

# NAMIBIA'S POSITION ON CRITICAL MINERALS AND SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY TO SUPPORT THE GLOBAL ENERGY TRANSITION

Chamber of Mines Mining Expo  
and Conference  
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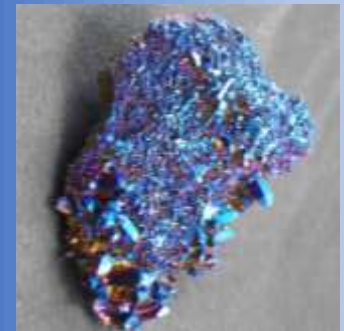
# 1. Introduction

- ❑ The global energy sector is quickly transforming from fossil-based systems to clean energy sources such as solar, wind, hydroelectric, geothermal, green hydrogen etc. The trends towards greener and decarbonized value chains towards net-zero emissions by 2050 have triggered global interest in exploration, mining, and processing of critical minerals. These minerals have applications in a wide range of high-tech devices for personal and commercial use such as wind turbines, solar panels, electric vehicles, smartphones and tablets, and other technologies.

## 2. Introduction cont...

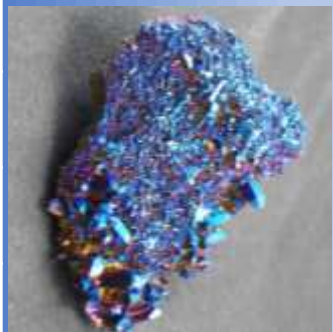


- ❑ Critical minerals are defined relative to a country's geological and natural endowments, national concerns, economic and strategic interests, priorities, and sometimes to safeguard issues of domestic security. There is therefore no global definition.
- ❑ Namibia has not officially defined which mineral commodities are critical. However, like many other countries, Namibia is looking to capitalize on global trends towards greener and decarbonized value chains which have triggered global interest in mining and processing of critical minerals.





# Namibia has **notable** deposits of minerals listed on major economies lists of critical minerals.



	Appearing on CRM list of <u>six</u> major economies (Australia, USA, EU, Canada, China, Japan)	Appearing on CRM list of <u>five</u> of six major economies
1	Antimony	Chromium
2	Cobalt ✓	Gallium
3	Graphite ✓	Germanium
4	Lithium ✓	Indium
5	REE ✓	Magnesium
6	Tungsten	Niobium
7		PGE
8		Potash
9		Tantalum ✓
10		Titanium
11		Vanadium ✓



### **3. Mineral rights situation of critical minerals in Namibia**

# 3.1 Lithium



**There are three Mining Licenses granted for lithium. Although none is fully operational, they are all at advanced stages towards full development. Several discoveries have been made, and there are numerous exploration projects targeting lithium.**



## 3.2 Cobalt

**There are no operational mines for cobalt in Namibia. Neither are there any Mining licences issued for cobalt yet. However, there are some advanced exploration projects in the upper north-west and central north-western part of Namibia.**

## 3.3 Graphite



**There are two Mining licenses for graphite expiring in 2042 and 2025 respectively. One is on care and maintenance and the other is in the development phase. There are also exploration projects located in Erongo and //Karas regions.**



## 3.4 Rare Earth Elements (REE)



**There are no operating mines for REE/Metals in Namibia. The Lofdal (Khorixas) project is the only REE deposit currently under Mining License but not yet operational. There are several exploration projects, including one offshore.**

## 3.5 Tin & Tantalum



**Five Mining Licences have been issued for Tin and Tantalum:**

**One is not yet operational, Three are operational, one is not operational and the fifth one is pending license renewal. Additionally, there are several active exploration projects in the pegmatites of the in Southern Namibia and in central and northwest central Namibia.**



## 3.6 Manganese

Otjosondu Mine is the only manganese mine currently operating in Namibia (ML145 valid until 2037). Several exploration licences have been granted for Manganese and other base metals.

## 4. Strategic Issues



- ❑ Leverage our geological and economic potential as a source of critical minerals and aim to play a prominent role in international markets.
- ❑ Through the EU-NAM Partnership, a national critical minerals strategy is to be developed, a detailed assessment of the critical mineral resources is envisioned as well as the availability of reliable, consistent statistical information in relation to critical raw materials to inform strategic partnerships on the supply and development of critical minerals. A roadmap is at an advance stage. Japan is particularly interested in REE research, development and value add in Namibia (agreements

## 4. Strategic issues cont...



- ❑ The Ministry is in the process to activate the provision of the mineral agreement for the State to enter into agreements with mineral right holders with mutually beneficial terms and conditions (Section 49 of the Act).
- ❑ Public voice for State to participate in its mineral resources as a shareholder in Mining Companies is getting louder. The Ministry is working on a provision in the law for a certain percentage of mandatory government ownership in all mineral licences (critical minerals in particular).

## 4. Strategic issues cont...



□ In an effort to create an environment which is conducive for local value addition, cabinet approved the prohibition to export the following critical minerals in unprocessed form: lithium, cobalt, manganese, graphite, and rare earth elements. This is aligned to the Mineral Beneficiation Strategy (2021). Modalities to apply this cabinet directive are being worked out.


# 5. Conclusion



- ❑ The country's good rating in terms of governance, regulatory framework, sound infrastructure and political stability continues to draw investor interest in doing business in the Namibian minerals sector.
- ❑ As a country, we continue to strive to remain an attractive investment destination while ensuring maximum benefits for our local economy.
- ❑ Mining project developers must account to the highest social, economic, governance and environmental standards to safeguard the local communities.
- ❑ Local value addition and manufacturing remain the ultimate goal.
- ❑ LET US EXPLORE, MINE, MANUFACTURE AND INDUSTRIALIZE NAMIBIA!!



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**VENUE:** Mercure Hotel, Windhoek

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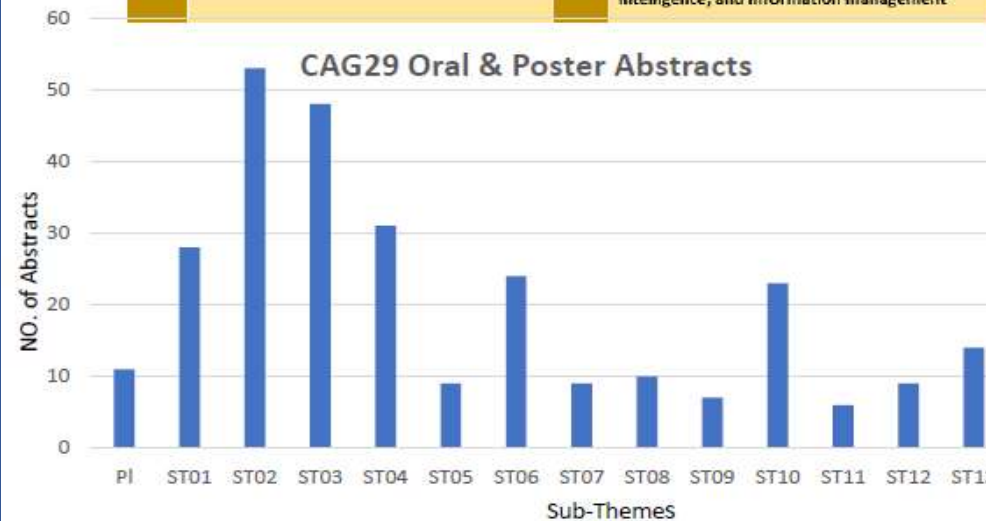


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