



Republic of Namibia

KAVANGO WEST REGION



REGIONAL ECONOMIC INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

1st Edition 2019



YOUR PREFERRED DESTINATION FOR INVESTMENT

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Hon. Sirkka Ausiku

FOREWORD

It is with great pride that I bring to you the first edition of the Kavango West Region's investor's Handbook. Kavango West Region is strategically well located on the north eastern part of Namibia, right in the middle of a trade route to the larger markets of SADC. Its location puts it in the heart of a trucking and trade routes reaching to all major markets of SADC and beyond.

Kavango West Region has a number of characteristics that make it a compelling investment destination in Namibia. The Handbook provides investors with a broad overview of the social and economic environment in which they can expect to operate, highlighting the key features and investment opportunities that we believe make doing business in Kavango West Region an attractive proposition. It is hoped that this publication will serve as the single most comprehensive and authoritative source of information for investors and businesses arriving in our Region.

The Kavango West Region has substantial economic and investments potentials in various sectors, mainly in the areas of Agriculture, Manufacturing, Retail and wholesale, Tourism & Hospitality, Energy, Services Industries, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Education, Health, Housing and to a certain extent Mining and Quarrying. The Kavango West Region (KWR) believes that by placing immediate focus on these sectors, the socio-economic status of the region will be uplifted and the wellbeing of the inhabitants will eventually improve.

Therefore, with the above given information, It is my pleasure to invite all potential investors, local or international, to make their way to the mighty Kavango West Region, to come and explore the vast business opportunities that exists in various sectors which our Region proudly offers. It's my strongest belief that a sustainable exploitation of these opportunities will contribute to the development of our region resulting in the improvement of the well-being of its inhabitants in line with the national aspiration of a prosperous Namibia that is contained in the Vision 2030 Namibia's roadmap for an all-inclusive and shared growth.

Invest in Kavango West Region!!!!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Ausiku'.

Sirkka Ausiku

REGIONAL GOVERNOR: KAVANGO WEST REGION

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

FNB	-	First National Bank
GDP	-	Gross Domestic Product
KCR	-	Kavango Cattle Ranch
KWRC	-	Kavango West Regional Council
KWRDP	-	Kavango West Regional Development Profile
ICT	-	Information and Communication Technology
INP	-	Indigenous Natural Products
IRLUP	-	Integrated Regional Land Use Plan
IUM	-	International University of Management
NSA	-	Namibia Statistics Agency
MAWF	-	Ministry of Agriculture, Water & Forestry
MTC	-	Mobile Telecommunication
NAD	-	Namibia Dollars
NDC	-	Namibia Development Corporation
NDP	-	National Development Plan
NHE	-	National Housing Enterprise
NIDA	-	Namibia Industrial Development Agency
NORED	-	North Regions Electricity Distributor
MCA	-	Millennium Challenge Account
NAMPOL	-	Namibian Police
SSCF	-	Small Scale Commercial Farming
VTC	-	Vocational Training Centre

OVERVIEW OF THE HANDBOOK

This Handbook is the first point of reference for everything you need to know about doing business and investing in Kavango West Region. It begins by presenting an overview (Section A) of the key facts and figures that make Kavango West an investor's choice of investment. This is followed in Section B by an overview of investment in the Region, discussing potential opportunities and benefits available to firms and investors looking to do business in Kavango West Region.

The Town of Nkurenkuru is pivotal to the development of the Region at large and thus play a key role in the vision of the Region. Section C presents an overview of existing economic potentials of the town of Nkurenkuru. This section furthermore gives some historical accounts to demonstrate the rich history of the town of Nkurenkuru.

Section D gives both the Regional Council and the Nkurenkuru Town Council's affirmation of commitment to make every investors' resources and time worthwhile. This section further provides some useful information to all investors, which will help investors to understand the opportunities available to initiate profitable investments or establish thriving enterprises in Kavango West Region.

SECTION A: ABOUT KAVANGO WEST REGION

1. FACTS ABOUT KAVANGO WEST REGION

Location: Kavango West Region is Located in the north eastern part of Namibia bordering the Cuando Cubango Province of Angola in the north, Kavango East Region in the east, Otjozondjupa Region in the south, Oshikoto Region in the west and Ohangwena Region on the northwest.

Land Surface: Kavango West covers an area of 24 592 km²

Coordinates: The Region is situated between latitude 18o15's and 18o'E.

Capital City: Nkurenkuru Town is the Capital of the Region & it is the only town in the Region

Constituency: The Region has eight (8) Constituencies namely: Kapako, Mankumpi, Mpungu, Musese, Ncamagoro, Nkurenkuru, Ncuncuni and Tondoro

Settlements: The Region also has one (1) declared settlement, namely: Katwitwi. Katwitwi is planned for upgrade to a Village/Town Council (Local Authority).

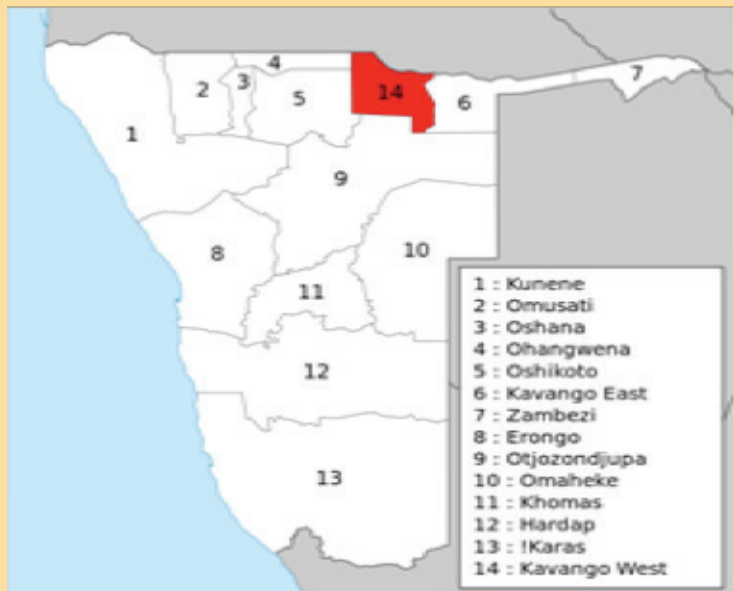
Villages: The Region has identified a number of villages as growth points which are earmarked for development into future settlements and towns, namely; Mpungu, Rupara, Bunya, Katjinakatji, Ncaute, Tondoro, Kapako and Ncamagoro.

Climate: Average annual rainfall over the major part of the region varies between 450 and 600 mm and the highest rainfall occur in January and February.

Population: Population Size is 86 529 of which 45 655 are females and 40 874 males. The Region's population constitutes 4.09% of the National population. The Region is predominantly rural (99.99%) with a mere 0.01% of people residing in urban areas.

Unemployment: The Region's unemployment rate is at 33%. Unemployment by gender, 32% males and 33% females (Namibia Labor Force survey of 2018).

History: The Region was established in terms of Proclamation No. 25 and made known in the Government Gazette No. 5261 dated 8 August 2013.



Languages: English is the official medium of communication for business; however, the main local language is Rukwangali.

Natural Resources: The Kavango West Region is home to the mighty Kavango River and its broad flood plains, which makes the area considerably greener than the rest of Namibia. The region is also home to animals such as antelope, elephants, zebras, wild dogs, lions, leopards as well as hundreds of bird species.

Time Zones: Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) +2 hours

Business Hours: Official business hours for Government are from 08h00 – 13:00 hours and 14:00 – 17:00 hours between Monday and Friday. Private Sector business hours vary, and may include weekends for service sector operators.

2. ECONOMIC & INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN KAVANGO WEST REGION

 <p>Agriculture</p>	 <p>Manufacturing</p>	 <p>Retail</p>	 <p>Tourism & Hospitality</p>	 <p>Mining</p>
 <p>Services Industries</p>	 <p>Energy</p>	 <p>ITC</p>	 <p>Education</p>	 <p>Housing</p>

SECTION B: OVERVIEW OF INVESTMENT IN THE REGION

1. AGRICULTURE

The agriculture sector being the backbone of the Namibian economy, it has been singled out in the successive series of National Development Plans (NDPs) as one of the priority sectors of the country. As such, government continued to roll out various initiatives aimed at harnessing the sector so that it continue to bring about the much needed socio-economic development and improvement to the livelihoods of the majority of the Namibian people. Although the sector's contribution to the national GDP has somewhat declined, over the past three years, it contributed 4.6% to Namibia's GDP (NSA, 2018).

In Kavango West Region, the agriculture sector is one of the most attractive investment proposition. Given the Region's vast resource endowment in terms of arable land (85.9% of the Region's land) and water as well as abundant labor resources, Kavango West Region presents unmatched agricultural opportunities. The Region offers fertile land for crop farming (mahangu, sorghum and maize) as well livestock farming. Sustained by the Kavango River, investors are welcome tap into the unlimited high value crops farming opportunities offered by the Green Scheme along the river, in areas such butter nuts, potatoes, tomatoes, cucumber and onions. Investors can also tap into the lucrative freshwater fishing and aquaculture projects.

Opportunities are also presented in the logistics and transportation industry, where by investors can engage in the establishment of agricultural infrastructure such as silos and research stations. In the transportation sector, the Region also offers unlimited investment opportunities given its strategic location and proximity to the Trans-Caprivi Highway that connects to the main borders of Angola, Botswana and Zambia via Zambezi Region. The strategic location makes Kavango West Region an important gateway to the SADC region's lucrative markets.

1.1 Irrigation (Green Schemes)

Irrigation projects within Kavango West Region are mostly found within a distance of 5km from the Kavango River where there is ease of access to water and roads. There are currently two Green Scheme Projects in Kavango West Region namely; Musese and Sikondo. There are plans for a new scheme of approximately 1,500 hectares to be established in Mpungu Constituency, in a village called Zone near the Katwitwi Settlement. The Namibian Green Scheme Policy makes opportunities available for private entrepreneurs to maintain large scale irrigation projects with small scale irrigation farms.

1.2 Crop Farming

According to the NSA statistics (2014), Crop farming is the main agricultural activity practiced in Kavango West Region and 63% of the households in the Region practice crop farming cultivating crops such as Mahangu (millet), Sorghum and Maize. However, this is done at subsistence level, mainly for consumption at household level. Because of the Region's fertile land and good rainfall, there exists substantial opportunities for crop farming at large/commercial scale that awaits to be explored. There are also opportunities for the cultivation of niche crops and higher value crops which has high financial and economic value that could create more employment opportunities to the residents. Niche and high value crops that can be cultivated are vegetables, fruits, pineapples, potatoes, butternuts, onions and certain types of nuts.

1.3 Livestock Farming

The abundance of livestock in Kavango West Region presents great opportunities for investing in tanneries for value addition to raw hides and skins to wet blue and finished leather. In Kavango West Region, there are two types of livestock farming: Commercial/private livestock farming on the Small Scale Commercial Farming (SSCF) units and communal subsistence farming on open access communal land.

According to the Livestock census by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (MAWF) conducted in 2012, Kavango Regions (both East and West) had a combined total of 136,623 heads of cattle. This statistics points to the existence of a greater opportunity for meat processing business in Kavango West Region. In terms of demand, statistics have confirmed that Namibia's cattle export to South Africa for 2012 was 90,303 head of cattle (Meat Board of Namibia, 2012) and the estimated value of beef exports to Europe and Africa was estimated to be to the value of N\$814 million, this demand was expected to expand going forward.

Kavango West Region also has a Government farm for cattle called Kavango Cattle Ranch (KCR). The farm practices commercial animal husbandry, feeding and production methods and is owned by the Government under the Namibia Industrial Development Agency (NIDA) previously known as Namibia Development Corporation (NDC). In 2015, KCR had a total number of 16,312 cattle valued at approximately N\$64 million. More than 500 000 kilograms of meat are produced in Namibia on an annual basis and the KCR is one of the biggest cattle producers. Therefore, there is an opportunity for the establishment of an abattoir in the region for slaughtering of cattle, processing of meat products for the local and international market.

1.4 Aquaculture/Fish Farming:

While the Region offers unmeasured investment opportunities in the crop farming sector, the un-matched water resource of the Kavango River makes the Region amongst the best investment destination for freshwater fishing industry. Given the low level of development of the freshwater fishing industry, demand for domestic fish for consumption still outstrips production. Kavango West Region currently has one Fish Farm/Aquaculture project based in Nkurenkuru farming with Tilapia and Bubble Fish. The demand for fresh river fish is high and cannot currently be met by the one fish farm. Investors are thus encouraged to explore and exploit this sector as condition still allows for more fish farms to be established in the region and be commercialized.

Opportunities in the Agriculture sector

- Green Schemes
- Small Scale Commercial Farming [Livestock Farming, Crop and Horticulture Production
- Aquaculture/Fish Farming
- Indigenous products
- Processing of meat and meat products
- Processing of fruits and vegetable products
- Production of cattle feed
- Crocodile Farming Establishment of an Abattoir
- Cotton production
- Tannery
- Establishment of Silos and weighbridge
- Establishment of a Milling and Processing Plant

2. MANUFACTURING

Nationally, the manufacturing sector has become Namibia's beacon of hope towards achieving a prosperous and industrialized Namibia by the year 2030. The manufacturing sector in Namibia accounts for more than 11.0 % of the country's GDP and has been growing at an average annual growth rate of more than 10.0% over the last five years. Growth in the sector is largely driven by the agro processing (food and beverages), and diamond processing subsector. Secondary processing of metals is another main activity in the sector and this is mainly including the smelting and refining of copper and zinc.

Regionally, there are various great opportunities for manufacturing in the Kavango West Region, particularly in Nkurenkuru. The Region is blessed with natural resources that can be explored to develop the manufacturing industries. In this regards, the Region offer mainly the timber for furniture making, crafts making and fire wood. The Region also offers a special kind of thatch grass (known in local language as Nangondwe) which is used for making thatch roofs. In terms of agro processing (food and beverages), the Region offers different types of wild/indigenous fruits and many more which can sustain large/commercial scale food processing industries (See page 10, 2.2 Indigenous Products).

2.1 Timber

Kavango West Region is home to a large variety of large trees which are valuable resources for timber that is used for making furniture, construction, carvings and firewood. For many years, these trees has been an important resources for the rural livelihoods in Kavango West Region and remain one of the Region's greatest pride and a special investor's attraction, The availability of timber trees in the Region presents a great opportunity for the establishment of a large scale furniture manufacturing plant right here in the Kavango West Region. Investors are encouraged to explore this magnificent opportunity and help the Region to stop exporting all the local timber to other countries for manufacturing of furniture, and instead locally manufacture the furniture in the Region and export only finished products.

Table 1: Trees found in Kavango West Region used for timber and crafts

Local /Rukwangali name	Scientific name	English name
1. Usivi	Guibortia coleosperma	False mopane/ Rosewood
2. Uguva	Pterocarpus angolensis	Kiaat/ Dolf
3. Uhahe	Baikaea plurijuga	Teak
4. Mutundungu	Burkea african	Red seringa

2.2 Indigenous Products

Kavango West Region has a number of plant species that have potential for commercial values, such as oils for cosmetics, juices for drinking, yoghurt etc. Other indigenous valuable products found in Kavango West that are used for medication is the Devil's Claw (Ekakata).

The marketing of devil's claw (Ekakata) within Namibia for January 2012 to November 2012 was estimated at 503 tonnes with an estimated economic value of between N\$20 to N\$25 million (MCA, 2013). And according to the Indigenous Natural Products (INP) Bulletin of March 2013, Namibia is the largest single supplier of devil's claw in the world.

Another valuable indigenous product is the Marula. According to the INP Market Bulletin of March 2013, the demand for marula oil for cosmetics purposes remains very high. The total sales in Namibia for marula oil for cosmetics in 2012 were 7,000kg that generated an income of over N\$1 million (MCA, 2013). The table bellows provides a list of species found in the region and their usage:

Table 2: list of species found in the region and their usage

Local Name	English Name	Scientific Name	Usage
Nompeke/Kakukuru	Wild Sourplum	Ximenia americana	1. Cosmetic oils
Nongongo	Mangetti	Schionziophyton rautanenii	1. Cosmetic oils 2. Soup 3. Liquor
Nombe	Bird Plum	Berchemia discolor	1. Cosmetic oils 2. Jam
	Jackal Berry	Diospyros mesphiliformis	1. Cosmetic oils 2. Liquor
Maguni (fruit & leaves)	Monkey oranges	Strychnos spinosa	1. Juices 2. Jam 3. Liquor 4. Medicine
Ekakata	Devil's Claw	Harpagophytum	Medicine

Mawongo	Marula	Schlerocarya birrea	1. Juice 2. Liquor
Mutete	Wild Spinach	Hisbiscus Sabbdariffa	1. Relish 2. Juice 3. Jam 4. Soup
Nonsivi	Not known	Not known	1. Relish 2. Soup
Nongomene	Ground Peas/Bambara Nuts	Vigna Subterranean	1. Instant 2. Canned
Makunde	Cowpeas	Vigna unguiculata	1. Relish 2. Soup 3. Canned
Egungu	Mopane Worms	Gonimbrasia Belina	1. Relish 2. Soup

2.3 Brick making industry

Kavango West Region also offer exiting opportunities in the brick making industry. The brick making industry has grown over the past years due to the demand from construction activities taking place within the Region and the town of Nkurenkuru as well as the surrounding settlements and villages. The total demand for bricks in the Region is expected to increase due to the influx of people into the Region.

Opportunities in the manufacturing sector

- Timber for furniture manufacturing
- Manufacturing of papers
- Manufacturing of leather products
- Wood and charcoal production
- Manufacturing of toothpicks and sossatie sticks
- Manufacturing of fertilizers for crop farmers
- Agro-Forestry Processing to produce goods such as jams, juices, cosmetics from indigenous fruits & horticulture products.
- Nangondwe/Thatch Grass for thatching of roofs.
- Garment Factory
- Abbatoir at Kavango Cattle Ranch

3. RETAIL

Although the Region is fast growing and the town of Nkurenkuru is become more and more sophisticated, retail activities (selling goods or services directly to consumers or end-users) still remain suppressed. This is despite the fact that the Region in general and the town of Nkurenkuru in particular is having a strategic position as a gateway to Angola via Katwitwi. This condition nonetheless presents enormous investment opportunities for entrepreneur who wishes to be the trailblazers in the retail sector. There are various prime spots available for trailblazers at strategic location around town that can be acquired well ahead of the market.

4. TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY

Kavango West Region offers fine natural attractions, combined with a network of game lodges and campsites that give visitors good value for their money. With its national parks, game reserves, biosphere reserves, historical sites and magnificent rivers banks, Kavango West Region remains a natural tourism magnet. The most popular tourist attractions in Kavango West Region are the wildlife game parks and river excursions as well as some historical sites. However, many of these resources remain largely unexploited.

4.1 Conservancies and Community Forests

Kavango West Region has a number of communal conservancies and community forests (registered and emerging) providing for some form of conservation. This provides an opportunity for the establishment of overnight facilities such as Camp Sites and Lodges in the conservancies and community forests. The table below provides an overview of the conservancies and forest within the Region.

Table 4: an overview of the conservancies and forest within the region.

Name	Status
Maurus Nekaro Conservancy	Gazetted
Daniel Sientu Mpasi Conservancy	Emerging
Ambrosius Haingura Community Forest	Emerging
Kahenge Community Forest	Gazetted
Katope Community Forest	Gazetted
Ncaute Community Forest	Gazetted
Ncumcara Community Forest	Gazetted
Ncamagoro Community Forest	Gazetted
Mbeyo Community Forest	Gazetted

4.2 Mangetti National Park

The Mangetti National Park is a small park situated to the east of the Trans-Caprivi highway and was formerly a game camp for the breeding of rare and endangered species. The game camp was proclaimed as a National Park in 2008 and covers an area of 420km². At this stage, there are no overnight facilities at the park, this provides an opportunity for the development of overnight facilities, and game drives.

There is potential to increase tourism in this Region based on the biodiversity, natural attractions and culture of the Region. The Region forms part of the marketing campaign of the Four Rivers Route and is one of three new self-exploration routes in Namibia, namely the Kavango Open Africa Route, which is 383 km based around the Kavango River, its people, birds and lifestyle. The route runs from Nkurenkuru in the west to Mohembo in Kavango East Region.

5. MINING

Namibia has a mining history, which spans over many years starting from as early as the 1960's when the first diamond was discovered along the Atlantic Ocean. Nationally, mining was and remains central to the Namibian economy as it continues to play a crucial role in the social and economic development of the country.

Although the global commodity prices has somehow slowed down due to economic growth stabilization and some cases slowdown in mainly Asian economies such as China, Namibia has continued to attract foreign direct investment in the mining sector and this has supported the increase in diamond, uranium, copper and other mineral production. Nevertheless, the full potential of these and other known mineral deposits is yet to be realized at national level and particularly at Regional level, thus creating greater exploration opportunities.

In the Kavango West Region, mining activities are limited and only concentrated in clay brick making and sand mining. Nonetheless, there are great opportunities in the exploration industry as Kavango West Region could potentially be home to commercial scale deposits of oil, gas and other mineral resources. There are currently a number of ongoing oil and gas explorations happening in the Region in the areas of Mpungu, Ncuncuni and Ncamagoro Constituencies where there has been signs of availability oil and gas.

Investors are invited to explore opportunities that exist in the sand mining industry, which emanates from the increase in construction activities in the Region and town of Nkurenkuru as well as the surrounding settlements and villages. Construction projects that offer attractive ventures are mainly the construction of residential houses, business buildings as well as government infrastructure buildings, which are most likely to see the demand for sand increase.

6. SERVICES INDUSTRIES

The provision of services, such as water, transport networks, telephones, education and health, remains on top of the Regional development agenda. Investors are invited to join hand with the Kavango West Regional Council to upgraded and tar roads, expand cell phone coverage, increase electricity supply to mention just a few.

Service provision is paramount for the Region's development and social response to the high influx into the Region in general and the town of Nkurenkuru in particular. Furthermore, demand for services is also expected to emanate from Katwitwi and other identified growth points in the Region such as Mpungu, Bunya, Katjinakatji, Rupara, Ncamagoro, and kapako, Ncaute, Tondoro, Mbuuruuru and Mangetti as service centers respectively.

7. ENERGY

Namibia's energy sources include; electricity, petroleum, coal, biomass, and renewable energy. It is only petroleum which is wholly imported in the country, while the country is basically self-sufficient in all the other energy resources, as it has substantial unexploited reserves of these forms of energy. The country's economy has been growing at an average of 5 percent per annum over the past 10 years and demand for energy has also been rising thus giving rise to potential energy shortages in future. Alternative sources of energy should thus be found to prevent the energy crisis.

In view of the above, the Kavango West Region holds be the answer to Namibia's energy crisis given the Region's multitude opportunities for energy generation. The Region is situated near the subtropical dry forest biome which is a low-altitude semi-arid hot climate. This is why the Region gets high temperatures. These temperatures are therefore good for solar energy generation. Thus, a solar energy plant can be set up in Kavango West Region to supplement the current power supply.

Solar energy is Namibia's best alternative thus far and the ever increasing pressure on the national grid will provide support for the growth of the solar industry in the region. With the present ever increasing pressure on Namibia's grid electricity, it is necessary for Namibia to start harvesting one of its greatest resources, the sun. There is very little solar power utilization in Kavango West Region at the moment, and with the availability of land and sun heat, solar farming is a potential investment attraction for the Region.

8. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

Although the Region is lagging behind in the area of ICT compared to most Regions in Namibia, it remain committed to move along with the modern world. Given the high number of people from around the country flocking into the Region's capital town Nkurenkuru, an opportunity in ICT has presented itself as ICT is increasingly becoming an important pillar of the socio-economic fabric of the Region in general and the town in particular. In this regards, the following services will be required: Community Radio Station, Internet Cafes, ICT training centers, ICT shops.

8.1 Community Radio Station

Community radios stations have become a vital part of modern democratic societies as it help transform societies via its ability to foster and enable civil participation in various democratic processes (including all issues and decisions affecting their communities).

Radio also helps with the fast transmission of and access to information especially among our people who do not have access to other means of getting information in this digital world we live in. The market and target population exists in the Nkurenkuru town and the Region at large especially for entertainment and educative programs for the youths.

8.2 Internet Cafes

With the increasing population of students in Nkurenkuru and the whole population in general, investment opportunities exists in the Region as all the population cannot be catered for by the internet at the only existing small community library and the educational institutions in town.

Internet cafes will easily cater more to the people needing internet connections for their work (after working hours and weekends) and other things such e-services, and so forth. In this type of business, one can also render other services such as printing, typing, scanning, making copies and so forth, something desperately needed in Nkurenkuru town.

8.3 ICT training Centers

Opportunities also exists in the ICT training field in view of the limited number of ICT training institutions. Establishing ICT Training Centers in the Region will provide an opportunity to the residents, more especially the youth to be trained in ICT to enable them to start their own businesses in the IT sector. This can contribute to fighting unemployment in the Region. With the knowledge and skills they get equipped with, they can land jobs in bigger ICT companies.

8.4 ICT shops

Further ICT opportunities exist in the retail space of ICT particularly in Nkurenkuru where residents struggle to acquire high quality IT devices. The lack of ICT shops in Nkurenkuru presents a great opportunity for entrepreneur to come and set up shops and serve the community of Nkurenkuru. A local ICT shop will alleviate the distance travelled to the nearest ICT shops to buy simple items such as bigger capacity external hard drives, smart televisions, etc.

9. EDUCATION

According to the official figures from NSA, the literacy rate for the Kavango West Region was 77% (NSA, 2018), which is well below the national average of 89%. According to the Directorate of Education, Arts and Culture Kavango West Region, there are 44 099 learners attending school. Lately there has been high number of school dropouts due to many different reasons and some children have not been attending school at all.

It is this state of education in our Region that has led the Regional Leadership placing education on top of the developmental agenda. More educational institutions should be established, as there are currently few educational institutions in the Region to serve the growing population of Kavango West Region. Few of those that have already established are unfortunately limited only to the town of Nkurenkuru, thus creating a massive gap, which requires urgent investments to fill the gap and ensure the provision of basic and tertiary university in the region.

Opportunities in the Education sector

Private schools

- Technical Schools/Vocational Training Centres (VTCs)
- Tertiary institutions
- Library
- Agricultural College/University

10. HOUSING

Kavango West Region has one proclaimed town, namely Nkurenkuru. The town is fast expanding and developing following a steady influx of people from all over the country to the new town to look for employment opportunities. As a result, the demand for houses has been on the increase. According to the Nkurenkuru Town Council, so far since the beginning of 2019, the council received a total number of 364 applications for land for residential and this figure is expected to increase.

This condition presents a great opportunity for investors in the real estate business as the situation warrants significant investments in the construction of houses in Nkurenkuru town. With the construction of house, comes servicing requirements, which is also an opportunity on its own.

11. HEALTH

In a fast growing town like Nkurenkuru, Government and private hospitals as well as clinics are critical institutions required to provide affordable health care. Investment opportunities exist in the Region for the establishment of these facilities, particularly, private hospitals. Globally and even nationally, private hospitals have earned a reputation as providers of good quality health care.

The Region and in particular, Nkurenkuru requires such facilities so that medical cases that are usually referred to Rundu or Windhoek can be addressed right here in the Region. Investment opportunities for establishing specialized hospitals to treat such referral cases are, therefore, unexploited.



1. BACKGROUND OF NKURENKURU

Nkurenkuru was declared a settlement in 1999 thereafter proclaimed as a town in 2006. The first ever Town Council members were officially sworn in on 27th March 2007.

The young emerging town is situated approximately 135 km West of Rundu. The name Nkurenkuru originated from two words or nouns which are “Nkure” which means end point, and “Nkuru” which means old.

Nkurenkuru is strategically located alongside the Kavango River linking Kavango West Region with Kavango East, Oshana and Oshana-Namaland Regions and via Katwitwi border post to the most densely populated area of Kwando Kubango Province in Angola.

Nkurenkuru town is estimated to have a population of around +- 15,000 inhabitants excluding nearby villages and also from Katwitwi bordering Angola and across border residents coming from Port Cuangar in Angola. The town has become the residential, business and administrative center of the Kavango West Region with an increasing influx of people into the town on a daily basis.

The town of Nkurenkuru is the Regional Capital of the Kavango West Region and it is the only town in the Region. Nkurenkuru Town Council portrays itself as a business-friendly Council that encourages investors from local, national and international to invest in the town and realize positive profits from the rapid growth of the town, hence that the Annual Nkurenkuru Trade Expo was initiated in 2017 to enhance its economic development.

2. HISTORY OF NKURENKURU

On December 30 1886, Portugal and Germany signed a bilateral agreement, in which the borders between Angola and South West Africa were defined along the Kavango River. The tribes of the Kavango people, who at this time settled on both sides of the river, were informed about this new territorial setting only afterwards.

On the north side of the river, the Portuguese started with the construction of a number of forts; among others Fort Cuangar, directly opposite of the Palace of the Kwangali Kings and Queens. On the south side, a number of military and missionary expeditions were carried out along the river.

On August 17 1909, Berengar von Zastrow, for the German administration, and King Himarwa (1886-1910), for the Kwangali Hompas, signed a protection agreement (Schutzvertrag) with general authority for the government in Windhoek and land ownership of the Kings. In response to those Forts on the northern side of the river, the German administration opened a police station in Nkurenkuru on June 17, 1910, which over the following years mainly assumed representative tasks.

With the outbreak of World War I and a murdered German delegation at Naulila, the police station was used to launch an attack on Fort Cuangar on October 31, 1914, in which all present 30 Portuguese and Angolan soldiers were killed. With the end of the war the station was closed and first replaced by a temporary British occupation and from April 1921 onwards by a permanent governor for the newly established Kavango District.

The new local government resulted in an extended political presence of the new League of Nations mandate government of South-West Africa, but already in 1936 the administration was moved to Rundu, which was also chosen as the new District Capital. Consequently, during the following 50 years Nkurenkuru fell into increasing insignificance. During the Angolan Civil War (1975-1989) Nkurenkuru became home for a base of the South African Defence Force

There are graveyards of German deceased police and soldiers at Kakuro, whereas the graveyards for the Finish Missionaries are found in the Nkurenkuru Lutheran Mission area. They all died during the First World War of Malaria epidemics. The first graveyard is west of the town along the river with five gravestones and the second is situated behind the old Lutheran Church building with two gravestones. They are German and Finnish people respectively. One grave of a German Catholic Missionary is found in the area of Siudiva village.

3. HISTORICAL SITES IN NKURENKURU

The following spots can be viewed or seen within the town

- The Royal Graveyard of Kings and Queens at Mayara.
- Graveyard for German Soldiers and Police.
- Graveyard for Finish Missionaries.
- One Grave of a German Catholic Missionary located at Siudiva Village.
- The Old Hospital Ruins.
- The first building house, school and church in the town.
- The Native Commissioner`s office (only foundation ruins).
- The spot of ash tree used as class room where the late Chief Sientu Mpasi was taught.
- Witch Woroa tree on the other side of the river.
- Tombstone of Shikongo Shakutunina (King Mandume`s Soldier).
- A baptismal memorable stone of the first protestant Christians.
- And many other interesting places that can be found in the town.

4. SERVICES IN NKURENKURU

- Government Ministries/Offices
- Namibian Police Offices (NAMPOL)
- Hospital
- Bank Windhoek
- Standard Bank
- First National Bank (FNB)
- Natis
- NamPost
- NORED
- National Housing Enterprise (NHE)
- Guesthouses/B&Bs
- MTC Mobile Home
- Telecommunication Shop
- Fish shop
- Super markets
- Furniture shop
- Hardware shops
- Two fuel Filling stations
- Clothing shops
- Pharmacy
- Private Doctor`s consulting rooms.
- International University of Management (IUM) Campus.
- Welwitchia Nursing University.
- VTC (currently under construction)
- Schools (Private and Government)

5. ECONOMIC INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN NKURENKURU

**Tourism &
Hospitality**

Agro-industry

**Commercial
property**

**Residential
Housing**

**Information
Technology**

**Training &
Vocational centers**

**Industrial Parks &
Complexes**

**Retail &
wholesales**

Hospitals & Clinics

Warehouses

Factories

**Timber Processing
Plants**

**Abattoir & Meat
Processing**

OUR PROMISES TO POTENTIAL INVESTORS

We promise the following to our investors:

- Safety, Security, Peace and political stability.
- Availability of fertile land for crop production/irrigation projects (both along the river and far from the river).
- Availability of land in Nkurenkuru town for the establishment of housing, and businesses for both retail and industrial.
- We will help promote your business and products to customers both local and international through our various available platforms.

OTHER LITERATURES FOR FURTHER READING

There are other available literatures on Kavango West that can be read for further information about the region:

- Kavango West Integrated Regional Land Use Plan (IRLUP)
- Kavango West Regional Development Profile (KWRDP), 2015
- Namibia Household Income and Expenditure Survey (NHIES), NSA, 2015/16
- Census of Agriculture Commercial Sector, NSA, 2013/2014.
- Building Namibia, NDC 2015

CONTACT DETAILS

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