

YOUTH MUST BE AT THE FRONT OF THE STRUGGLE FOR ECONOMIC EMANCIPATION

By Salomo Mekondjo Nambinga (UNAM student)



Salomo Mekondjo Nambinga
Multi-youth purpose centre stadium around 14h17. The

On 27th June 2010 I had a privilege to attend a lecture about Namibian history conducted by Dr Sam Nujoma, the founding president of the republic of Namibia and Father of the Namibian Nation. It was highly attended specifically by adolescents who ran towards this illustrious son of the soil upon his arrival at Katutura

event was characterised by a jovial mood and I observed the beauty of our precious resources namely our young people who have the potential to be future leaders, if properly prepared, nurtured, mentored and groomed. As Dr Nujoma was narrating the painful history of our country in general and the liberation struggle in particular that ushered to our hard won freedom and independence, a lot of thoughts were crossing my

mind continuously. I thought about the bravery and heroisms demonstrated by our forefathers and Nujoma's generation to set us free from the yoke of colonialism. I said to myself that yes of course, yesterday's youth had something to die for namely the freedom for our motherland. I asked myself what are today's youth including myself are prepared to die for that will immensely contribute to the well being of our nation and its people. Be-

fore I continue I must clearly state that the phrase "die for" is used metaphorically to mean something that one is committed to do for the common good of his/her people come hell or high water. It does not refer to the dictionary meaning of the word die. Finally, I said to myself that today's youth owe a lot to both fallen and standing daughters and sons of the Namibian nation who

liberated them. And in my humble opinion the best way for them to pay back is through the realization of economic independence/ emancipation which will lead to Namibia's second dawn namely a poverty free Namibia and prosperity for all. Hence, I suggest that they should be at the forefront of

this new struggle. I am very happy that in his lecture Dr. Nujoma stressed the significance of hard work, vision, focus and patriotism to one's own country and condemned the tendencies of individualism, regionalism and ethnicity. For these reasons I do not see the reasons why we youth cannot come together and share our humble ideas from our various fields of study on how to achieve economic emancipation which forms the struggle that we must own and fight for to the very end. My humble advice to the youth who are apolitical and sometimes feel isolated in the development of our country is that, you do not need to be a politician to contribute to this struggle/ development of your country. For example, an apolitical young grade 12 science teacher must make sure that he effectively teaches his/her pupils and pass with flying colour in order for them to join critical field of studies at tertiary institutions. At this point I would like to pause a bit and reflect on the debate that has been going on, the call of free tertiary education of which I have humbly contributed with the call for Government loans for all first as a fast intervention and a stepping stone to free tertiary education.

But if the government has got enough funds now let free tertiary education get off the ground now and not beyond 2030. Similarly, a young apolitical electric engineer must find new ways how to harness power and relief the nation from ever-increasing power hike in our country. Equally, an apolitical geologist must discover more minerals to contribute to the wealth of our country etc, etc. Every young person must have something to contribute to this struggle based on his/her area of expertise. Those children in primary and secondary schools must be serious in their studies with vision 2030 in mind as well the realization of economic emancipation. It's my humble opinion that history will judge us harshly as today's youth, if we fail to fight for the realization of vision 2030 and economic emancipation for all

Namibians respectively. Whether we like it or not this is our country and we must shape it into a beautiful and prosperous nation. Running away from our country and heavily critique it from Washington DC, London or Paris will not help at all. Those cities are beautiful today because of the citizens of those countries who worked tirelessly. Our country's future looks bright!



Republic of Namibia

Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development

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Private Bag 13289
Windhoek, Namibia

VACANCIES

DIRECTORATE: RURAL DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION

1) IX POST DESIGNATION:	Development Planner Grade 3B Level 1
SUB-DIVISION	Rural Industrialization
SALARY SCALE	N\$ 153 795 x P- N\$ 137 277
DUTY STATION	Windhoek

Minimum requirements: A recognized four (4) bachelor Degree in Industrial Commerce, Economics, Business Management, Development Studies or Equivalent qualification plus 5 years appropriate experience.

Functions:

- Support and assist the Deputy Director of Rural Development Coordination in the operation of the rural Industrialization sub-division.
- Establish and maintain inter-sectoral forum for strategy formulation and proper coordination and integration sector development plans, programmes / projects and intervention as far as rural enterprises and micro credit scheme development is concerned.
- Provide follow-up to the National Development Plans I terms of implementation of the provisions related to rural enterprises and micro credit schemes development and planning.
- Attend inter-ministerial meetings related to Rural Extension, Rural Development/ Industrialization and Poverty reduction.
- Liaise with other regional, national and international institutions involved in the development, design and dissemination of appropriate technology.
- Liaise with the Directorate/ Division of SME Development and SME feasibility studies and Business Plan Support Programme of Ministry of Trade and Industry and other stakeholder on the provision of support to rural enterprises and sectoral policies impacting on the rural livelihoods.
- Engage in the development and planning of operational rural development guidelines for SMEs and micro credit development within the trade and industry sector.
- Facilitate the provision of demand driven training and other capacity building interventions for SMEs, NGOs and CBOs by the private sector actors in collaboration with the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

2) IX POST DESIGNATION:	Development Planner SP2
SUB-DIVISION	Food Security Secretarial
SALARY SCALE	N\$ 105 975 x P- N\$ 121 395
DUTY STATION	Windhoek

Minimum Requirements: an appropriate four (4) years tertiary qualification in Public Management/Administration majored in Development Studies, Rural Development, Community Development, Project Planning and Agriculture

Job Description:

- Provide information, data and analyses required for the formulation of National Rural development Policy.
- Liaises with the relevant ministries/ departments to design and implement the National Rural development Policy.
- Consult with relevant ministries, agencies and other stakeholder on policy issues that impact on the livelihood of rural people.
- Collect and compile statistics that illustrate the natural and socio-economic conditions of rural population.
- Identify groups within rural population that require particular government assistance, particularly female headed households.
- Promote the welfare and integration of rural women in development process, by designing policies that support "affirmative action for women"
- Advice on agriculture policy, particularly as it affects food production, in comes in the rural sector and hence food consumption.
- Keep him/her abreast of all matters of concern to rural development (e.g rural water supply, livestock raising, crop production, and natural resources utilization) and use these information to plan appropriate interventions in conjunction with line ministries and departments.
- Recommend to the division rural development issues that need to be investigated and address with main objective of improving the quality of life of the rural communities.
- Keep the Chief Development Planner (CDP) informed of progress and shortcomings with regard to rural development.

Enquiries:

1) **Assistant Human Resource Practitioner –**

Mr. S.T Shikale at
Tel No. 061-2975275

2) **Director: Rural Development-**

Mr. Jona A Kasheeta at
Tel No. 061- 2975067

Closing date: 13 July 2010

Applicants must be Namibian citizens. Application (on form 156043 obtained at all Government Offices) together with a comprehensive Curriculum Vitae and certified copies of educational qualifications must be submitted to:

The Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Regional Local Government, Housing and Rural Development
Private Bag 13289
Windhoek

MR. ERASTUS I. NEGONGA
PERMANENT SECRETARY