

COUNCIL APPROVES BUDGET OF N\$267,7 MILLION

The Vice-Chairperson of the Management Committee, Councillor Rosalia Andreas-Naobes, presented the 2011/12 Budget to Council during the ordinary Council meeting held on 28 April 2011. In her budget speech Councillor Rosalia Andreas-Naobes indicated the rendering of quality service to the community of Swakopmund as Council's main objective.

The budget consists of a Capital Budget of N\$267.4 million whilst the Operational Budget represents a total amount of N\$276 620.00.

"The main objective of our annual budgetary process is to improve on service delivery and to maintain and upgrade the infrastructure, to this end, Council has invested millions of dollars over the years for continuity of service delivery to the inhabitants of our town", the Vice-Chairperson of the Management Committee stated.

The Vice-Chairperson of the Management Committee informed the meeting that the newly elected Councillors held a strategic workshop on 4 February 2011, and have set realistic goals to be achieved within the next five years and beyond.

"To show the importance thereof, the strategic plan was approved by Council on 24 February 2011, for implementation in the budget which I am presenting to you this evening. Madam Chair, allow me to highlight a few projects from the strategic plan as approved by Council," stated the Vice-Chairperson of the Management Committee:

Formalisation of DRC Informal Settlement

Formalisation of DRC informal settlement area for financial year 2011/2012. We have budgeted for planning and surveying of this area, for the amount of **N\$1,4 million**.

"We anticipate that the statutory processes in respect of formalisation can take up to 18 months, Council must continue to provide the necessary services to inhabitants of the area, in that respect Council has budgeted an additional amount of **N\$1,7 million** for service delivery to this area" the Vice-Chairperson of the Management Committee informed fellow Councillors and the public in

attendance.

Re-location of Mid-Block Sewerage System - Mondesa / Tamariskia

The current situation in Mondesa of regular sewerage blockages is unacceptable to all of us, not to mention those living in the vicinity where this happens, therefore our Council is planning to re-locate the entire mid block system. Council has budgeted an amount of **N\$5 million** towards achieving this goal.

Provision of serviced land

Council has resolved to service land itself from now on and to make it available for all, and in order to do so, included in this budget is the amount of **N\$2 million** for planning and surveying, to be followed by the installation of servicing of such identified land.

Streets

An amount of **N\$14,5 million** is included in this budget for surfacing of streets in Swakopmund. It has proven to be more economical if Council does it as an own project and also provides employment opportunities, as Council provides material and local contractors are appointed to provide labour.

Cleansing Section - N\$4,4 million

This provision is made to improve on our current service delivery for refuse removal, and also meet the demands of our rapidly expanding town. A new refuse removal truck will be purchased, additional refuse removal bins, street corner bins will be added to improve on our service delivery.

New Sewerage Plant : N\$108,3 million

The consultants and the contractor have been appointed and the project is envisaged to be completed before 30 June 2012, therefore an amount of **N\$1 million**, has been budgeted towards the plant. An amount of **N\$800 000.00** has been budgeted for the expansion of the effluent sewerage system to provide for the greening of more open spaces within Swakopmund.

An amount of **N\$1,9 million** is included for the purchase of a VACPAC truck, and the remaining provisions will be utilised for maintenance and new infrastructure which will be needed to enhance service delivery in respect of sewerage.



Councillor Rosalia Andreas-Naobes
Vice-Chairperson of the Management Committee

Water Supply: N\$17,3 million

Provision has been made for a new 8 000 cubic meter reservoir at a cost of N\$1 million to ensure that Swakopmund has adequate reserve water storage capacity and further provisions are for infrastructure maintenance and new acquisitions.

The total capital budget I am presenting tonight amounts to **N\$267,447**, of which N\$110, 796 million is in respect of continuation projects, and the remaining N\$156, 651 million for the new projects.

"I am strongly of the opinion that with the Management team we have, we will definitely deliver the required services, as per the vision and mission statement of Swakopmund Council. Madam Chair, I am advising our Chief Executive Officer together with his Management Team to start as from tomorrow with all preliminary work to ensure that, come 01 July 2011, the tenders be awarded to ensure that projects we embark on for this financial year are completed by 30 June 2012, only then shall we as Council know that our strategic goals we have set for 2011/2012 will be accomplished," the Vice-Chairperson of the Management Committee concluded.

CEO'S FORUM



*Eckart Demasius
Chief Executive Officer*

CORRIDORS BETWEEN ERVEN

Various complaints were received from members of the public who expressed great concern and frustration with the existing corridors / walkways between erven in Mondesa and Tamariskia.

These corridors are used as toilet facilities, places where criminals hide to rob passersbys and to have parties late at night. If the neighbours dare to confront the culprits they are threatened. They also experienced damage to their houses as passersbys regularly throw stones at their windows or throw rubbish into their yards.

In order for the community to live in a hygienic and safe environment, it

was decided that corridors must be closed permanently and offered to the adjacent erf owners.

Adjacent Erf owners will be requested to indicate whether they are interested to purchase the adjoining corridors; and where services cross the middle of the corridors, they must decide between themselves who will purchase the corridor.

Approval has been granted to the adjacent Erf owners to share the portion of land equally, if they wish to do so, where there are no services or services parallel to the corridors' boundaries. Council will attend to the permanent closure of all corridors / walk ways in terms of Section 50 of the Local Authorities Act, Act 23 of 1992, as amended.

The Engineering Services Department will attend to the statutory procedures of subdivision, consolidation and registration of servitudes.

Unfortunately, no permanent structures may be erected on the portion of land on which services are located. Valuations will be obtained from the municipal valuator in respect of the relevant portions of land to determine their values.

RAIN DAMAGED ROADS TO GET A FACE-LIFT

The Mayor Councillor Rosina //Hoabes announced the upgrading of rain damaged roads during the Council meeting held on 31 May 2011.

"With the recent rains that fell in our town most of our roads are damaged or simply just unpleasant to drive on. It is with a great sense of excitement that I have the pleasure to announce the repair, widening and upgrading of Daniel Kamho Avenue," the Mayor stated.

Daniel Kamho Avenue will be widened to four lanes to accommodate the increasing north-south traffic between the town centre and the growing northern suburbs. It will be closed from the intersection with Rakatoka Street up to the intersection with Nelson Mandela for about 3 months. Nelson Mandela Road will be upgraded from a gravel salt road to a four lane interlocked road, a process which is expected to take about four months. Dr Schwietering Road will be upgraded during July from a salt gravel road to a four lane bitumen road. While Rakatoka Street will be closed for a week during the first week of July for resurfacing.

The Mayor urged all road users to exercise patience, heed the relevant traffic signs and instructions of flag-men to safeguard their own lives and that of workmen and other road users including cyclists and pedestrians during the construction time.

MUNICIPAL SPORTS CLUB BRING MEDALS HOME

A total of 28 Municipalities participated in the NALASRA games hosted by the City of Windhoek from 26-28 May 2011. The Swakopmund Municipal Sports Club was crowned the second overall winner and brought home 14 medals in the following disciplines: Volleyball Ladies (Silver), Volleyball Male (Silver), Darts Singles (Silver), Darts Doubles (Silver), Pool Singles (Gold), Pool Doubles (Gold), Pool Doubles (Bronze), 21km Marathon Gabriel Shilunga (Gold), 21km marathon Andrew Kelly (Silver), 5km fun walk Absalom Motinga (Gold), 5km fun walk Hendrik Kotze (Silver), whilst Analize Jacobs, Ailie Gebhardt and Maxine Bussel received Bronze medals in the 5km fun walk



LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY APPROVED

The fight for economic emancipation needs to be intensified in order to ensure the well being of the residents. Until recently Swakopmund largely depended on the income generated from hosting tourists and related industries. The diversification of the town's economy is necessary to ensure that economic emancipation is achieved in our lifetime. In view of these economic prospects Council approved the Local Economic Development Policy which seeks to expedite economic transformation in Swakopmund.

The town is host to a vibrant business sector, which depends a lot on the well-being of the three main economic sectors, i.e. tourism, mining and more recently on construction spurred by the property boom experience in the Namibian coastal towns.

With regard to mining, the town owed its growth and income since the early seventies to the

operations of the Rossing Uranium Mine which made significant investments in housing its employees in Swakopmund, with monthly income flowing into the local economy through consumer and other services rendered. The mining sector in the Erongo region and more specifically within 100km from Swakopmund has recently experienced growing interest from international mining companies in the exploration and mining of uranium.

While not by the same measure, the tourism sector has steadily grown as evidenced by the increase in number of tourist operators and related hospitality establishment in the town. There has also been a marked increase in packaged tours offered from Swakopmund as well as tourist attractions in and around town. The tourism sector however still remains difficult for new entrants, although township tours are operating for a few years in Swakopmund.

There is also a growing agricul-

tural community operating on the municipal plots along the Swakop River, producing horticultural products and other agri-products.

The informal sector though not a major sector is an important contributor to the local economy and employment. This survivalist industry depends on the well-being of the local economy and access to retail goods from wholesalers and other suppliers.

Strategic Initiatives for Diversifying the Local Economy

The strategic initiatives important for ensuring a conducive environment for business development and growth include:

Industry development policy for Swakopmund - There is a need to formalize an industry development policy for Swakopmund that will direct Municipal efforts for inward investment promotion and attraction. This policy development should be accompanied by a consultative process that also informs stakeholders about the choices being made for

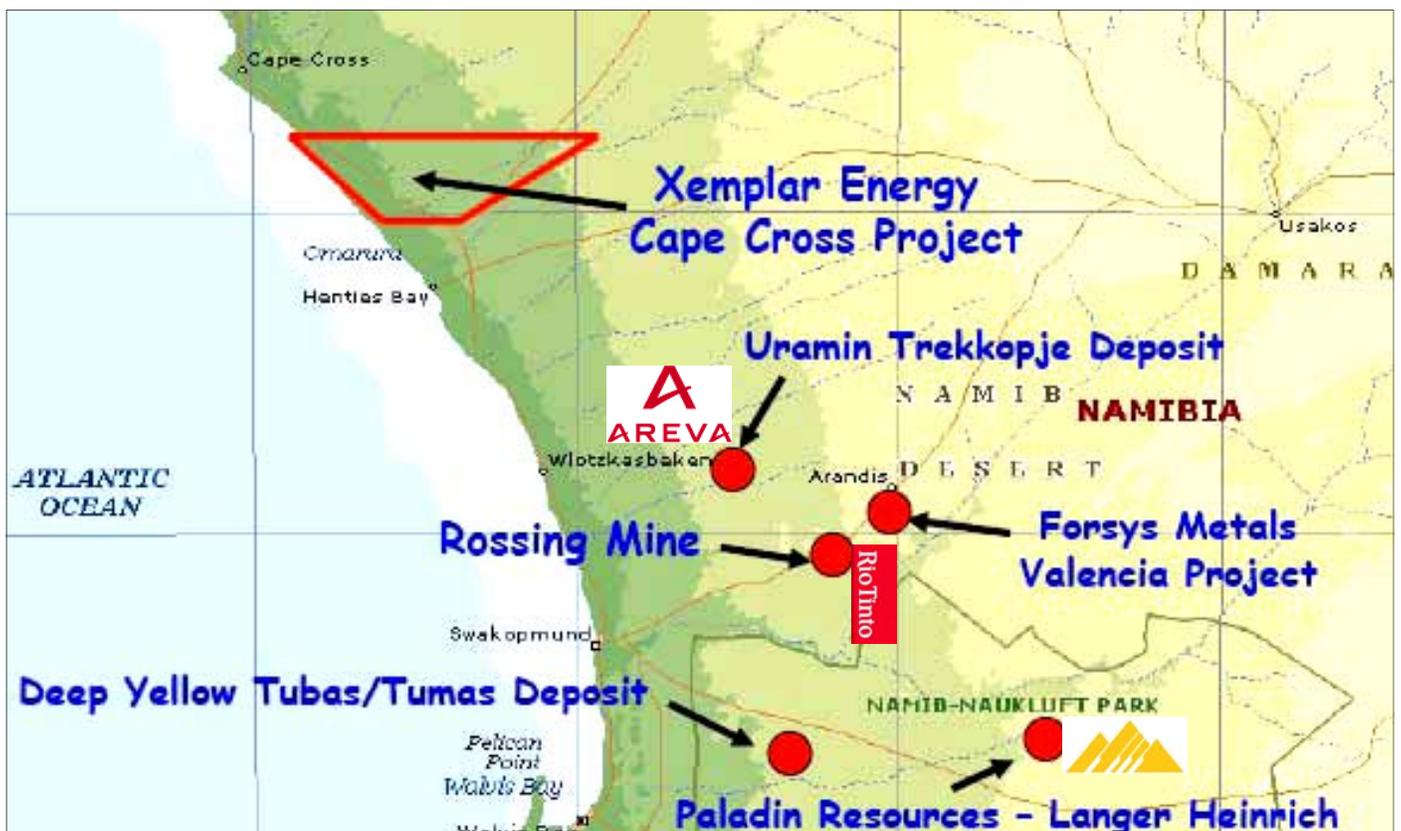
economic development in Swakopmund.

Develop an urban agriculture strategy - The Swakop River has recently seen small but significant agricultural activities on the banks of the river. While agricultural potential may not be abundant, a strategy that prioritizes how that potential can be maximized is needed.

Strategic Initiatives for the SME Contribution To Be Strengthened

The strategic initiatives important for ensuring a conducive environment for business development and growth include:

Regulation and Policy Review for SMEs and informal sector - The promotion of the SME and informal sector will require the review of local level regulatory and policy environment. The Municipality will need to explore policies and regulatory environment that is supportive of the SME development, while affirming conditions that will make it easier for the survivalist industry's to flourish in Swakopmund.



Mining is the main economic life line of Erongo Region.

From the Editor's Desk



Dear Reader

I would like to give special thanks to the Health Service Department for keeping our town clean as we have received compliments from visitors from other towns in Namibia and neighboring countries regarding the cleanliness of Swakopmund. Special thanks also goes to the Namibian Police and Security companies within the town that ensured that evil-doers and thieves had no chance to harm or assault the visitors during the past long weekends. Only one (1) person was arrested for drink and driving during this period. We wish to thank the motorist for adhering to traffic rules and contributing to road safety in our town and country.

On a sad note, the Municipality of Swakopmund lost three beloved colleagues during April. Ms Leslene Jacobs, Personal Assistant: Finance, passed away on 21 April 2011. Ms Berdine Potgieter, Environmental and Health Practitioner, passed away on 23 April 2011. Mr Andreas Frans, Street Cleaner, passed away on 26 April 2011. We were very fortunate to have worked with them during the past years and we warmly remember the enthusiastic and skillful support we received from them. They were very kind people who were always willing to give their time and knowledge to help.

We are deeply saddened that we will not have them around anymore. We pray that the good Lord will keep their souls in perfect peace and cause their good work to mankind to follow Him.

Regards, Ailie

The Editor
 Swakopmund Lightbeams
 P O Box 53
 Swakopmund
 Email: agebhardt@swkmun.com.na
 Hand Deliveries: Swakopmund Municipality - Room 34,
 1st floor Main Municipal Building

COUNCIL TACKLES YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment in the country is escalating rapidly and need to be addressed by all the stakeholders. A multifaceted approach needs to be developed in order to keep the situation from degenerating further. Despite the mining boom in Erongo Region many young people continue to roam the streets of Swakopmund in search of employment. The youth are the hardest hit by unemployment and that might contribute to a myriad other social problems.

Having realized the volatility of the situation, Council during its strategic retreat held on 04 February 2011 already resolved to address the problem of unemployment in Swakopmund especially amongst the youth and the Chief Executive Officer was instructed to come up with a legally accepted definition of youth in terms of the existing statutes.

According to the National Youth Council Act, Act No. 3 of 2009, Namibian Youth are those between the ages of 15-35. Council resolved that the staff component / workforce of all the companies tendering for labour related tenders should have

at least 30% youth representation as part of their workforce.

This undertaking by Council is aimed at reversing the rate of unemployment amongst the youth and the youth should take advantage of the conducive environment created by Council.

Meanwhile, Council has approved a request from the Community of Hope Project, a community based organisation consisting of nine (9) female members, of which five (5) are unemployed and four (4) are employed on a part-time basis. The group wants to make use of the Municipal Veggie Garden within the Municipal Nursery to generate income and create employment. The group has little knowledge of gardening, but is very eager to work hard to compensate for their lack of knowledge.

The request was approved for a trial period of six months and they will be exempted from the payment of water consumption during that period. Council will assist the group once off with the purchasing of seeds, tools and pesticides needed to start the project.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR DEPARTED COLLEAGUES



Late Leslene Jacobs



Late Berdine Potgieter



Late Andreas Frans

MODERATE TARIFF INCREASES APPROVED BY COUNCIL

The budget for 2011/12 financial year reflects a deficit of N\$272 620.00. Council has proven itself over the years that even with higher deficit Council manage to turned around the envisaged shortfall into surplus through savings and additional income generated.

Council during last year's operational budget only approved tariffs in respect of rates and taxes which were later reduced with the approval of the new 5 year valuation roll.

Information at Council's disposal indicates that NamWater has applied to Cabinet for tariff increases on the bulk purchase price, however, the effect of what such increase might have to Council and alternatively the residents of Swakopmund is not yet known.

Council approved the following tariffs in respect of:

Tariff Increases:

- ▽ Water only the staggered tariffs as set below:
 - ▽ 9m³-30 m³ - 5%
 - ▽ 30m³-60m³ - 7.5%
 - ▽ 60 m³ and above - 10%
- ▽ Assessment rates - 10%
- ▽ Refuse removal - 7.5%
- ▽ Cemeteries - 10%
- ▽ Tourism - 10%
- ▽ Town Halls - 10%
- ▽ Sport facilities - 10%

GET YOUR ELECTRONIC COPY

The costs for the printing and distribution of the Swakopmunder Lightbeams continue to increase and as a cost-cutting measure we are requesting our esteemed readers who normally receive the Newsletter through their Post Office Boxes to provide us with their email addresses in order for them to receive the electronic version which is faster and better. Please send your email address to: utjiurutue@swkmun.com.na

LETTERS TO MUNICIPALITY



Remember that all correspondence must be addressed to:

The Chief Executive Officer
Municipality of Swakopmund
P O Box 53
SWAKOPMUND

Email address: swkmun@swkmun.com.na

Hand deliveries can be made directly to the Office of the Chief Executive Officer on the first floor at the main Municipal Office Building in Daniel Tjongarero Street.

Note: Letters must be duly signed and should reflect the correct Returning Postal Address, Telephone Number and Erf Number (if applicable).



A delegation from Nkurenkuru Town Council recently paid a courtesy call to cement ties and deliberate on issues of mutual interest. Pictured second from left is the Mayor of Nkurenkuru His Worship Erastus Kandjimi and on his immediate left is Her Worship Rosina //Hoabes Mayor of Swakopmund

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PROCEDURES TO DISPLAY SHOW HOUSES ADVERTISEMENT BOARDS

A written application must be submitted well in advance of the envisaged event by estate agents intending to put up temporary advertising/directional signs for advertising **show houses only**.

Such applications must be submitted in writing - there is no standard form available - to the Chief Executive Officer **at least 7 working days** before boards are placed.

The application must give an indication of the street name and the number of the show house and at which intersections or places the boards will be put up. Since this application needs to be circulated no *last minute approvals will be granted* by the Engineering Department or Traffic Section.

The following additional conditions apply:

- ▽ A maximum of three (3) temporary advertising/directional signs may be erected by an Estate Agent Company.
- ▽ Signs may only be erected three (3) days prior to and for the duration of the event.
- ▽ Signs must be removed by the applicant immediately

after the event. (Should it not be removed after 3 days the Municipality of Swakopmund will remove the boards.)

- ▽ Physical placement of the signs must be done in conjunction with the office of the Manager: Traffic Services.
- ▽ No advertisement signs may be attached to a street-light pole, traffic light or any traffic sign.
- ▽ Advertisement boards may not obstruct the view of drivers.
- ▽ Advertisement boards may not impede pedestrian flow.
- ▽ Advertisement boards may only be placed on pavements and not in the street or on any median (traffic island).
- ▽ Only one (1) advertisement board per junction/intersection may be placed.
- ▽ No damage may be caused to any infrastructure. Any repair required as a result of such damage will be for the account of the relevant Estate Agent Company.



'Free market economy in fullswing': Show houses advertising signs on display.

WHY MEMBERS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO PROTECT THEMSELVES?

Why offer a protection Solution?

Members rely heavily on their retirement vehicle to provide them with access to appropriate protection for their retirement savings from adverse market conditions, when they need it most.

The following aspects make up members' perceptions towards their retirement savings and pension growth in relation to protection:

Everybody's different

Members have diverse needs - younger members often want more aggressive investment choices in order to maximise their expected returns, while older members' biggest priority is capital protection. Economic divisions (such as that between workers and executives) can also lead to diverging views on retirement needs. For example, an executive with a very large asset base outside of his/her retirement savings may not see the need for comprehensive protection while a more financially vulnerable employee may place great value on such protection. Hence the Old Mutual Absolute Growth Portfolios.

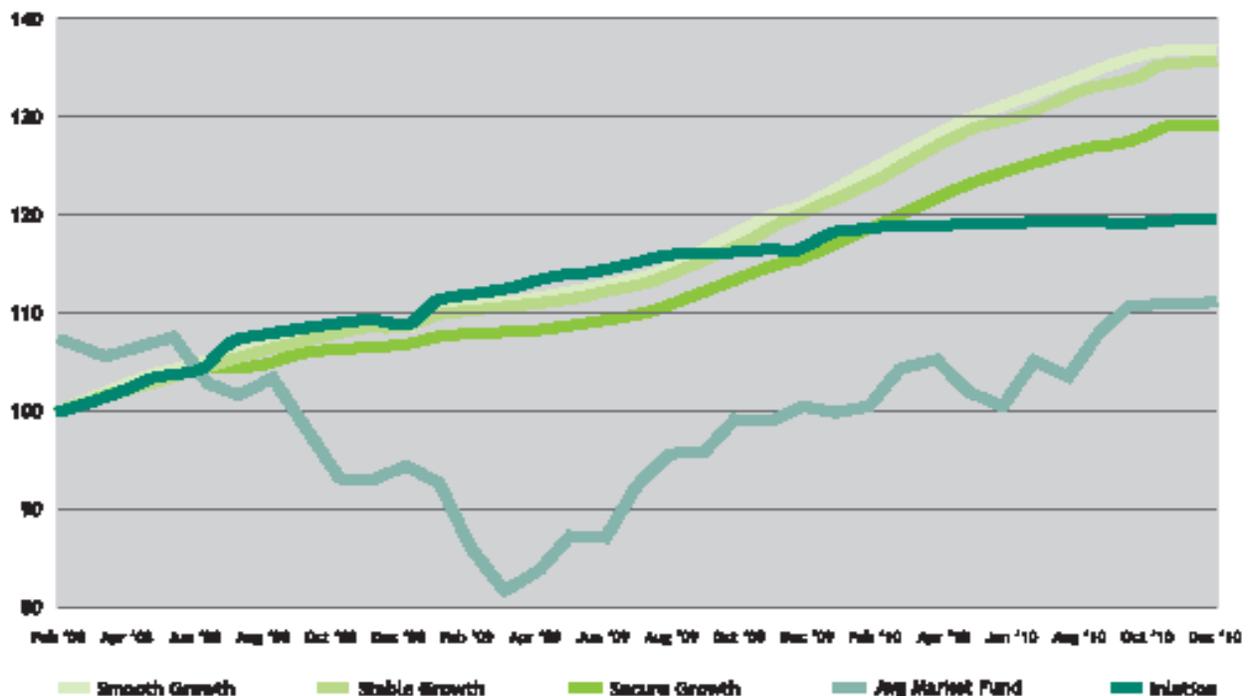
Removing uncertainty

Market volatility reduces the financial security of members because retirement (or any exit) benefits become less certain. Absolute Growth portfolios that focus on protection, strives to provide stable returns and peace of mind that is likely to be highly valued by the majority of employees.

Within Old Mutual's Absolute Growth Portfolios - our Smooth Growth option offers a 50% guarantee on capital, contributions and declared bonuses; Stable Growth offers 80% guarantee on capital and contributions plus declared bonuses; and Secure Growth offers 100% guarantee on capital, contributions and declared bonuses. Apart from the explicit capital protection ranging from 50% to 100% inherent in these types of portfolios, smoothing of returns plays a significant part in reducing the risk of losses, by building up positive reserves that are redistributed during adverse negative markets.

How much stability members need

Different methods of volatility reduction exist to ensure more stable returns to members than what pure market-linked investments would provide. The extent to which such stability is desirable depends on the risk appetite of members and the costs of the strategy (both direct costs and the potential impairment of returns).



For more information please call Johannes Hanyeni, Old Mutual Employee Benefits Sales Consultant on 061 299 3328.

do great things

 OLD MUTUAL

OPEN MARKET CONSTRUCTED IN THE DRC

Council has constructed an Open Market facility in the Democratically Resettled Community (DRC) which will enable informal traders in that part of our town to provide their services from a centralized modern structure. The facility was constructed at a cost of about N\$400 000.00 and makes provision for 40 stalls which will be rented out to the residents at a nominal rental fee since services such as electricity, water or ablution facilities are not available on site.

Since the open market was earmarked for the business women selling 'Kapana' along the main street, preference should be given to residents of the DRC and should they not be keen to make use of the open market, only then other applications from the general public will be considered.

ABP Construction which constructed the facility generously donated grills for each of the 40 stalls which can be used by the occupants. The donation by ABP Con-

struction is a good example of public private partnership and is in line with the clarion call by President Pohamba for private companies to participate in the development of the country.

Meanwhile, the formalisation of the DRC is in an advanced stage. By following a holistic approach in the planning process, with the minimum disruption of the existing DRC community as objective, the consultant has created layout plans for the DRC as well as for the 2nd Progressive Development Area (PDA) which was approved by Council.

Currently the DRC consists of 1 370 erven. The new layout plans reflect 987 residential erven for the DRC plus 700 residential erven for the 2nd PDA meaning that altogether 1 687 erven will exist, a nett gain of 317 erven from the existing number. An additional 651 residential erven have been planned for the 2nd PDA. The 2nd PDA will result in a nett gain of 932 erven.

The redesign will create erf sizes for residential erven, according to the new layout plans, ranging from 300m² to 500m² in line with the National Housing Policy which stipulates that residential erven must not be less than 300m².

Apart from residential erven, the layout plans also make provision for other supporting land uses such as business, public open spaces, institutional, general residential erven etc.

According to the consultants, the terrain of the proposal area is suitable for the intended township development and can easily be linked to existing Municipal road and services networks.

Council found it prudent to formalize the DRC Informal Settlement and also create additional erven in order to cater for the huge backlog thereby providing serviced land to Swakopmund residents.

According to the recent study by WinPlan CC, the immediate need in terms of residential erven for Mondesa alone stands at 5000 erven.



The newly constructed DRC Open Market