



BoN NEWS

# BANK OF NAMIBIA'S CSIR PROGRAMME JOLTS THE TVET SECTOR

The Bank of Namibia, as a firm believer in the upliftment of the Namibian people, has announced that it will provide financial support to the Namibia Training Authority's (NTA) apprenticeship programme within the Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) sector.

The apprenticeship programme is aimed at improving the quality of artisans emerging from the sector.

The financial support of the Bank is to the tune of N\$4.5 million to be provided in a spread of three years, covering 50 apprentices in the priority areas of agriculture, tourism and auto-mechanics.

The apprentices will be contracted by participating employers and assigned to experienced mentors to induct them and train them on-the-job in specific occupations.

At the signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding on Tuesday 26 March 2019 in Windhoek that marked the beginning of the Bank's support to NTA, the Deputy Governor of the Bank, Mr. Ebson Uanguta stated: "the Bank of Namibia has long-considered the TVET sector as an enabler of economic growth through skills development and employment creation, thus the Bank is delighted to be part of the apprenticeship programme that will have an impact on the Namibian youth while improving the quality of apprenticeship training."



**Partnership:** Deputy Governor of the Bank, Mr. Ebson Uanguta and NTA CEO, Mr. Jerry Beukes after signing the MoU

In addition to financial support towards the apprenticeship programme, the Deputy Governor indicated that the Bank has re-focused its Corporate Social Investment and Responsibility (CSIR) Strategy to focus on the TVET sector and in addition to the just announced apprenticeship programme further support will come in the form of bursaries for instructors in the TVET sector as well as providing internships to trainees at the Bank.

Co-signing the MoU was NTA CEO, Mr. Jerry Beukes, who thanked the Bank for the timely support: "the NTA appreciates the financial support by the Bank as it will increase the number of

apprentices intake for the programme."

The NTA in partnership with leading local employers re-introduced the apprenticeship programme towards the end of 2017 on a pilot basis which resulted in a huge buy-in from employers.

Currently there are 21 employers as partners of the programme offering training opportunities to almost 300 apprentices embarking on technical and vocational career paths at different levels of training.

The intake of the 2019 apprenticeship programme starts in July

