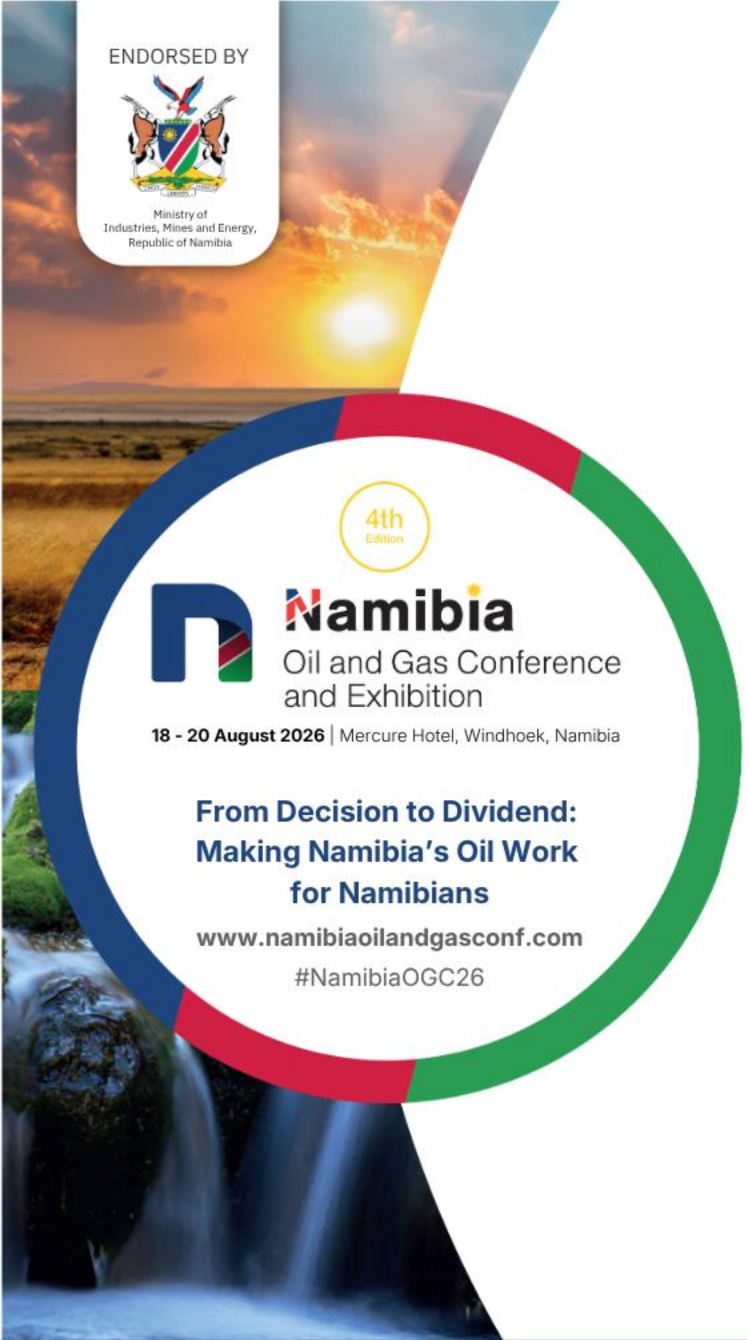


Building Namibia's Oil & Gas Supply Chain

From Discovery to Delivery: Building a Namibian Industry

Martin Shipingana Alweendo

Managing Director, Tenor Investments CC

Technical Session Three: Infrastructure,
Midstream & Regional Integration

The Generational Opportunity

A Pivotal Moment

The discovery of hydrocarbon resources in the Orange Basin presents a unique chance to build a sustainable, diversified industrial base in Namibia.

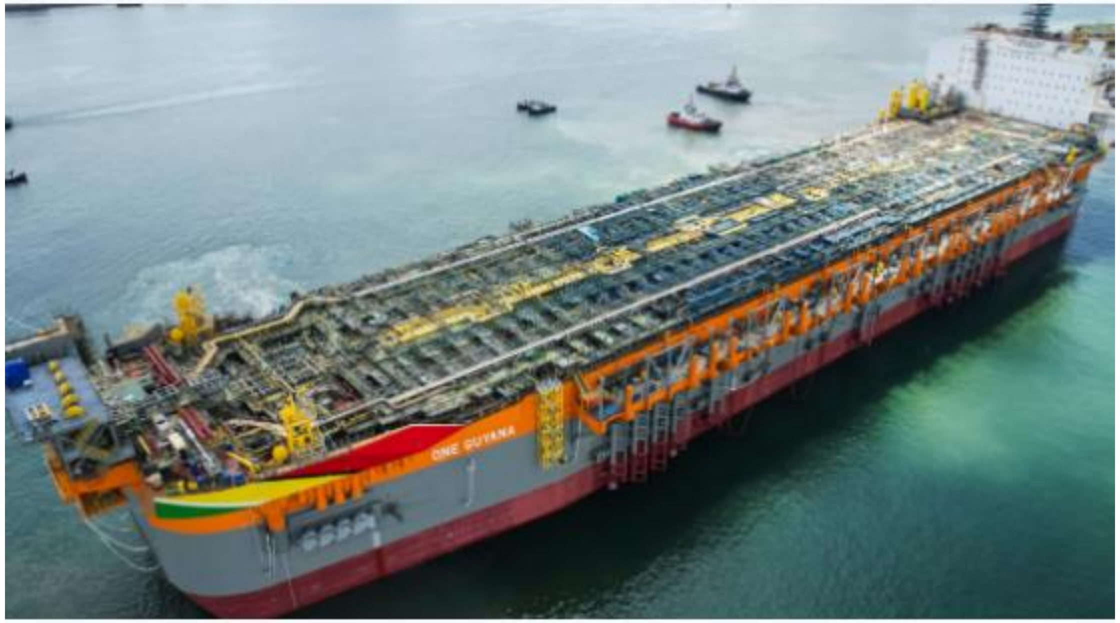
However, realizing this potential hinges on addressing two interconnected gaps: creating formalized **in-country structural steel fabrication capacity** and establishing a **structured pipeline for youth skills development**.

The question remains: will the steel be cut and welded by Namibian hands, or will value flow externally?

The Venus Development Project

Scale & Local Content Implications

- **Timeline:** Final Investment Decision (FID) targeted for late 2026.
- **Structure:** TotalEnergies (operator, 35.25%) alongside QatarEnergy, Galp, Impact, and Namcor.
- **Infrastructure:** 160,000 bpd FPSO in ultra-deep-water (3,000m).
- **Economic Impact:** Estimated N$45B in subsea contracts. N$16.9B targeted in local content commitments.
- **Fabrication Goal:** 14,000 tons of topsides fabrication targeted for completion within Namibia.



Lüderitz Port: The Logistics Gateway

Phase One Expansion

Positioned as the primary "hot spot" for offshore logistics, the Namport expansion is a critical enabler.

- Projected Capital Expenditure exceeding N$4 billion.
- 500m extension of existing berth (300m dedicated to O&G).
- Reclamation of 14 hectares for cargo and laydown.

Immediate SME Opportunities

The port development acts as a vital proving ground for local enterprises before offshore fabrication scales up.

- Tender for 10-15 year concession external operator is currently live.
- Opportunities in onshore construction, equipment support structures, and facility development.

Policy Environment (As of June 2026)

- **Current Status:** The National Upstream Petroleum Local Content Policy is approved "in principle" by Cabinet, pending official gazetting.
- **Ownership Mandates:** Requires majority Namibian ownership (51% minimum), with 30% reserved for previously disadvantaged persons.
- **Preferential Procurement:** Mandates a preferential margin for Namibian suppliers when bids fall within 10% of the lowest international offer.
- **Legislative Momentum:** Running parallel with the Petroleum Exploration and Production Amendment Bill, championed by the Ministry to fast-track frameworks.
- **Implementation Gap:** Civil society (e.g., NYEF) continues to advocate for binding enforcement mechanisms and strict anti-fronting penalties to ensure aspirational goals become reality.

Addressing the Critical Skills Gap

Zero

Prior IIW Certified Centres

The Missing Link in Industrialization

Historically, Namibia has lacked the infrastructure to certify welders to the strict international standards (ISO/ASME) required by major offshore operators.

While basic vocational training exists, the absence of an internationally recognized certification pipeline forces operators to import labor or requalify locals at high costs, directly hindering SME participation in structural fabrication.

Building the Certification Pipeline

GSI SLV Namibia

Launched in Swakopmund (Dec 2025). Brings German Welding Society (DVS) expertise to provide IIW and ISO standard training, bridging the ultimate gap for offshore readiness.

WeldNAM

Established in 2024 as Namibia's Accredited Nominated Body (ANB) for the IIW. Provides sector-level leadership and coordinates national standards development.

Foundational TVET

Institutions like Windhoek Vocational Training Centre (WVTC) and National Youth Service provide crucial artisan-level baselines, readying youth for advanced GSI upskilling.

SME Financing & Support Infrastructure

The N$1 Billion Accelerator Programme

Access to capital is the prerequisite for upgrading facilities and achieving certifications. A landmark MoU between FNB Namibia, Moneda Capital Management, and Ino Capital Investments established the Local Content Accelerator Programme.

- Commits N$1 billion specifically to support local O&G SMEs.
- Combines FNB's financial capital with Moneda/Ino's operational and risk capital.
- Brings essential experience from established African O&G markets (Nigeria, DRC) to derisk Namibian ventures.

SME Action Plan & Certification Pathway

Q3 2026

Engage Operators: Register interest with the newly appointed Lüderitz Port Supply Base operator for onshore works.

Q4 2026

Skills Audit & Upskilling: Enroll core fabrication staff in ISO/IIW aligned courses via GSI SLV Namibia.

Q1 2027

Secure Capital: Finalize facility upgrades using the Local Content Accelerator Programme financing.

Q2 2027

Bid Readiness: Pre-qualify as a certified local fabricator for early Venus topside and subsea support packages.

Access the Full Research Paper

Scan the QR code below to read the full supporting research and supply chain data

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Thank You

Building the foundation for sustainable industry growth requires action today.

Image Sources

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