NamPPF
Namibia Public-Private Forum



Ms. Julia Muetudhana

Acting CEO: NIPDB

Namibia Competitiveness

25 November 2026

THE PRESIDENCY
NAMIBIA
Unity : Liberty : Justice

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

NPC
National Planning Commission

NIPDB
Namibia Investment Promotion & Development Board

BACKGROUND IMD WCY

Cabinet Mandate & Strategic Transition

In **March 2025**, Cabinet approved Namibia's participation in the **IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook (WCY)** to enable regular monitoring of the country's priorities. This provides vital insights following the discontinuation of the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Report and the WEF Global Competitiveness Index.

To ensure national alignment, the National Planning Commission (NPC) has been instructed to integrate these competitiveness priorities into the **National Development Plan (NDP6)** and all OMA strategic plans.



PRIORITY 1

Improving the ease of doing business

PRIORITY 2

Enhancing skills availability & industry absorption

PRIORITY 3

Strengthening innovation capabilities

METHODOLOGY

Core Objective

The IMD World Competitiveness ranking **analyses and ranks the capacity of countries to create and maintain an environment that sustains the competitiveness of enterprises**.

Primary Assumption

Wealth creation takes place primarily at an enterprise level—private or state-owned. This field of research is defined as **“competitiveness of enterprises”**.

National Context

Enterprises operate within a national environment that enhances or hinders global competition. This is researched as **“competitiveness of countries”**.

The Four Main Factors

1. Economic Performance
2. Government Efficiency
3. Business Efficiency
4. Infrastructure

Based on leading scholars and internal research.

METHODOLOGY

INPUT SOURCES

HARD DATA
Statistics from international, regional and national sources

170 Criteria

SURVEY DATA
International Panel of Experts Executive Opinion Survey

92 Criteria

COMPUTE STD VALUES
Individually, for all criteria used in the ranking

262 Criteria

OVERALL RANKING
Aggregates values for all 262 criteria

FACTORS RANKING
- Economic Performance
- Government Efficiency
- Business Efficiency
- Infrastructure

CRITERIA RANKING
Each of the 341 criteria is individually ranked for the countries

COUNTRY RANKINGS

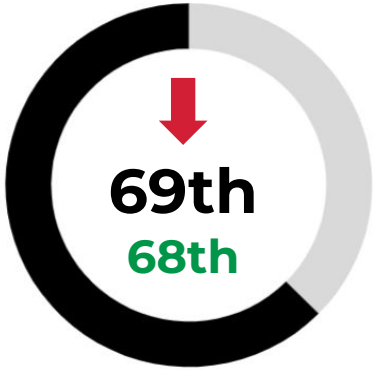


ALL COUNTRY RANKINGS 2026

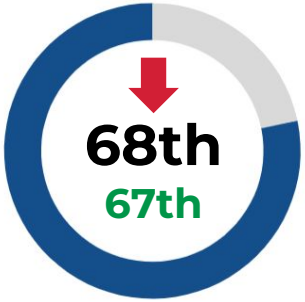


CHANGE IN NAMIBIA'S 2025/2026 COMPETITIVENESS PERFORMANCE (RANKINGS)

Overall Ranking
(out of 70 countries)

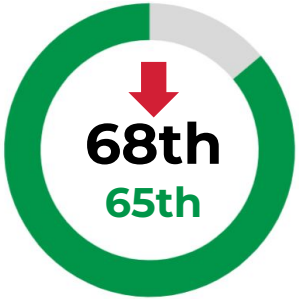


Economic Performance



Assesses the extent to which an economy fosters an environment in which enterprises can generate sustainable value creation

Infrastructure



Extent to which basic, technological, scientific and human resources meet the needs of businesses

Government Efficiency



Extent to which government policies are conducive to competitiveness

Business Efficiency



Extent to which the national environment encourages enterprises to perform in an innovative, profitable and responsible manner

NAMIBIA'S 2026 COMPETITIVENESS PERFORMANCE ACROSS SUB - PILLARS

ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

Domestic Economy	68	70
International Trade	58	51
International Investment	62	57
Employment	69	69
Prices	8	8

GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY

Public Finance	47	60
Tax Policy	21	29
Inst. Framework	58	61
Business Legislation	63	65
Societal Framework	48	57

BUSINESS EFFICIENCY

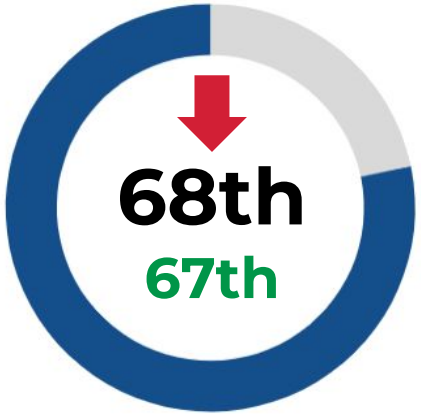
Productivity Efficiency	64	69
Labour Market	65	66
Finance	58	66
Mgmt. Practices	59	70
Attitudes & Values	59	68

INFRASTRUCTURE

Basic Infrastructure	59	68
Technological Infrastructure	57	70
Scientific Infrastructure	69	70
Health & Environment	57	58
Education	56	60

FACTOR 1: ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

22.30
21.74



Assesses the extent to which an economy fosters an environment in which enterprises can generate sustainable value creation

(A total of **81** criteria are measured under this pillar)

↓ 70

Domestic Economy

(**25 indicators**) - measures the size and complexity of the economy as well as aggregate consumption and savings.

↑ 51

International Trade

(**25 indicators**) - assesses the status of the import and export of goods, commercial services and tourist receipts.

↑ 57

International Investment

(**15 indicators**) - captures the stock and flows of financial investments towards and outward the country.

- 69

Employment

(**10 indicators**) - summarizes the most important indicators related to job markets.

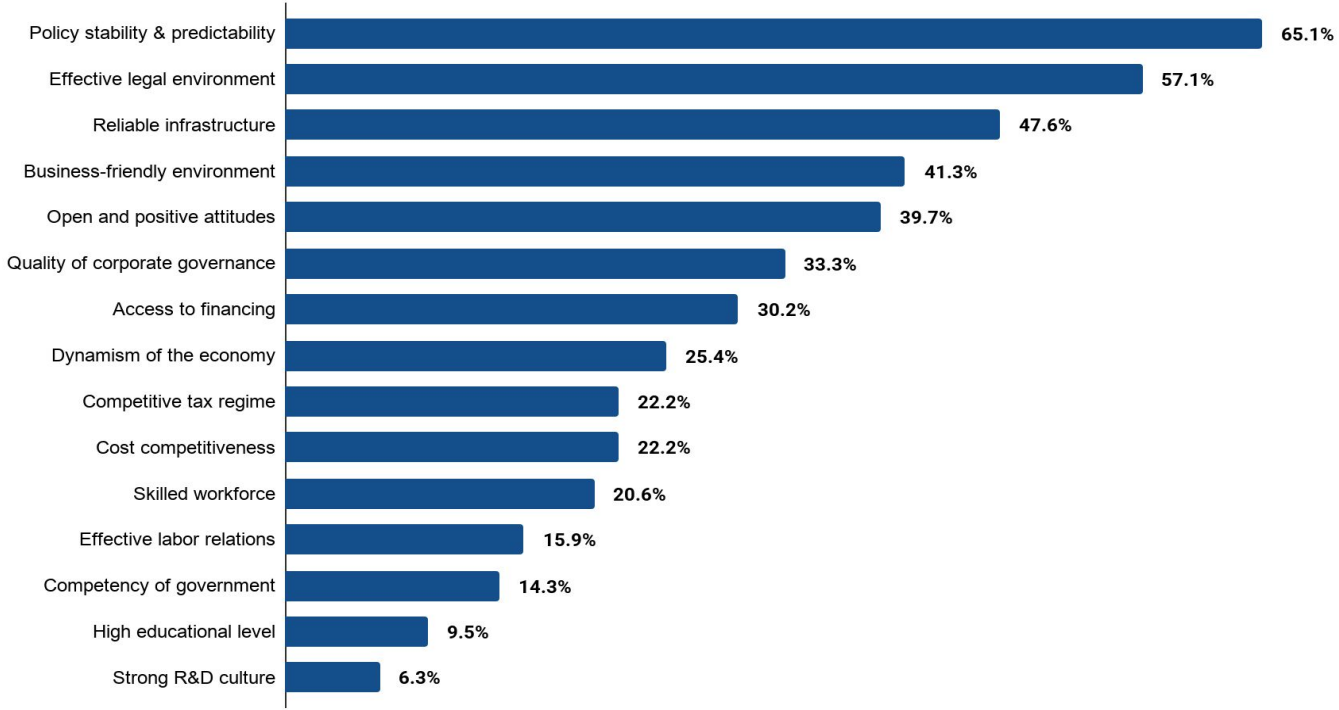
- 8

Prices

(**6 indicators**) - provides an evaluation of inflation and living costs in the country.

NIPDB
Namibia Investment Promotion & Development Board

KEY ATTRACTIVENESS INDICATORS (EXECUTIVE OPINION SURVEY)



NAMIBIA COMPARED TO PEER COUNTRIES



PEER GROUP ANALYSIS 2026 REPORT



JORDAN 46

57.79 **/ 59.28**



PERU 60

45.89 **/ 43.33**



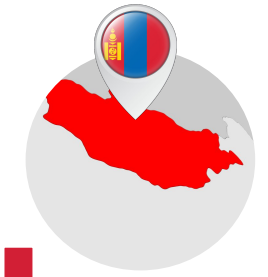
BOTSWANA 66

46.12 **/ 39.88**



SOUTH AFRICA 54

41.98 **/ 50.16**



MONGOLIA 67

40.91 **/ 39.02**



NAMIBIA 69

37.48 **/ 28.48**

2025 **| 2026**

IMD includes a peer group analysis in its report, to assess how countries fare across the four factors in comparison to their peers. For the purpose of comparison of Namibia's performance, the peer group selected consists of Botswana, Jordan, Mongolia, Peru and South Africa.

Across the peer group, overall competitiveness scores showed a decline between 2025 and 2026; while only two economies recorded gains, others experienced noticeable losses.

Jordan and South Africa are the only two nations that strengthened their positions with higher scores and better ranks while the rest declined in their scores.

AFRICA - REGIONAL GROUP ANALYSIS

FACTOR	NAMIBIA	BOTSWANA	KENYA	SOUTH AFRICA	GHANA	NIGERIA
Overall Ranking	↓ 68 | **69**	↓ 59 | **66**	↑ 56 | **55**	↑ 64 | **54**	↓ 61 | **64**	↓ 67 | **68**
Economic Performance	↓ 67 | **68**	▬ 69 | **69**	↓ 62 | **66**	↓ 63 | **64**	↑ 66 | **65**	↑ 61 | **55**
Government Efficiency	↓ 55 | **62**	↓ 41 | **44**	↑ 60 | **56**	↑ 63 | **54**	↑ 49 | **47**	↑ 57 | **53**
Business Efficiency	↓ 63 | **70**	↓ 48 | **58**	↑ 38 | **31**	↑ 57 | **42**	↓ 49 | **54**	↓ 59 | **63**
Infrastructure	↓ 65 | **68**	↓ 59 | **63**	↑ 64 | **62**	↑ 62 | **59**	▬ 67 | **67**	↓ 68 | **70**

2025 **| 2026**

WHERE TO INVEST IN AFRICA- WTIIA 2026 REPORT

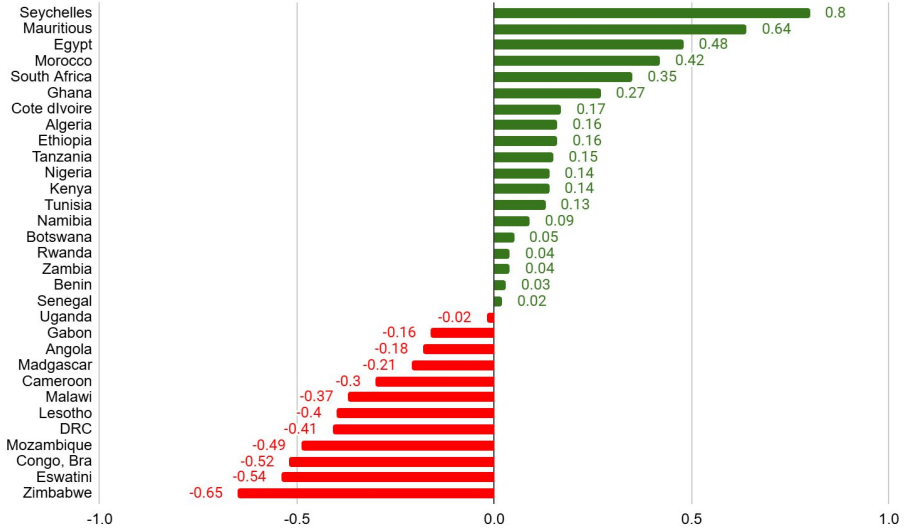


NAMIBIA'S RESULTS - WHERE TO INVEST IN AFRICA (WTIIA) 2026

In the 2026/27 report Namibia improved its position to 14th out of 31 African economies, marking a three-place advancement from 17th in 2025/26 and a four-place improvement from 18th in 2024/25.

This upward movement was accompanied by an increase in the country's overall score from 0.02 to 0.09, indicating a modest improvement in its relative investment attractiveness. While the improved ranking points to progress in Namibia's overall investment positioning, it should not be interpreted as evidence of uniform gains across all dimensions of economic performance, as underlying structural vulnerabilities and competitiveness challenges remain.

18th 2024/25	17th 2025/26	14th 2026/27
Overall Score **0.02 → 0.09** **+0.07 points**	**RANKING IMPROVEMENT** **+3 places** From 17th to 14th	



RECOMMENDATIONS



CONSTRAINTS IN THE CURRENT BUSINESS ECOSYSTEM

Regulatory & Administrative

Delays in environmental clearance certificates (ECCs), sector-specific licences and permits, and other approvals. Policy and regulatory uncertainties.

Land & Infrastructure

Access and allocation of land, including land-access challenges linked to exclusive prospecting licences (EPLs). Infrastructure and utility requirements.

Financing & Commercial Factors

Financing and other commercial interventions, which are not necessarily within Government's control.

PRIORITY AREAS FOR ACTION

Investment Climate Reforms

Identify and address regulatory and administrative bottlenecks affecting investment establishment and business operations.

Infrastructure & Logistics

Advocate for strategic infrastructure investment that lowers trade and logistics costs and improves market connectivity.

Economic Diversification

Promote investment in value-added manufacturing, agro-processing, mining beneficiation and export-oriented sectors.

MSME Participation

Strengthen linkages between large investors and domestic suppliers to deepen local participation in investment value chains.

ENABLING INVESTMENT & COMPETITIVENESS

Human Capital Development

Promote investment projects that integrate skills development, technology transfer and local employment.

Institutional Accountability

Advance transparent, predictable and efficient investment-related administrative processes across public institutions.

Statistical Capacity & Evidence-Based Policy

Use competitiveness and governance indicators more systematically to inform policy engagement and reform priorities.

"A people united, striving to achieve a common good for all members of society, will always emerge victorious." - HE Dr. Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma. Founding President and Founding Father

NamPPF
Namibia Public-Private Forum



THANK YOU

Ms. Julia Muetudhana

THE PRESIDENCY
NAMIBIA
Unity : Liberty : Justice

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

NPC
National Planning Commission

NIPDB
Namibia Investment Promotion & Development Board