada/CFLI)

June 16 – Social Media Abuse & The 2024 Elections (funder: Canada/CFLI)

June 16 – Countering Election Disinformation (funder: Canada/CFLI)

May 14 – Procurement Tracker Namibia – Issue No.28: “Procurement Court: Will It Work?” (funder: HSF)

May 5 – Quarterly Economic Review (QER); Focus: Swapo Manifesto Implementation Plan (funder: HSF)

April 22 – Namibia’s National Budget 2025/26: Analysis (funder: EU)

March 4 – Quarterly Economic Review (QER); Focus: Nuclear Power Generation (funder: HSF)

3. Major Speaking Engagements and Key Meetings

In October, IPPR Executive Director, Graham Hopwood, was one of 12 global anti-corruption activists invited to France to plan the Whistleblowing International Network’s future strategy. WIN connects civil society organisations around the world that defend and support whistleblowers who expose corruption, abuse, fraud, and other threats to the public interest.

The IPPR Executive Director, Graham Hopwood, spoke at the Namibia Institute of Corporate Governance (NICG) Conference on 22 October in Windhoek. His presentation, “Driving Policy Reform for Transparency and Accountability in Namibia’s Oil and Gas Sector,” explored how governance reforms can ensure Namibia’s emerging oil sector benefits all citizens.

In September IPPR Research Associate Tia-Zia Garoes attended the Think Tank & National Planning Entities Meeting in the SADC Region held in Lusaka, Zambia. Hosted by the SADC Secretariat, the gathering brought together planning bodies and think tanks to strengthen evidence-based decision-making for regional integration.

Also in September, the IPPR hosted a student delegation from Dartmouth College, an Ivy League university based in New Hampshire USA. IPPR research associates had lively

exchanges with the group on a range of issues – including the energy transition, oil & gas, corruption, AI, and land reform.

In mid-September, IPPR Executive Director Graham Hopwood and IPPR Research Associate Martha Nangolo spoke at the Global African Hydrogen Conference in Windhoek. Nangolo spoke about how localisation can power Africa's green energy future while Hopwood addressed the issues of governance and inclusion.

On September 11, IPPR Executive Director Graham Hopwood spoke at the Anton Lubowski Memorial Lecture, hosted by UNAM and the Stellenbosch University Alumni Association, on the theme: "From Exposure to Action: Strengthening Systems in the Fight Against Corruption".

In August, at the Namibia Oil and Gas Conference 2025, IPPR Research Associate Rosevitha Ndumbu spoke on the need to protect Namibia's oil and gas sector from cyber threats.

At the Namibia Oil and Gas Conference 2025, IPPR Research Associate Martha Nangolo spoke on the theme: "The Fossil Fuel Phase Out and its Impact on the Namibian Energy Landscape."

At a Masterclass at the Namibia Oil & Gas Conference 2025, IPPR Executive Director Graham Hopwood spoke on the need for transparency in Namibia's local content framework.

In July, IPPR Research Associate Dietrich Remmert participated in the Policy Dialogue on Just Energy Transitions held in Salzburg, Austria.

In June, IPPR Research Associate Rosevitha Ndumbu participated in the African Policy Circle Conference held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, under the theme: "For the Citizen, by the Citizen: Connecting Policy with Participation." She addressed the conference on "Revolutionizing Civic Engagement", exploring how digital and innovative tools can be harnessed to strengthen citizen participation in governance and policymaking.

Also in June, IPPR Research Associate Frederico Links presented on "Political Finance in Namibia: A Thorny Issue" at the Symposium on Political Funding in South Africa, hosted by the Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC) in Durban.

In early June, IPPR Research Associate Rosevitha Ndumbu took part in the "Civil Society in the APRM Process: Lessons from Southern Africa" conference in Johannesburg hosted by the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA).

In March, the IPPR hosted students from the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) at Columbia University in New York for an exchange on issues such as corporate taxation, illicit financial flows, budget transparency, and SME development.

On 17 March, IPPR Executive Director Graham Hopwood addressed an EU TAIEX workshop on Namibia's anti-corruption framework in Windhoek.

From 13-14 March, IPPR Research Associate Martha Nangolo participated in the Annual General Meeting of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) in Arusha, Tanzania. The AGM, along with a key civil society gathering, emphasised the importance of governments worldwide committing to the EITI Standard for transparency and accountability.

On 10 March, the IPPR and the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) organised a presentation on Norway's Government Pension Fund Global (sovereign wealth fund) and the fight against corruption.

In early March, IPPR Executive Director Graham Hopwood participated in a meeting of the Corruption Hunters, a gathering of global anti-corruption activists held at Midgard Resort.

At the end of February, IPPR Research Associate Frederico Links spoke at the 'Lessons from collaboration: Reflections on safeguarding information integrity during elections' conference in Nairobi, Kenya. The conference was organised by Africa Check.

In February, IPPR Executive Director Graham Hopwood joined the Steering Committee of the UNDP's three-year Good Governance Project.

4. Funds Received In 2025 (N\$)

Hanns Seidel Foundation (institutional)*	805 800
Hanns Seidel Foundation (projects)**	589 622 for various projects
European Union (New Voices, New Narratives project)	210 549 received in 2025. Project ended in August 2025
European Union (Eco Dialogue Collective)	Project launched 27 March 2025; 240 948 received
Hivos	181 290 received for civic space monitoring
Pooled fund on International Energy (PIE)	887 400 received to establish IPPR Energy and Climate Change Programme
Energy Transition Fund	525 000 received end 2024 for mapping study
Climate Strategies	85 573 for climate change papers
Open Budget Survey	Project renewed; funding expected (135 000)
WEF Executive Opinion Survey	Survey completed; funding expected (40 000)
Transparency International	48 570 received for Fishrot related work
Embassy of Ireland	379 000 received for 6 papers

*Contributions to salaries for 3 positions: Executive Director, Accountant/Administrator, Office Manager

**Funding for Procurement Tracker, Namibia Fact Check, Green Hydrogen Monitor, Quarterly Economic Review, electoral analysis

5. IPPR Affiliations and Partnerships

The IPPR is a founding member of the ACTION Coalition, which campaigns for the implementation and effective rollout of Namibia's access to information legislation.

The IPPR is the Namibian partner for the International Budget Partnership (IBP) and conducts the bi-annual Open Budget Survey on the IBP's behalf.

The IPPR is the Namibian partner for the World Economic Forum (WEF) and conducts the annual Executive Opinion Survey on WEF's behalf.

The IPPR is a member of the International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN).

The IPPR is member of the Vienna-based UNCAC (Civil Society) Coalition which is working for full implementation of the UN Convention against Corruption.

The IPPR is a member of the Cluster 3 group for the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan which is coordinated by the Anti-Corruption Commission.

The IPPR is an Associate Member of the Whistleblowing International Network (WIN).

IPPR Executive Director Graham Hopwood continues to serve as the Chairperson of CIVIC +264 – the information and coordination hub for Namibian civil society.

The IPPR is a founding member of the Southern African Network of Think Tanks.

The IPPR is a member of the African Policy Circle which provides a platform for African civil society to develop new solutions to African problems.

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

6. Social Media

9 432 people liked or followed the IPPR Namibia Facebook page at the end of 2025 (compared to 9 243 at the end of 2024) - an increase of 2% over the calendar year.

18 304 people followed the IPPR Namibia Twitter (X) account at the end of 2025 (compared with 18 478 at the end of 2024) – a decrease of 1% over the calendar year.

3 089 people liked or followed the Namibia Fact Check Facebook page at the end of 2024 (compared with 3 062 at the end of 2024) - an increase of 1% over the calendar year.

2 847 people followed the Namibia Fact Check Twitter (X) account at the end of 2025 (compared with 2 857 at the end of 2024) – a slight decrease over the calendar year.

As of the end of 2025, the IPPR Instagram page had 1 184 followers (up from 1 077 at the end of 2023 - a 10% increase year on year).

As of the end of 2025, the IPPR LinkedIn page had 223 followers.

7. Websites

www.ippr.org.na

Total page views between 1 January and 30 November 2025: 50 837 (compared to 54 266 views in 2024)

21 474 users during the same period (compared to 13 756 users in 2024)

25 258 sessions during the same period (compared to 19 299 sessions in 2024).

Device breakdown: Desktop (82%), Mobile (17%), Tablet (0%), Unknown (1%)

Top countries visiting the IPPR website (January 1 - November 30 2025):

	Users
1. China	8 746
2. Namibia	8 612
3. Singapore	4 331
5. US	1 471
6. South Africa	899
6. Hong Kong	499
7. UK	577
8. Germany	543
9. India	359
10. Netherlands	218

Most viewed publications on the IPPR website 2025:

	Page views
1. 10 Reasons Sam Nujoma (blog)	968
2. Message of Condolence – Sam Nujoma	518
3. Role and Responsibilities of the Ombudsman (blog)	438
4. National Budget 2025/26	434
5. Landscaping GBV	346
6. Quarterly Economic Review (Q1 2025)	290
7. Preparing Carbon Border Adjustments (blog)	229
8. Green Hydrogen Corruption Risks (blog)	228
9. Green Hydrogen Monitor 4 (youth focus)	225
10. Quarterly Economic Review (Q2 2025)	217
11. Transparency in Oil and Gas (blog)	205
12. Human Rights Impacts of Fishrot (2nd report)	199
13. Countering Election Disinformation	194
14. PTN 28 (Procurement Court)	190

15. 9 Actions to Strengthen Integrity (blog)	174
16. Elections Disinformation – Role of AI	171
17. State of the Namibian Economy (presentation)	168
18. Unpacking Namibia’s Cybercrime Bill	156
19. SOE Governance in Namibia	155
20. Tackling Cybercrime in Namibia	155

www.namibiafactcheck.org.na

Total page views 2025: 39 425 (compared to 57 853 views in 2024)

There were 16 012 users during the same period (compared to 23 757 users in 2024).

Top countries visiting the Namibia Fact Check website:

	Users
1. China	2 487
2. Namibia	2 319
3. South Africa	2 233
4. US	2 228
5. Singapore	1 089
6. Nigeria	951
7. Germany	650
8. UK	621
9. India	416
10. Netherlands	341

Most viewed items on the Namibia Fact Check website:

1. No evidence that PW Botha uttered viral statement	4 369
2. White Namibians do not own 70% percent of the land	1 353
3. Singapore did not perform an autopsy	666
4. Tik-tok is not giving away 30GB	620
5. Bill Gates is not poisoning your fruit	508
6. Presidency call fake on viral audio and video	353
7. Watch out for the China domain name scam	333
8. There is no aid for orphans on verge of dropping out	294

8. Media Monitoring

There were 146 media reports, interviews, and citations featuring the IPPR in 2025. This compares with 242 reports in 2024 – a decrease of 40 percent. The decrease can largely be ascribed to the high number of election-related reports quoting the IPPR in 2024.

Media	No. of articles/reports
Print/online:	
The Namibian	22
New Era	16
Allgemeine Zeitung	14
Windhoek Observer	14
The Brief	11
The Namibian Sun	7
The Issue	4
The Villager	2
Namibia Business Review	2
Republikein	2
Sub-total	94
Television:	
NBC TV	14
One Africa	2
Sub-total	16
Radio:	
Future Media News	14
Kosmos FM	10
Desert FM	9
NBC Radio	1
Eagle FM	1
Omny FM	1
Sub-total	36
TOTAL	146

9. IPPR Board 2025

Monica Koep (Chairperson)
Daniel Motinga (Deputy Chairperson)
Justin Ellis
Graham Hopwood
Andre du Pisani
Nangula Shejavali
Ellison Tjirera

10. IPPR Staff/Researchers 2025

Graham Hopwood (Executive Director)
Tia-Zia //Garoes (Office Manager/Research Associate)
Johanna Wolf (Administrator/Accountant)

Louivenza Komases (Research Associate)
Frederico Links (Research Associate)
Martha Nangolo (Research Associate)
Rosevitha Ndumbu (Research Associate)
Dietrich Remmert (Research Associate)
Suzie Shefeni (Research Associate)
Robin Sherbourne (Research Associate)
Max Weylandt (Research Associate)
Esther Ethingo (Intern)
Mave Haimbodi (Fulbright scholar)
Michelle Tsatsa (Intern)
Bridget Mnakapa (Intern)
Martin Nafuka (Intern)