

MEDIA RELEASE

(Namibia scores very high in assessment of national spatial data infrastructure)

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For immediate release

NAMIBIA SCORES HIGH IN CONTINENTAL ASSESSMENT OF NATIONAL SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURES

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1. Namibia has achieved the highest group ranking score possible for an assessment of national spatial data infrastructure (NSDI) development in Africa which was conducted by the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM).
2. The country is implementing the NSDI through the Namibia Statistics Agency in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform. The NSDI is a collaborative, seamless and authoritative national geographic data bank managed through well-established legal and institutional frameworks. In Namibia, the overarching legal and operational framework is preserved in the Statistics Act, No. 9 of 2011.
3. In the 2021 assessment, countries were ranked as either champions, aspirers or beginners depending on the outcome. Namibia's assessment resulted in the movement of the country from aspirer in 2018 to the CHAMPIONS group, the highest possible group score. This is surely commendable and it is only needed that Namibia sustains this high rating. Other countries in this champions group are Malawi, Senegal and South Africa. Previously, South Africa was rated first in Africa.
4. The methodology that was used in the assessment was based on the Capability Maturity Model, which was originally developed by the Software Engineering Institute at Carnegie Mellon University in the United States of America for evaluating and improving software development processes.

5. The assessment focused on strategic planning, policy and legal frameworks, geographic/spatial data, standards, access networks, and people and 20 African countries took part in the assessment.
6. The Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management concluded their assessment by recommending that countries secure buy in from top level policy and decision makers; adopt a mandatory model of NSDI implementation, adopting a product-based implementation approach, and adopting a step wise implementation methodology that involves analyzing the environment, formulating a strategy and then implementing the strategy. Namibia is already implementing a product-based NSDI which is mandatory, although lack of participation of some government offices, ministries and agencies is the biggest threat. The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) serves as the secretariat of the regional chapter.
7. Whilst at this juncture, continuing with the great assessment record for GIS & NSDI, I would like to inform you that the Namibia Statistics Agency will soon release its first ever NAMBIA URBAN LAND STATISTICS BULLETIN as a new edition to our regular releases.
8. Finally, I wish to express my appreciation to all the data providers; both institutions and individuals, without whose assistance these spatial data collection would not have been possible especially during the Covid-19 pandemic.
9. Further I would like to request all our esteemed stakeholders to continue supporting and providing NSA with the required data so that collectively we can make the production of accurate, reliable and timely statistics a resounding success.
10. The NSA would like to thank the media for sharing what the Agency does with the nation, it remains highly appreciated.
11. To access all publications please visit our website at www.nsa.org.na or download our statistical app onto your mobile phone to have all statistics at your fingertips.

I thank you



ALEX SHIMUAFENI

STATISTICIAN - GENERAL & CEO

About Us

Namibia Statistics Agency is mandated with collecting, producing, analyzing and disseminating official statistics. Find us at www.nsa.org.na

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