



EU-NAMIBIA STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Sustainable Raw Materials Value Chains : The EU Perspective

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The EU Perspective on Sustainable Raw Materials Value Chains

1. EU priorities under the Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA)
2. The demand outlook for critical raw materials
3. Our expectations for partnerships: sustainability, supply security, and value chain integration
4. The EU instruments we can mobilise: investment, financing, technical cooperation, and strategic partnerships

Why Critical Raw Materials & Why Namibia?

- Why the EU–Namibia Strategic Partnership on Sustainable Raw Material Value Chains and Renewable Hydrogen is strategically important and mutually beneficial.
- The EU is a major consumer of these materials but relies heavily on a small number of suppliers, and it needs :
 - The green transition: batteries, electric vehicles, wind turbines, solar PV, power grids
 - The digital transition: semiconductors, electronics, data centres, telecoms, Industrial resilience and strategic sectors such as aerospace and defence
- Namibia has :
 - a great endowment of various ores, where one can find lithium, rare earths amongst others
 - Its political stability and sound institutions
 - Shares the same values and principles as the European Union

EU Priorities under the Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA)

The CRMA is the EU's framework to secure a sustainable, resilient, and diversified supply of critical raw materials by 2030, with 3 main priorities:

- **Strengthen EU value chains**
- **Diversify and de-risk supply**
- **Promote sustainability and responsible sourcing**

Even with these efforts, the EU will remain an importer, so reliable partners like Namibia are essential.

Demand Outlook for Critical Raw Materials

The energy transition and digitalisation will significantly increase demand for many CRMs in Europe:

- **Lithium:**
 - **Rare earth elements:**
 - **Nickel, cobalt, manganese, copper and others:**
 - **Silicon, gallium, germanium and other high-tech materials**
- The EU offers a large, long-term market for responsibly produced CRMs and intermediate products.
 - And, the opportunity is not only in raw ore exports, but in higher-value segments of the chain.

What the EU Expects from the Partnership

(1) Sustainability

The EU's partnerships are guided by high sustainability ambitions:

- **Environmental performance**
- **Social performance**
- **Governance and transparency**

The goal is to ensure that CRM projects contribute positively to Namibia's sustainable development and to global climate and environmental goals.

What the EU Expects from Partnerships

(2) Supply Security & Value Chain Integration

- The EU also seeks:
- **Supply Security and Reliability**
- **Value-Chain Integration and Local Value Addition**
 - **beneficiation and processing** in Namibia.
 - Strengthen **supporting industries**
 - Promote **skills development and technology transfer**:
- The goal would be an integrated value chain where Namibia captures more value, jobs and fiscal revenues. The EU secures diversified, sustainable access to the materials it needs.

EU Instruments: Investment & Financing

- Several EU instruments can support strategic raw materials value chains in Namibia:
- **Global Gateway**
- **EFSD+ (European Fund for Sustainable Development Plus)**
- **Blended Finance and Development Banks**
- These instruments support complex, capital-intensive projects bankable while maintaining high environmental and social standards.

EU Instruments: Technical Cooperation & Strategic Partnerships

- The EU also provides 360° support:
- **Technical Cooperation and Capacity Building**
- **Skills development**
- **Research and innovation**
- **Strategic Partnerships and Dialogue**
- **Business-to-business matchmaking**

What the Strategic Partnership Means

- For Namibia, we expect that the Strategic partnership can:
 - Generate quality jobs and local industrial development.
 - Increase fiscal revenues and local content.
 - Foster technology transfer, skills development and innovation.
 - Support the country's own clean-energy and infrastructure goals.
- For the EU, it:
 - Strengthens security of supply and diversification, ensuring high sustainability and governance standards.
 - Deepens the strategic relationship with Namibia, a key African partner.

Conclusion & Way Forward

- The CRMA sets clear EU priorities: diversify supply, build resilient and sustainable value chains, and uphold high ESG standards.
- Demand for critical raw materials in Europe will continue to grow as we accelerate the green and digital transitions.
- Namibia, also has set its priorities : reduce simple extraction-and-export dependence, encourage local processing and manufacturing, diversify the economy, and leverage strategic sectors to create more domestic value and employment.

It's a mutual beneficial partnership! Let's build on our achievements!