

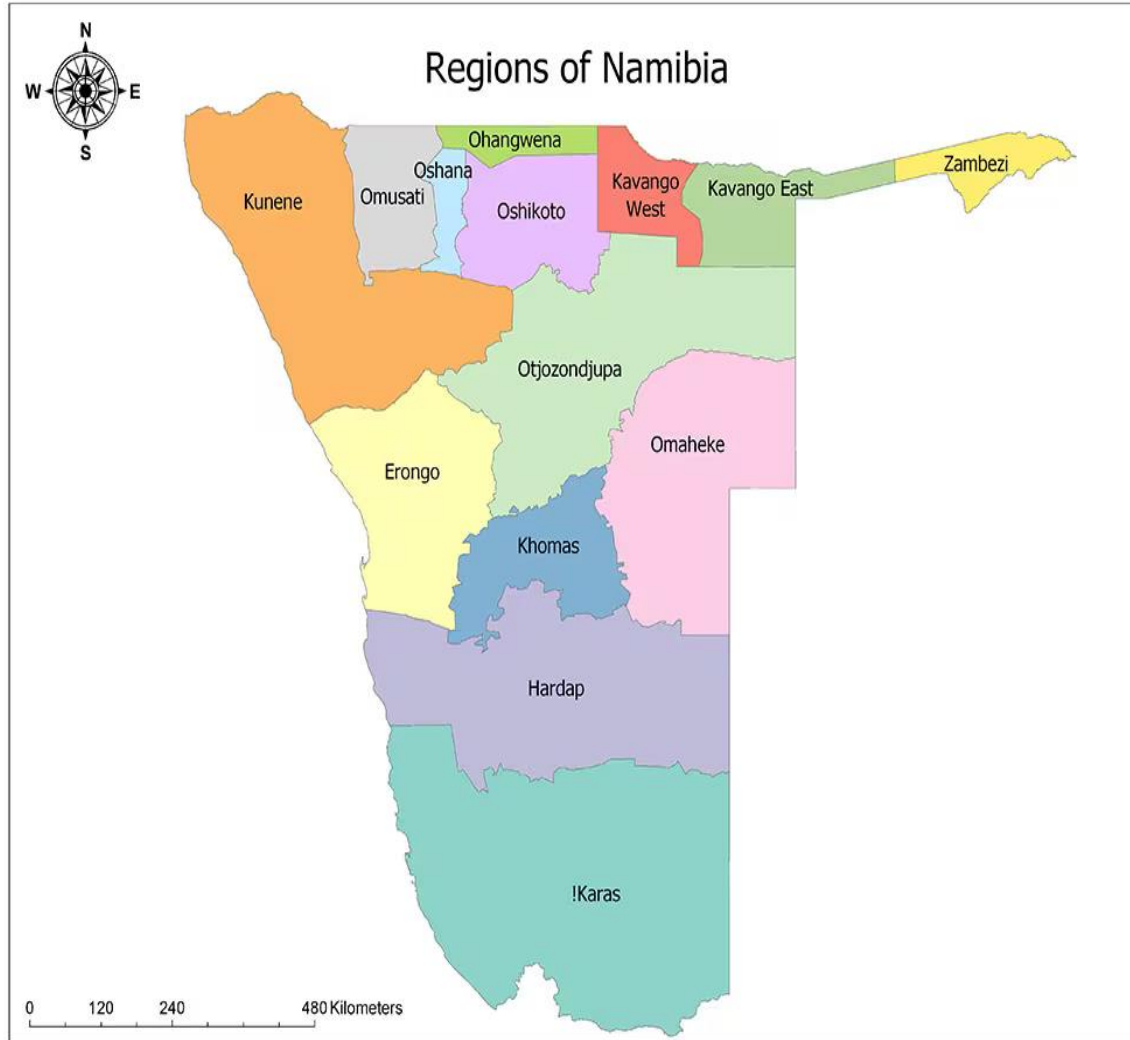


Financing Adaptive Social Protection, Data challenges and solutions in Namibia

OUTLINE

- Introduce Namibia
- Social protection coverage
- Sources of financing
- Financing challenges
- Shock-responsive financing
- Ensuring sustainability
- Overview of Data challenges in Namibia
- Ongoing efforts to address gaps
- Recommendations and conclusion

INTRODUCTION



- 80 percent desert or semi-desert
- Approximately 53.8 percent of total population live in flat lands prone to floods, bitter droughts and low rainfall.
- Poverty rate at 17.4 percent (money-metric poverty statistics)
- 43.3 percent multidimensionally poor
- High inequality (Gini coefficient = 0.56), and high unemployment rate (36.9 percent)

Adaptive Social Protection

Type of Social grant/Pension	Number	%
Total persons receiving at least one grant	483 131	
Old age Pension	176 780	36.6
Disability Grants	61 616	12.8
State Maintenance grant	154 731	32
Foster parent grant	22 742	4.7
Workmen's compensation	19 151	4
Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA) Funds	9 712	2
Pension from previous job	17 849	3.7
GIPF	44 361	9.2
War Veterans/ex-combatants Grants	19 912	4.1
Others	61 823	12.8

Source: Namibia Population and Housing Census 2023

SOURCES OF FINANCING

- To finance ASP sustainably, Namibia looks to this mix of sources:
- National Treasury
- Development Partners contributions (e.g., World-Bank, UNICEF, WFP, ILO, GIZ, EU, AfDB)
- Social insurance funds like Social Security Commission
- Climate adaptation funds although the private sector's involvement will make a significant difference

FINANCING CHALLENGES

- Namibia faces several challenges in financing ASP:
- The national budget which is a main funding source, is limited.
 - Limited coverage,
 - Inadequate benefit value
- Development Partners' dependency is high,
- There is currently no national shock financing mechanism.

SHOCK-RESPONSIVE FINANCING

Namibia maintains limited contingency reserves in national budget for aiding in:

- Drought relief
- Emergency food distribution
- Infrastructure recovery after disasters

These emergency funds are administered by the Directorate of Disaster Risk Management under the OPM.

ENSURING SUSTAINABILITY

To ensure sustainability of Adaptive Social Protection...

- ✓ Enhance social insurance component
- 💡 Innovative Financing for Social Protection
- 🤝 Increase synergies and integration among OMAs
- 📅 MTEF to ensure ASP is not seen as a short-term emergency solution but as a long-term investment.

DATA CHALLENGES

Accurate, timely, relevant and accessible data is essential for:

- Effective policy-making
- Targeted service delivery
- Crisis response (e.g., drought, pandemics)

Namibia has made some good strides in the right direction, but some challenges persist.

OVERVIEW OF DATA CHALLENGES

- **Limited data availability:** Due to finances the household survey have become infrequent - Slows timely intervention and long-term planning.
- Databases prior to 2023 still not fully adhering to LNOB Standards
- **Delayed Data Release:** Time lag between data collection and publication - Reduces relevance of data for policy and emergency response.
- **Fragmented Data Systems** - Data owned by different ministries without integration - Inefficiencies, duplication, and misaligned targeting.
- **Capacity Constraints:** Limited technical skills in data management and analytics - Inability to process, analyze, and use data effectively
- **Weak Data Governance** - Absence of a comprehensive data protection law – Unclear data ownership and sharing policies leading to limited collaboration and trust in data systems.

ONGOING EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE GAPS

- NSA modernizing statistical systems and promoting open data – through the **National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)** launched in July 2023 to strengthen statistical capacity and accessibility.
- Donor-supported projects to develop integrated social registries
- Early warning systems development (e.g., drought monitoring)
- Draft data protection law under review
- Adoptive of Multi Dimensional Index as measure of poverty to track progress in alleviating poverty in all its forms.

Opportunities for collaboration

- Strengthened cross-ministry data integration and sharing protocols
- Increase investment in digital infrastructure and skills training
- Finalize and implement the data protection legal framework
- Promote open data access and public use of national statistics
- Enhance the capacity to manage or eliminate duplications of SP interventions



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