

MEDIA STATEMENT



Bank of Namibia

Date: 09 February 2026

Attention: News Editor

Ref: 9/6/2

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BANK OF NAMIBIA AWARDS BURSARIES TO SEVEN OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

1. The Bank of Namibia today awarded bursaries to seven outstanding Namibian students pursuing undergraduate and postgraduate studies in Economics, Data Science, Mathematics and Statistics, and Education, disciplines aligned with the country's long-term human capital and economic development priorities. The award ceremony was held as part of the Bank's annual commitment to investing in education through its long-standing bursary programme.
2. Ms Shirene Bampton, Director for Human Resources, highlighted the significance of the occasion, noting that, "The bursary is more than financial support; it is a vote of confidence in the student's abilities and a commitment to their future," and expressed the Bank's expectation that it will serve as a foundation for personal growth, academic excellence, and meaningful contribution to the nation at large. She further noted that close to 400 applications were received, resulting in the selection of 7 new bursary recipients through a rigorous, competitive process, while a further 25 existing beneficiaries are continuing with their studies.
3. Delivering the keynote address, the Governor of the Bank of Namibia, Mr. Ebson Uanguta, framed the bursary programme as a strategic investment aligned with the Bank's mandate. Governor Uanguta stated, "When we speak about investment at a central bank, we usually refer to capital flows, reserves, liquidity management, or financial markets. Today, however, we are speaking about a different form of investment; one whose returns are not reflected in quarterly data, but in capability." He emphasised that, "the Bank of Namibia's bursary programme is not philanthropy. It is a strategic decision," underscoring that human capital is central to institutional effectiveness and economic credibility.
4. Placing the bursary programme within the broader national context, the Governor highlighted that Namibia stands at a critical juncture where economic transitions are

underway, and global conditions are increasingly volatile. He stressed that in such an environment, the quality of the country's human capital will shape its national trajectory more decisively than any single resource discovery, underscoring that the success of the bursary recipients is not solely personal but contributes directly to institutional depth and national resilience. The Governor further highlighted the deliberate selection of the study fields, stating that, "Economics equips a country to understand trade-offs – inflation and growth, debt and development, stability and stimulus. Data science is reshaping financial systems globally. Mathematics and statistics underpin every credible economic model and every sound projection. Education remains foundational."

5. The seven bursary recipients for 2026, together with their respective programmes of study and institutions, are as follows:
 - **Christie Hanse** – Bachelor of Mathematical Science, Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST)
 - **Lusina Shipopyeni** – Bachelor of Education (Biology and Mathematics), University of Namibia (UNAM)
 - **Benjamin Mabuku** – Bachelor of Science Quantitative Finance, University of Namibia (UNAM)
 - **Jeremiah Links** – Bachelor of Data Science, University of Namibia (UNAM)
 - **Cecilia Ndeuyatale** – Bachelor of Data Science, University of Namibia (UNAM)
 - **Prince-Lee Tsowaseb** – Bachelor of Commerce (Honours), specialising in Economics, University of Cape Town
 - **Rodney Hamutenya** – Master of Commerce, specialising in Economics, University of Cape Town
6. The 2026 bursary awards reaffirm the Bank's commitment to strengthening Namibia's human capital as a foundation for inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

Issued by:



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