

Issue 8: 2023

# Khorixas

## Economic Profile

March 2023



**Authors:** Martin Mwinga (Team Leader), Clarinda Kavezuva (Statistician),  
Achiles Shifidi (Trainee Economist) & Patrick Simasiku (Trainee Economist)

## Disclaimer

This document is issued by First Capital Namibia. While all reasonable care has been taken in preparing this document, no responsibility or liability is accepted for errors of fact or for any opinion expressed herein. Opinions, projections, and estimates are subject to change without notice. This document is for information purposes only. It does not constitute any offer, recommendation, or solicitation to any person to enter any transaction or adopt any hedging, trading, or investment strategy, nor does it constitute any prediction of likely future movements in rates or prices or any representation that any such future movements will not exceed those shown in any illustration. The contents of this document are not made about the specific investment objectives, financial situation, or the needs of any person.

## About Us

First Capital Namibia is a financial services company specializing in providing treasury and asset (investment) management services. Established in August 2009, First Capital has in-depth, personal knowledge of the Namibian capital markets and the resulting insight enables us to manage Namibian assets across different spectrum including cash management, equity, fixed income, specialist agriculture, and property mandates. We are licensed to manage money for private investors, pension funds, insurance groups, the public (government) sector, and charities.

Our credibility as asset managers is tightly governed by the Namibia Financial Institutions Supervisory Authority (NAMFISA). We are a Namibian-based investment team and focus exclusively on the Namibian market and we add value to portfolios by offering specialized Namibian mandates.

## FOREWORD

Welcome to our 7<sup>th</sup> report focusing on the town of Khorixas. First Capital Namibia through rigorous economic analysis aims to generate knowledge and insights on the workings and performance of Namibia's national, regional, and local authority economies. Through these research publications, we hope to provide inputs and guidance to policy makers and those holding the political instruments of power on strategic priorities and the most pressing economic development issues facing Namibia's towns and regional economies. Economic history teaches us that unless a country has a well-connected and integrated national, regional, and local authority economies, sustainable economic growth and economic prosperity cannot be realized and sustained irrespective of how much mineral resources the country is endowed with.

The Namibian economy is a sum of its fourteen regional economies. Every town and region therefore have a critical role to play in contributing to Namibia's economic growth and prosperity. The key to lifting Namibia's overall economic performance requires an understanding of the resource endowment, the comparative advantage, strengths, and challenges in each town and region. To build that understanding and inform Policy Makers at Local, Regional and Central Government Level, First Capital Namibia launched the first of series of the Regional Economic Profile Reports in 2018. These reports provide high-quality, consistent data that allows policy makers make well informed decisions. They also help analysts and the public to compare each town and region economic performance and better understand the roles that different towns and regions play in contributing to the Namibian economy. We believe these reports will support decision-making at all levels and help generate discussion on how best to build a dynamic Village, Town, and regional economy.

The Khorixas report is the 7<sup>th</sup> economic reports in the series. The previous reports include Omaruru, Outapi, Rundu, Mariental, Keetmanshoop and Opuwo economic Profiles. These reports cover a wide range of topics including the town's population, economic structure and performance, employment, unemployment, education, health, standard of living, businesses, and tourism. The report will enable the reader and policy makers to answer questions about their town and region with confidence, and showcase their town and region to the world by **giving insights into:**

- The town and the region population and demographic trends.
- The town and region's poverty profile, housing conditions and consumption patterns.
- The performance of the education and health sector in the town compared to other towns.
- The economic performance of the local economy relative to other towns and regional economies and the national average.
- The contribution of tourism to the town and the region's economy.
- The level of crime, safety and wellbeing of the town and region.

Finally, we as First Capital Namibia, believe that a well-crafted Regional/Local Authority Economic Growth Strategy that recognizes and targets each region and town's growth points (centers), resource endowment and comparative advantage will unleash and unlock Namibia's economic potential and bring sustainable economic prosperity.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized letters and a flourish, positioned above a horizontal line.

Signature ..... Date 06 April 2023 .....

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We thank the Local and Regional Authority (Khorixas Town Council & Kunene Regional Council respectively) for their support in providing information which was useful in compiling this report. We equally thank all local private sector companies (Nored, Khorixas Butchery and Brick maker Khorixas) that took time to provide us with information of how they contribute to the economy of the town. Our gratitude is equally extended to all residents of Khorixas and Kunene region in general for taking time to share their experiences. We also thank all offices that were consulted at the national level to provide us with information namely, NamWater, Nored, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Trade and Industry, The Khorixas District Hospital, Braunfels Agricultural Technical School, and consistency council office.

# KHORIXAS TOWN'S GLANCE

## Demographics

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Population</b></p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <p>11,000 <i>(Khorixas town council estimate)</i></p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Households</b></p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <p>3,213 <i>(Khorixas town council estimate)</i></p> </div>
---	--

## Education

Primary schools : 3  
 Secondary schools : 2  
 Learner to teacher ratio : 29  
 Cost to educate a learner: N\$4,119

## Literacy rate

Khorixas: 84%

## Health

<p>1 District Hospital with 6 doctors 5 Clinics</p>		<p>1 Private doctor practice 1 Private dentist practice 1 Pharmacy</p>
---	--	--

## Median Age (Population Average Age)

Namibia -21 years  
 Kunene Region – 19 years  
 Khorixas – 22 years

## Service Charges

<p><b>Water</b></p>	<p>Average Price N\$19.35 per cubic</p>	<p><b>Electricity</b></p>	<p>Average Price N\$2.20 per kWh</p>	<p><b>Housing</b></p> <p>Deficit: 1,191 houses</p>
---------------------	---	---------------------------	--	--

## Vehicle growth (%)

Namibia 4.3%  
 Opuwo 10.06%  
 Outjo 2.45%  
 Khorixas - 9.45%

## Labour

Labour force  
 participation rate: 69%

## Sources of energy for cooking

Electricity: 21%	Gas: 1%
Paraffin: 0.4%	Wood: 53%
Solar energy: 0.9%	

Sources of Income	Urban land size in squared Kilometers
Salaries and wages: 45%    Old pension: 19.3% Cash remittances: 9%      Farming: 12% Businesses: 7.7%	Outjo: 234                      Proportion to Kunene: 53.9% Khorixas: 121                Proportion to Kunene: 28.1% Opuwo: 68                      Proportion to Kunene: 15.7%

## 1. DEMOGRAPHIC, SOCIAL AND GEOGRAPHIC SITUATION

### 1.1. Introduction

Khorixas derives its name from the Khori bush, which is found in the former Damaraland region of Namibia. Khorixas is located 400 km northwest of Windhoek, 140 km west of Outjo, 121 km from Kamanjab and 315 km from Swakopmund. The town slowly developed from depending on farming to being a major tourist destination due to its scenery such as the Barren Mountain (Verbrandeberg) and the Petrified Forest among others.

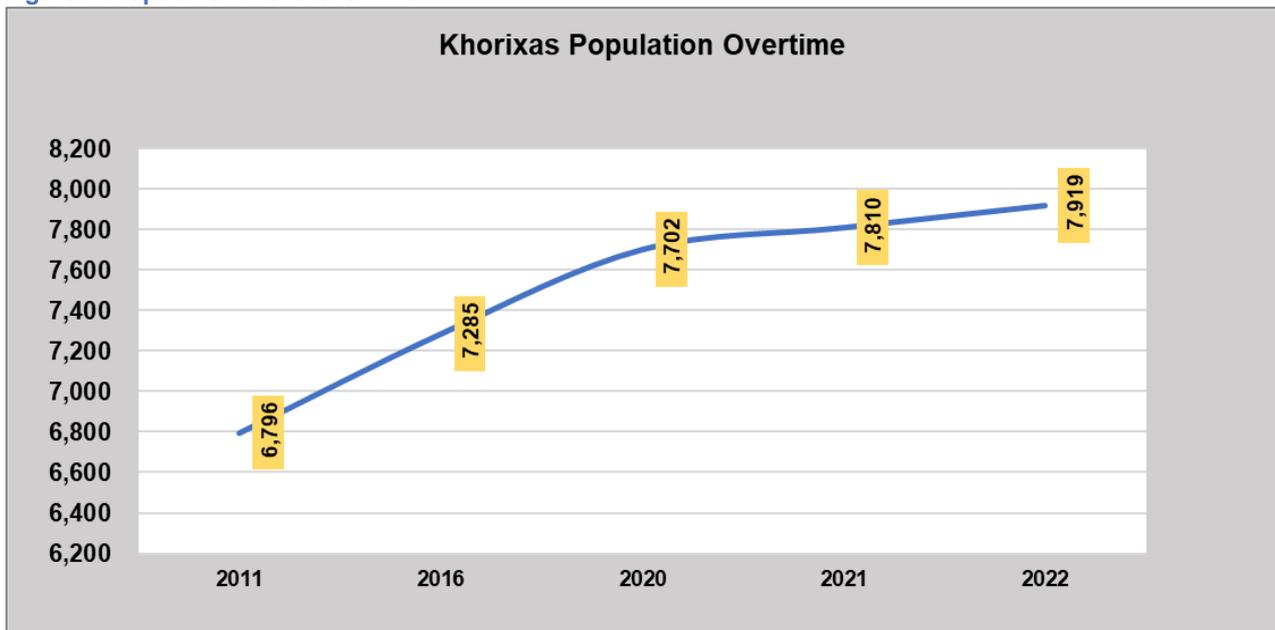
More than half of the working age population (69%) participate in the labour market of which about 59 and 41 percent are employed in the formal and informal sectors respectively (as per the 2011 national census). Subsequently, 46% of the town's inhabitants derive their main source of income from wages and salaries, followed by pensions (12%), while 12% of the people derive their livelihood from farming activities. All in all, nearly all residents in the town have access to portable water (98%) which is a major improvement in contrast to 2011 when only 78% of the population had access.

The supply of adequate housing remains a serious challenge in Namibia to date. As at 2021, a total number 1,659 residents in Khorixas submitted their applications to the Council seeking for houses through the various national housing initiatives. This consists of 916 applicants who applied through Build Together, 386 Namibia Housing Enterprise (NHE), and 357 Schack Dwellers Federation of Namibia (SDFN) respectively. In addition, institutions such as commercial banks and pension funds such as the GIPF (through First Capital Namibia) have for many years provided mortgage finance in the town of Khorixas.

### 1.2. Khorixas's Population Trend

The last national census conducted in 2011 showed that Khorixas had a population of 6,796 residents. This number of residents excludes those living in nearby villages or farms who are not part of the proclaimed town. Using the population growth of 1.4% per annum, it is estimated the population of Khorixas to have reached 7,919 in 2022 respectively. This indicates that the population of Khorixas grew by 16.5% in 11 years. On the contrary, the town council estimates show that there were about 11 000 residents in Khorixas in 2022, based on a general estimate of 3,213 households with an average size of 4 persons per household. Khorixas Town Council definition of a household is consistent with that of the NSA. According to the NSA, a household is a person or group of persons related or unrelated living in the same dwelling unit and sharing common catering arrangements.

Figure 1: Population Trend overtime -

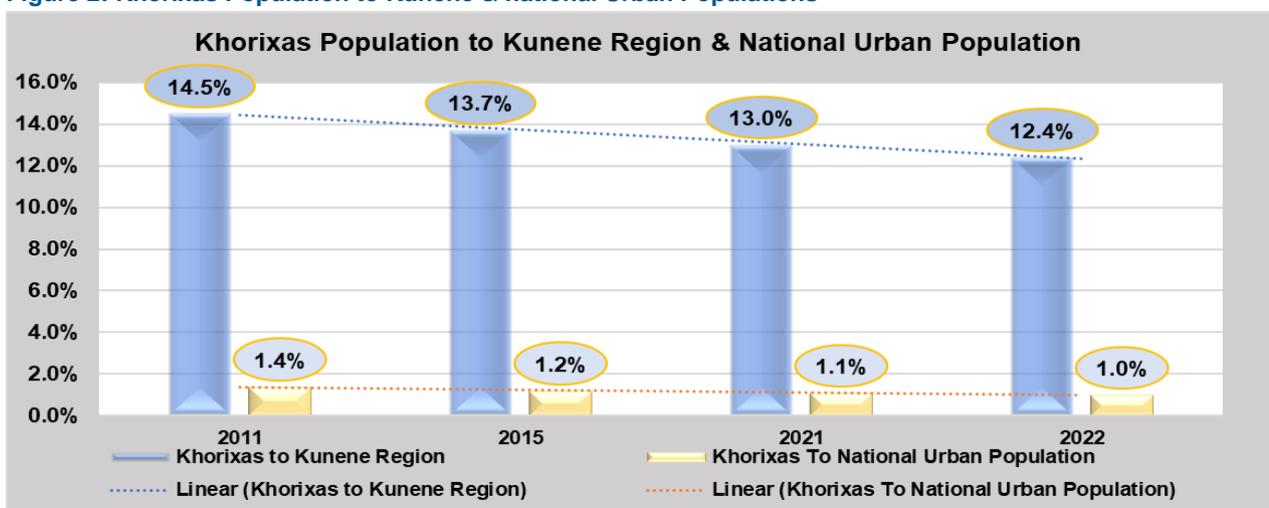


Source: 2011 National Census

### 1.3. Khorixas population to Kunene and National urban populations

At a population growth of 1.4% per year provided by the 2011 national census, the urban population of Khorixas is increasing at a rate lower than both the national urban and regional urban populations annual growth rates of 4.2 and 3.3 percent. As shown in figure 2 below, the regional proportion of the population of Khorixas decreased from 14,5 to 12.4 percent between 2011 and 2022 while the national proportion decreased from 1.4% in 2011 to 1% in 2022. This is an indication that the population of Khorixas is lower than the average national urban population growth as stipulated above. The decrease in Khorixas urban population is attributed to lack of employment opportunities and economic activities in the town. As a result, most residents moved to other towns such as Outjo, coastal towns, nearby lodges, and nearby farms in search of job opportunities to sustain their families.

Figure 2: Khorixas Population to Kunene & national Urban Populations

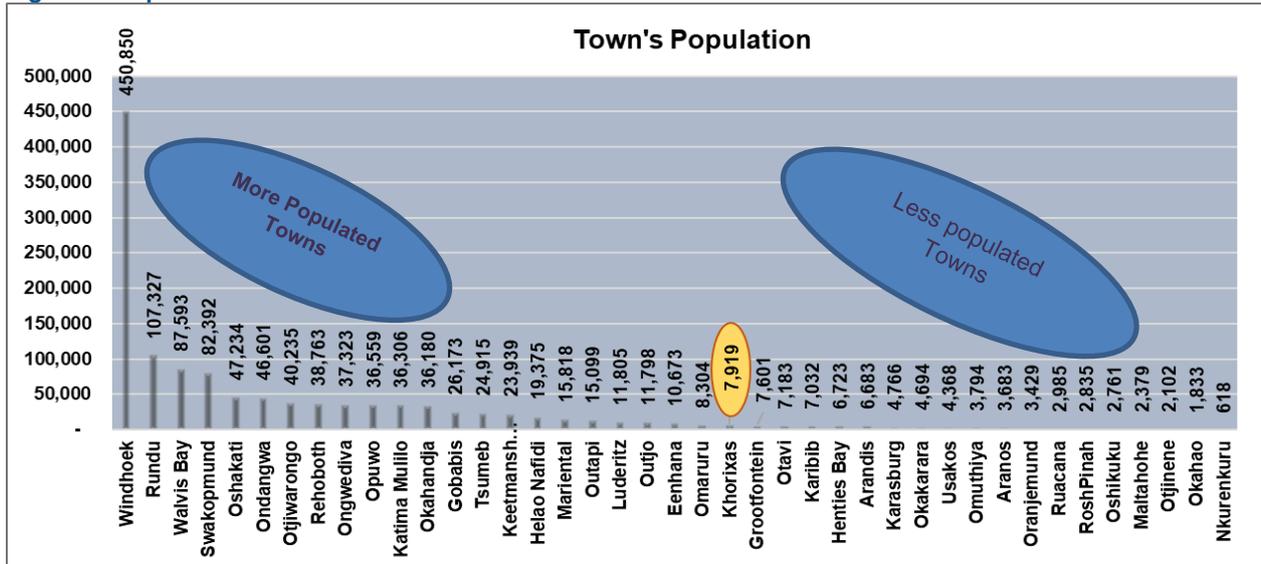


Source: 2011 National Census

### 1.4. Population Comparisons by town

As shown in figure 3 below, Khorixas has the 23rd highest population among 41 biggest proclaimed urban areas in Namibia. The figure also shows that Windhoek has the highest population followed by Rundu and then Walvis Bay with populations of 450,850, 107,327 and 87,593 respectively. At the same time, Otjinene, Okahao and Nkurenkuru are the least populated towns with 2,102, 1,833 and 618 people respectively. In the region of Kunene, Khorixas is the 3<sup>rd</sup> populated town after Outjo and Opuwo subsequently.

Figure 3: Population of Towns

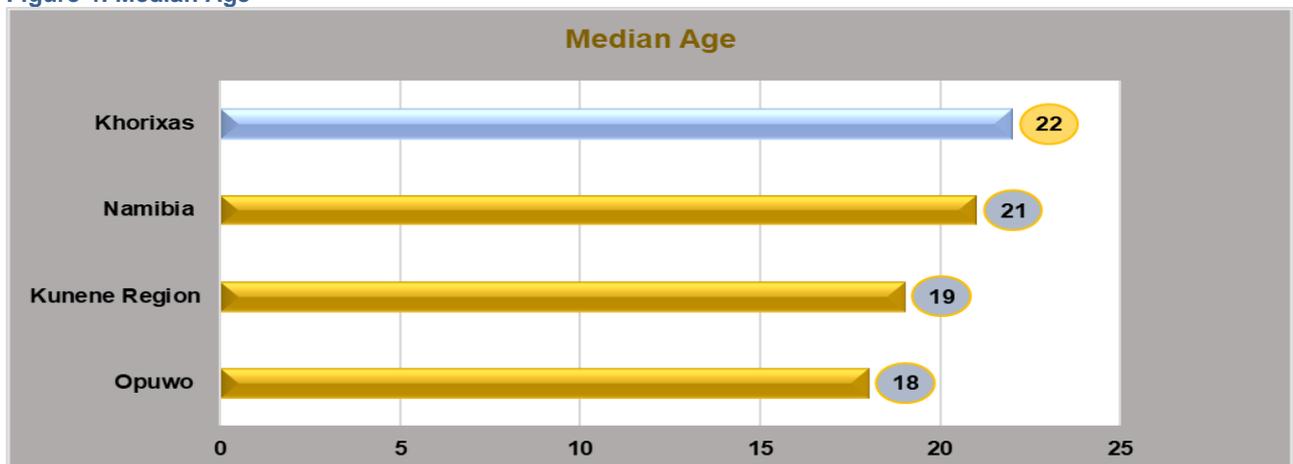


Source: 2011 National Census Projections

### 1.5. Population Age Distribution

The median age is used to establish the age category of a given population to see whether they are young, intermediate, or old. A country is considered young if its median age is less than 20 years and old if it is more than 30 years. For Khorixas, Kunene and Namibia, median ages are 22, 19 and 18 respectively. This shows that the age category of Khorixas is slightly above both the national and regional ages.

Figure 4: Median Age



Source: NHIES 2015/16 and 2011 Kunene regional profile

Table 1 below shows the age cohorts for Khorixas as well as that for Kunene region and for Namibia. The share of the population below 4 years accounts for about 14 and 17 percent in Khorixas and Kunene region respectively. Interestingly, the composition of the age group between 0 to 4 years is the same at the national level and in Khorixas. The highest proportion of the population amongst all age groups is the age category between 15 and 59 years, which makes up about 66 percent of the population for Namibia, 51 and 55 percent for Kunene region and Khorixas respectively (table 1).

Table 1: Age Cohort

Age Groups	Age Cohort			
	Namibia	Kunene region	Khorixas	
0-4 Years		14%	17%	14%
5 - 14 Years		17%	25%	23%
15 -59 Years		66%	51%	55%
60 + Years		4%	7%	9%

Source: NHIES 2015/16 and 2011 Kunene regional profile

## 2. GEOGRAPHIC AREA

### 2.1. Land Size

Figure 5 below presents the area of all urban towns in Namibia. Unquestionably, Windhoek has the largest urban area in Namibia (5,133 square kilometers), followed by Otjiwarongo with 1,460 square kilometers and Walvis Bay with 1,111.6 square kilometers of urban land. Furthermore, the figure shows that Khorixas holds the 14<sup>th</sup> place in the country in terms of land size (121.8 square kilometers). This makes Khorixas the biggest town in the Kunene region, in terms of land size, constituting 28.1 percent, in second place after Outjo (See table 2) which constitutes 53.9 percent of the urban.

Figure 5: Townland Size



Source: Namibia Urban Land Statistics, 2021 & FC Research

Table 2: Townland Size

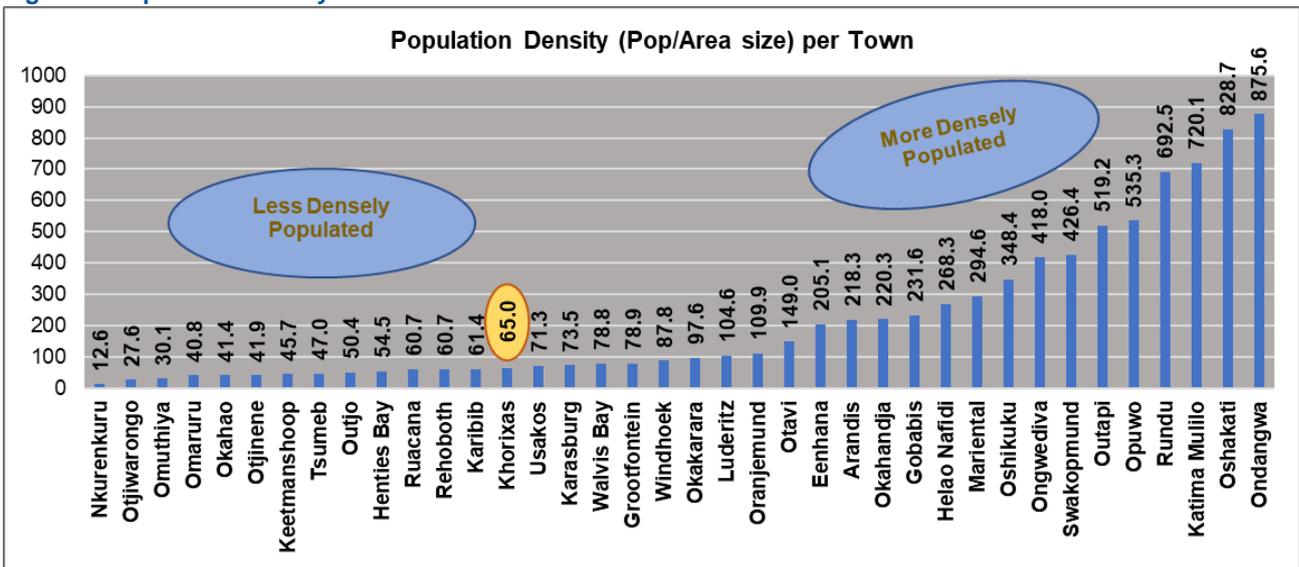
Kunene Town	Urban Land Area (SqKm)	Land Percentage (%)
Outjo	234	53.9
Khorixas	121.8	28.1
Opuwo	68.3	15.7
Kamanjab	9.8	2.3

Source: Namibia Urban Land Statistics, 2021

### 2.2 Population Density

Population density is a measure of the number of people in an area. In Namibia, it is calculated as the number of people per square kilometer. Figure 6 below depicts the number of people per square kilometer in different towns in Namibia. Khorixas town is one of the towns in the country with the least population densities, it has a population density of 65 people per square kilometer. On the contrary, Ondangwa, Oshakati, Katima Mulilo have higher population densities of 875.6, 828.7, 720.1 and 692.5 of persons per square kilometers compared to other towns. On the other hand, less densely populated towns in the country are Nkurenkuru, Otjiwarongo, Omuthiya and Omaruru with 12.6, 27.6, 30.1 and 40.8 with number of persons per square kilometer. However, in Kunene region, Khorixas is the second less densely populated town after, Outjo.

Figure 6: Population Density



Source: Namibia Urban Land Statistics, 2021 & FC Research

### 2.3. Landscape

Kunene Region’s physical geography is one of the virgin landscapes in the country. The region consists of a great variety of rock formations, most of them are exposed in landscapes of valleys, escarpments, mountains, and open plains (see figure 7 below). The natural mountainous landscape, rocks, minerals, soil, underground water, springs, and rivers represent the region’s valuable resources. Rock formations

present mining potential that could benefit the region economically. The soil, underground aquifers, springs, and perennial rivers have a major influence on agricultural production and tourism in the region.

Figure 7: Namibia landscape

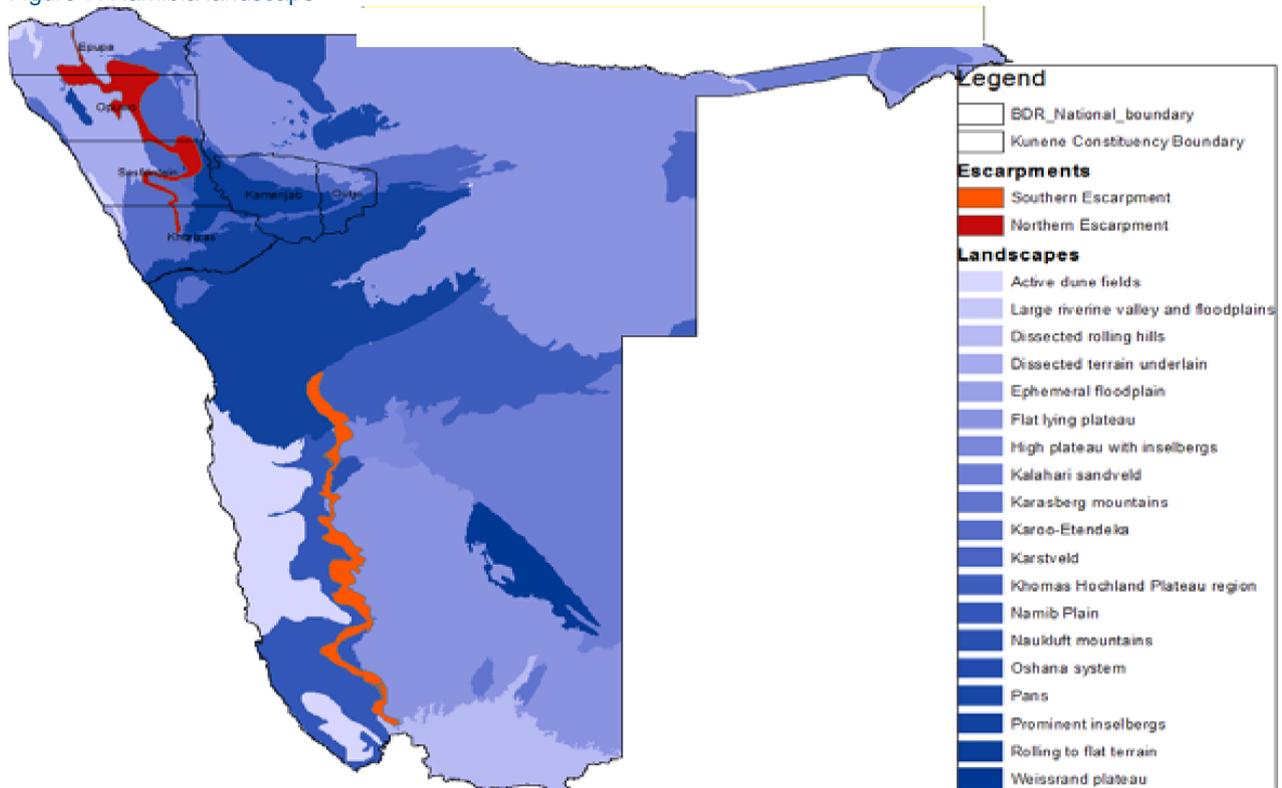


Figure 8: Khorixas Spectacular Rocks



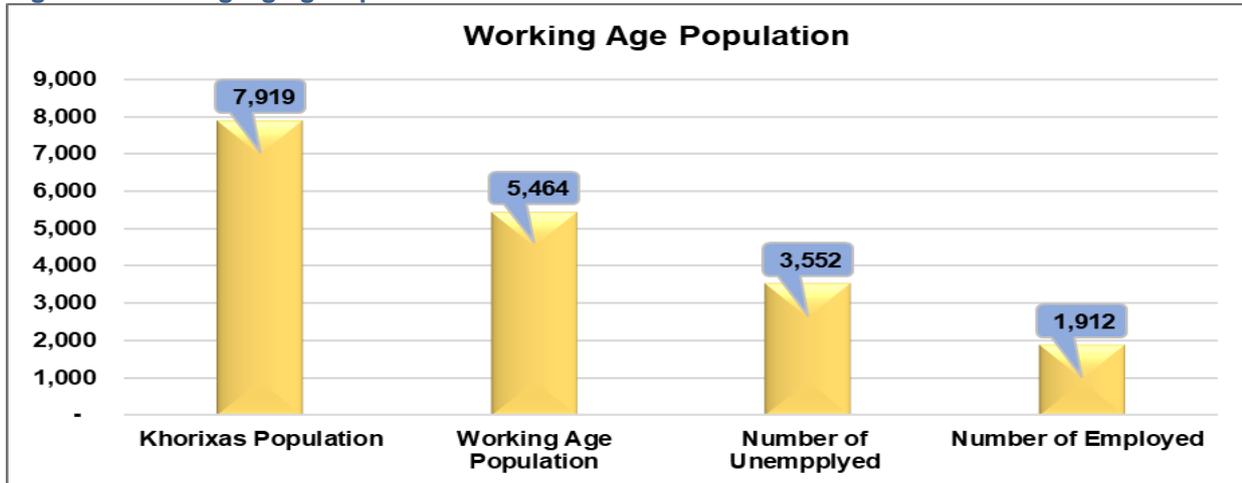
Sources: Stock Images

## 2.4. Working Age in Khorixas

This report estimates the working age size of Khorixas to be 5,464. Given an estimated population of 7,917 in the town, the working age population of Khorixas is about 68% of the total Khorixas population.

The working-age population is the total population in an area that is considered able and likely to work based on the number of people in a predetermined age range (between 17 and 60 years).

**Figure 9: Working Age group.**

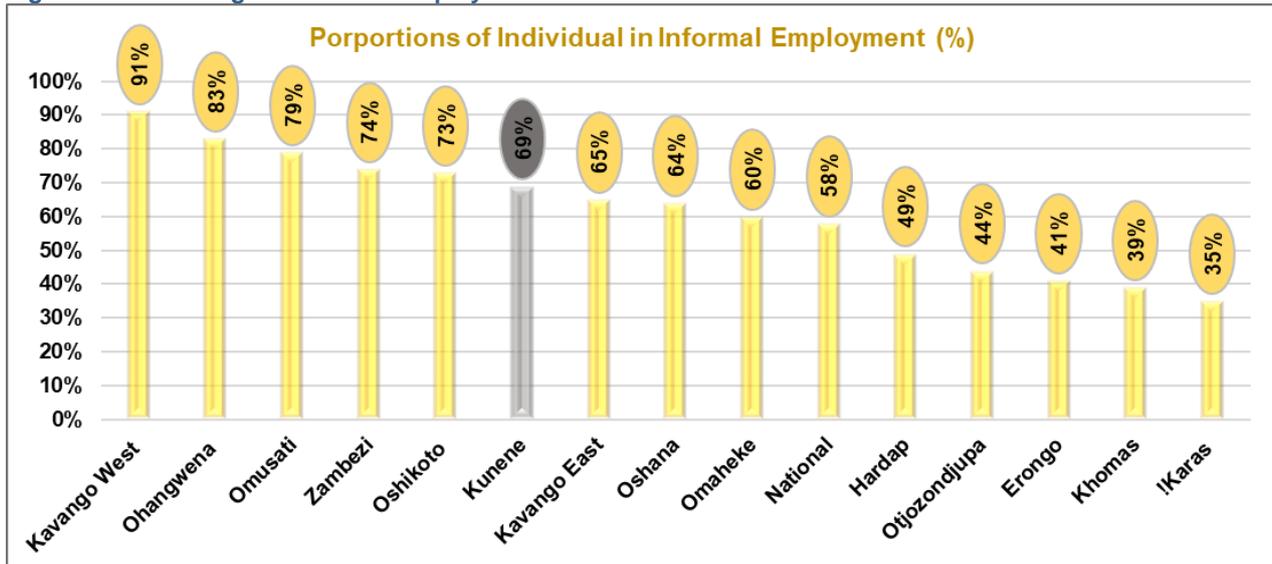


Sources: Census 2011 & Fc Research

### 2.5. Informal employment by region

The 2018 National Labour Force (NLFS) Survey distinguishes between formal and informal employment with regards to whether an employee is provided with social protection such as a pension scheme, medical aid, and social security. Individuals without the above benefits are said to be informally employed. In the Kunene region, 69 percent of the labour force are informally employed (see figure 10 below). This is a cause for concern since 69 percent is much higher than the national level of 58 percent. Moreover, a large informal sector is positively correlated with low tax revenues, low productivity as well as high poverty and inequalities in the distribution of income and wealth.

**Figure 10: Percentage of Informal Employment**



Source: NLFS 2018

### 3. SOURCES OF INCOME

Table 3 below presents the sources of income for Khorixas, along with that for Kunene region and Namibia. These statistics provide an insight into how households in these respective areas make a living. Evidently so, salaries and wages dominate the sources of income for both categories representing 72%, 31.8%, 44% and 45.5% for Namibia urban, Namibia rural, Kunene region, and Khorixas respectively. In addition, 19% of the population in Khorixas depend on old age pensions, 9% on cash remittances and 8% on businesses in the town for income. At the same time, only 12% of households in Khorixas derive their income from farming activities.

**Table 3: Sources of Income**

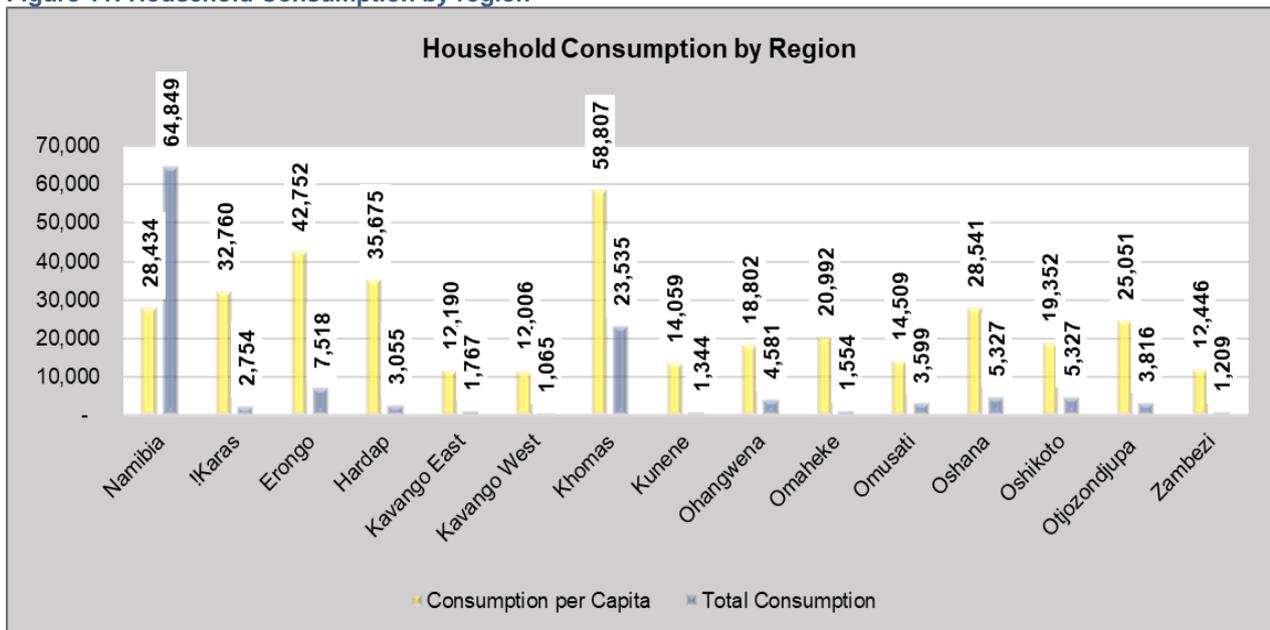
	Source of Income				
	Salaries & Wages	Cash Remittance	Business, Non Farming	Old age pension	Farming
<b>Namibia Urban</b>	<b>72.0%</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>11.0%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
<b>Namibia Rural</b>	<b>31.8%</b>	<b>12.4%</b>	<b>6.4%</b>	<b>19.3%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
<b>Kunene Region</b>	<b>44.0%</b>	<b>9.0%</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>11.6%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>
<b>Khorixas Town</b>	<b>45.5%</b>	<b>9.0%</b>	<b>7.7%</b>	<b>19.3%</b>	<b>12.0%</b>

Sources: NHIES 2015/16 & Census 2011

### 4. ANNUAL CONSUMPTION BY REGION

This research uses the annual consumption by region as a proxy for the demand for goods and services in the region. Thus, a region with a higher regional annual consumption is said to have a higher demand for goods and services. On figure 11 below, total consumption is in millions while consumption per head is in thousands. The 2015/16 NHIES revealed that Khomas region has the highest demand for goods and services in Namibia, followed by Erongo, Oshana, and Ohangwena with consumption levels of N\$7.5 million, N\$5.2 million and N\$4.6 million respectively. The region recorded the least annual consumption is Kavango west followed by Zambezi. The figure further shows that Kunene region has an annual consumption of N\$1.3 million, it is the region with the third least consumption in the country, where Khorixas town is situated, which translates low demand of goods and services due to low developmental projects. (Figure 11).

Figure 11: Household Consumption by region



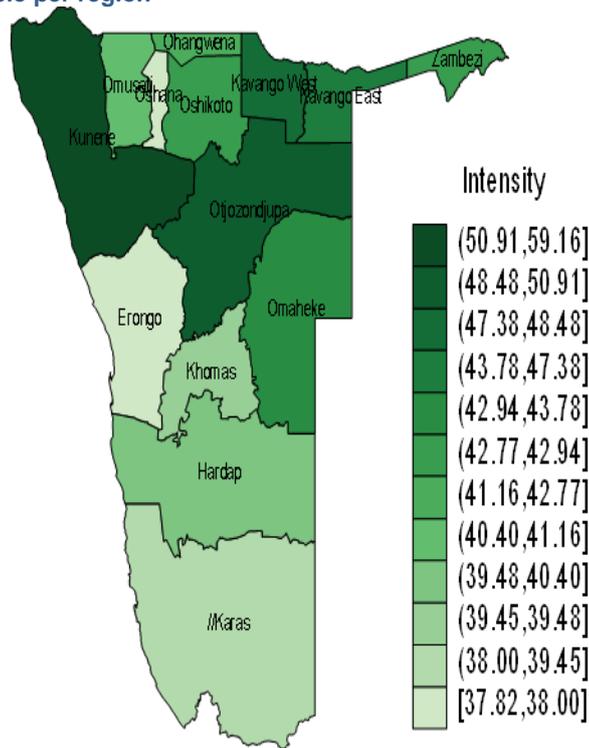
Sources: NHIES 2015/16 & Census 2011

## 5. POVERTY SITUATION IN KUNENE & KHORIXAS

Several countries define poverty as the lack of income. However, those who are poor themselves consider their experience of poverty broader. Put simply, a poor person can be disadvantaged in several ways at the same time. These may be poor health or malnutrition, a lack of clean water or electricity, poor quality of work or little schooling. Focusing on one factor alone, such as income, is not enough to capture the true reality of poverty. Thus, multidimensional poverty measures can be used to create a more comprehensive picture. It is for that reason that this report uses multidimensional poverty as a measure of poverty across the 14 administrative regions of the country.

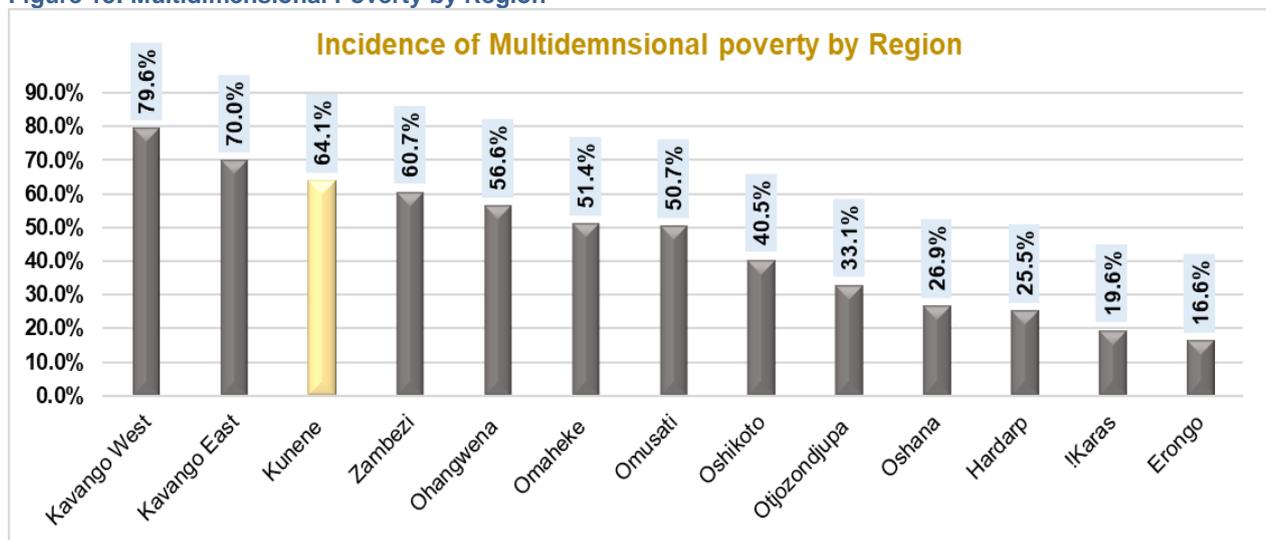
Figure 13 below shows that Kavango West, Kavango East and the Kunene region have the highest rates of both the prevalence and depth of multidimensional poverty. Data on the sources of income of residents for Khorixas showed that a significant percent of the population depend on the old age grants. Regrettably so, the incidence of multidimensional poverty by region in the country is the highest in Kavango East, followed by Kavango West and then Kunene regions with 79.6, 70 and 64.1 percent. On the other hand, !Karas region and Erongo regions are among the regions with the lowest rates for both the incidence and the severity of multidimensional poverty in the country (see figure 12).

**Figure 12: Number of Poor People per region**



Source: Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA)/ United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) 2021 MPI REPORT

**Figure 13: Multidimensional Poverty by Region**



Source: NSA/ UNICEF 2021 MPI REPORT

## 6. HOUSING SITUATION

### 6.1. Housing Characteristics

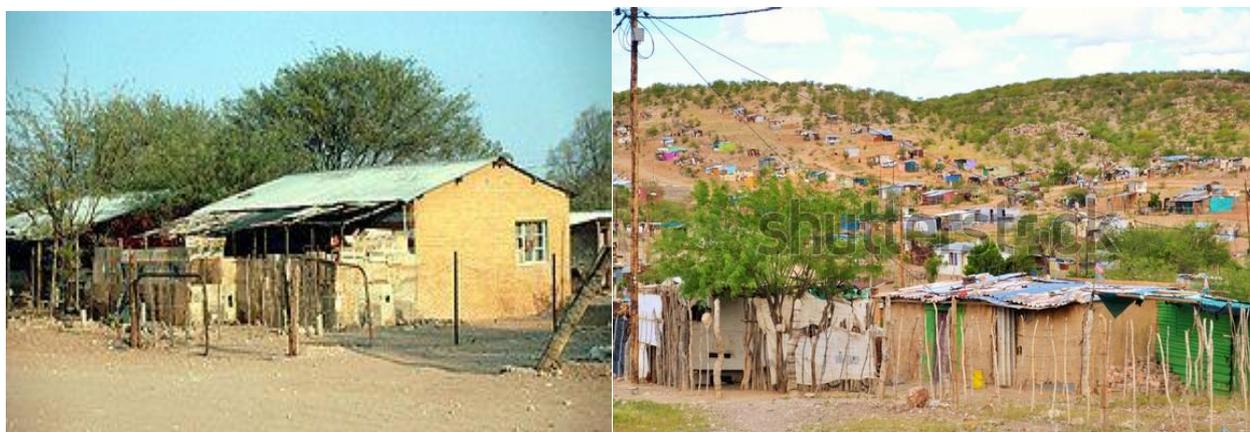
Housing and improving housing conditions is a top priority for the town council of Khorixas. Table 4 below shows that 50 percent of households live in modernized homes while only 4 percent are in shacks. Furthermore, 12% live in semidetached houses while 29% live in traditional dwellings (see table 4 below). See Figure 14 for images of different types of housing.

**Table 4: Housing Characteristics**

	Housing type		
	Namibia	Kunene	Khorixas
<b>Detached</b>	42%	25%	50%
<b>Semi-detached</b>	17%	11%	15%
<b>Flats/ Apartments</b>	5%	2%	2%
<b>Traditional dwelling</b>	5%	46%	29%
<b>Improvised (shacks)</b>	30%	16%	4%
<b>Other housing units</b>	1%	0%	0%
<b>Total</b>	100%	100%	100%

Sources NHIES 2015/16, Khorixas Town Council & FC Research

**Figure 14: An example of a Detached house, Traditional dwellings, and Shacks**

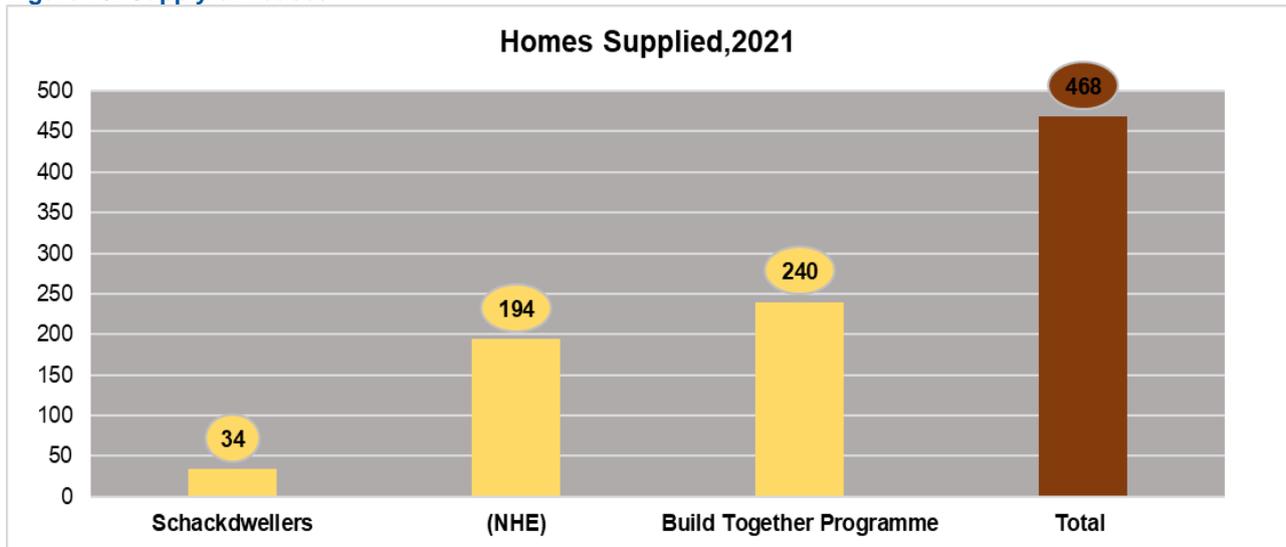


Sources: Stock Images

### 6.2. Housing Supply in Khorixas

Over the years, the Khorixas town council signed agreements with several housing schemes and organizations to speed up the delivery of affordable housing for its residents. These housing schemes and organizations are: the Schack Dwellers Federation of Namibia (SDFN), build together housing program and the Namibia Housing Enterprise (NHE). Figure 15 below shows the number of houses supplied by these schemes and organizations in 2021. The total number of houses supplied was 468, of which 34 number of houses from Schack dwellers including 194 and 204 number of houses from NHE and build together program (figure 15).

Figure 15: Supply of houses

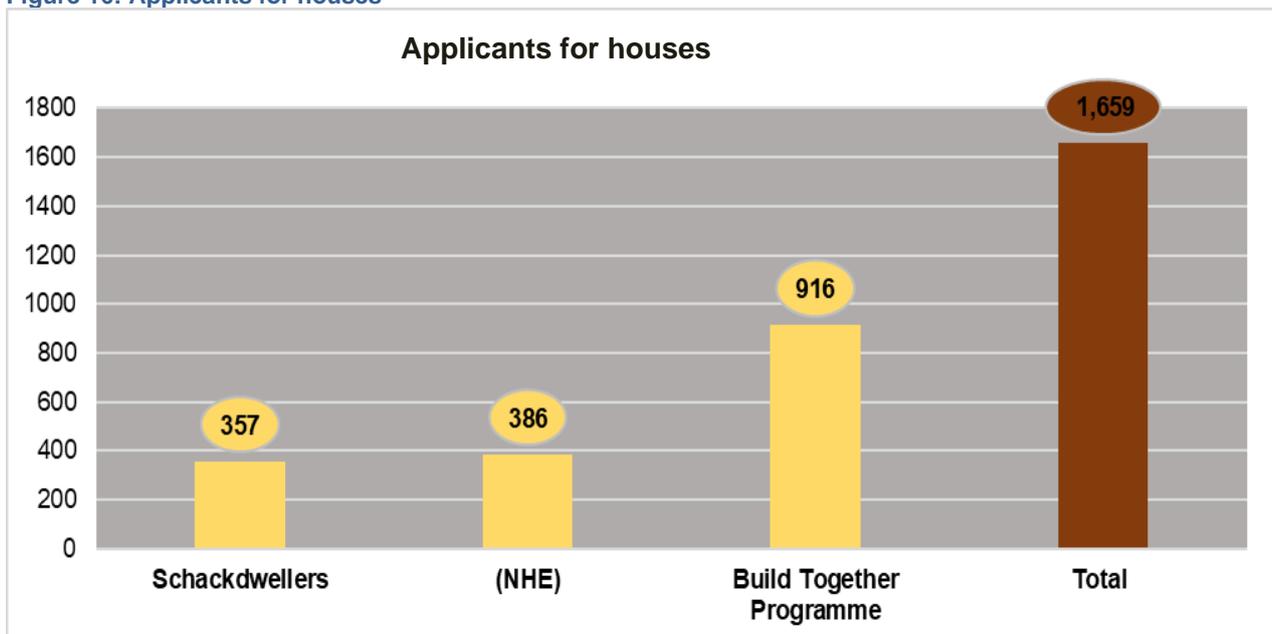


Sources: Khorixas Town Council (KTC)

### 6.3. Housing Demand in Khorixas

Figure 16 below shows the number of Khorixas residents who applied for housing and are on the waiting list of the different home schemes, programs, and organizations in Khorixas. Specifically, the figure below shows that about 1,659 residents applied for houses in 2021. This is given by the number of people on the waiting list of various housing schemes, programs and organizations. The Build Together Program had the highest number of people (916) on the waiting list, followed by NHE and schack dwellers with 386 and 357 people. The difference between the number of houses supplied and demanded gives us a deficit of 1,191 houses in the town.

Figure 16: Applicants for houses



Sources: Khorixas Town Council (KTC)

## SECTORIAL ANALYSIS: PRIMARY SECTOR ACTIVITIES

This section summarizes economic activities in Khorixas and Kunene region.

### 7.1 Agricultural activities

The most common agricultural activities in Kunene region are small stock farming including livestock, poultry, and horticulture. In Khorixas, a significant number of residents are involved in crop farming (53%) and livestock (33%). Khorixas has a higher proportion of individuals involved in livestock farming (33%) in comparison to the whole country (25%). Furthermore, a small percentage of households in Khorixas are involved in both poultry and horticulture, accounting for 2 percentage each (*See table 5 below*).

**Table 5: Agricultural Activities**

	Namibia	Kunene Region	Opuwo	Khorixas
<b>Livestock</b>	25%	41%	50%	33%
<b>Crops</b>	33%	26%	40%	53%
<b>Poultry</b>	13%	6%	5%	2%
<b>Others (Horticulture, Agro Processing)</b>	2%	2%	2%	2%

*Sources NHIES 2015/16, Khorixas Town Council & Braunfels Agricultural*

#### 7.1.1. Crop & Horticulture Farming Activities

The Agricultural sector remains critical to the livelihood of many Namibians. This equally applies for Kunene region. Shortly after independence, most residents in Khorixas were greatly involved in agriculture such as planting maize crops and different vegetables (watermelon, pumpkins, carrots & beetroots). The drought in the Kunene region from 2001 to 2021 made it difficult for residents to continue their gardening and farming activities due to low rainfall.

The Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia (EIF) in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR), implemented a project aimed at improving rangeland and ecosystem management practices for small scale farmers in areas such as Sesfontein, Fransfontein, and Warmquelle. This was a response to devastating negative impacts of climate change experienced in the region, the IREMA Project undertook a disaster risk reduction assessment in the Kunene region to determine the nature and extent of such risk, by analyzing and evaluating conditions of vulnerability that could potentially harm exposed people, livelihoods, property, and the environment on which they depend.

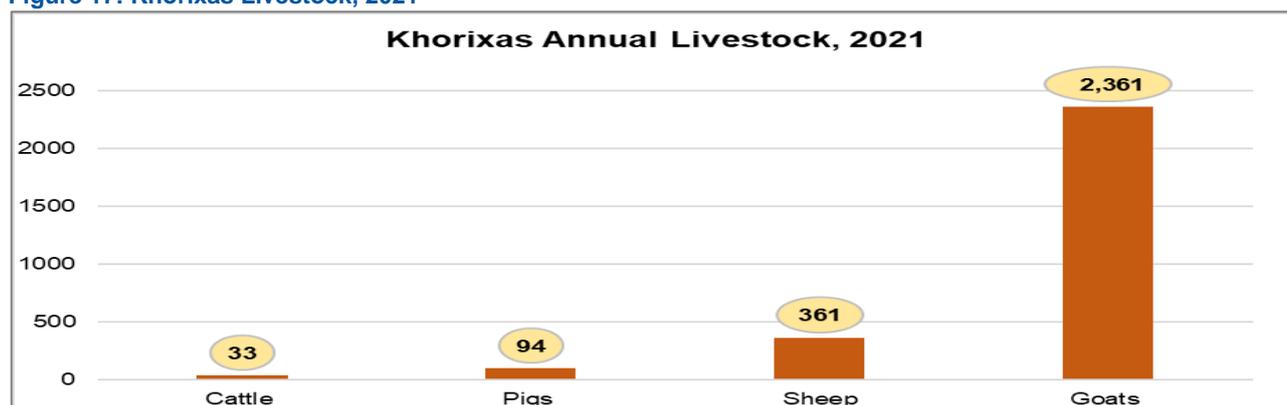
The aim of this exercise was to help with risk profiling and evaluation to identify cost-effective risk-reduction options in terms of the socio-economic concerns of the Kunene society and its capacity for

risk reduction. During implementation of the program, the MWAF in conjunction with IREMA Project started an agricultural training project in 2018 and provided interested households with quality certified seeds, farm machinery/equipment necessary for effective land preparation, planting, weeding, and harvesting to encourage families to continue with gardening activities which are critical to their livelihood.

### 7.1.2 Livestock (Cattle & Small stock) farming

Goats and sheep are the most common type of livestock in Kunene region. The total stock of cattle and goats in Kunene region is about 288,261 and 455,464 respectively. More specifically for Khorixas, most households are involved in small stock farming (goats, sheep & pigs), with 2,236 goats, 361 sheep and 94 pigs (see figure 17). Table 6 below shows the number of livestock in the Zambezi region, Oshana region, Omusati region, Ohangwena region, Oshikoto region, Kavango East and Kavango West regions as well as the in the Kunene region. Equally so, Kunene region with 455,464 goats has the highest number of goats in comparison to other regions in Namibia while Kavango East has the least number of goats (858). The stock of sheep in Kunene region is 260,327 (see table 6 below).

Figure 17: Khorixas Livestock, 2021



Sources: Khorixas Veterinary Rural Extension Centre

Table 6: Number of Livestock regionally

Region	Number		
	Cattle	Sheep	Goats
Zambezi	172,462	3,020	6,363
Oshana	139,573	3,075	67,915
Omusati	299,701	16,921	211,411
Ohangwena	359,419	1,351	317,699
Oshikoto	228,110	6,165	5,547
Kavango East	4,124	105	858
Kavango West	120,778	250	46,400
<b>Kunene</b>	<b>288,264</b>	<b>260,327</b>	<b>405,464</b>
Omahake	407,236	133,244	125,798
!Karas	17,739	481,026	434,086
Hardap	46,902	373,881	105,098

Sources, MWAF & Meat board Namibia

## **7.2. Farmers Challenges**

### *7.2.1 Contaminated Water*

The presence of relatively high alkalinity around the soil in Khorixas area contaminates water. The pipes through which water reach farms are connected underground in the soil. This causes bitterness to stream into the water affecting plant growth and livestock. This water can be treated but can however cause financial restraints on farmers to buy chemicals and medication needed to treat affected crops & livestock.

### *7.2.2. Lack of Proper Infrastructures*

Farmers in dry areas with low rainfall like Khorixas are presented with challenges especially if they cannot afford equipment or machinery for irrigation to keep their farming activities going. Equally so, some farmers are far from town and do not have the necessary infrastructure to connect to the town council's water supply. In addition, livestock are not handled properly when being vaccinated or given treatment because farmers do not have the required infrastructure.

### *7.2.3. Livestock Theft*

One great concern for farmers in Khorixas is theft of small stock (goats and sheep). Due to poor infrastructures for farming, livestock are not well encamped making them susceptible to thieves. Most goats and sheep are found roaming around without a herder. This has increased livestock theft around the town over the years. Livestock are a huge part of source of income for some farmers, and this theft issue has driven some farmers into poverty.

### *7.2.4. Difficulty in Accessing Agri loans.*

Some farmers around Khorixas area alluded to lack of access to Agri loans which should help them improve farm infrastructure and enable them to purchase feed & fertilizers for livestock. Farmers are of the belief that it could have been easier for them to get funds if Agribank had a branch in the town. As a result, they are forced to drive long distances to other towns such as Otjiwarongo to seek financial assistance from Agribank.

### *7.2.5. Livestock -Wildlife conflicts*

Kunene region is home to several wildlife. It has the biggest national park in the country and many other small to medium wildlife parks. The presence of wildlife in the region has threatened the safety of domestic animals over the years. Wild animals like elephants, lions, leopards to mention a few have caused havoc for farmers for years. Their livestock have been harmed and killed by these wild animals. Moreover, most farmers around the area have lost their livestock through attacks of these wild animals which have affected livelihoods of families.

### 7.2.6. Abattoir

There is no abattoir in Khorixas. This has caused strains on farmers who want to slaughter their livestock and sell meat for profit or to finance emergencies. Moreover, the lack of an abattoir presents major challenges for farmers residing far from town since their meat usually rots due to the unavailability of meat cooling facilities.

### 7.2.7. Khorixas Auction Point

The Khorixas Auction Point is a livestock auction platform established in 2005 and coordinated by Karoo Noord company which is used to market farmer's livestock around the town. The auctions are held at the kraal owned by the Welwitschia Farmers Union (WFU). Most communities in the Khorixas area derive their livelihood from farming. These farmers make

use of auctions to sell their livestock to send their children to school as well as support themselves.

Moreover, Karoo Nord charges commission for selling of goats & sheep at N\$28/pkg and cattle N\$35/pkg.

**Figure 18: Auction Kraal Khorixas**

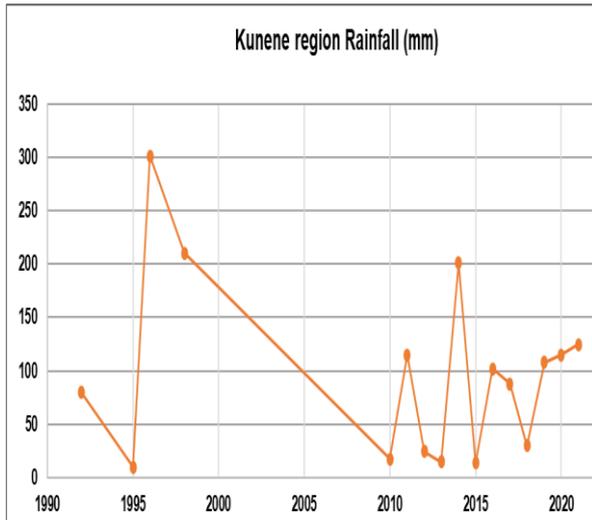


Sources: Karoo Nord Facebook page

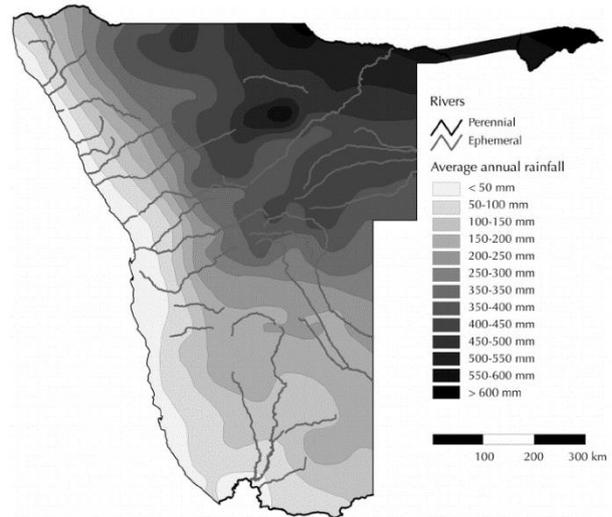
## 7.3. Rainfall patterns

In Kunene region droughts are frequent and below average rainfall is common. The annual average rainfall of the trend from 1992 to 2021 is 97 mm (figure 19) which is below the national average rainfall of 278 mm. Elsewhere in the country, this can be a very different case. Figure 19 below further shows that in 1996 rainfall was the highest with 301 mm and lowest in 2015 with 14 mm. The dark areas show (see Map below) regions with higher rainfall and greyish to lighter shows average to low rainfall patterns respectively. As foreseen, Zambezi and Kavango regions fall in the dark category which means they receive rainfalls of more than 600mm per annum (see figure 19).

**Figure 19: Rainfall Trend, Kunene Regin**



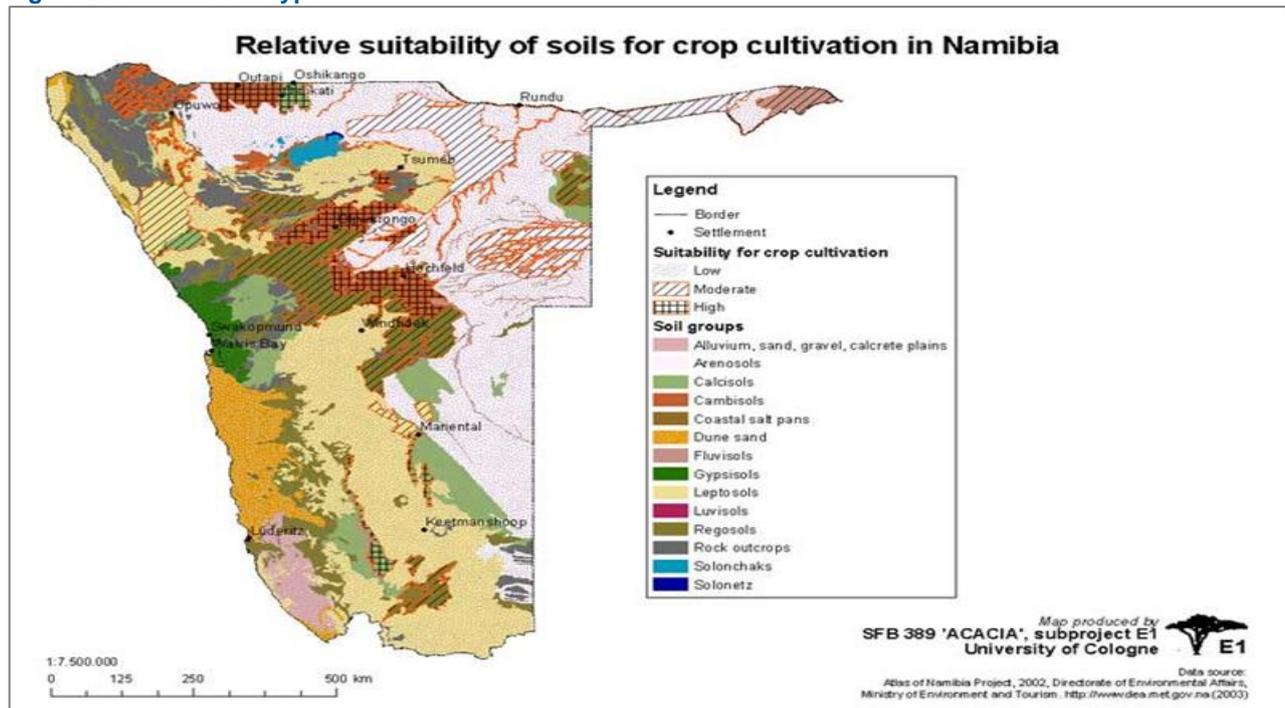
Sources: *Namibia Meteorological Services*



### 7.4. Soil Types

Khorixas generally has soil with poor nutrients due to its sandy-loamy texture and predominantly shallow rocky especially in hilly and mountainous terrain. Kunene region has a natural mountainous landscape, rocks, minerals, soil, underground water, springs, and rivers represent the region’s valuable resources. Rock formation presents some mining potential that could benefit the region economically. The soil, aquifers, springs, and perennial rivers have a major influence on agricultural production and tourism in the region.

**Figure 20: Kunene soil type**



Source: *University of Cologne*

## **7.5. Mining and quarrying activities**

### *7.5.1. Mine at Navarre Farm*

The mine at Navarre Farm situated 6.7 km west of Khorixas. The mine area was discovered in 2016 with potential of earth minerals such as olivine, augite, hornblende, biotite, calcium-rich plagioclase. However, production has not yet commenced. An estimate of 180 employees are expected to be employed at Navarre farm upon commencement of operations. The farm has potential for earth minerals.

### *7.5.2. Mesopotamia copper valley*

The copper on the Mesopotamia copper village in Khorixas was discovered in 2013. Production at the mine has not yet started. The mine presents opportunities for investors to open processing and smelting companies like that of Dundee Precious metal. The Mesopotamia Copper Valley mine expects to employ about 250 employees for its operations.

## **8. SECONDARY SECTOR AND SERVICE SECTOR**

In this section, we give an overview of economic activities that involve processing or manufacturing of products for final consumption in Khorixas. The costs of doing business and in-depth information on the education sector of the town is also provided. It further, summarizes the services provided in Khorixas particularly those provided by the town council such as: the approval of building plans, Cost of business fitness certificate & registering a business, fee to operate at the open market and the cost of using local recreational facilities.

### **8.1. Manufacturing activities in Khorixas**

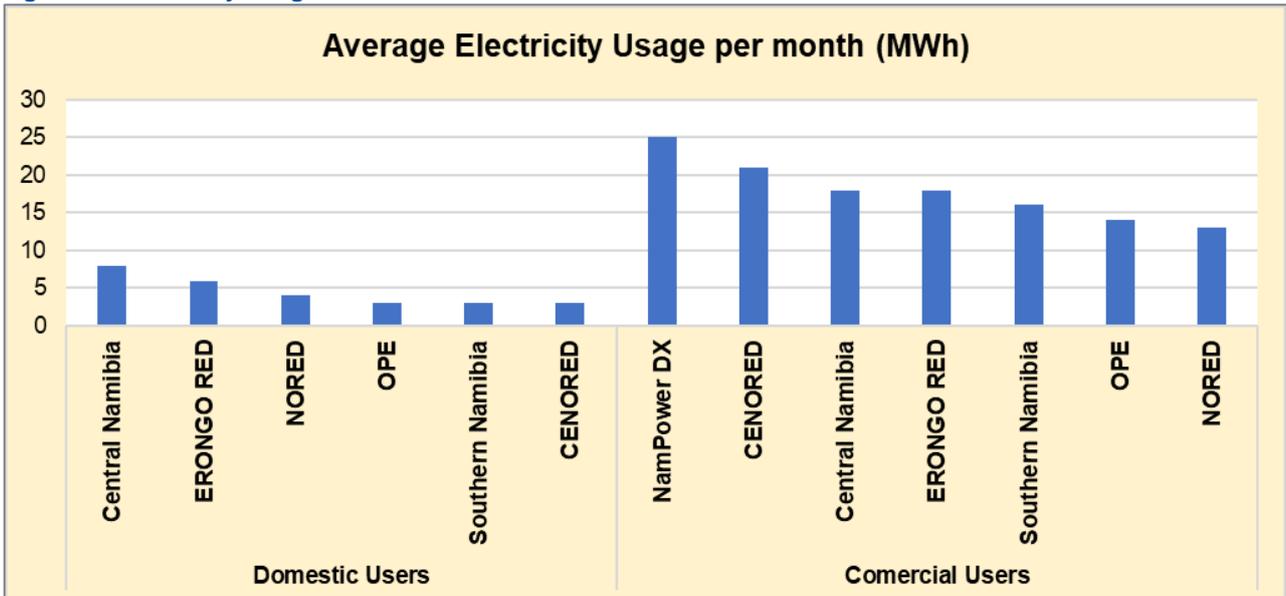
There is not much value addition in Khorixas. The main economic activities in the town & surroundings are tourism, agriculture (especially communal livestock & crop farming).

### **8.2. Electricity in Khorixas**

#### *8.2.1. Electricity Usage*

Individuals in Namibia use an average of 4-megawatt of electricity per hour on an annual basis. This translates into 333-kilowatt monthly. However, in Khorixas, an average of 7,865MWh, 2,515 MWh, and 2, 350 MWh of electricity was consumed by residents, businesses, and places of worship respectively in 2021. Households use an average of 140 KWh of electricity monthly which costs them about N\$650.00 based on the Electricity Control Board's tariffs (*see figure 21*).

Figure 21: Electricity Usage

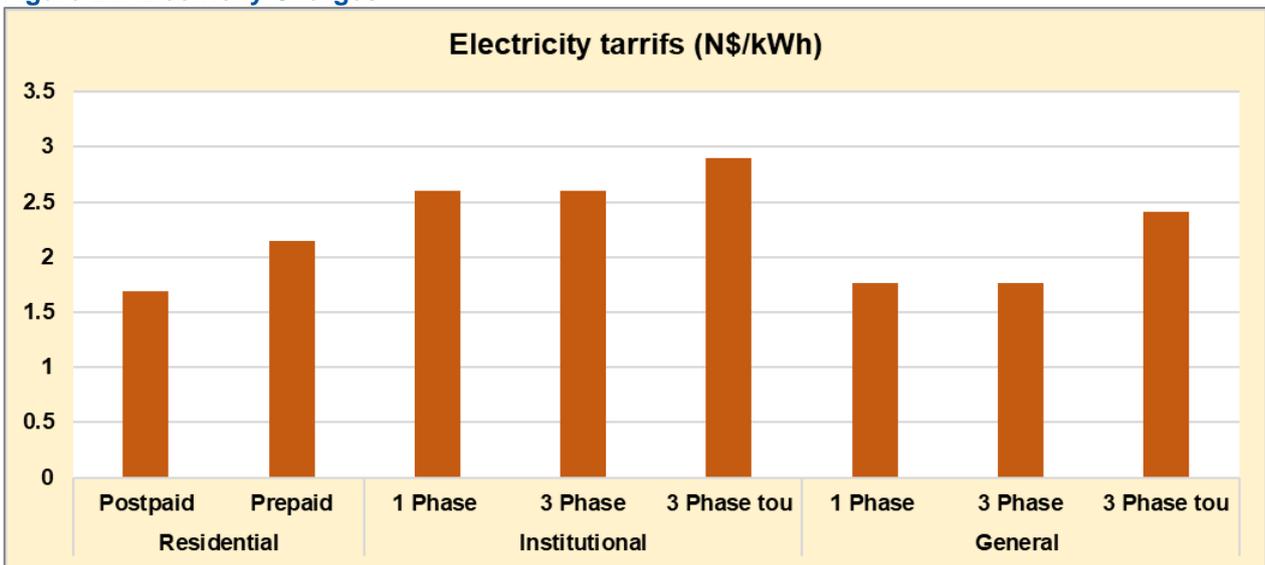


Sources: ECB

### 8.2.2. The Cost of Electricity

The ECB approved a tariff increase of 3.3 percent which was from 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2022. According to figure 22 below, residents with prepaid electricity services paid more than those with postpaid electricity costing N\$2.20 and N\$1.70 per kilowatt respectively. For institutions, charges are categorized in three phases namely a charge of N\$2.56, N\$2.59 and N\$2.80 during standard and off-peak time (see figure 22 below).

Figure 22: Electricity Charges



Sources: NORED

### 8.2.3. Source of energy for cooking

About 61 percent of Namibians in rural areas use electricity for cooking while about 5% use paraffin, 16% use gas, 17% use firewood and only 0.1% use solar energy. In Khorixas, the highest proportion of the population use firewood (33%), followed by electricity (21%), gas (1%), solar energy (0.9%) and paraffin (0.4%) (see table7).

**Table 7: Main Source of energy**

Main Sources energy for cooking	Electricity	Gas	Paraffin	Firewood	Solar Energy
<b>Namibian Rural</b>	61%	16%	5.0%	86%	0.1%
<b>Namiban Urban</b>	10%	3%	0%	17%	0.1%
<b>Kunene</b>	22%	4%	0%	73%	0%
<b>Khorixas</b>	21%	1%	0.4%	33%	0.9%

Sources: NHIES 2015/16, Census 2011 & FC Research

## 8.3 Water supply

### 8.3.1. Water consumption

Khorixas households consume between 5 to 18 cubic meters, businesses between 60 and 95 cubic meters, schools between 120 and 310 cubic meters and hospitals between 1,800 and 3000 cubic meters of water monthly.

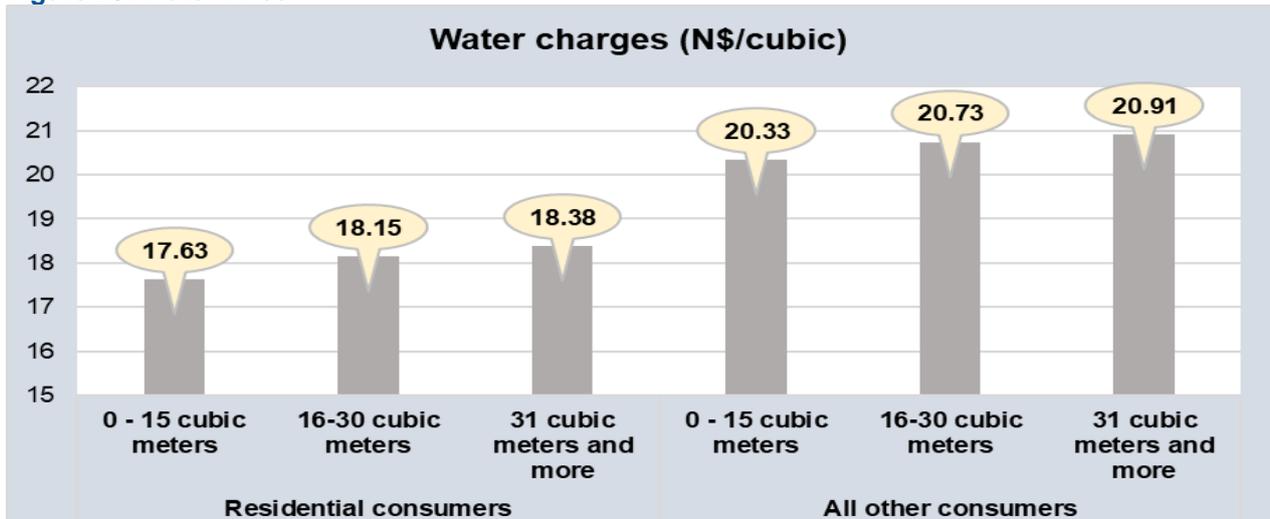
### 8.3.2. Access to tap water.

According to the Khorixas Town Council most of the residents have access to portable water. This was verified by our survey which found that 96 percent of residents have access to potable water inclusive of those in informal settlements.

## 8.4. Price of water

Figure 23 below summarizes the basic charges incurred by residents and businesses in Khorixas. Residents are charged N\$17.63 and N\$18.15 monthly per cubic meter if their monthly use of water is between 0 and 15 cubic meters and between 16 to 30 cubic meters respectively. However, if they use water more than 31 cubic meters, they pay N\$18.38 per cubic meter. Businesses and institutions pay N\$20.33 and N\$20.73 per cubic meter if they use water between 0 to 15 cubic meters and between 16 and 30 cubic meters respectively. At the same time, they are N\$20.91 per cubic meter if they use more than 31 cubic meters of water.

**Figure 23: Water Price**



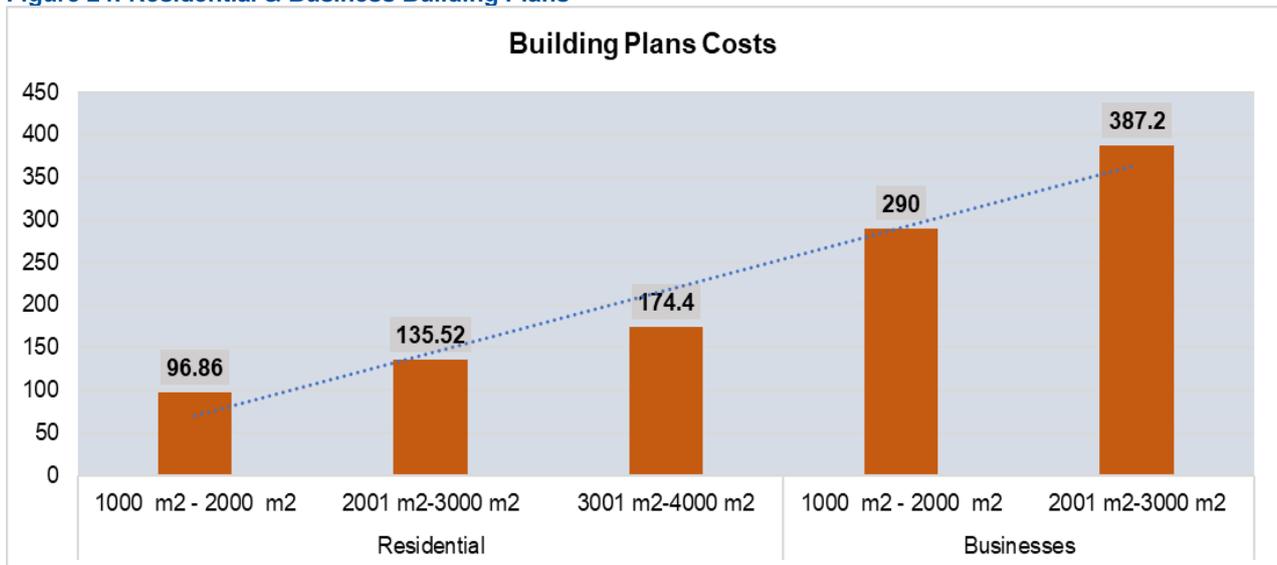
Sources: Khorixas Town Council

## 8.5. Construction activities

### 8.5.1. Residential & Business Building Plans

The Khorixas Town council reviews and approves building plans at a fee charged based on the size and the building structure on the plan. A residential building plan of land between 1000 -2000 square meters is charged at N\$96.86 per square meter, while a building plan between 2001 and 3000 square meters costs N\$135.52 per/sqm. The highest costs are incurred for building plans of between 3001 to 4000 square meters whose cost is N\$174.4 per/sqm. Moreover, The larger the size of the land, the higher the cost of a residential building plan (*Figure 24*).

**Figure 24: Residential & Business Building Plans**



Sources: Khorixas Town Council

### 8.5.2. Plots Selling Price

Table 8 shows prices at which the Khorixas Town Council sells plots per square meter. Residential plots are sold at N\$63.53. Institutional, Business, and industrial plots are sold at N\$88.94 and N\$108.8 (See table 8 below). Moreover, those interested in serviced station plots will purchase at N\$152.46 per sq. meter.

Table 8: Plots Price per Sqm

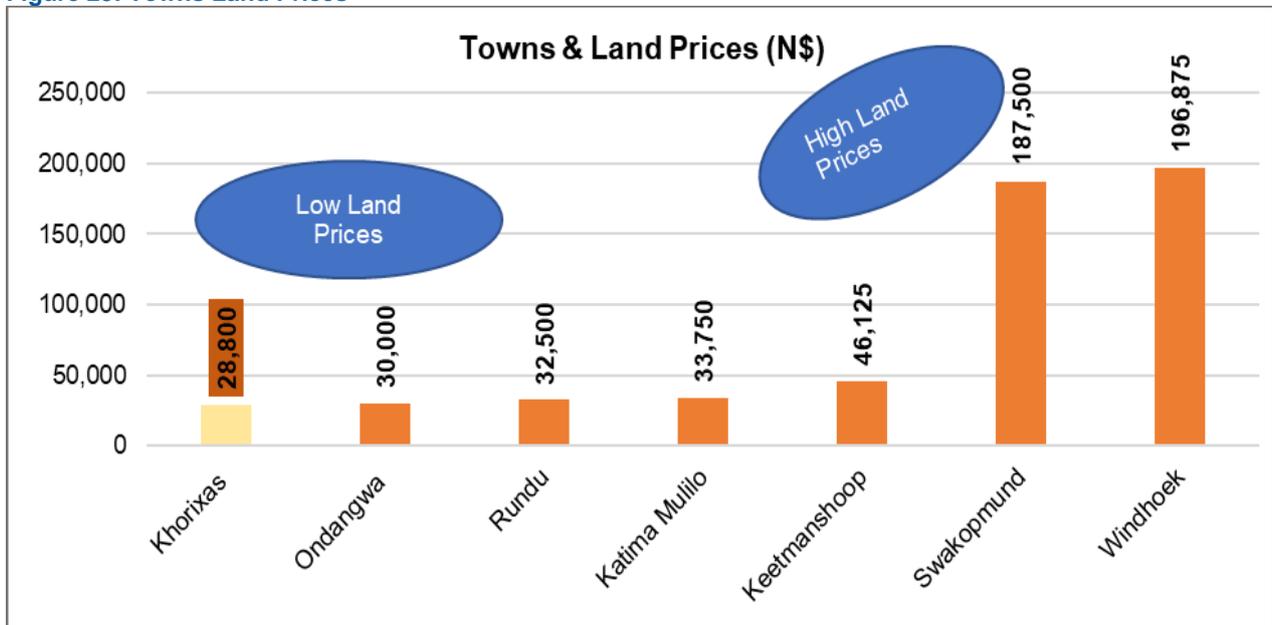
Selling of Erven Per Square Meter (N\$)	
<b>Residential</b>	63.53
<b>Business</b>	88.94
<b>Institutional</b>	50.82
<b>Service station</b>	152.46
<b>Industrial</b>	108.1

Sources: Khorixas Town Council

### 8.5.3. Different Towns Land prices

Figure 25 below shows the average prices for serviced land in different towns in Namibia collected from recent transactions of the respective local authorities from middle income suburb locations in various towns in Namibia. For comparison, the price per square meter of serviced land in each town is multiplied by the standard erven size of 375 square meters which this research finds an ideal area for a standard urban residential erf. Amongst the towns presented below, Windhoek (N\$196,875) has the most expensive plots while Khorixas has the cheapest plot costing N\$28,800 followed by Ondangwa where a plot costs N\$30,000 (figure 25).

Figure 25: Towns Land Prices

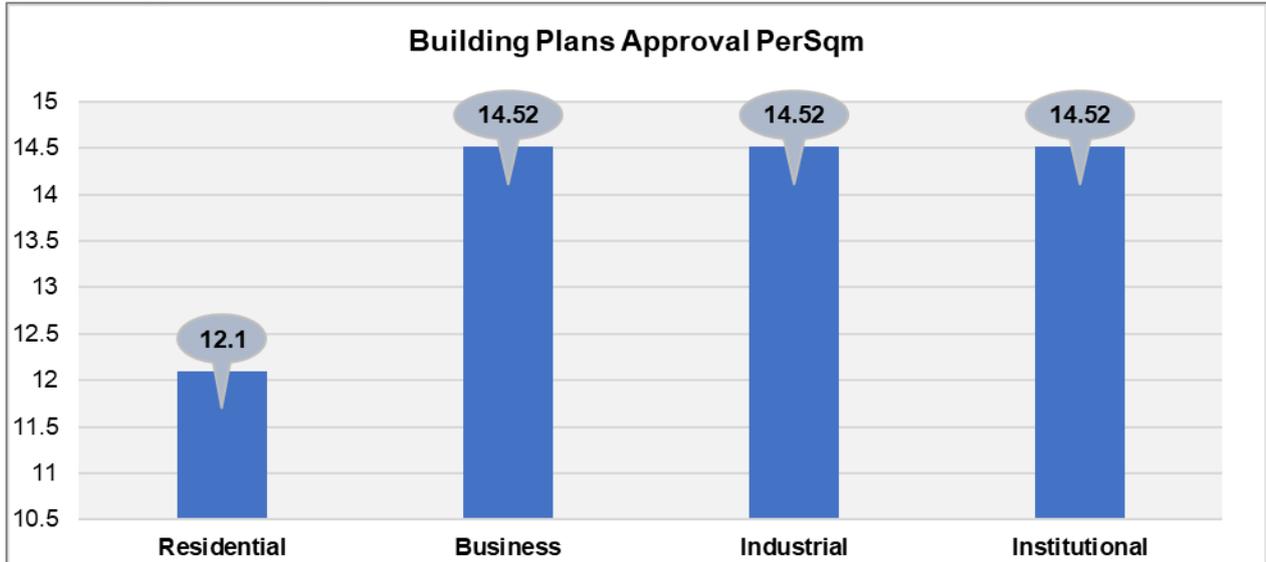


Sources: Respective Town Councils & Municipalities

## 8.6. Approval of building plans

Businesses are required to submit building plans to the town council for record keeping and assessment. A certain fee is required for a building plan to be approved. The amount paid depends on the type of building to be constructed (see figure 26 below). A general residential building plan is approved at N\$12.10 per square meter while building plans for businesses and institutions are all approved at N\$14.52 per square meter.

Figure 26: Approval Building Plan Fee



Sources: Khorixas Town Council

## 8.7. Cost of business fitness certificate & registering a business

When establishing a business in Khorixas or anywhere else in the country, other cost implications involved are acquiring a business fitness certificate and having a registration fee which depend on the type of business to be undertaken. A fitness certificate is a requirement before starting operations for any type of business. Table 9 shows that acquiring a business fitness certificate for Hawker's cost N\$20 and to register such a business one would pay N\$50. The most common type of business in the town are bars and shebeens. These cost N\$300 for both business fitness certificates and registration (see table 9 below).

Table 9: Cost of fitness certificate & registering a business.

Type of business	Fitness Certificate (N\$)	Registration (N\$)
Hawkers	20	50
Business	50	100
Car wash	100	100
Bars/Shebeens	300	300
Mini Market/Take Away	250	250

Sources: Khorixas Town Council

### 8.8. Prices at the open market

There is a small open market in Khorixas for use by residents at certain fees depending on the type of operations conducted. *Table 10* below presents the amount paid for the use of the open market. Sellers pay N\$62, N\$40, N\$100 and N\$110 for closed stands, open stands, barbershop and meat stand respectively (*see table 10*).

**Table 10: Open Market Charges**

Open Market Charges (N\$)	
Closed Stand	62
Open Stand	40
Barber Shop	100
One day use business	90
Meat Stand	110

Sources: Khorixas Town Council

### 8.9. The cost of using local recreational facilities

People in Khorixas can access different town council facilities for different occasions. They are required to pay for the use of these facilities. For using the community hall, they pay between N\$ N\$220 and N\$1,680 on each occasion and between N\$330 to N\$820 for the use of the stadium (*see table 11 below*). Booking of the community hall is inclusive of the hall's equipment such as chairs, tables, and others.

**Table 11: Town Councils Facilities**

Town Council Facilities	Price range Per event (N\$)
Welwitchia Hall	220 -1,680
Sport Stadium	330 - 820

Sources: Khorixas Town Council

### 8.10. List of major Government expenditure projects in Khorixas

Table 12 below, summaries major capital projects budgeted for Khorixas and the surroundings in the 2022/23-2024/25 for the medium-term expenditure framework. In the 2022/23-2024/25 MTEF the government budgeted to spend a total of N\$8.1 million on construction of public in infrastructure. This program is ongoing and is expected to be completed by the end of 2030. Another major project is the establishment of mining inputs and service data base is expected to boost economic activities. The project ends 2025/26 and the government budgeted a total of N\$7 million (*see table below*).

**Table 12: Major Projects in Khorixas**

Project name	Implementation agency	2023/24	2024/25	Start date	Completion date
Construction and renovation of public infrustrure	Ministry of labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation	1,800	4,500	31/04/2015	31/03/2030
Construction of service infrustructure	Ministry of Urban and Rural Development	2,175	2,100	01/04/2017	31/03/2025
Massive land servicing	Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Wealfare	709	1,304	01/04/2017	31/03/2025
Contruction and rennovation of service infrustructure	Ministry of Mines and Energy	500	500	01/04/2016	31/03/2025
Establishment of mining inputs and data base	Ministry of Mines and Energy	3,000	2,000	01/04/2018	31/03/2025
Construction and rennovation of extension facilities	Ministry of Justice	2,173	6,000	01/04/2019	31/03/2025

Sources: MoF 2022

### 8.7. Regional allocations over the medium term

Khomas region received the highest allocation over the MTEF period, which is 30% of the total Budget. This is attributed to major construction projects such as Windhoek-Hosea Kutako Road, Windhoek-Okahandja Road, Construction of services (sanitation) and the on-going office blocks and other services in the region. The second highest allocated region is the Erongo region, mainly due to some key on-going Rail, road construction and other projects that are being implemented in the region such as: the Upgrading of Walvis Bay - Kranzberg Railway line, Construction of Swakopmund - Henties Bay - Kamanjab Link Road and the Upgrading of the MR 44: Swakopmund -Walvis Bay Road. The Kunene region got N\$196 million for the current financial year and can expect to get about N\$188 million in the next financial year. (*Table 13*).

**Table 13: Regional Allocation**

Region	Inside State Revenue fund (N\$)		Outside state revenue fund		MTEF total	MTEF % share
	2023/24	2024/25	2023/24	2024/25		
//Karas	448,480	576,982	4,432	5,628	1,399,721	7
Erongo	532,423	304,414	370,357	678,329	4,002,173	19
Hadarp	264,282	303,795	4,439	5,628	771,479	4
Kavango E	122,206	107,576	170,293	133,532	747,388	3
Kavango W	173,274	198,608	4,439	11,588	540,765	3
Khomas	1,151,272	1,002,181	546,753	967,649	6,320,202	30
Kunene	188,747	217,929	19,997	52,276	697,154	3
Ohangwen	168,847	193,468	20,995	23,422	589,850	3
Omaheke	283,839	300,135	32,982	49,226	874,571	4
Omusati	135,764	134,082	375,787	128,695	1,043,481	5
Oshana	250,111	322,906	132,484	105,931	1,051,405	5
Oshikoto	131,588	137,197	31,453	45,429	517,496	2
Otjozondju	477,755	417,986	64,574	22,178	1,517,301	7
Zambezi	120,102	231,431	326,845	351,794	1,173,951	5
Abroad	51,310	51,310	-	-	156,940	1
Total	4,500,000	4,500,000	2,105,830	2,581,305	21,403,877	100

Sources: MoF 2022

## 9. EDUCATION SERVICES IN KUNENE & KHORIXAS

### 9.1. Access to education

#### 9.1.1 Primary and secondary education

There are 5 schools in Khorixas among which three (3) are primary schools, and two (2) are high schools. Among the two (2) high schools there is one called Braunfels High School situated 5km east of Khorixas. This is an agricultural technical school focused on teaching agricultural methods to learners with an aim of improving knowledge and skills on agricultural practices in the region. In addition, the school (Braunfels) also teaches other subjects which are part of the national curriculum.

#### 9.1.2. Tertiary education

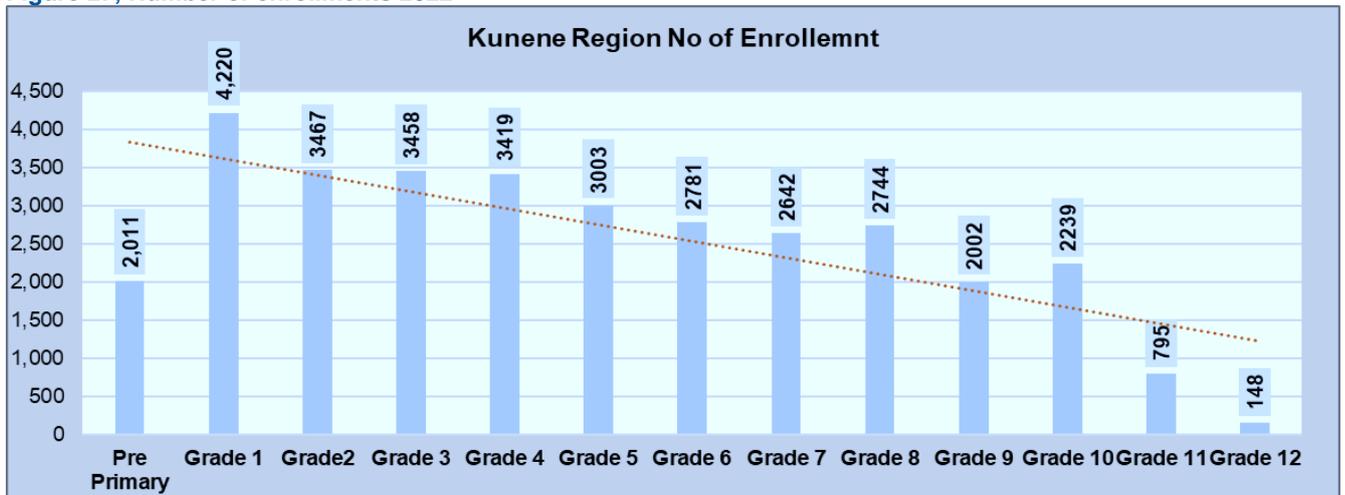
Namibia University of science and technology and University of Namibia have distance learning facilities in the town. These facilities enable distance students to submit assignments and seek academic advice on their studies. A Vocational Training Center (VTC) is currently under construction and expected to open in 2025.

### 9.2. Number of Learners in the Region

There were 32,947 learners in the Kunene region in 2022. Figure 27 below classifies the number of learners in the region according to their respective grades. Furthermore, it can be observed that the number of learners is lower at higher grades. Evidently so, grade 1 had the highest number of learners

(4, 220), followed by grade 2 (3, 467) and then grade 3 (3,458) while grades 11 and 12 only had 795 and 148 learners.

**Figure 27; Number of enrollments 2022**

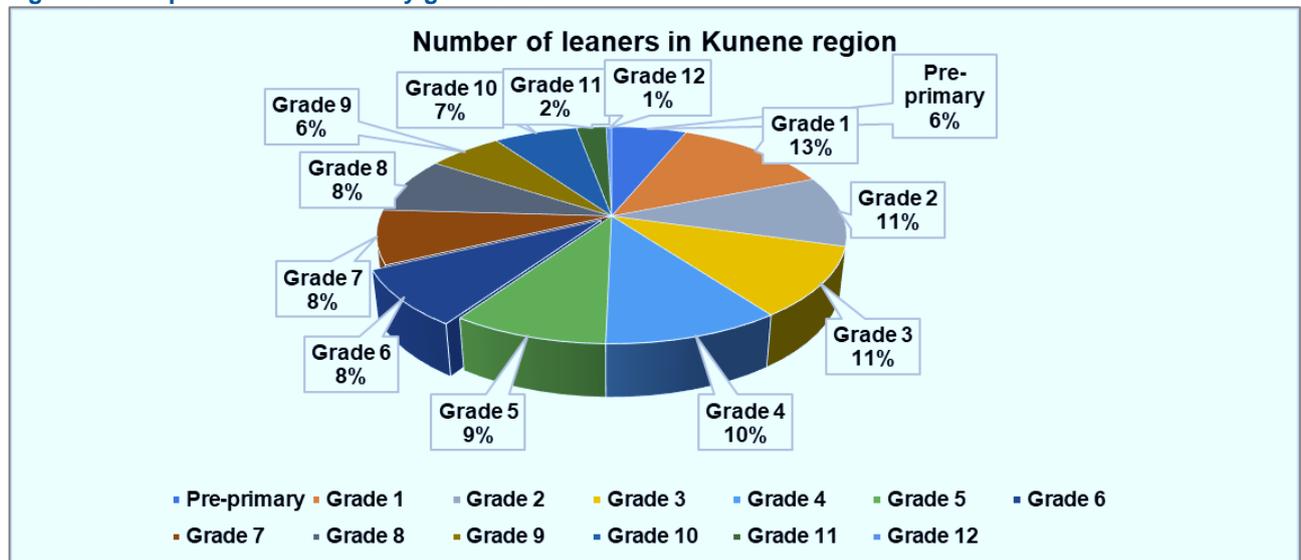


Sources: MoE 2022

### 9.3 Percentage distribution of learners in Khorixas

Figure 28 below shows the distribution of learners in the region by grade. As noted above, the higher the grade the fewer the number of learners in that respective grade. Thus, the highest proportion of learners (13 percent) are in grade 1 while the lowest are in grade 12 (1 percent).

**Figure 28: Proportion of learners by grade 2022**

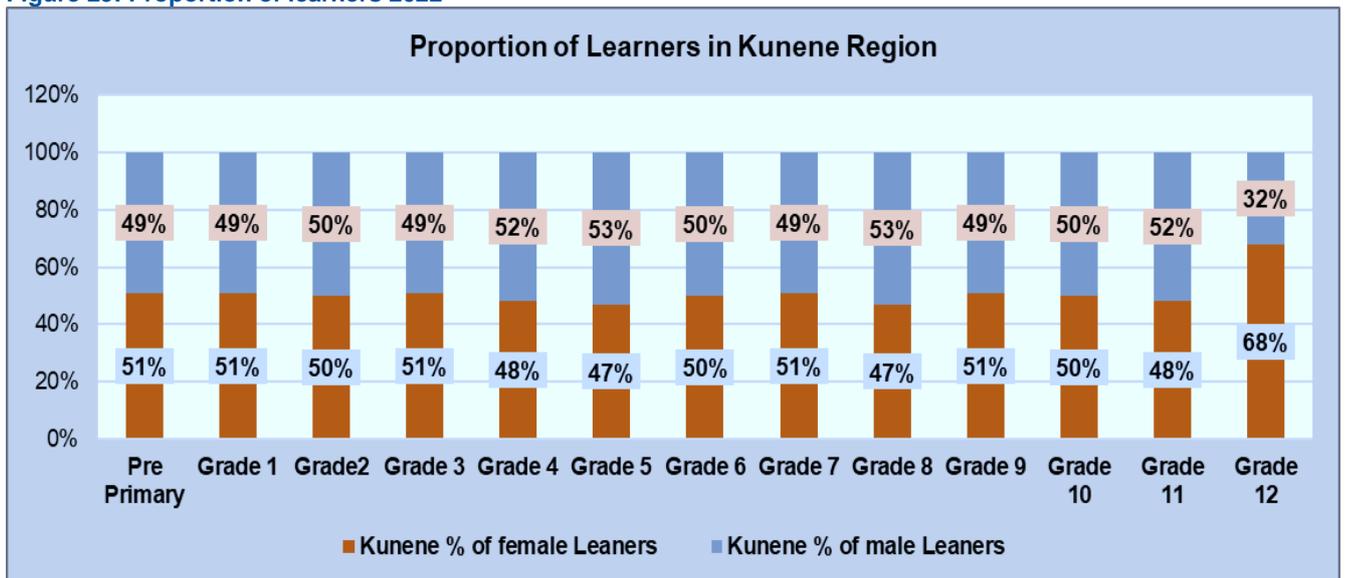


Source: MoE 2022

### 9. 4 Percentage of male and female learners in Kunene region by grade

The figure 29 below shows the proportion of male and female learners in the region by grade. clearly, gender disparities are low from pre-primary to grade 11 except for grade 10 where there is 50/50 representation between males and females. However, 68% t of grade 12 learners are female while only 32 percent are males.

**Figure 29: Proportion of learners 2022**

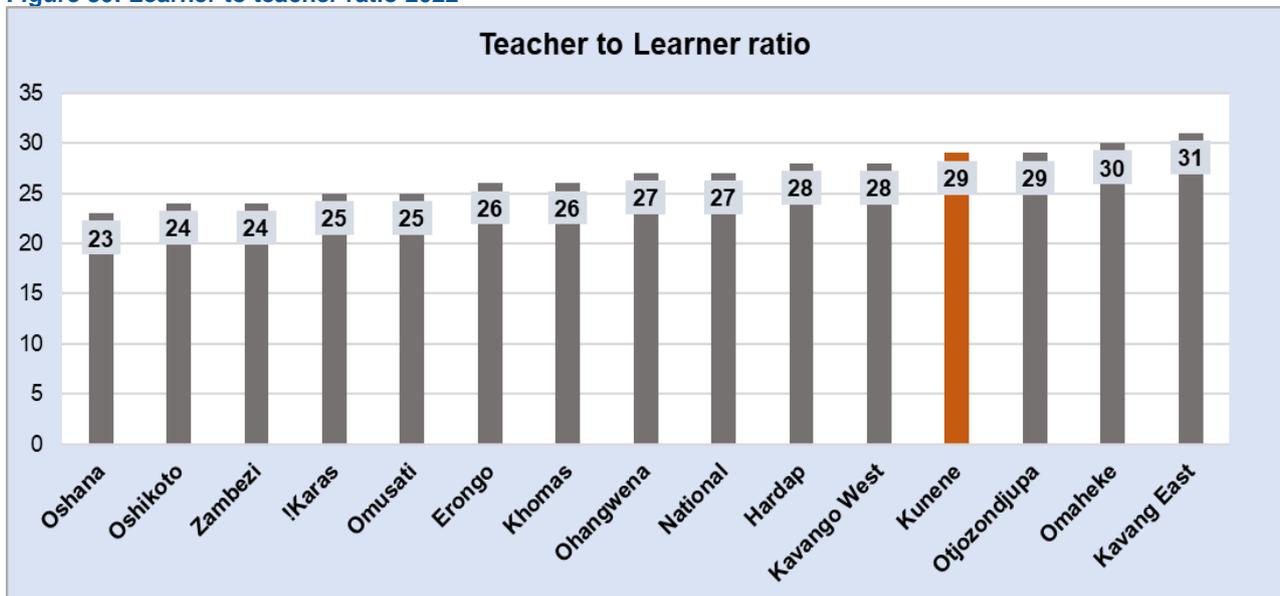


Source: MoE

### 9.5. Learner to Teacher Ratio

The learner to teacher ratio indicates the resource allocation to education. The learner to teacher ratio in Namibia is 24. In Kunene the learner to teacher ratio is 29 which is more than the national average (see figure 30) according to the 2022 education statistics.

**Figure 30: Learner to teacher ratio 2022**



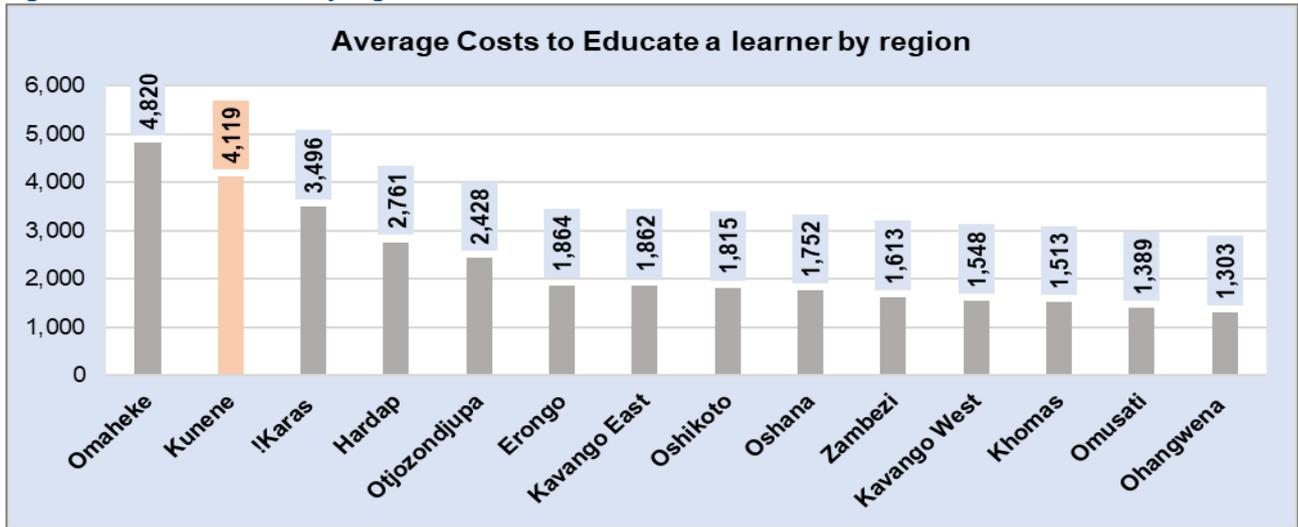
Source: MoE 2022

### 9.6. Cost to Educate a Learner

The cost to educate a learner in this context is the operational cost of education divided by the number of learners in the region. Kunene region has the second highest cost to educate a learner (N\$4,119) after Omaheke (N\$4,820). However, interpreting this information in relation to the efficiency of education can be misleading due to other confounding factors such as: the qualification and experience

of teachers which is a determining factor for teacher's wages or the number of learners in the region in relation to teachers (Figure 31).

**Figure 31: Cost to educate by region 2022.**



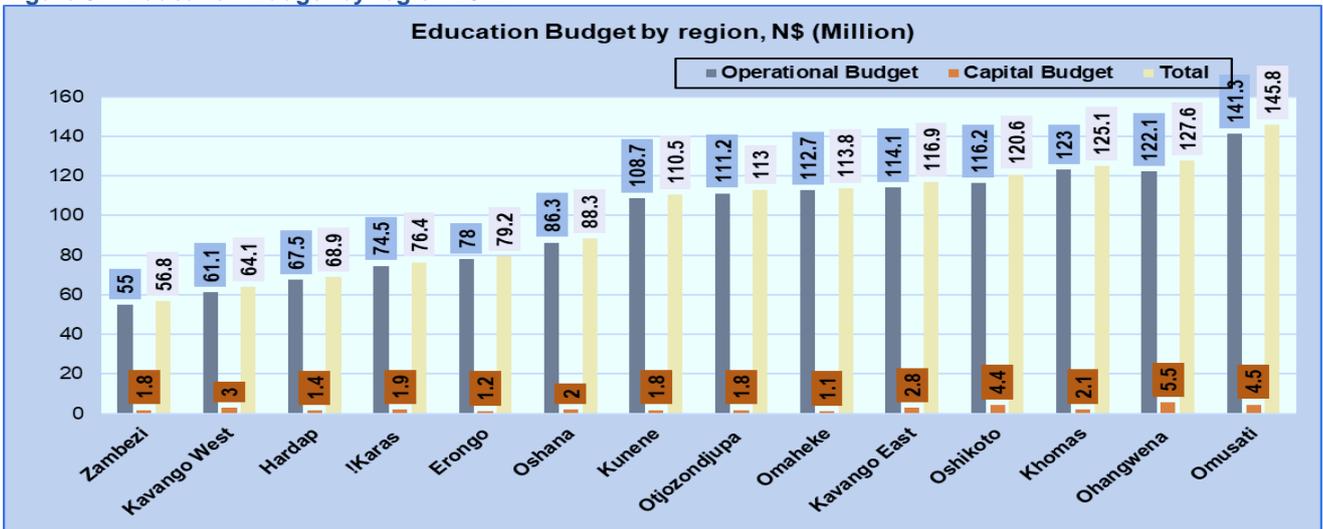
Source: MoE 2022

## 9.7. Education Budget Allocation

### 9.7.1. Education by region

During the 2022/23 financial year Omusati region received the highest budget allocation of N\$45.8 million in comparison to other regions followed by Khomas and Ohangwena with N\$125.1 million and N\$127.6 million respectively (see figure 32 below).

**Figure 32: Education Budget by region 2022**



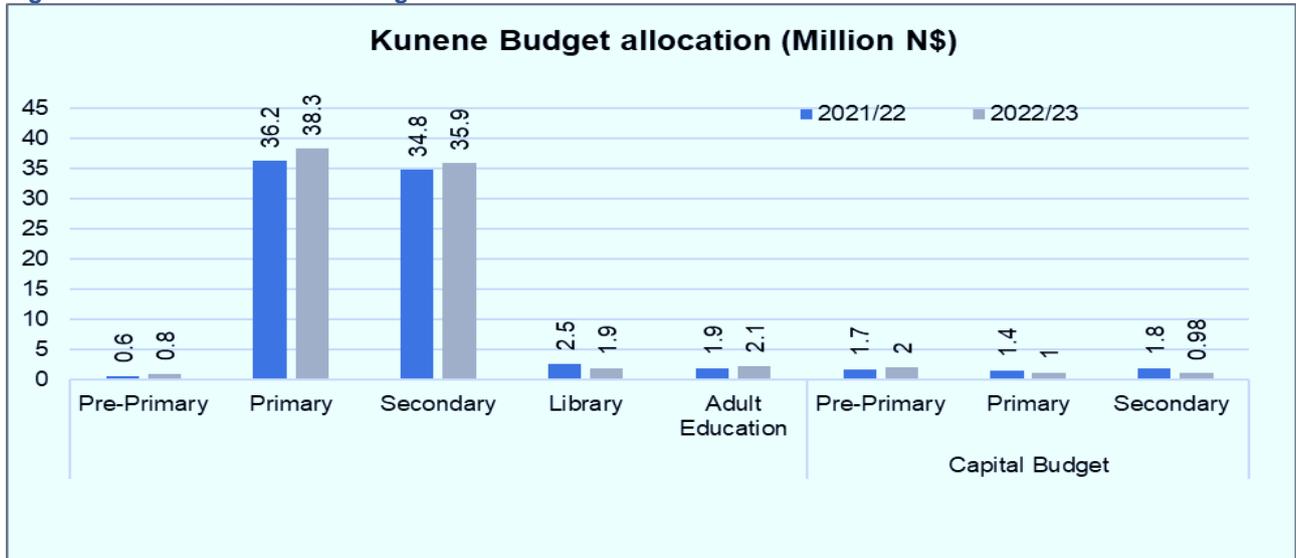
Source: MoE 2022

## 9.8. Kunene region Budget allocations

Figure 33 below summarizes the distribution of the operational and capital budgets during the financial years 2021/22 and 2022/23 for the Kunene region. In the 2022/23 regional budget allocations for library operational related expenditures received N\$1.9 million while adult education related operational

expenditures received a budget of N\$2.1 million. At the same time, the operational budget for primary schools received N\$38.3 million and secondary schools received N\$35.9 million.

**Figure 33: Kunene Education Budget**

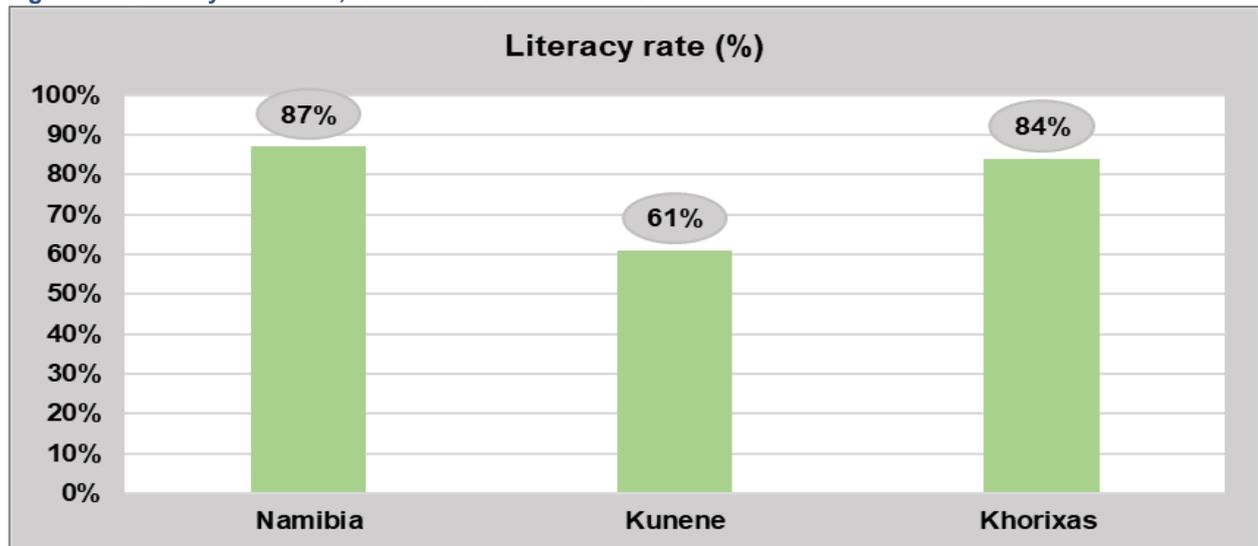


Source: MoE

### 9.9 Literacy rate

The Kunene region is dominated by people from marginalized communities. Consequently, it has the lowest literacy rate in the country. The literacy rate for Namibia is 87% while for Kunene region it is 61%. This is below the literacy rate for Namibia & Khorixas with literacy rates of 87 and 84 percent (see figure 34).

**Figure 34: Literacy Rate Nam, Kunene & Khorixas Town**



Source: 2015/16 NHIES and FC Research

## 10. HEALTH SITUATION IN KUNENE & KHORIXAS

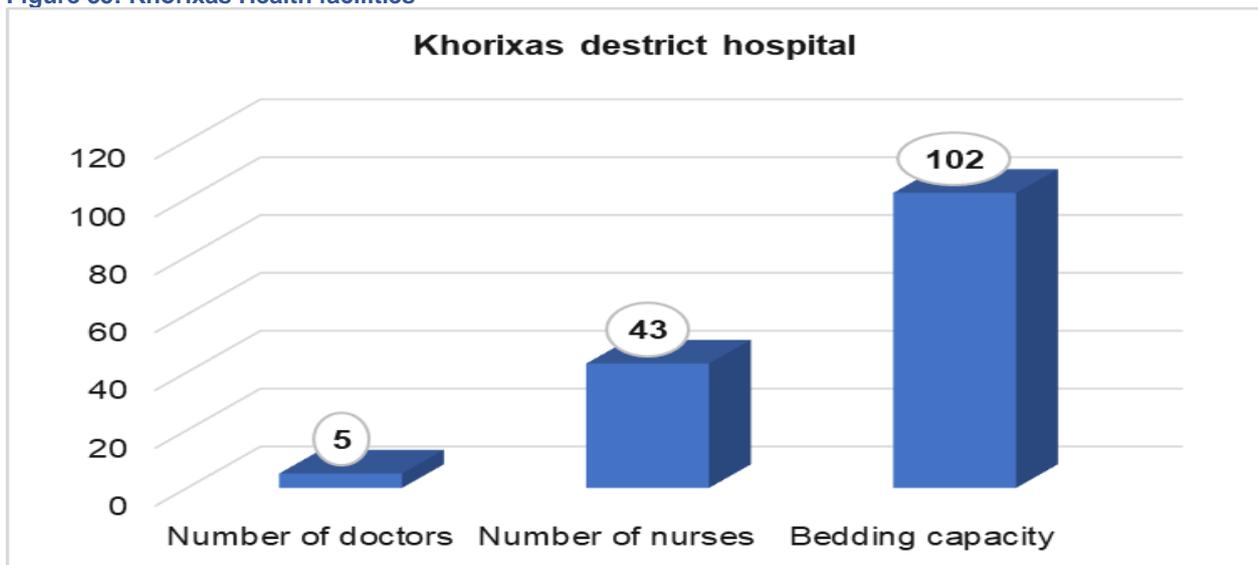
### 10.1 National situation

Namibia has a dual system of health care servicing: public (serving 90% of the population) and private (10%) health care providers. The Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS) is the main provider for public health services in Namibia. Currently, there are 1,150 outreach points, 309 clinics and health centers, 29 district hospitals and 4 intermediate and referral hospitals. The private sector is sizeable, with 844 private health facilities registered with MoHSS. A total of 342 health facilities (Hospitals, clinics & health centers, excluding outreach points) serve an estimated population of 1.9 million. On average the national public system has an infrastructure of 1 health facility per 5,700 populations.

### 10.2 Situation in Khorixas

The health facilities in Khorixas are a district hospital and 5 clinics surrounding the town. In addition, there is also a private hospital, a private dentist practice and a pharmacy in the town. The district hospital has a bedding capacity of 102, 6 medical doctors and 43 nurses. This study estimates 15% (1,188) of the population to be users of private medical facilities. The ratio of doctor to patient is 1:1,134, this is higher than the 1:1000 ratio recommended by the World Health Organization.

Figure 35: Khorixas Health facilities



Sources: MoHSS & FC Research

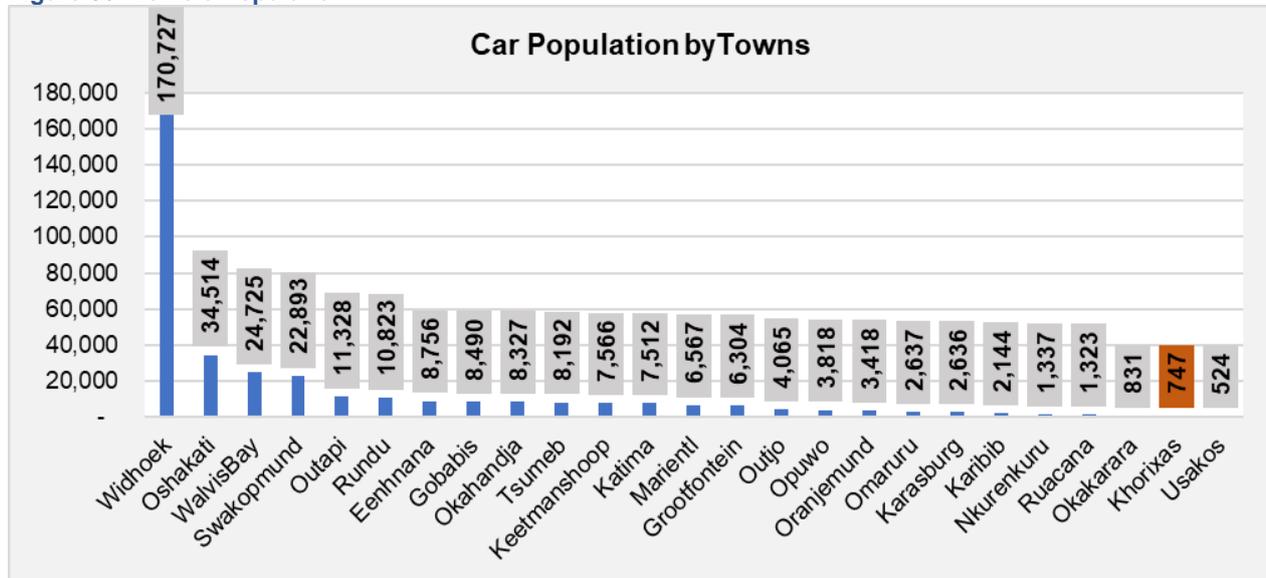
## 11. TRANSPORT NETWORK

### 11.1. Road Network

Namibia's road network is regarded as one of the best on the continent, road construction and maintenance is in accordance with international standards. The World Economic Forum reported Namibia to be the 23<sup>rd</sup> country with the best road infrastructure quality globally and the best in Africa.

The country scored 5.2 out of 7 better than South Africa and Rwanda which scored 5.0. The Roads Authority's 2019/20 annual report shows that there were 347 vehicles registered in Khorixas. During the same period, Windhoek had the highest vehicle population (170,727), followed by Oshakati with 34,514 and then Walvis Bay 24,725. Khorixas vehicle population was 747 vehicles during 2019/20 financial year, making it the 2<sup>nd</sup> town with the lowest vehicle populations in Namibia (see figure 36).

Figure 36: Vehicle Population

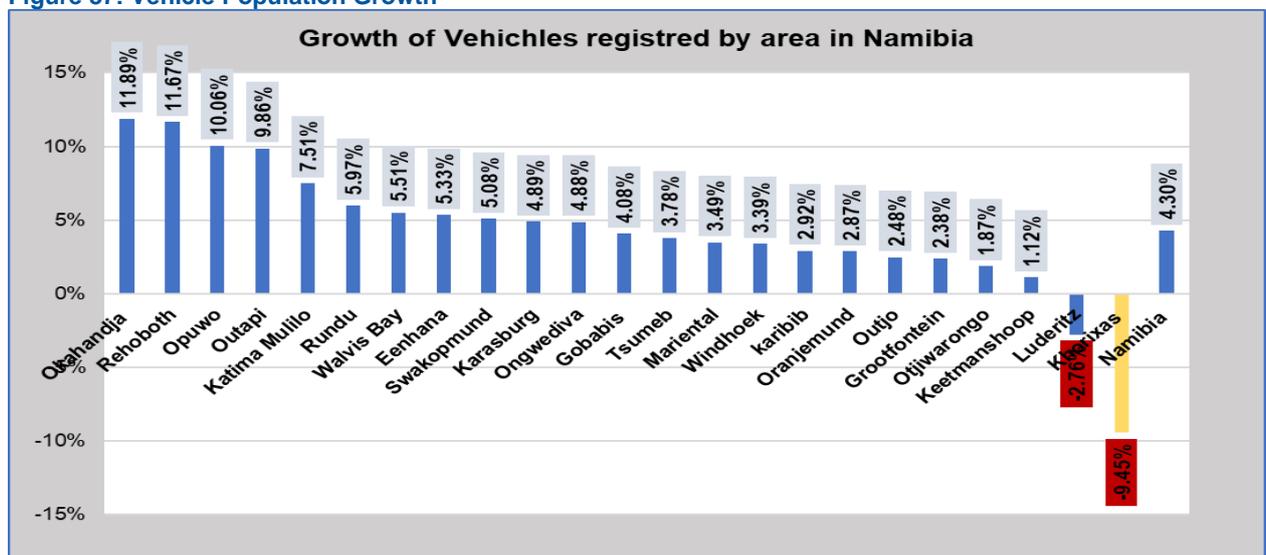


Source: Road authority 2019/20

### 11.2 Growth of registered vehicle

Figure 37 below shows the growth of the number of vehicles registered per town on an annual basis. Okahandja recorded the highest growth rate in the number of vehicles registered of 11.9 percent while Khorixas recorded a fall of 9.47 percent in the number of vehicles registered from 2018/19 to 2019/20 which way below the national vehicle population growth of 4.3 percent.

Figure 37: Vehicle Population Growth

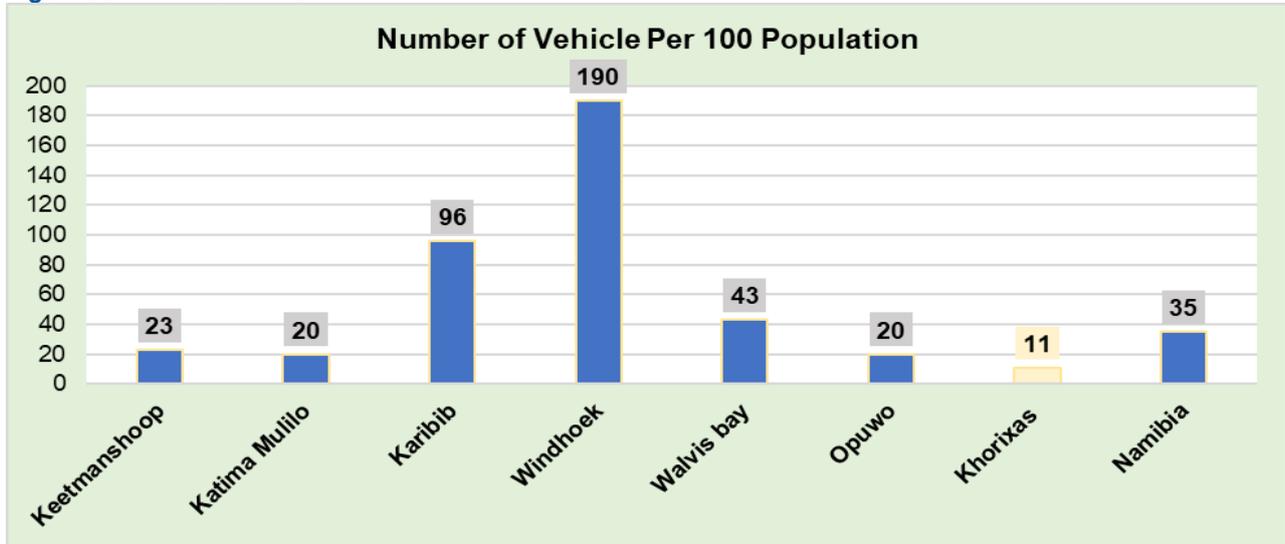


Source: Road authority 2019/20

### 11.3. Vehicles per 100 population

At 747 vehicles registered in Khorixas, taking into consideration the population of the town, it stands out that vehicles owned per population are below the national average. There are 20 vehicles registered in Khorixas per 100 population compared to the national average of 35 vehicles per 100 population. However, the ratio of vehicles per population in Khorixas is much lower than that the National (35), Karibib (96) and Walvis Bay (42) (See figure 38)

Figure 38: Vehicles Per 100

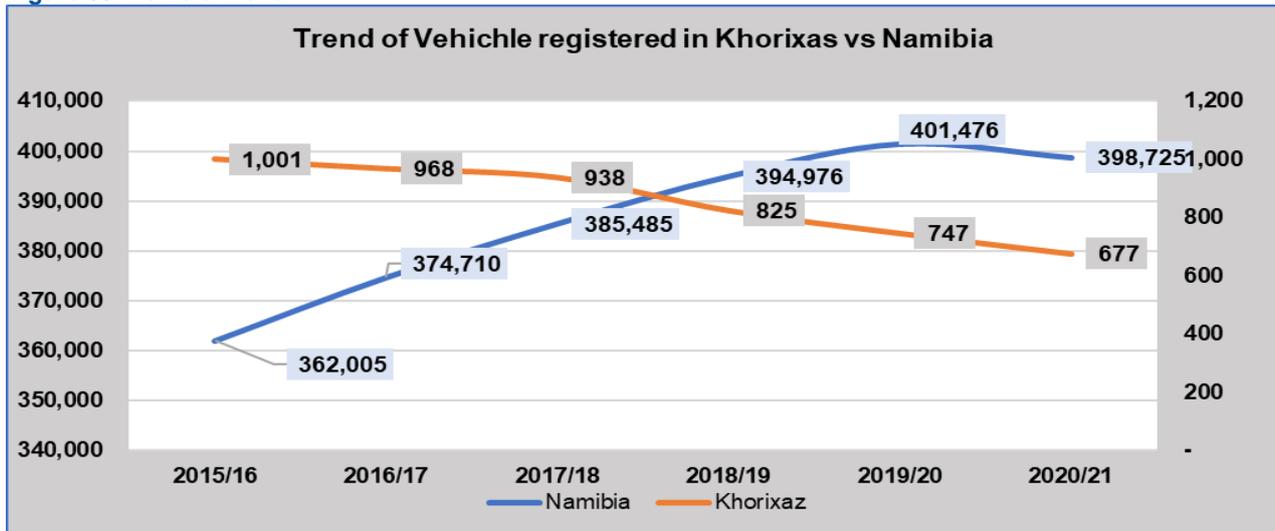


Source: Road authority 2019/20

### 11.4. Trend of vehicles registered in Khorixas vs Namibia.

It is imperative to establish the trend of vehicle registrations over time in an area to enable policy makers to initiate plans that improve efficiency on the roads. Figure 39 below captures the trends of vehicle registrations in Namibia and Khorixas from 2017/2018 to 2020/2021. Khorixas and Namibia exhibits similar trends of vehicle registrations. Figure 38 below shows that both trends exhibit upward trends from 2015/16 financial year to 2019/20. Shortly after that, both trends sloped downwards. This resulted from the fall of vehicle registrations, in Namibia they fell by 0.69% and in Khorixas they fell by 9.47%.

Figure 39: Vehicle Trend



Source: Road authority 2019/20

## 12. TRANSPORT SERVICES

### 12.1 Travelling Services

Road transport is the most used mode of transport in Namibia. Since Khorixas lacks some of basic services needed by the residents of the town, most individuals in Khorixas travel to nearby towns for such services. People in Khorixas mostly use private small cars and minibus public transports, because the town is not directly connected to most of the towns. There is only one hiking point to various towns.

Khorixas is about 138 km away from Outjo, and it cost N\$180. Travelling to Fransfontein is about 30km, and it costs around N\$30, while it costs N\$200 to travel the 205 km to Otjiwarongo. Uis is 120 km from Khorixas, which costs N\$120. In addition to the above, residents pay N\$13 for taxies to travel from one place to another (table 14)

Table 14: Transport Fees

Destination by Road	Transport Fare
Fransfontein	N\$ 30
Otjiwarongo	N\$ 200
Outjo	N\$ 180
Swakopmund	N\$ 250
Uis	N\$ 120

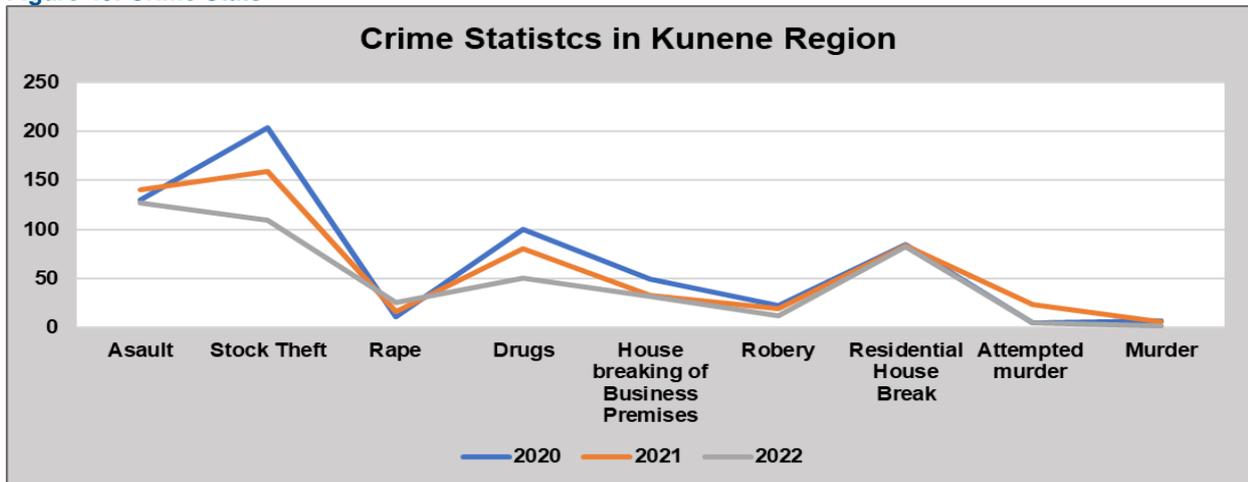
Sources: Khorixas Residents

### 13. SAFETY AND SECURITY

Kunene region is among the safest regions in the country. The region’s regional police headquarters is in Opuwo, though there is a police station in Khorixas town. In addition, there are several security companies which help reduce crime.

These companies are G4S Security Company, Philomela security and Falcon security. Figure 40 below presents the regional crime statistics for Kunene region. Security forces in the region have significantly reduced drug crimes, stock theft, attempted murder, and murder.

Figure 40: Crime Stats



Source: Namibian police

### 14. GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

There are central government administrative offices in Khorixas. The ministry of Agriculture has an office to provide advice to farmers on farming activities the veterinary service office.

Furthermore, there is the ministry of gender, police and regional police headquarter, ministry of labour, Kunene directorate for education, ministry of works and transport, magistrate court and Khorixas Town Council.

## 15. FINANCIAL SERVICES

### 15.1. Banking services

The financial sector in Khorixas is not well represented. The only bank in the town is Standard Bank Namibia. Moreover, standard bank has 4 ATMs, two at the main branch, one

is inside Ok foods and the another at Namcor petrol station. Clients of all other commercial banks make use of banking services in Outjo which is 138KM from Khorixas.

### 15.2. Non-banking services

The non-banking financial sector is poorly represented in Khorixas. There are no insurance companies in the town except for Nampost savings bank which holds accounts for clients and offer postal service.

## 16. TOURISM SECTOR

Kunene is classified as a prime tourist destination due to its rugged landscapes and ancient traditional diversity and practices. The potential for further tourism development is very high due to its scenic beauty, wildlife, and the culture of its inhabitants.

The town of Khorixas is situated in a mountainous and rocky area and does not have too much to offer. The town is the ideal destination for a quick stopover en-route to Kunene-south part of Namibia. The town was known as welwitschia before independence, which is derived from the Welwitschia Mirabilis plant, which is found in areas around Khorixas. The surrounding area however has some spectacular highlights such as The Damara Living Museum, Himba Village, Twyfelfontein and the Petrified Forest

### 16.1. Damara Living Museum and Himba Village

**The Living Museum of the Damara** is situated about 10 km north of the famous Twyfelfontein rock engravings site directly on the D2612 road, and about 89 km east of Khorixas. Here the visitors have the unique opportunity to get to know the fascinating traditional culture of the Damara, thus contributing to the preservation of the culture as well as to a regular income for the Damara community that built the museum.

**The Himba Village is located** about 3km outside of Khorixas town, the village offers unique ancient tradition in modern society, therefore attracting residents as well as tourists.

Figure 41: Damara Museum



Sources: Stock Images

### 16.3. The Petrified Forest and The Twyfelfontein

**The Petrified Forest** is located some 43 kilometres west of Khorixas, on the C39 road. It is situated on a plateau and can be reached by normal sedan vehicle. The name is a bit misleading as it is not exactly a forest, which turned to stone, but rather an accumulation of enormous, fossilized tree trunks about 300 million years old. It was discovered by scientist found out that these trunks haven't grown in today's Namibia but were washed down a river in ancient times when one of the many Ice Ages ended on the Gondwana continent. There must have been a huge flood that carried along the trunks to where they lay today.

**Twyfelfontein** is a famous rock engraving (declared as World Heritage Site in 2007 home to one of the most extensive collections of rock-art engravings in Southern Africa.), which are best visited in the afternoon to ensure the best light for taking photos. Twyfelfontein, which means as much as doubtful fountain is the name of a valley in the Damara highland approximately 100 km west of Khorixas It can be reached by air or by road (travel along the C39, turn off at D2612, join D3254). The valley was inhabited by the Damara, who call the valley Uri-Ais (jumping fountain) in their language. In 1947 white farmers settled in the valley, but the fountain was unreliable and only had little water. The valley was declared a national monument in 1952 to stop the common stealing of rock engravings. The paintings/ engravings can only be visited with a local guide.

Twyfelfontein is famous because of its many rock paintings and rock engravings (Petroglyphs) of the San (Bushmen) of which 2500 were counted. Specifications about the age of the engravings fluctuate

and a period of 1000 – 10000 years is stated. The motives of the rock engravings are on the one hand hunting scenes, in which the hunters are pictured with bow and arrow. On the other hand, many animal engravings (antelopes, zebras, giraffes, lions, etc.) are depicted.

### **16.5. Brandberg and Burnt Mountains**

**The Brandberg Mountains** are found approximately 93 km south of Khorixas. Here the world-famous rock paintings (White Lady) are well worth a visit. A visit to these rock paintings is only allowed under guidance of local guides, who await tourists at the mountain. The highest elevation within the Brandberg Mountain Range is the Königsstein, which with its 2,573m which is the highest mountain of Namibia of which the ascent takes several days, accompanied by an experienced guide.

**The Burnt Mountain** is located 99 Km by road from Khorixas. The Burnt Mountain, a sheet of dolerite, an igneous rock associated with volcanic activity that occurred in the area about 120 million years ago (probably associated with the Cretaceous Etendeka volcanism), intruded black carbonaceous shale of the Permian Prince Albert Formation of the Karoo sequence. The high temperature of the dolerite (about 1,000°C) baked the shale (Vogt, 2004).

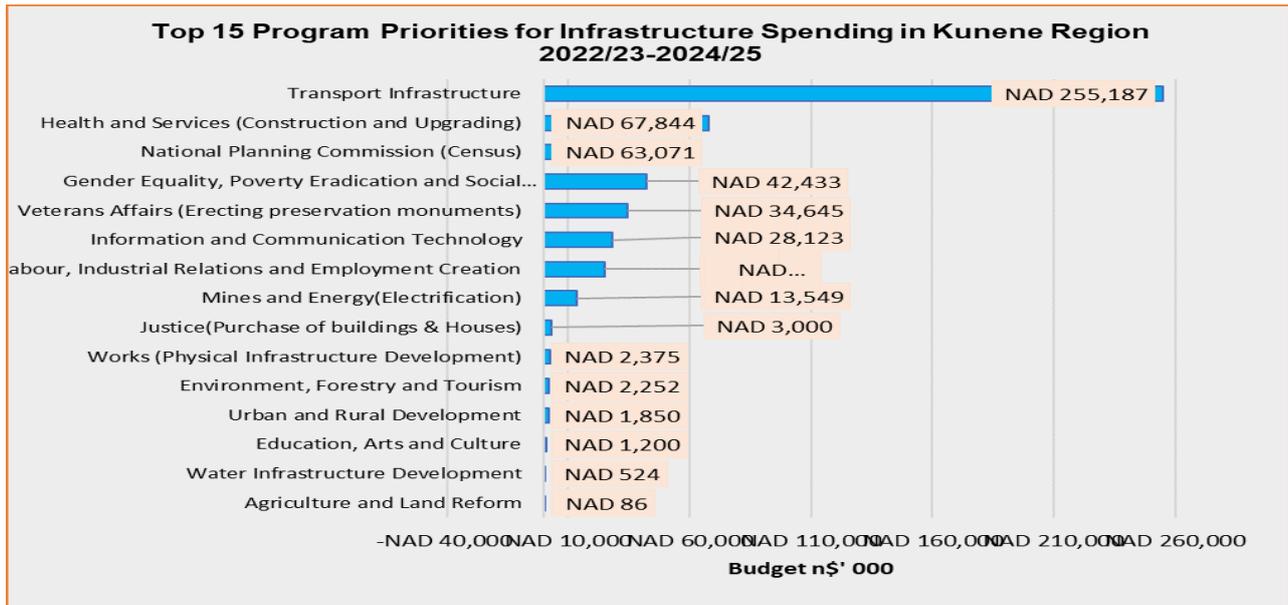
During the contact metamorphism that was caused by the intrusion, volatile organic components were driven off from the shale, leaving a charred black, clinker like burnt mass from which the mountain got its name.

## **17. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN KUNENE REGION (2022/23-2024/25 MTEF)**

### **17.1. Top Programs of national government expenditure**

Government's top 15 spending priorities on capital projects in Kunene region are shown in figure 42 below. The highest priority during the MTEF period (2022/23-2024/25) was given to the construction, upgrade and maintenance of Transport Infrastructure in Kunene region which is budgeted to cost the government about N\$255.2 million. The second spending priority in Kunene region is on the construction and upgrading of primary health care centers which have a budget of N\$67.8 million. The government has further budgeted to spend about N\$42.4 million on construction and renovation of homes of safety and shelters. However, agriculture and land reform will receive a substantial amount of N\$86 million, this could be because of the climatic condition of the region.

Figure 42: 2022/23-2024/25 MTEF capital expenditure by sector



Source: MoF 2022

## 18. INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN KHORIXAS

### 18.1. Potential Areas of Investments in Khorixas

This section presents a summary on potential investment opportunities available in Khorixas. Khorixas is seeing more investments in sectors such as agriculture, tourism, mining, financial service, etc. Refer to table below for an overview.

**Table 15: Investments opportunities in Khorixas**

Sector	Purpose
Property and real estate development (e.g., shopping mall, housing etc)	<p>The town of Khorixas is currently experiencing housing shortage, as there is a large chunk of people still on a waiting list.</p> <p>Additionally, a Vocational and training centre, and higher education facilities coming to town will further add pressure on housing need.</p> <p>There is a need for investment in accommodation, as residents are facing obstacles with financial institution not willing to finance their mortgage.</p>
Banking services	<p>There are few financial institutions found in Khorixas serving larger communities and tourists. Although the banking institutions are functional, there is a need for other financial institutions to open fully fledged and satellite branches.</p>
Industrial development	<p>Vocational and Training Centre, and Higher Education facilities (GRN and Private)</p> <p>Key services related to vehicle repairs are also available in the town. These businesses employ people in the community, translating into the improvement of the inhabitants' livelihood.</p> <p>Khorixas is so wealthy of Rare Earth and Marble minerals, which still needs to be turned into value addition, as such businesses employ people in the community, translating into the improvement of the inhabitants' livelihood.</p>
Telecommunication infrastructure	<p>The telecommunication infrastructure was designed to cater for the population which was living in the town back then. Therefore, there is need for new investment to accommodate the growing population.</p>
Retail business	<p>Retail business plays a significant role in providing needed goods and services to the local communities and tourists.</p> <p>The Khorixas town lacks retail businesses, which forces people to travel out the town to Outjo and Otjiwarongo in seek retail services.</p>
Mining sector	<p>The area of Khorixas experiences a lot of earthquakes, which is an indication that there is a likely possibility of mineral deposits, which still needs to be discovered. So, there is a need for mineral exploration as well as investments within the mining sector.</p>
Agriculture/ Horticulture	<p>Schools in Kunene are tasked with a very important responsibility of sourcing local products from local farmers, community gardens as well as school gardens to ensure quality control, food safety and availability, hygiene and food storage to make the Home-Grown School Feeding Programme a success. However, only a small portion of the population around produce the required Khorixas.</p>

## 19. CONCLUSION

Khorixas town is dependent on tourism. It is surrounded by major tourist attraction sites such as Petrified Forest with tree trunks over 300 million years old is situated about 40 kilometers west of Khorixas, Twyfelfontein with its famous rock engravings (a World Heritage site since 2007), which are best visited in the afternoon to ensure the best light for taking photos and the Brandberg mountains found 150 M south of Khorixas and rock paintings (white lady). Crops and vegetable in and around Khorixas are grown at a lower scale due to low rainfall. Lastly, the lack of economic opportunities in the town has considerably increased unemployment, forcing residents, particularly young people to move to other towns.