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Chamber of Mines OF NAMIBIA

NEWSLETTER

The quarterly newsletter of the Namibian mining industry



www.chamberofmines.org.na

2019 MINING EXPO & CONFERENCE ISSUE

MINING EXPO & CONFERENCE

CHAMBER OF MINES OF NAMIBIA

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50th
CM

Chamber of Mines
OF NAMIBIA

8 & 9 May 2019 | Windhoek Show Grounds

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Contents

JAN-MAR 2019

ON THE COVER



Night time exploration drilling at the Uis Tin Mine.

PHOTOGRAPH BY TIM MARAIS



3 NEW INVESTMENT BRINGS ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES TO UIS



7 ERONGO DESALINATION PLANT REACHES IMPORTANT MILESTONE



19 RECOGNISING TALENT: SKORPION ZINC GRADUATE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

REGULARS

CEO'S FORWARD: A Golden Jubilee
COMON UPDATE: 50 years of Excellence and
Dedicated Service

INTERVIEWS

Celebrating Our Human Gems:
One on One with NAMDEB CEO, Jurgen Jacob

NEWS

Orano Awards Historical First Long-Service Awards
Debmarine Engages Its Stakeholders
NAMDEB – Continuing our positive legacy
Safety First: Joint Emergency Drill
Namibian Occupational Health Forum Update
Opuwo Cobalt Project builds local school
Honouring a Namibian sport legend: Frank Slabbert

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FEATURE IN ISSUE 2



ADVERT & CONTENT DEADLINES
FRIDAY 31 MAY 2019

A Golden Jubilee



“

I can truly say that this organisation has moved from humble beginnings to the reputable Chamber it has become today and has celebrated countless successes in contributing to the favourable policy and regulatory environment governing the mining industry in Namibia.

I am especially excited to share with you this very first issue of the Chamber of Mines Newsletter 2019, as this year marks 50 years in existence of the Chamber of Mines. It is a proud moment for us in time, to reflect on where we started as an industry Association in 1969, to the established and reputable Chamber we have become today. I can truly say that this organisation has moved from strength to strength and has celebrated countless successes in contributing to the favourable policy and regulatory environment governing the mining industry in Namibia.

The upcoming Mining Expo and Conference, which is just around the corner on 8th and 9th May at the Windhoek Grounds, will mark the climax of celebrations for this momentous occasion. Accordingly, the theme of this year's event is "Celebrating 50 years of excellence and dedicated service to Namibia's mining industry." Quite befittingly, the industry is witnessing the development of three old mines that will be brought back into operation which is symbolic of where the industry has come from and where we are moving to. As such, the conference programme includes presentations on the historic beginnings of these mines and how they are being brought back to life. In light of the decreasing life of mines for most of Namibia's operations, another topic of discussion on the conference programme is how to ensure the sustainability of the sector through the discovery of new mines.

A few weeks ago, the 2018 Fraser Institute Survey of Mining Companies was released which highlighted some interesting findings for Namibia. As the number of countries has consistently declined since 2014, it is no longer accurate to compare overall rankings of a country, but rather to focus on the absolute scores. Namibia's overall Investment Attractiveness (IAI) index fell from 60.78 in 2017 to 56.66 in 2018. The decline in IAI was due to a significant drop in Namibia's Best Practices Mineral Potential Index which fell from 53.7 in 2017 to 40.63 in 2018. While there were no direct explanations for the drop in Namibia's Mineral Potential, perceptions on Mineral Potential of a country are inclined to deteriorate if the perceived Mineral Potential in neighbouring or regional jurisdictions is perceived as better.

Although there is still some uncertainty on key policies and legislation such as NEEEF, the Namibia Investment Promotion Act and the Tax Amendment Bill, Namibia's Policy Perception Index for mining improved from 71.11 in 2017 to 80.71 in 2018. Namibia scored second highest in Africa on the Policy Perception Index, after Botswana. This improvement was most likely an outcome of the key decision to remove Additional Conditions to licences for exploration companies. The Chamber recognizes this as one of its many achievements in the policy space and remains committed to ensuring a favourable policy environment for another 50 years to come. I look forward to celebrating 50 years of excellence with you all at the Mining Expo & Conference.

VESTON MALANGO

CEO – Chamber of Mines of Namibia
29TH MARCH 2019



CELEBRATING

50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

From its modest beginnings in the month of May, 1969, the year 2019 marks a hallmark for the Chamber of Mines of Namibia in which it celebrates 50 years of dedicated service to Namibia's mining industry. The celebration is symbolic of the industry's dynamic history, longevity and the role it plays in Namibia's socio-economic development. The Chamber of Mines, as the industry representative body, has contributed significantly in shaping the path of this history through its passionate work towards fostering growth in Namibia's mining industry.

The organisation was officially inaugurated as the Association for Mining Companies of South West Africa at the Grand Windhoek Hotel on 9th May 1969. At this meeting six representatives were elected to serve on the Council of the Association and a main outcome was the formulation of a Constitution and Rules of the Association which was formally adopted. The Constitution was revised ten years later inter alia, and changed its name to the Chamber of Mines of South West Africa. At Independence in 1990, the organisation was renamed to the Chamber of Mines of Namibia from South West Africa.

The Chamber of Mines has indeed evolved with the industry over the years, but continues to subscribe to its main principles on which it was formed. These are to promote, encourage, protect and foster growth of the mining industry in Namibia. To shape such an environment, one of the primary functions of the Chamber is to continuously engage with and advise Government on policies and legislative matters affecting the industry. In 2011, the Chamber celebrated a notable milestone in this regard, with the reversal of potentially devastating tax proposals that would have crippled the industry. Government's withdrawal of the proposals was a direct outcome of successful policy engagement and intervention by the Chamber. A few years later in 2014, Namibia was ranked as the most favourable destination in Africa for investment into mining, and during a negative cycle of commodity prices at that time, also attracted over N\$30billion in investment that translated into the simultaneous development of three new, major mines.

Through established committees within the Chamber of Mines structure, the organisation also addresses important issues such as health and

safety, environment, power, exploration matters, human resources and labour. Through each of these committees quarterly meetings are held to discuss cross-cutting topics affecting the entire industry; how these can be addressed through shared experiences and expertise while striving towards industry best practice in each of these areas.

The Chamber of Mines of Namibia has grown into a respected and reputable representative body for mining in Africa, one that is often consulted with on how best to bridge the divide between the mining sector and Governments. The activities of the Chamber and thereby its members are governed by a robust Constitution, Code of Conduct and Ethics, which allows the Chamber to expel members if a case of contravention is established. This self-governing mechanism has afforded the Chamber a respected status with the Government, with which it has developed a mutually beneficial relationship that is embedded in trust. It is through this reinforcing relationship that the industry has evolved and continued to expand, while contributing to the sustainable development of Namibia.

The Chamber of Mines will strive to grow and evolve with industry developments and best practice, all the while, maintaining its core principles. At present, the sector is faced with challenging times, but the Chamber of Mines remains committed to overcoming these and to ensuring sustained growth of Namibia's mining industry. Through collaborative partnerships, a vibrant and committed industry, The Chamber of Mines looks forward to serving the sector for the next 50 years and beyond.

LAUREN DAVIDSON

Economist – Chamber of Mines of Namibia

NEW INVESTMENT BRINGS ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES TO

Uis

Since the closure of Namibia's largest tin mine almost three decades ago, the nearby town of Uis has been sustained mostly by tourism. The town serves as a perfect stopover for the weary Brandberg hiker, or for travelers on their way to Damaraland from the coast. Apart from tourism, the local community derive their livelihood from small-scale mining activities and a brick manufacturing operation that was established from the old mine's tailings in 2006.

However, new investment by London-listed AfriTin Mining will revive mining operations, bringing fresh economic opportunity for the town of Uis and the greater region.

*Hon. Minister Alweendo and
Mr Viljoen, CEO Afritin Mining*



MINE CLOSURE IN 1990

International sanctions on South Africa during the apartheid years restricted trading with the outside world and forced the country to source their mineral requirements internally. To meet their tin demand, the South African mining giant, Iscor, established the tin mining operation of Uis, which became one of the biggest tin mines in the world. However, when economic sanctions were lifted in 1990, South Africa could source tin for cheaper on the global market. This also followed the collapse of the global tin market in 1985, and the sequence of events forced Iscor to suspend operations and close the mine in 1991. Unfortunately, Iscor did not plan for sudden mine closure which had adverse economic consequences for Uis.

THE TIN MARKET TODAY

In the last decade, there have been significant improvements in the global tin market with the price rising to a high of US\$33,000 per metric tonne in 2011. Price increases were driven by declining tin stocks world-wide and legislation passed in Europe enforcing the decreased use of lead in electronic soldering. Previously, lead was a large component in an alloy with tin in solder, but is largely being phased out due to environmental and health concerns and tin now remains the sole mineral in electric soldering.

Today, the price of tin is trading at US\$21,400 per metric tonne as at 28 March 2019, which is favourable compared to prices even before the tin market collapse. To put this into perspective, copper, which is a high value mineral, is currently trading at US\$6,340 per metric tonne. Although tin is primarily used for soldering purposes, which is applicable in the manufacture of all electronics, it also has extensive potential in electric vehicles and in lithium-ion batteries and various other technologies.

With a tin market that is forecasted to remain in a supply deficit until 2022 and robust demand fundamentals for tin applications in the long-term, the prospect for the price of tin is extremely positive.

AFRITIN MINING COMES TO UIS

It is against this backdrop AfriTin Mining is developing its Uis Tin project. It consists of three project areas, which were all once operating tin mines. The first phase of their project involves developing the Uis mine, for which a phase one processing plant is currently being constructed. The plant is designed to process 500,000 tonnes of ore per annum and will produce 65 tonnes of tin concentrate per month. The aim of the phase one plant is to provide early cash flow for the company while providing the transition and information for a full Bankable Feasibility Study for phase two. The phase two project is envisaged to consist of a much larger plant with a nameplate processing capacity of three million tonnes of ore per annum, to produce approximately 5,500 tonnes of tin concentrate per annum.

At present, the operation will create 100 direct jobs. Moreover, the company is also supporting small-scale miners in the area. AfriTin has partnered with the Small Miners of Uis (SMU), a not-for-profit organization and co-shareholder. AfriTin's activities are currently focused on the old Uis Tin mine, however, future work will be to evaluate two additional mining areas as well as two further EPLs within the surrounding area. The company wants to expand its footprint in the region and the continent with the goal of becoming the African tin champion.

DESERT LION ENERGY

the Future of Lithium Production in Namibia

Desert Lion's first shipment
of Lithium concentrate to
China in July 2018

GROWING OPTIMISM ON THE USES OF BATTERY MINERALS, AND THEIR POTENTIAL, FUELLED MARKETS IN 2017 AND EARLY IN 2018, DRIVING PRICE INCREASES WELL ABOVE HISTORIC BENCHMARKS. HOWEVER, PRICES FOR MOST BATTERY MINERALS IN CHINA, LED BY LITHIUM, FELL BY APPROXIMATELY 50% IN THE SECOND HALF OF 2018 DUE TO SUBSIDY REVERSALS IN CHINA AND INCREASING SUPPLY FROM THE GLOBAL MARKET.

Price movements in the Chinese market have significant implications for global producers of lithium, as the country accounts for the majority of battery mineral consumption. Lithium prices have stabilised in recent months due to delays in the planned new production from South America, Australia, Canada and China.

Despite a turbulent year in 2018, Desert Lion Energy is continuing with the development of their lithium project located near Karibib in the Erongo region. Activities are underway to upgrade their Mineral Resource estimate and update engineering studies that were completed in 2018. As part of updating the Mineral Resource estimate, Desert Lion Energy is re-logging newly identified mineralised core, surveying existing workings and conducting infill drilling. The updated Mineral Resource is expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2019.

The company's current Mineral Resource estimate includes three million tonnes at a grade of 0.63% lithium oxide in the indicated category at a 0.20% cut-off grade, and 5.8 million tonnes at a grade of 0.53% lithium oxide in the inferred category at a 0.20% cut-off grade. Lepidolite is a lithium bearing mineral that typically occurs in the African and Asian pegmatite deposits. Desert Lion's Mineral Resource is the largest co-compliant lepidolite deposit in the world today.

In parallel, the company is also updating engineering studies to improve the efficiency of the planned processing plant. Construction work of the plant is planned to commence late in 2019 as well as the finalisation of power supply to the envisioned mine. Desert Lion is also assessing options to sell an additional 20,000 tonnes of lithium concentrate in the first half of 2019.

Although lithium prices may not return to the highs experienced in 2017 and early 2018, Desert Lion is committed to developing its world-class lithium asset in Namibia. Fundamentals in the market for battery minerals remain positive as developed countries, including China, continue to pursue policies that support transport solutions with a lower carbon footprint.



LEPIDOLITE

IT TAKES EXCEPTIONAL ENDURANCE TO FIND NAMIBIA'S PRIDE TODAY AND TOMORROW.

Throughout Namibia's rich diamond history, Namdeb has played a significant role in contributing to the socio economic development of the country. Every facet of our diamond mining process is aimed at creating value to make lasting contributions safely sustainably and responsibly.

**GOOD TODAY.
BETTER TOMORROW.**



ERONGO DESALINATION PLANT

reaches important milestone



SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN 2010, THE ERONGO DESALINATION PLANT HAS PRODUCED A TOTAL OF 40 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF DRINKING WATER, WHICH IS ALMOST AS MUCH AS THE VON BACH DAM CAN HOLD WHEN IT IS FULL. THIS MILESTONE WAS REACHED AT THE END OF 2018.

Eight percent of the total production was supplied directly to Trekkopje Mine, and 92% was mixed with groundwater from NamWater's wellfields to supply industrial customers in the Erongo Region. The addition of desalinated seawater has enabled NamWater to keep meeting the Central Namib's water demand while operating the wellfields sustainably. This is important because the continued availability of relatively cheap groundwater has protected domestic consumers from steep water tariff increases, which would be unavoidable if the entire supply were sourced from the more expensive desalination process.

The Erongo Desalination Plant, the largest reverse osmosis seawater desalination facility in Southern Africa, is located 35 kilometres north of Swakopmund, near the settlement

of Wlotzkasbaken in the Namib Desert. It was initially built to supply water to the Trekkopje Mine and is wholly-owned by Orano Mining Namibia (formerly AREVA Resources Namibia) and managed by AVENG Water Treatment.

The plant was initially built to supply water to Trekkopje Mine. During the project feasibility study, it also became known that the local aquifers were being utilised at full capacity, which could not sustainably support another major consumer. The only viable alternative, seawater desalination, had already been identified in Government's Central Namib Area Water Master Plan in 1996. Orano therefore decided to construct a desalination plant with a capacity of 20 million cubic metres per annum to meet the demand initially required by the mine. Later optimisation studies reduced this figure to 12 to 14 million cubic metres per annum.

Though the plant can produce up to 20 million cubic metres of water per annum, the production is limited by the demand that reached 12 million cubic metres in 2017. To accommodate future increases in demand, the desalination plant can be upgraded to 26 million cubic

**THE ERONGO DESALINATION
PLANT, THE LARGEST
REVERSE OSMOSIS SEAWATER
DESALINATION FACILITY IN
SOUTHERN AFRICA**



“
*Our desalination plant has therefore
turned into a valuable asset that
could ensure water security not only
for the coastal region, but nationally
or even beyond.”*
—

metres per annum with the existing infrastructure, while a second seawater intake pipe enables further expansion to 45 million cubic metres.

When Trekkopje Mine was placed under care and maintenance in 2013 following the downturn of the international uranium market, the desalination plant had spare capacity. At the same time, the Namibian Water Corporation (NamWater) had to reduce pumping from the Omdel wellfield due to a lack of groundwater recharge. To make up for the shortfall Orano and NamWater concluded an agreement to augment the groundwater supply with desalinated water. The pipeline from the desalination plant to Trekkopje Mine was connected to NamWater’s pipeline from Henties Bay to Swakopmund. Omaruru River groundwater and desalinated water are thus mixed in the pipeline, which incidentally results in a lower salinity and hardness of the water supplied to all users.

The Erongo Desalination Plant is subject to Namibia’s legislation and standards in terms of health, safety and the environment. To ensure that the water quality complies with the Namibian standards, regular independent tests are conducted and reported to the regulatory authorities.

The water is also replenished with all the minerals the body needs so that it is safe for human consumption. Impact studies by independent experts prior to the approval of the plant predicted no major effects of the brine discharge on marine life around the outlet. This has been confirmed by monitoring of the seawater quality and marine life.

The Erongo Desalination Plant has become an important contributor to the economic growth of the Erongo Region, as it supplies water to the uranium mining industry and recently also to other industrial and domestic users. It serves as an example of a symbiosis between mining and public water supply, securing the economic growth of the Erongo Region and Namibia as a whole.

Orano Mining Namibia Managing Director Hilifa Mbako reiterates the importance of this resource to Namibia and to the region; “Desalination of sea water is becoming increasingly popular around the world as a means of providing freshwater where other water resources are limited, and Namibia is no exception. Our desalination plant has therefore turned into a valuable asset that could ensure water security not only for the coastal region, but nationally or even beyond.”

ORANO MINING NAMIBIA (FORMERLY AREVA
RESOURCES NAMIBIA) AWARDED SEVEN
EMPLOYEES FOR THEIR FIRST EVER LONG SERVICE
AWARDS AT THE END OF 2018.

ORANO MINING NAMIBIA *awards historical first long-service awards*



From left to right (front): Rolene Barth (10 years), Hilifa Mbako (MD), Tommie Gouws (11 years), Ian McLaren (Chairperson), Jan Olivier (10 years), and Angelique Botha (10 years).

From left to right (back): Marianne Blaauw (10 years), Jacques van Wyk (10 years) and Shimene du Preez (10 years).

At a function held at the Strand Hotel on 23 October 2018, six employees received their ten-year certificates and one his 11-year certificate from the Chairman of the Board of Directors, Ian McLaren, as well as the MD, Hilifa Mbako.

Despite its state of care and maintenance as a result of the weak uranium market, Orano Mining Namibia has retained a small group of core employees responsible for keeping the plant and other assets in a good condition for potential restart when the market recovers, as well as focus on sound environmental management and employee safety. In addition, non-core functions like community investment continues to ensure that Orano maintains its presence in Namibia, which it sees as a critical investment for the group.

In his address, Ian McLaren shared some of the earliest memories of the establishment of the mine in 2008 and 2009, at the time when the uranium boom was in full swing. He reiterated the commitment of Orano Mining Namibia to the local economy, as well as the country as a whole.

Managing Director Hilifa Mbako congratulated the employees for their achievement, and highlighted the fact that these achievements are even more significant when one considers that the mine's safety record is exemplary.

OUR FOCAL AREAS AND BROAD OUTCOMES:

HEALTHCARE



EDUCATION



LIVELIHOODS



ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION



Natural environments
enhanced and
sustained.

RAISING THE BAR ON CSI

FOCUS ON ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION



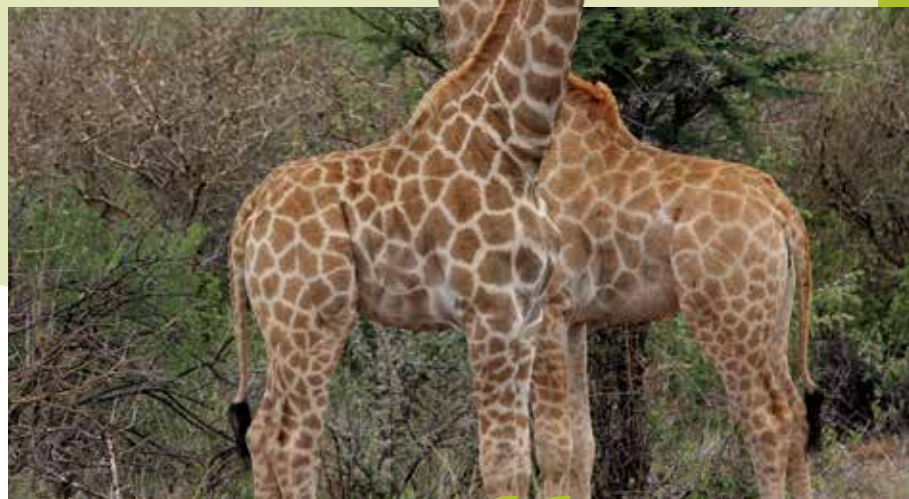
THE NAMIBIAN CHAMBER OF ENVIRONMENT

The Namibian Chamber of Environment (NCE) is one of B2Gold Namibia's flagship CSI concepts. The Company provides core funding to the NCE around which it builds its funding base and a suite of environmental programmes.

When we talk about "Environment" people tend to think of rhinos, spotted cats, birds and trees. While biodiversity is an important part of the environment, the NCE's definition is far broader. It embraces the concept of sustainable development; people and their livelihoods interacting with land, soil, water, the atmosphere, vegetation, wildlife, the economy and society. For the NCE, the environment is where socio-economic and ecological systems come together.

People are the cause of environmental problems, at both local and global levels. People are thus the solution. Working with individuals, groups, communities, agencies, politicians and broader society – both national and international – goes to the heart of the rationale for establishing the NCE.

The NCE is a membership-based organisation with a current membership of 62 environmental



NGOs and programmes. Its primary aim is to support this coalition of members to be as effective as possible, and to implement nationally important conservation and sustainable development programmes that they collectively identify.

The NCE works to bring together NGOs, the private sector and government into constructive outcomes-oriented teams that make a real difference to current challenges. Take the mining sector as an example. In the past, mining was justifiably seen as a damaging industry that left a legacy of environment debt to be carried by governments and society.

That is no longer the case in Namibia. Today, mining is one of the most regulated industries. It is one of very few industries that employ qualified environmental staff on mine sites: to plan, guide, monitor and manage environmental aspects through the life of the mine.



FOR THE NCE, THE ENVIRONMENT IS WHERE SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS COME TOGETHER.

The NCE and Chamber of Mines of Namibia have established a rather unique and constructive working relationship that is highly beneficial to the environment as well as to the integrity of the sector. Importantly, the relationship also brings together different government agencies, such as the Ministries of Mines and Environment, to streamline approaches and regulatory oversight. This sector approach provides an example of how other sectors could improve their environmental performance, by all parties working constructively together. In this way, Namibia is providing global leadership in the area of sustainable development.

Scan here to view
the B2Gold Namibia
"More Than Mining"
CSI video on your
mobile device:



**TUNE IN FOR OUR RADIO TALKS DURING MORNING DRIVE-TIME
EVERY SECOND FRIDAY UNTIL MID-DECEMBER 2018.**

NBC NATIONAL
91.7FM

OMURARI
93.5FM

KATI
98.2FM

KAISEMAS
105.3FM

CONTACT

B2Gold Namibia has a fully-fledged CSI department. For more information about our project application process, please email namibia.pr@b2gold.com or phone (061) 295 8700.

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AND SELECTED COMMERCIAL RADIO STATIONS;
FREQUENCIES APPLICABLE TO WINDHOEK AREA.



B2GOLD
NAMIBIA

DEBMARINE NAMIBIA

ENGAGES ITS STAKEHOLDERS



Daniel Kali, Non-executive Chairperson of the Board of Directors for Debmarine Namibia and Lisa Johnson, United States of America Ambassador to Namibia

Debmarine Namibia, a recognised world leader in marine diamond exploration and mining, produced 1.436 million carats, contributing 76% to the total output of Namdeb Holdings in 2018. The four percent year-on-year increase in output was due to technology improvements in the drillship rate. Debmarine Namibia Chief Executive Officer, Otto Shikongo, highlighted these successes at a stakeholder breakfast held recently in Windhoek.



Shikongo said the continuous improvement in the company over the years is attributed to its dedicated employees and constant improvement in technology, making Debmarine Namibia an industry leader that embraces the future with confidence. The Company shared its past, present and the future with its key stakeholders and commenced the engagement by setting the scene with a futuristic pitch that is symbolic of the company's status as a global leader in marine diamond mining. The stakeholder event was attended by Hon. Tom Alweendo, Minister of Mines and Energy, and other high ranking Government officials as well as members of the diplomatic corps, Debmarine Namibia's directors, employees and key industry captains.

Debmarine Namibia's Chief Financial Officer, Willy Mertens, reported that total revenue generated was N\$ 8.9 billion in 2018, an 11% increase compared to 2017 that was driven by increased production, a favourable exchange rate, competitive pricing and improved consumer demand.

The Government received N\$2.4 billion as royalties and corporate tax, and as a 50% shareholder it also received N\$350 million in dividends. Over a four year period, from 2014 to 2018, the company has directly contributed N\$16.4 billion to the Namibian economy.

Diamond mining as a significant contributor to the Namibian economy was confirmed by Director of Research at the Bank of Namibia, Florette Nakusera, who explained that diamond mining contributed an average of 8.2% to Namibia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from 2013 to 2017 and achieved an average growth rate of 2.6% over this period. The sub-sector is by far the largest contributor to mineral royalty payments and corporate taxes paid by the mining industry.

The keynote speaker, Minister of Mines and Energy Hon. Tom Alweendo, explained that the mining industry is the single most important primary sector to Namibia's economic

Otto Shikongo, CEO of Debmarine Namibia, delivering his opening speech.



“
...Among the number of urgent things that we have to do, is to unleash the creativity and brainpower of our people, especially that of the youth. It is essential that we embrace and incentivize those with new practical ideas with a potential to result into new economic opportunities...
—

Dr Michael Humavindu, Chairperson of the Board of Directors of Debmarine Namibia and Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Trade, Industrialisation and SME Development and Daniel Kali, Non-executive Chairperson of the Board of Directors for Debmarine Namibia



Honourable Tom Alweendo, Minister of Mines and Energy, delivering the keynote address.



Mark Dawe, Managing Director of B2Gold Namibia, Conrad Dempsey, CEO of RMB Namibia and Sarel van Zyl, CEO of FirstRand Namibia Group, networking at the stakeholder event.

growth. To ensure continued growth in the sector, he emphasized the need to do away with policy uncertainty and to periodically review the mining licencing framework in order to attract more investment into exploration. Without exploration, no new mines can be discovered. Given that mineral resources are depleting, he remarked that it is equally important to develop a comprehensive picture of mineral resources in the country through detailed geological mapping and encouraging mineral exploration.

Minister Alweendo encouraged the youth to be more creative going forward in steering Namibia to the next level of development and prosperity. “We live in an ever-changing economic environment, where there is no sure script for success. However, I also believe that we as a country are in a fortunate position where we were able to build a solid foundation on which we can build further.

Among the number of urgent things that we have to do, is to unleash the creativity and brainpower of our people,

especially that of the youth. It is essential that we embrace and incentivize those with new practical ideas with a potential to result into new economic opportunities. If we, as a collective, approach our challenges in the Harambee spirit and with creativity, innovation and courage, we should have nothing to fear for the future”, he concluded.

Debmarine Namibia continues to invest in the country’s youth, not only through its bursary scheme and other in-house educational programmes, but also in CSR initiatives.

Through its social investment fund, the company invests approximately N\$9 million annually on community development initiatives focusing on women empowerment, early girl-child development, education, health and welfare, capacity development, conservation, and SME development through the Debmarine-Namdeb Foundation. Debmarine Namibia invests in projects that have a long-term and lasting impact, and turns diamond dreams into reality.

CONTINUING OUR *positive* LEGACY



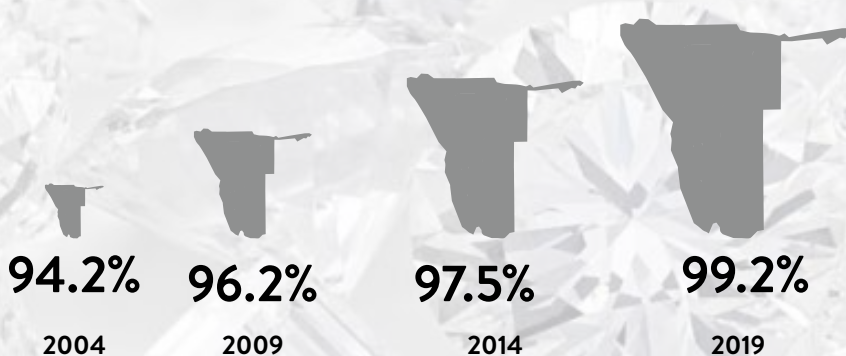
NAMDEB ACHIEVES ENVIRONMENTAL MILESTONE

One of Namdeb Diamond Corporation's most notable achievements in 2018 was becoming certified to the new ISO14001:2015 standard.

This is truly remarkable considering the size of Namdeb's operations and its footprint within Namibia's mining industry!

To the left: Nande Nickanor, Ursula Witbooi and Charlton August holding the ISO certificate.

NAMDEB DRIVES LOCALISATION



LOCALISATION % OVER LAST 15 YEARS

Namdeb Diamond Corporation continues to be a resilient business and has overcome some of the most challenging times, particularly for the diamond industry. The response to these challenges have have resulted in various business changes over the last few years. Despite the changes, Namdeb has continued to harness the principles and processes which drive Affirmative Action and succession planning as part of ensuring "the person at the right time" in relation to skills transfer and Namibianisation.

Through this commitment Namdeb has been able to steadily increase localisation and today the organisation prides itself with being 99% Namibianised.



Opuwo Cobalt Project **BUILDS LOCAL SCHOOL**

Celsius Resources Limited (CLA) donated a fully equipped pre-school to the people of Okondaurie community as part of their commitment to making sustainable investments in the communities within which they operate.

CLA has been exploring for cobalt and copper in the Okondaurie area, about 30km north of Opuwo in the Kunene region, since February 2017. The need to provide an educational facility for the local children was identified by the community during the early stages of the project.

The pre-school was built and equipped by CLA and currently accommodates 25 learners from the age of three to nine years who follow the Namibian syllabus. The local community was involved in all construction phases of the pre-school, which included ground preparation and fencing of the premises and attended training to develop building skills. In addition, two toilets were also built adjacent to the school.

Headman Ally Muhenje, leader of the Okondaurie district, graciously received the facilities on behalf of the community. Previous Managing Director of Celsius Resources, Brendan Borg, reiterated that the donation is symbolic of the genuine goodwill towards the people of Okondaurie and of the company's commitment to create a positive and lasting socio-economic legacy in the Opuwo Region.

Celebrating Our Human Gems:



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With NAMDEB'S Chief Operating Officer – Jurgen Jacob

As a member of the Chamber of Mines (CoM), Namdeb will commemorate the CoM's 50 years jubilee, through celebrating people, operational successes and showcasing how the Namdeb business continues creating a positive legacy. In this interview, Namdeb introduces you to their Chief Operating Officer, Jurgen Jacob, who was appointed in October 2018.

In addition to his expertise in the geological field, JJ, has proven himself as an astute business leader and strategist, and has been instrumental in developing Namdeb's business plans and budgets. JJ has spent more than twenty years at Namdeb and has over time developed his leadership capacity as well as proven his ability to deliver business performance under challenging conditions. Namdeb's Corporate Affairs team took time to interview JJ.

What was your journey like to get where you are?

I am a geologist by training and I started out in base metal exploration in the mid- 1990's, however I very quickly realized that it wasn't for me. I then moved over to a small family-owned diamond mine and recognized that diamonds and alluvial deposits were my passion. This was followed by joining Namdeb on initially a six month contract – and more than twenty years later, I haven't looked back since, after getting bitten by the Namdeb bug! Over the years I have served in various roles at Namdeb and I was always drawn to the operational side of the business which prepared me well for this role.

Briefly describe your term in the office since having been appointed as namdeb's chief operating officer (coo) – reflecting on highlights, challenges and opportunities?

Since taking office it has been a fast-paced ride, given that Namdeb was facing various challenges pertaining to cashflow as well as several safety concerns which needed a bold response from the business. The highlight to all of this is the turn-around that we have been able to achieve due to how the business responded to these challenges – as a Namdeb team, we faced them head on and we are now in a much better position in respect to safety, as well as in a stronger financial position than we were.

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...Those deposits which were deemed unpayable, were brought into the plan, by sheer innovation, doggedness and determination by people who refuse to quit. It is that sort of spirit which will see us well into the future.

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What do you hope to achieve as Namdeb's COO?

I would like to take Namdeb to a position where there is a good future ahead of it. Currently Namdeb only has a 3 year business plan, which means that mining operations will cease at the end of 2021. It will be very unfortunate if this icon of Namibian mining closes its doors, after such a proud history. There are a number of options and opportunities that we are reviewing, and part of my portfolio is to deliver a better business plan that I am taking extremely seriously. However, for us to have a better future, we need to keep on achieving the targets and delivering the current plan and I would like to steer us into the position where we meet these targets consistently and safely.

Namdeb has been in the business (of mining diamonds along the Atlantic Ocean) for a long time, what do you think have been the contributing factors to its longevity?

The main contributor to Namdeb's success over this tremendous period had been its absolute world class resource that we are still mining, after being at it for 110 years! It is the largest diamond megaplacer in the world, unsurpassed in both size and quality of diamonds. However, mining this deposit over such a long period of time requires an incredible amount of grit and innovation by the people that have mined these deposits over the years. When I arrived in 1995, Namdeb only had a five year life of mine plan remaining on land, and 24 years later – we are down to a three year life of mine plan. Time and time again, the people of Namdeb have responded, and brought new solutions to the table of how the deposits can be discovered, and mined differently. Those deposits which were deemed unpayable, were brought into the plan, by sheer innovation, doggedness and determination by people who refuse to quit. It is that sort of spirit which will see us well into the future.

What is Namdeb's role in terms of supporting the sustainability of Oranjemund town?

As a mining business we have already and continue to invest in a number of aspects contributing ensuring sustainability. Namdeb has commissioned several studies that have informed us exactly what it will take to make Oranjemund a sustainable town, long after diamond mining activities have ceased. This data points to the fact that at least 15 years of active diversification work is required. Currently Oranjemund is in a very precarious position, and needs diamond mining to give it a chance of becoming a sustainable town. It is therefore imperative that together with our stakeholders that we extend Namdeb's life of mine so that we can give Oranjemund a better chance of attaining independence from mining. Our current strategy centered around the transformation of Oranjemund town positions Namdeb to act as a catalyst to boost industries taking root and growing in town, in an effort to foster growth and sustainability.

Any final message?

Namdeb has been a real pillar in the economy of Namibia over the years, and if we continue doing the right things today, we will continue to deliver this value long into the future, and Namibia can gain maximum value out of the resource that was endowed to it!

Since its inception in 2001, Skorpion Zinc mine (SZ) implemented a Graduate Development Program aimed to develop, mentor, train and groom SZ bursary holders. To date the program has taken in 72 graduate trainees of which some have been appointed in substantive roles at the operation.

Recognising TALENT

SKORPION ZINC GRADUATE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



ELIAKIM TSHININGAYAMWE
REFINERY MANAGER
Metallurgy SZ Graduate in Training:
2006 – 2008
EXCO Member



MARCO KGOBETSI
ENGINEERING MANAGER
Engineering SZ Graduate in Training:
2010 – 2013
EXCO Member



SELMA IILEKA
CHEMIST
Chemist SZ Graduate in Training:
2015 – 2016



TUSNELDE HAIHAMBO
Graduate in Training:
Mining Engineer
Level 3



WILLEM KAPENDA
Graduate in Training:
Engineering
Level 3



ALFRED MAHONGO
Graduate in Training:
Mining Engineer
Level 3

“

I can confidently say I am 95% groomed as I have developed important skills in these areas

—
TUSNELDE HAIHAMBO

The SZ bursary programme creates opportunities for SZ bursary holders to join the company as graduate trainees upon completion of their studies. Over two years, the graduates gain all the skills and knowledge they need to build a successful career at SZ. The best graduates are retained by Skorpion on a permanent basis, while the remaining graduates may work anywhere in the country without any obligation to SZ.

The program is categorised in three phases, where trainees are assigned to handle multiple tasks and roles that they need to complete exceptionally in a period of two years. During this process, graduates trainees are also expected to meet other additional requirements before they are appointed in positions.

The programme is detailed and covers broad areas required by a graduate to fulfil any position in the mining industry and in their career fields.

A Mining Engineer graduate, Alfred Mahongo described the programme as a gateway to career growth and skills development. Alfred stated that his training in 2017 focused on drilling and blasting, business improvement and mine planning. With the skills acquired over the period of two years he believes that he is prepared to handle all aspects in his field.

Willem Kapenda, an Engineering graduate who is completing the last phase of the programme, is adamant and determined to complete the training successfully. “At the moment I am 90%

skilled and have acquired a better understanding of the requirements in my profession,” explained Willem.

Another programme beneficiary, Tusnelde Haihambo, also described the programme as a unique way to expose graduates to different areas of expertise in the mining industry. Tusnelde, who started her programme in 2017 as a Mining Engineer graduate, said, “SZ has created a platform for me to gain experience in business management, an assignment that gave me a chance to run projects effortlessly, and I can confidently say I am 95% groomed as I have developed important skills in these areas.”

The SZ Graduate Development program has also produced astounding leaders in the mining industry. The programme has elevated graduates to leadership positions such as Mr. Eliakim Tshiningayamwe who is the Refinery Manager and Mr. Marco Kgobetsi who is the Engineering Manager. Both individuals are also part of the Executive Committee at SZ.

Selma lileka, another graduate trainee who was also appointed in a substantive position, is the Chemist at the SZ Laboratory. Selma stated that she gained a better understanding of the workflow in the laboratory through the graduate programme, and has elevated her level of skills and knowledge.

At present, there are 16 graduates attached to different departments, of which 56% studied at local universities and 44% at South African universities. The SZ Graduate Development Programme aims to contribute to the national development and professional skills of youth in Namibia, as such opportunities are purely reserved for Namibian students.

Rössing Marathon race director, Frank Slabbert, receiving a token of acknowledgement from Rössing's manager HSE Jacklyn Mwenze at the naming of the half marathon in his honour.

HONOURING A NAMIBIAN SPORT LEGEND

“Frank Slabbert Half Marathon”



In their 43 years of working for Namibia, Rössing Uranium has always strived to create positive social impacts where they operate, helping to improve health and wellbeing, living standards and education in their host communities. In the promotion of health and wellbeing, the company hosted its Annual Rössing Marathon on 9 February, 2019.

“I am very excited to congratulate all the winners. For many of us, today was a lot of fun, for others, today was a challenge like no other, but for all of us I believe this day was another step towards taking better care of ourselves – showing our support to the theme this year, which is: My health, my right!” — said acting Managing Director Shaan van Schalkwyk, at the 28th Rössing Marathon held in Swakopmund.

In a special announcement during the prize-giving ceremony, Rössing announced that the 21km race during the event would in future be known as the “Frank Slabbert Half Marathon” in honour of long-time race director, Frank Slabbert.

Last year, a Rössing colleague and passionate supporter and participant of the annual event, came up with an idea for the half marathon distance which was just introduced in 2018. In honour of Frank Slabbert’s long-standing contribution to the running sport in general, and the Rössing Marathon in particular, the idea was to name the half marathon after Frank.

Frank is the current Chairperson of Swakop Striders Athletics Club, their partner in hosting one of Namibia’s oldest and most popular, premier long-distance events, the Rössing Marathon.

Commenting on the name change, the acting Managing Director said, “No event of this magnitude can be a success without trusted partners. As you know, Rössing is a uranium mining company, so of course we need the help of

competent sport coordinators for an event like this – and for us they come in the form of the Swakop Striders Athletics Club and in particular our race director, Frank Slabbert.”

For as long as the Rössing Marathon has existed, Frank has been synonymous with the event. He started his involvement with the Rössing Marathon in 1982, in the recording of runners’ times as their numbers were read out at the finish line. Frank then took over the event’s time-keeping responsibilities, with the 2019 event marking his 28th time as race director and official time-keeper.

As a former Rössing employee himself, having worked at the mine for more than 20 years, and a lover of sport in its truest sense, it is hard to imagine a Rössing Marathon without the firm, yet the friendly and dedicated direction of Frank.

Today he calls himself a “retired sport specialist,” but when you look at him, somehow the word “retired” doesn’t seem very accurate. After all, he is still an honorary Council member of Athletics Namibia and current Chairperson of Swakop Striders Athletics Club.

Frank is a sport specialist like few others, having participated in various sports throughout his life, including track, field and cross country running, soccer, rugby, cricket, hockey, softball and tennis. He has also served in various management roles on sporting bodies at the local, regional and national level. Frank is currently one of two Olympic Solidarity Lecturers on Sport Management and Leadership in Namibia, and he’s held several courses throughout Namibia over the years.



DEBMARINE NAMIBIA

A NAMIBIA DE BEERS PARTNERSHIP



WOMEN IN MARINE MINING

CREATIVELY CHANGING CULTURES

Emergency response units cleaning and surveying the spillage site.

Safety first

URANIUM MINERS AND EXPLORERS CONDUCT JOINT EMERGENCY DRILL

Under the auspices of the Radiation Safety Working Group of the Namibian Uranium Institute, Rössing Uranium, Swakop Uranium, Orano Mining Namibia and Bannerman Resources conducted a joint emergency drill on 26 October 2018 on the access road to the Husab Mine, just off the B2 Transkalahari Highway.

Through joint cooperation over the years, the various players in the Namibian uranium sector have coordinated accident responses in the region. This specific drill was to simulate a serious accident, observe the response and learn from it, and to ensure all parties are well versed in the emergency routines required.





“
...it creates a peer
review mechanism
that improves
procedures and
individual
knowledge through
shared learning
experiences.

—
NUA

The Orano medical team practicing treatment to a victim of the accident with head injury.

The scenario staged was a uranium oxide spillage on the Husab access road, where a truck transporting the product from the Husab Mine to the Walvis Bay harbour was involved in an accident with a Rössing light delivery vehicle, that was transporting ore samples in two drums also to the Walvis Bay harbour. The collision was minor, but resulted in the Husab container capsizing and opening, allowing some drums to fall out, spilling uranium oxide concentrate on the ground. The metallurgical samples at the back of the Rössing vehicle also fell out and spilled onto the ground. No personal injuries were sustained by either party.

At the same time, a light delivery vehicle from Bannerman Resources, en-route to a laboratory in Windhoek to deliver uranium ore samples for chemical analysis, came upon the accident and tried to swerve out of the way. The driver of the Bannerman vehicle managed to avoid the collision, but the samples on the back of the vehicle fell onto the ground. A passenger in the Bannerman vehicle, however, sustained a head injury and required medical attention. This was provided by Orano paramedics due to a support agreement between these two companies.

LESSONS LEARNED

After the drill, all participants and observers gathered at the Namibian Uranium Institute for a de-briefing session.

ISSUES UNDER SCRUTINY WERE:

- Communication
- The response time of the ambulance
- Crowd control
- The use of personal protective equipment
- Spill response kits
- Decontamination procedures; and
- Handling of the media

The de-briefing was concluded with a discussion on the legal requirements and the relevant legislation that is applicable in an incident involving spillage of a radioactive substance.

The scene was set up in parallel for each stakeholder to demonstrate their emergency response procedure. Apart from the afore mentioned companies, Langer Heinrich Uranium and Reptile Mineral Resources and Exploration staff were on the scene to observe, as were staff members of the Namibian Uranium Institute. Officials from the National Radiation Protection Authority of the Ministry of Health and Social Services also joined as observers.

The emergency drill was a valuable exercise for all parties, who could rehearse routines while gaining valuable knowledge and new experiences. Emergency response drills are important to organise periodically as it creates a peer review mechanism that improves procedures and individual knowledge through shared learning experiences. The success of the emergency drill has prompted the Radiation Safety Working Group to plan future exercises of this nature, and associated members of the Namibian Uranium Association, such as transport companies, have already indicated their wish to participate.

Recognising Talent Through Our GRADUATE PROGRAM

We have nurtured our graduates into Leaders!



Mr. Eliakim Tshiningayamwe
Refinery Manager
SZ Exco



Mr. Marco Kgobetsi
Engineering Manager
SZ Exco



Selma lileka
Chemist



Likoze Simenda
Metallurgist



Owen Puley
Chemist



Ephraim Simasiku
Workshop & Service Engineer



Alfred Mahongo
Graduate in Training – Mining
Phase 3



Bartromeus Kasera
Graduate in Training – Engineering
Phase 3



Festus Johannes
Graduate in Training – Engineering
Phase 3



Willem Kapenda
Graduate in Training – Engineering
Phase 3



Markus Shaambeni
Graduate in Training – Engineering
Phase 3



Tusnelde Haihambo
Graduate in Training – Mining
Phase 3



Floris Daniels
Graduate in Training – Mining
Phase 3



Bernhard Sahungwa
Graduate in Training – Engineering
Phase 3



Garab Moses
Graduate in Training – Engineering
Phase 3



Abner Nangula
Graduate in Training – Engineering
Phase 3



Simson Heita
Graduate in Training – Metallurgy
Phase 2



Otto Nahambo
Graduate in Training – Laboratory
Phase 1

Namibian Occupational Health Forum UPDATE

THE LAST WORKSHOP HOSTED BY THE NAMIBIAN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH FORUM (NOHF) AND NAMIBIAN URANIUM INSTITUTE IN 2018 FOCUSED ON SAFE AND EFFICIENT ILLUMINATION, TOGETHER WITH EFFECTIVE REFLECTIVE SAFETY MATERIALS FOR MINING AND INDUSTRIAL ENVIRONMENTS.

The 'Light and Reflective Safety Solutions' Workshop involved practical applications by technical experts from HELLA Illumination, 3M Scotchlite Reflective Materials and Cymot Namibia.

One of the main teachings from the workshop is how good, consistent lighting is essential for clear and unhindered visibility, improved cognition and judgment and thereby safety.

The NOHF plans to broaden its scope and reach in 2019 by hosting workshops in different parts of the country, to promote safe practices and occupational health in mines across the country.



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