



ngwediva News

Our Vision: "To Become a Leading Urban Centre of Excellency in Namibia"

Volume 2

"Keep informed about your town"

September 2025

THE IMPACT OF ONGWEDIVA ANNUAL TRADE FAIR 2025



The 24th edition of the Ongwediva Trade Fair significantly boosted local and regional economies by attracting over 450 exhibitors and more than 70 000 visitors from across Namibia, its neighbouring countries and beyond the African continent. The fair facilitated business-to-business interactions, that are set to drive economic development in the region and country at large.

Moreover, the event showcased Namibia's diverse industries—from agriculture to entrepreneurs—highlighting the country's potential and fostering an environment conducive to innovation and investment. The fair also served as a catalyst for empowering small and medium enterprises (SMEs), providing them with exposure and opportunities to scale their operations.

Successes of the 2025 Fair

- Record-breaking Attendance: The fair saw an unprecedented number of visitors, surpassing previous years, which underscores its growing importance as a regional trade hub.
- Diverse Exhibitors Participation: Over 450 exhibitors from various sectors showcased their products, services demonstrating Namibia's vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem.
- International Engagement: The inclusion of international participants expanded the fair's reach, fostering cross-border trade and collaboration.
- Media and Public Engagement: Extensive media coverage amplified the fair's visibility, attracting interest from potential investors and tourists.

Way Forward

- Looking ahead, the Ongwediva Annual Trade Fair aims to build on its successes by:
- Enhancing Infrastructure: Upgrading facilities and logistics to accommodate increasing exhibitors and ensure a seamless experience.
 - Strengthening Partnerships: Collaborating with government agencies, private sector stakeholders, and development partners to promote sustainable economic growth.
 - Fostering Innovation: Introducing more digital and technological platforms to facilitate virtual participation and broader reach.
 - Supporting SMEs: Developing dedicated programs to provide ongoing support, mentorship, and market access for local entrepreneurs.
 - Promoting Regional Integration: Facilitating deeper economic ties within the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and beyond.

The 2025 Ongwediva Annual Trade Fair not only reaffirmed its status as a premier trade and investment platform but also laid a strong foundation for future growth, by nurturing innovation, expanding partnerships, and focusing on sustainable development, the fair is poised to continue unlocking opportunities for Namibia and the broader Southern African region.

Yours truly,

EDITORIAL TEAM

ONGWEDIVA TOWN COUNCIL GIVES BACK TO THE COMMUNITY



In line with its commitments, Ongwediva Town Council on 4th July 2025, conducted a donation handover to the community of Ongwediva Town. This initiative was undertaken in accordance with the Local Authority Act of 1992 (Act No. 23 of 1992), as amended, and received approval from the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development. The donations are part of the Council's efforts to promote education, training, and overall well-being within the community, reflecting its corporate social responsibility.

As part of this effort, the Council distributed education materials, safety equipment and sport items to three different local based companies from Ongwediva town. The donated items are worthy N\$ 25,000.00 based on their requests: Through these donations, Ongwediva Town Council continues to demonstrate its commitment to uplifting and supporting its community.

ONGWEDIVA JUNIOR COUNCILLORS INAUGURATED

The Ongwediva Town Council on 28 July 2025, inaugurated the newly elected Junior Councillors who will serve on a one-year term. The Executive Junior Councillors comprise seven members, including the Junior Mayor, Deputy Junior Mayor, a Secretary, and four additional members.

The Ongwediva Executive Junior Councillors for 2025:

1. Her Worship, (Junior Mayor) Cllr. Etuhole Phillemon, a Grade 9 learner at Oshana Gymnasium.
2. Her Worship, (Deputy Junior Mayor) Cllr. Iyaloo Paulus, a Grade 11 learner at Ongwediva Secondary School.
3. Cllr. Krist Mukunisha (Secretary), a Grade 11 learner at Gabriel Taapopi Secondary School.
4. Cllr. William Viassi (Executive Member), a Grade 10 learner at Maurits Devenish Private School.
5. Cllr. Selma Amweelo (Executive Member), a Grade 6 learner at Hashiyana Primary School.
6. Cllr. Lonia Ashikodhi (Executive Member), a Grade 9 learner at Charles Anderson School.
7. Cllr. Kourtney Renton (Executive Member), a Grade 8 learner at Kleine Kuppe Private School.



That, Ongwediva Fire Station offers free public education awareness on fire prevention and safety measures?

For appointment, kindly contact:
Mr. Sam Matheus - Chief Fire Officer
 Mobile: 0811 444 151
 Email: smatheus@otc.com.na



COUNCIL AND NHE SIGNED MOU TO ACCELERATE HOUSING CHALLENGES

The Ongwediva Town Council and the National Housing Enterprises (NHE) entered into an agreement on 4 July 2025, with the aim of fostering collaboration, promoting strategic partnerships, and strengthening friendly relations between the two entities.

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

- To establish a framework for collaboration between the two parties in developing and promoting affordable housing initiatives within Ongwediva.
- To share and effectively utilize their respective human, financial, physical, and other resources related to housing development.
- To jointly seek support from the Government of the Republic of Namibia, as well as other stakeholders and institutions, for financial assistance in the form of grants, soft loans, interest-free loans, or other support, with the goal of making housing more affordable for the people of Ongwediva.

OMATANDO WATER RETICULATION CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY



The Ongwediva Town Council has embarked on the construction of water reticulation infrastructure at Omatando Extension 1. This initiative is part of the government's broader effort to bring essential services closer to the people and improve access to reliable water supply.

The project, which is expected to take six months to complete, includes the installation of a water tower, a ground reservoir, and booster pumps. These facilities are crucial for enhancing the town's water distribution system and ensuring consistent water delivery to residents of Omatando Extension 1.

To support this development, the Council has allocated approximately N\$ 7.3 million toward the first phase of the project. This significant investment demonstrates the Council's commitment to improving service delivery and addressing the community's needs.

This infrastructure development marks an important step in expanding water services within the area and ensuring sustainable access to clean water for the residents of Omatando in general.



- **SAY NO TO WASTE DUMPING & LITTERING**
- **SAY NO TO ANIMALS GRAZING IN TOWN**
- **SAY NO TO NOISE POLLUTION**



COUNCIL TABLES 205 MILLION BUDGET FOR 2025/26 FINANCIAL YEAR



On 20 May 2025, the Ongwediva Town Council presented its annual financial estimate for the 2025/2026 fiscal year, in accordance with Section 83(1)(b) of the Local Authorities Act of 1992 (Act No. 23 of 1992), as amended.

Key development initiatives include land delivery, infrastructure provision, social amenities construction, rehabilitation, equipment acquisition, and compensation for crop field owners. Notable projects for the year include:

Land Delivery: The Council plans to allocate 275 unserviced erven to the National Housing Enterprises (NHE), 200 erven to the Development Workshop of Namibia, 75 erven to property developers, and approximately 150 erven to the Shack Dwellers Federation of Namibia.

Provision of Services: In an effort to improve basic infrastructure, N\$ 46 million has been allocated for water and sewer reticulation at Extensions 1, 3, 17, and Omatando Extension 1 (Phase 2). Other projects include installing prepaid water systems, refurbishing the water tower, expanding electricity networks, redesigning key intersections, upgrading streets, constructing storm water channels, installing CCTV cameras, conducting feasibility and environmental impact assessments for a wastewater treatment plant, and installing high-mast lighting at Okandjengedi Settlement.

Overall, the total budget of N\$ 205.5 million covers capital projects, operational expenses, and provisions. The Council remains committed to timely payments to key service providers such as Namibia Water Corporation (**NAMWATER**), Northern Regional Electricity Distributor (**NORED**), contractors, and creditors.

ONGWEDIVA POP-UP MARKET DAYS

Join us in **September 2025** for our first ever **Ongwediva Pop-Up Market Days!** This exciting event offers vendors the perfect platform to showcase and sell their second-hand items in a vibrant community setting

Vendor registration is completely FREE – open to all local businesses and residents



OATF DAZZLING GALA DINNER 2025

The Ongwediva Trade Fair Society (OTFS) celebrated a remarkable milestone during its recent Fundraising Gala Dinner, held on, 5 July 2025. The society successfully raised a total of N\$1,612,299.00, setting a new record ahead of the upcoming 24th edition of the Ongwediva Annual Trade Fair, which is scheduled to take place from 22 to 30 August this year.

This impressive fundraising achievement underscores the strong support and confidence from the community, sponsors, and stakeholders who believe in the society's mission to promote economic growth and development in the region. The significant contributions from various key partners and stakeholders demonstrate their commitment to fostering business opportunities and community development through this platform.

The society wishes to extend its heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to all sponsors, donors, and supporters who contributed, whether in monetary form or through in-kind donations. Your unwavering support is vital to the success of the trade fair and the ongoing growth of the local economy.

Your generosity and partnership inspire us to continue striving for excellence. Our continued existence and success depend on your support, and we look forward to working together to make this year's trade fair even more impactful.

Thank you for being part of this exciting journey. Together, we are shaping a brighter future for Ongwediva and the surrounding communities.

ONGWEDIVA HOSTS MISS NAMIBIA 2025: A Landmark Event for the Town

Ongwediva Town hosted the Miss Teen and Miss Namibia Beauty Pageant 2025, on 18 and 19 July 2025 for the very first time in the country's history.

The glamorous and well-attended event took place at Ongwediva Trade Fair Centre in Ongwediva Town of the Oshana region. The event was officially inaugurated by the Vice President of the Republic of Namibia, H.E. Lucia Witbooi, along with Omunyekadhi Adelheide Nangolo, who served as the Patron of Miss Namibia 2025.

The hosting of the Miss Namibia 2025 pageant in Ongwediva marks a historic milestone, bringing numerous benefits to the town of Ongwediva and Namibia at large. This prestigious event not only celebrates beauty and talent but also serves as a catalyst for economic, cultural, and social development.

Economic Boost and Tourism Promotion
The pageant attracted a large influx of visitors, including participants, officials, media, and spectators from across Namibia and beyond.

Cultural and Social Impact
Hosting Miss Namibia in Ongwediva highlights the town's capability to host national events, fostering pride and unity among residents. It also provides a platform to promote Namibian culture, traditions, and diversity on a national stage.

Empowerment and Inspiration
The pageant underscores the importance of empowering young Namibian women, encouraging them to pursue their dreams and ambitions. It provides role models for youth and promotes values such as confidence, leadership, and community service.

Johanna Swartbooi 27, from ||Karas region was crowned Miss Namibia 2025.



Council Operating Hours

GENERAL OFFICES
Monday - Friday
08H00 - 13H00
14H00 - 17H00

CASHIERS
Monday - Friday
08H00 - 15H00

STANDBY EMERGENCY NUMBERS
Mobile: 08 11 49 00 75
Mobile: 08 11 44 41 51