



NEWSLETTER 2024

BUILDING TOWARDS A MORE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

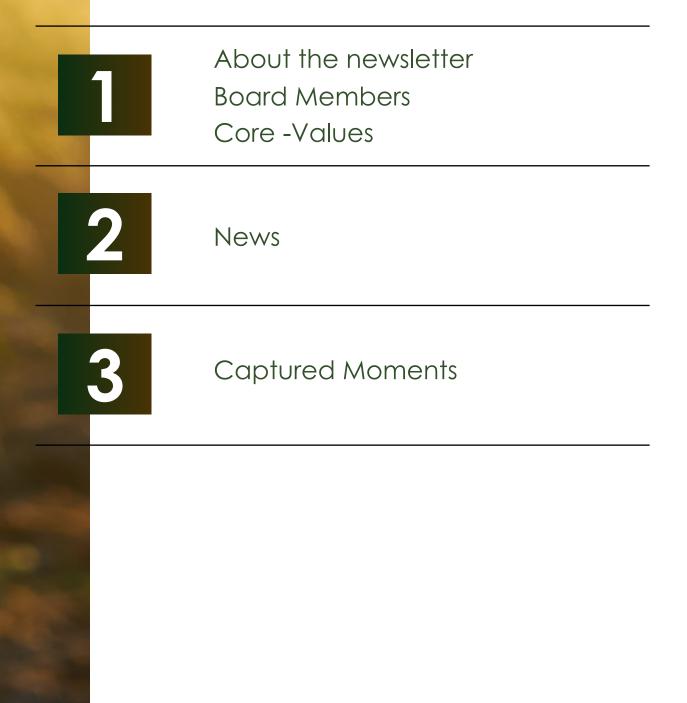


1st EDITION - NOVEMBER





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PART 1: INFORMATION

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About This Newsletter

NamAFa's biannual Newsletter is a way of sharing with you the organisation's highlights, impacts and activities.

This newsletter covers the period from NamAfa's inception to November 2024. In this edition will be focusing on providing an overview of NamAFa. We also share some tips and tricks in organic agriculture through out farmer's corner.

Please enjoy this edition.

Sincerely NamAFa Board

ABOUT NamAFa

Aspiring Farmers Association of Namibia (NamAFa) is a registered NGO (not-for-profit) youth-led organization, founded in March 2021 by aspiring farmers. This initiative aims to create a hub for local farmers to gain exposure and market their products with ease.

NamAFa aspires to promote sustainable climate smart agriculture through Resource mobilization, Capacity building and Information sharing. The organization will play its role in mitigating the impact of climate change while in the process promoting food security and improving nutrition in Namibia.



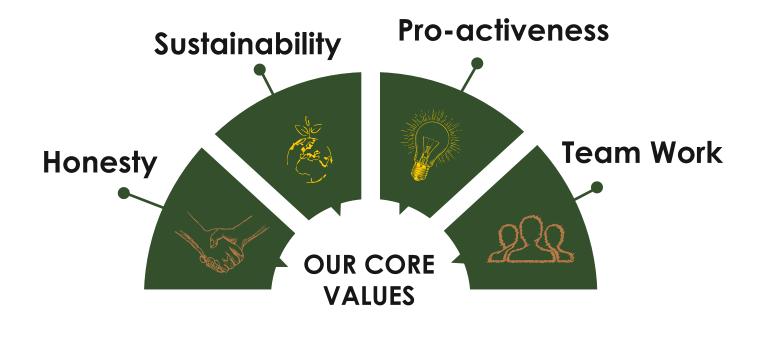
Mission

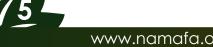
Promoting food security in Namibia through sustainable agriculture production.



Vision

To be an integrated organization that brings farmers together to achieve food security through sustainable food systems.

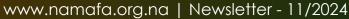




MEET OUR BOARD MEMBERS

Discover the visionaries driving NamAFa's mission. Their expertise shapes our impactful strategies and initiatives.





PART 2: NEWS

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Epako ICBFS team at the stall displaying locally grown vegetables from the Epako garden

World Food Day Celebrations



Epako ICBFS garden is located in Gobabis

On the 16 October 2024 like the rest of the world Namibia commemorate world food day at Legare stadium in Gobabis, Omaheke region. The day was marked under the theme "Right to foods for a better life and better future – leave no one behind. The event was attended by community members, traditional and local leaders, farmers and stakeholders. Different sponsors donated food items that benefited around 200 vulnerable households in Omaheke region. 4 farmers were sponsored with farming implements by different stakeholders that was GIZ, World Food Programme, FAO, and Ministry of Agriculture. Different farmers also came to showcase/ sell their produce and share ideas.

Epako integrated community-based food systems had a stall under world food programme where we showcased and sell our produce, we brought beetroots, chilli, carrots, spinach and onions which sold very well. The attendees visited the stall for questions, buying and knowledge seeking.

During the event inspirational speeches were delivered mostly focusing on the importance of adapting and building stronger agricultural systems. The speakers urge the Namibian nation to continue to fight for food security and backyard gardens.

~ Ms. Uazarua Korukuve Uazarua is a Site-Coordinator at the Epako garden



Farmers' Day Training and Information Sharing Session

On 02 November 2024, a successful Farmers' Training and Information Sharing event was held in Swakopmund, organized by KNM Namibia in collaboration with NamAFa and DeLa Namibia. The event was designed to offer valuable insights and practical knowledge to both local and aspiring farmers, focusing on enhancing agricultural practices and promoting sustainable farming methods. A total of 35 participants attended, with 6 expert presenters sharing their knowledge and experiences.



Participants with their certificates

The day featured a series of expert-led presentations on diverse agricultural topics, aimed at enhancing farmers' skills and knowledge in various sectors. Below is a summary of the key sessions:

1. Basic Horticulture & Backyard Gardening Speaker: Ms. Wilhelmina Kristof, NamAFa

Ms. Kristof provided participants with fundamental knowledge on horticulture and the importance of backyard gardening. She covered topics such as soil preparation, crop selection, and pest management, with an emphasis on sustainable and eco-friendly practices that can increase yields in small-scale farming settings. Other aspects covered include: Methods of Sowing/ Planting as well as Factors to consider in Horticulture.

2. Namibian Poultry Industry Information Speaker: Mr. Hennie Brisley, MSD Animal Health

Mr. Brisley delivered an informative session on the current state of the Namibian poultry industry,

discussing its challenges, opportunities, and the role of biosecurity in poultry farming. He highlighted key practices to improve the health and productivity of poultry operations, which are vital for both local consumption and export. Other aspects covered include: Main causes of diseases in poultry of Namibia, as well as Layers and Broilers vaccination program.

3. Master Poultry Training Speaker: Mr. Ngatutjevi Mauha, KNM Namibia

Mr. Mauha's session focused on advanced poultry farming techniques, covering the management of poultry breeds, feeding strategies, and disease control. He also discussed how to scale up poultry farming operations for greater profitability while maintaining high standards of animal welfare.

4. Farm Record-Keeping Principles Speaker: Ms. Leena lipumbu, NamAFa

Ms. lipumbu emphasized the importance of effective farm record-keeping, covering the importance of record-keeping,types of record, record-keeping methods and tools and explaining good record keeping practices. She demonstrated how proper record-keeping can help farmers make informed decisions, optimize resources, and increase overall farm productivity.



The trainers and participants pose for a picture





Ms. WIIhelmina Kristof demonstrates the handling and use of vermicompost

5. Aquaculture as a Business Concept

Speaker: Mr. Martin Tjipute, UNAM, Department of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, Sam Nujoma Campus

Mr. Tjipute introduced participants to aquaculture as a viable business option in Namibia. His session focused on the potential for sustainable fish farming, with practical advice on water quality management, fish species selection, and the economic benefits of entering the aquaculture industry. In addition, Mr. Tjipute covered aquaculture systems and how to start an aquaculture business starting with going with the right fish species.

6. Pig Production

Speaker: Mr. Tulipohamba Kaanduka, DeLa Namibia

Mr. Kaanduka provided valuable insights into pig farming, including breeding practices, nutrition, and disease prevention. He also discussed the growing demand for pork in Namibia and the opportunities for small and large-scale pig producers to expand their operations and meet market needs.

In conclusion the Farmers' Day event was a successful platform for knowledge exchange and capacity building, helping to equip farmers with the tools and skills necessary to enhance their agricultural practices. The sessions offered valuable insights into a wide range of agricultural sectors, from horticulture and poultry farming to aquaculture and pig production. The collaboration between KNM Namibia, NamAFa, and DeLa Namibia has provided a unique opportunity for local farmers to learn from experts and build networks that can drive the future growth of Namibian agriculture.

The event was well-received by participants, who left with a deeper understanding of key agricultural topics and a renewed commitment to improving their farming operations.

~ Ms. Leena lipumbu



CAPTURED MOMENTS

Through team-building and socializing



Through community garden engagements





Through training and development



Through workshops and exhibitions





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