

# Green & Blue Economy: Transitioning from a Brown Economy to a Blue & Green Economy

In a brown economy, economic growth is largely dependent on environmentally destructive forms of activity that make demands on our environment, surpassing the Earth's carrying capacity and encouraging unrestrained exploitation of its finite resources. Moreover, these activities catapult a range of harmful impacts on biodiversity, ecosystem, and population health. Conversely, in a green and blue economy, economic growth is driven by public and private investments that reduce carbon emissions and pollution, enhance energy and resource efficiency, and prevent the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services. Part of this approach involves recycling natural resources in a model of economic development that emphasizes economic, environmental, and social benefits. While the green economy focuses on sustainably harnessing land's natural resources and the blue economy on marine and ocean resources; both strive for investments to create new business models that profit off our natural resources and reduce waste and mismanagement to a minimum to meet everyone's needs, while at the same time safeguarding the planet's natural resources.

African countries are highly dependent on natural resources. Natural capital assets are thus critical to the economic activities and the livelihood of millions of people who depend on fertile and healthy land and oceans. This high dependency on natural resources signifies increased and sustained pressure on these resources. As such minerals, forests, land, water and marine resources need to be efficiently and sustainably harnessed. Therefore, adopting inclusive green and blue economy approach to structural transformation could enable African countries to ensure efficient, equitable and sustainable use of their natural resources and reduce the adverse impacts of economic growth. In the context of Africa's structural transformation, focusing on green and blue economic activities can increase agricultural productivity and production in a sustainable manner; accelerate and promote sustainable industrial development; boost overall and renewable energy production, access and efficiency; as well as expand trade opportunities. This developmental path should maintain, enhance and, where necessary, rebuild natural capital as a critical economic asset and source of public benefits, especially for socio-economically disadvantaged persons whose livelihoods and security depend strongly on nature.

**Focused utilizing Namibia's natural resources through sustainable practices and minimizing environmental impact, our Green and Blue Economy practice is dedicated to investments in:**

<b>Focus Areas:</b>	<b>Objectives</b> (thematic area specific impacts)
<b>Sustainable agriculture and aquaculture:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve (agricultural/aquacultural) productivity among small-holder farmers/fishers</li> <li>• Reduce food insecurity among underserved communities</li> </ul>
<b>Circular Economy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote natural resource management</li> <li>• Reduce waste along supply chains</li> </ul>
<b>Renewable Energy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce pollution</li> <li>• Promote equitable access to clean energy sources</li> </ul>