

EU-NAMIBIA BUSINESS FORUM 2023

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
★ **Global** | **Green Hydrogen and**
★ **Gateway** | **Critical Raw Materials**



24-25 October 2023, Brussels

Webstreaming available on:

<https://www.facebook.com/NIPDB>

<https://www.facebook.com/EUinNamibia/>

Why, What, Where and When

The first ever EU Namibia Business Forum is taking place in Brussels from 24-25 October 2023. Namibia is ranked amongst the world's most politically stable countries with world-leading wind & solar energy resources and its substantial deposits of rare earth and other minerals, and vast ocean biomass resources, Namibia is emerging as a prospective green hydrogen hub and front-runner in the global market for GH₂, as well as a resilient, stable, and reliable market for **Critical Raw Materials**. In November 2022, at the COP27 in Egypt, the EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and the President of Namibia, Dr. Hage Geingob, signed a MOU on Renewable Hydrogen (GH₂) and Sustainable Raw Materials Value Chains, which has set the ball-rolling, making Namibia the first country in Africa to establish a strategic partnership with the EU on CRMs and green hydrogen value chain, with the potential to become a producer and exporter of green hydrogen, reckoned to catalyze the decarbonization of the planet.

Who is coming to the Business Forum?

The ENBF will bring together public and private sectors stakeholders in investment, trade and finance to network, exchange experiences and explore sustainable win-win business opportunities for Namibian and European companies. The target audience will be businesses and its business support organizations (BSO), captains of industry, the investor community, policy makers, academia, civil society, technical and financial partners, Public Sector enablers and EU Member States, the European Commission and Government of Namibia.

GH₂ and Green Energy: Industrial Gases Companies, Potential offtakers, Engineering, Procurement Construction (EPC), Renewable Energy Companies, Electrolyzer Manufacturers, Hydrogen Production companies, Transport and Storage, Fuel Cell, Equipment and Technology Suppliers, Energy Utility Company; Transportation; Industrial Users, Consultancies and Engineering, R&D, Financial Institutions, Association.

Stakeholders will also engage on renewable energy sources such as Solar and Wind energy.

CRM: Mining Companies, Exploration Companies, Refining and Processing Companies, Technology Companies, Recycling Waste, Trading and Distributions, R&D, Government Agencies, Financial Institutions and Investors, Industry Associations, Supply chain Consultants.

Institutions: Development Finance Institutions, Research and Development, Academia, Business Support Organizations, Government Institutions, EU Institutions.

What is happening?

Two high level events are being organised in tandem in Brussels:

- The 1st EU Namibia Business Forum (ENBF) focused on Green Energy and **Critical Raw Materials** will be held in Brussels on the 24th and 25th October 2023.
- Global Gateway Forum which will dovetail into the ENBF, opening in the afternoon of Wednesday 25th October and closing in afternoon 26th October 2023.

Why Come to the Business Forum

The ENBF and the GGF present Namibia with a unique opportunity to strategical target EU companies in the downstream industries and in value addition activities in GH2 and CRM and present the government's investment plan to European Institutions and the private sector. Thus, opening avenues to explore and unleash the spillovers and multiplier effects, which these two sectors present to the Namibian private sector. The ENBF has been tactically organised in tandem with the Global Gateway to capitalize on the presence of the high-level participants of the GGF and support and reinforce the objectives of the ENBF.

The Forum will focus on how Namibia's hydrogen and **Critical Raw Materials** industries can be scaled up in the fastest possible way, while meeting the interests of both Namibia and the EU.

Format ENBF

The Forum will be a hybrid event composed of the following activities:

- High level Panel discussion and roundtables.
- Showcase Namibia as a strategic destination for direct investment in GH2 and CRM.
- Private-Public dialogue to further improve the business environment (e.g., regulatory framework, Joint Ventures).
- Networking: B2B, B2G and G2G.
- Platform for Signing MoUs, Project initiatives.
- Online streaming of events.

Why Namibia?

Political Stability 33 years of stable democracy and peace	Human Right Unamendable rights enshrined in the constitution, including the right to private property
Financial Sophistication Well-developed financial & banking sectors & the third largest Pension Fund industry in Africa	Advanced Infrastructure Stable telecommunications, electricity & water supply, and sanitation

Liberty Free Market Economy, Freedom of Press	Rules of Law Established and functioning laws & regulations (including the Foreign Investment Act)
Accessible Workforce An educated, job seeking, English speaking population that can be upskilled using a national training fund	Quality of Life Comfortable weather, short commutes, quality schools, hospitality and entertainment

Established FDI Destination Multiple long established & successful foreign investments & companies	Logistic Hub High quality logistical infrastructure ture and competence (including regional & international land, air & sea connections)
Investor Protection Freedom from nationalisation	Investment Repatriation Freedom to remit capital and profits

Natural Resources Local and regional abundance of solar, wind, oil, gas, metal, mineral and agricultural resources	Market Access Several preferential trade agreements, including the AFCTA, EPA, AGOA &
Accessible Workforce Protected currency convertibility & pegged to the South African Rand	Currency Convertibility Equitable dispute settlement mechanisms