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● Implementation of the JCol on Energy and Green Hydrogen between Namibia and Germany ●

GREEN HYDROGEN PILOT PROJECT FUNDING GUIDELINES

1. Background

The Government of the Republic of Namibia is pursuing the long-term goal of achieving climate neutrality in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement. Namibia commits to its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), with the goal of reaching net zero emissions (climate neutral) by 2050 and achieve energy transition.

The energy transition to zero-emission energy in Namibia will be achieved by developing green hydrogen production capacities, promote a rapid market ramp-up and establish the corresponding value chains – on both the national and international scale. Through bilateral agreements between the Namibian Government and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) signed a Joint Communiqué of Intent (JCOI) on the 25th August 2021, to provide funds for pilot projects and its accompanying research projects.

2. Aims and purpose of the grant

The grants provided under this directive are aimed at promoting international collaboration in the field of green hydrogen and the derivatives produced from it, in addition to storage, transport and the use of integrated application technologies. The aim is to provide effective support for the urgently needed market ramp-up for green hydrogen and its derivatives, to speed up the creation of an international market for these products and thus contribute to achieving the climate targets and strengthening the economy. The establishment of trade relations with potential exporters of green hydrogen and its derivatives is also expected to benefit from the funding programme.

In line with HPPII, the funded projects are to focus on the entire value chain in order to provide planning security for future hydrogen producers, suppliers, consumers and other investors and research actors in Namibia and abroad. The funding guideline is thus an integral part of the investment and innovation campaign with Namibia's partner countries in hydrogen development. It does not assume that projects are necessarily suited to the preparation of green hydrogen or its derivatives for only domestic consumption or export elsewhere but is deliberately designed to be broad-based in nature.

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SASSCAL Regional Secretariat
28 Robert Mugabe Avenue

P.O. Box 87292 Windhoek
E: JCol.Y4H2@sasscal.org



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3. Objects of funding

The funding arrangement will comprise of two modules:

- **Module 1** aims at systematically developing and promoting sustainable production options for green hydrogen production and its derivatives, in cooperation its partner country Germany. This includes projects dealing with the hydrogen storage, transport and its derivatives, which may also be used for integrated projects that cover several value-added steps. Funding will be provided for technologies that make a decisive contribution to an early market ramp-up as well as preparatory or accompanying development, where applicable.
- **Module 2** aims at research projects that are designed to accompany projects funded in Module 1. This includes preparatory or accompanying research like material development, simulations, modelling, scientific analyses, and studies.

All projects are to have a clear practical relevance to the extent that the know-how generated will contribute to the further development of the national and international hydrogen economy.

The following are not eligible for funding under this guideline:

- Facilities for the production of hydrogen and its derivatives based on fossil fuels, electricity from nuclear power plants (grey or red hydrogen) or using technologies such as CCS (blue hydrogen) or the pyrolysis of hydrocarbons, such as methane (turquoise hydrogen),
- projects implemented outside the boundaries of Namibia,
- Government projects that are required to be implemented by a law or by order of the government, projects that have already started. This means that activities that will be part of the funded project must not be started yet. This includes purchases and supply or service contracts.
- the purchase of used facilities or new facilities predominantly equipped with used system components,
- projects that already receive adequate state funding from elsewhere
- taxes, levies, and other charges to be paid by the applicant.
- Financial investment required for activities related to exports outside Namibia, in particular, logistical and financial support that is directly linked to the quantities exported, to the es-

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establishment or operation of a distribution network, or to other current costs linked to the export activity

4. Recipients of funding

Namibian and German institutions and companies are eligible for funding.

Applications may be submitted by:

- legally registered private sector entities of the partner countries
- universities (of applied sciences) and research institutions
- Non-governmental organizations

The funding for any Namibian based entity will be disbursed by The Southern African Science Service Centre for Climate Change and Adaptive Land Management (SASSCAL).

Grants will be awarded to Namibian based companies guided by the following broad legislative and policy framework.

- Namibia Energy Policy
- Namibia Integrated National Energy Masterplan
- Namibia Renewable Energy Legislation
- Namibia Funding guidelines and regulations for Renewable Energy Projects
- Electricity Act
- National Independent Power Producer Policy
- Modified Single Buyer Model
- Namibia Energy Regulatory Authority Bill
- Namibia Water Act
- Public Private Partnership Act
- Public Procurement Act
- Development Partnership Coordination
- Namibia Funding guidelines and regulations for Research and Innovation
- Road Traffic and Transportation Act 22 of 1999 and its Regulations

The funding for any Germany based entity will be provided directly by the German Federal Min-

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istry of Education and Research (BMBF) according to the regulations stated in the “call for the funding of grants within the framework of the 7th Energy Research Programme of the Federal Government “Innovations for the energy transition” by BMBF of 6th February 2019.

Specific information for German partners can be found here: <https://www.ptj.de/projektfoerderung/anwendungsorientierte-grundlagenforschung-energie/deutsch-namibische-wasserstoff-partnerschaft>

The special concerns of small and medium-sized enterprises will be considered in the implementation of funded projects.

Consortia must consist of at least one partner from each country, regardless of their type. However, at least one company from either country is expected to participate in a proposed pilot project. For R&D projects, consortia made up of academic partners only are eligible.

There is no legal entitlement to a grant. The Strategic working group that was created according to the agreement in the JCol will decide freely after due assessment of the circumstances and according to fixed criteria within the framework of the budget funds available.

5. General Eligibility Criteria

To be considered in the selection process, a consortium must:

- submit the project proposal to the Namibian side (SASSCAL) only. Proposals sent to the German side (BMBF/PtJ) will not be considered.
- consist of at least one Namibian and one German partner (1+1) but more partners on either side are possible
- must consist of at least one German and Namibian company in case of a pilot project proposal
- plan for respective EI(S)A as part of the project work in case of a pilot project proposal
- not exceed the maximum funding amounts and ratios

6. Evaluation Criteria

The selection of projects will take place after evaluation by the experts in the technical working

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group. Accompanying R&D projects will be chosen once the Module 1 projects are selected and will be adjusted to fit into the general frame of a pilot project if they are not already paired with a module 1 project.

The evaluation criteria are:

- Conformity with the call and with designated research areas
- Scientific and technical quality, innovativeness, and knowledge gain of the joint research project
- Methodology and quality of project construction, feasibility, and appropriateness of the joint research project
- Quality, competence, and complementarity of the consortia to address the objectives of the project including the active involvement and commitment of companies and organizations
- Added value of the bilateral cooperation and expected benefit for both the Namibian and the German side and the balance of the cooperation.
- Overall impact of the project, including scientific, technological, economic, and social aspects
- Appropriateness of resources and funding requested

7. Further information

Module 2 projects cannot be stand-alone projects. They must either closely refer to a Module 1 project proposal or will be assigned to a selected Module 1 project after evaluation. Module 1 and Module 2 project can be handed in separately or jointly.

The maximum amount of support funding permitted per project may not be exceeded.

- The maximum amount to be allocated per project that includes Module 1 and 2 is 242,528,107.50 N\$ or 15,000,000 €

A funding quota for collaborative projects is not specified. The parties or partners in any consortium can share and or divide the responsibility between themselves as strategically desired. However, it is expected that most of the funding will benefit Namibia, either through direct funding to Namibian partners or some form of added value on Namibian ground.

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8. Expected Documents

The proposal should have at least, the following documents;

- A technical offer
- Financial offer

Note. *The estimated length of the bid is 10-15 pages*

Applicants may also supply any other relevant documents that would add value to their application, such as profiles of the consortium members, which may include CVs of the key staff members.

Completed proposals should be sent to: JCoINAM-GER.PP@sasscal.org

The deadline for submission of proposals is **8th April 2022 at Mid Night**

Contact persons: Dr. Eng. Katundu Imasiku

SASSCAL Regional Secretariat

28 Robert Mugabe Avenue

P.O. Box 87292, Windhoek

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