

# Youth in Focus: Monetary Policy Explained

Presented by Mr. Johannes !Gawaxab Date: August 16, 2023



#### What Does The Central Bank Do?





Macroprudential oversight (economic & financial market development in Namibia); Bank of Namibia Act No. 1 of 2020, Section 73

#### Where does the central bank fit?





## Functions of the Bank



01 Issuing notes and coins	02 Banker to the banks	03 Conduct of bank supervision	04 Formulating and executing monetary policy
05	06	07	08
Management of foreign exchange reserves	Exercise of exchange control	Government banker, agent and adviser	Financial stability

#### What is Inflation?





- Inflation refers to a general increase in the overall price level of goods and services in an economy over a given period, usually over one year.
- Inflation is typically expressed as an annual percentage rate.
- Inflation results in a decrease in the purchasing power of money, as each unit of currency buys fewer goods and services due to the rising prices.

## Monetary Policy Formulation



### Monetary Policy Formulation



BoN repurchase rate Open market operations Buying/selling of foreign currency

Low inflation Stable exchange rate Monetary policy in Namibia is set by the BoN's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), consisting of the Governors and senior officials of BoN

Detailed analyses and forecasts are presented to the MPC by the Research and Financial Stability Department and by the Financial Markets Department The MPC's degrees of freedom are constrained by the need to maintain the 1:1 exchange rate with the Rand The MPC normally meets 6 times per year, primarily to decide on an appropriate level of short-term interest rates Close attention is paid to global and domestic economic and financial conditions, Namibia-SA interest rate differentials, and the adequacy of Namibia's foreign exchange reserves

### Headline and Core Inflation







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### Inflation Outlook



Headline inflation is expected to average 5.6 percent in 2023 and 4.5 percent in 2024, from 6.1 percent in 2022



# Inflation



"Inflation is the one form of taxation that can be imposed without legislation."

**Milton Freedman** 







Monetary policy involves adjusting interest rates and money supply to influence economic activity and inflation.

It's not a panacea for all economic issues, and it can't address supply-driven inflation caused by external factors.

Decisions made by the MPC have farreaching consequences. When interest rates are adjusted, these changes ripple through mortgages, loans, investments, food prices, and fuel costs.

# What is Monetary Policy?

#### Example: Loan Repayment





At a prime interest rate of 11.5%, monthly repayments would increase to N\$ 8,797.





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### Economic Outlook





• GDP growth to slow to 3.3 percent in 2023, mainly due to weaker demand - high inflation & interest rates affecting consumer spending power.



## Conclusion

"The greatest danger in times of turbulence is not the turbulence; it is to act with yesterday's logic."

**Bank of Namibia** 

- Peter Drucker