

VOTE 31: MINISTRY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

INTRODUCTION

The mandate of the Vote

The Veterans Affairs is established to address the plight of veterans of the liberation struggle by initiating, promoting projects and programs, including keeping the history of the national liberation struggle alive. The mandate is derived Veterans amended Act, No. 2 of 2008.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE VOTES

During 2014/15 financial year a total amount of N\$1,558,243,000 was allocated to Veterans Affairs, which consisted of 98 % Operational budget and 2% Development Budget. Out of the 98% of the operational budget, 93% was transfers to the Veterans Fund and the remaining 5% was used for ministerial activities.

Achievements 2014/15

The following were the main achievements: 2,876 veterans were registered, 4,907 Individual Veterans projects were funded, 851 veterans and dependant of veterans assisted with educational grants, 1,250 funeral assistance provided, 104 tombstones erected, two (2) resettlement farms were acquired and 194 veterans were counselled.

However, insufficient resource allocation to some of the activities and limited capacity contributed to non-achievements of some set targets.

The main objectives of the Vote

- **Strategic Objective 1:** Integration of veterans into socio-economic mainstream.
- **Strategic Objective 2:** Ensure that the history of the national liberation struggle is preserved and kept alive.
- **Strategic Objective 3:** Ensure an enabling conducive environment and improved performance culture.

Overall Vote actual performance

Breakdown \ Year	2014/15	
	N\$	
	Estimate	Actual
Operational Budget	1,533,643,000	1,516,956,614
Development Budget	24,600,000	22,909,824
Development Partners	0	0
Total	1,558,243,000	1,539,866,438

Overview of the of Ministerial Targets

Name of the Ministerial Targets	2013/14 Actual	2013/14-2015/16 Target	2014/15 Forecast	2014/2015 Actual
48,000 veterans registered by 2016/17	26,124	45,000	35,000	29,000
15,000 Projects initiated and fully funded by 2016/17	3,889	13,500	10,732	4,907
435 veterans houses constructed by 2016/17	123	335	235	101
15,000 veterans receiving monthly subvention by 2016/17	10,303	14,000	13,000	13,800
4 monuments by 2016/17	1	2	1	0
48,000 veterans paid once off gratuity by 2016/17	23,422	45,000	35,000	28,850
1,351 funeral assistance provided for deceased veterans by 2016/17	813	1,101	851	1,250
1,088 educational grants provided to veterans and dependents of veterans by 2016/17	1,050	888	688	851
12 farms bought to resettle veterans by 2016/17	5	9	6	2
495 veterans counselled by 2016/17	56	344	172	250

Targets:

Target 1: 48,000 Veterans registered by 2016/2017

Targeting: Veterans Affairs continues to register veterans of the national liberation struggle, as a tool to inform policy makers on how many veterans are there, where they live, and group them into different categories according to their social and economic conditions. In this way, Veterans Affairs will be able to devise appropriate interventions and benefits that address veterans' plight and improve their quality of life.

Effectiveness: Veterans Affairs achieved 63% of this target during the year under review, however many of the applications considered did not meet the requirements for veteran status as defined in the Veterans Act, No. 2 of 2008.

Efficiency: Veterans Affairs made use of additional human resources assistance to complement its existing structure. In order to achieve this, Veterans Affairs engaged community members and officials from other Government institutions.

Impacts: Information collected during the registration process of the veterans and dependant of living and deceased veterans informs and enables Veterans Affairs to design appropriate interventions and ensure that specific needs are addressed. .As a result of registration, a national register of veterans is created

Target 2: 15,000 Individual Veterans Projects approved and fully implemented by 2016/2017

Targeting: Veterans Affairs continues to sensitise the importance of individual veterans' projects as a means of economic empowerment of veterans.

Effectiveness: Veterans Affairs was only able to fund 4,907 Individual Veterans Projects for the financial year 2014/15.

Efficiency: It would not have been possible to reach the output without additional funding.

Impacts: The livelihood of many veterans has improved.

Target 3: 435 Veterans' houses constructed by 2016/17

Targeting: The identification of veterans in need of appropriate housing and the construction thereof continue.

Effectiveness: Only 101 houses out of the target of 235 were constructed in all the regions.

Efficiency: Given the ever increasing resources in the construction of houses, the allocated funds could not even cover the number of houses targeted during the year under review. This means that this activity would continue to require more funding, if the provision of decent housing of veterans is to be realised.

Impacts: The living conditions of veterans have changed as a result of the provision and utilisation of better shelter.

Target 4: 15,000 veterans receiving monthly subvention by 2016/17

Targeting: This target is aimed at identifying the number of veterans eligible for monthly financial assistance in order to budget accordingly.

Effectiveness: Out of this target of 15,000; 13,800 were receiving the monthly financial assistance (subvention). This means that many eligible veterans benefited from this activity.

Efficiency: This output of 13,800 could not be achieved with less inputs because the monthly financial assistance is a predetermined amount for all eligible veterans.

Impacts: Monthly financial assistance enabled many beneficiaries to provide for their basic necessities such as food, shelter, payment of utilities and maintenance of their families.

Target 5: 4 Monuments erected by 2016/17

Targeting: The project has the purpose of identifying specific areas where the activities of the liberation struggle took place, mark them by erecting monument and preserving them in order to keep the history of the Namibia's liberation struggle alive for the present and future generations.

Effectiveness: No activities were carried out because the allocated funds were viremented and used for other activities such as the exhumation and repatriation of remains of seven (7) Namibians heroes and heroines who were buried in Angola and Zambia.

Efficiency: Exhumation and repatriation of any remain is a costly exercise, as such, no money remained to be used for the erection of monuments as planned.

Impacts: The implementation of this programme has provided a better understanding of Namibia's liberation struggle history.

Target 6: 48,000 veterans paid once-off gratuity by 2016/17

Targeting: This activity has reached the targeted beneficiaries.

Effectiveness: 28,850 (cumulative) veterans were appreciated for their contribution to the liberation struggle.

Efficiency: The output has reached the targeted beneficiaries and the budgeting was done as per the expected number of veterans registered. The amount paid to registered veterans is predetermined and as such the requested and allocated amount is as per the number of veterans registered.

Impacts: As a token of appreciation for their contribution to the liberation struggle, many veterans made use of the money paid to them in buying their basic needs which in the long run led to the improvement of quality of life.

Target 7: 1,351 Veterans assisted with funerals by 2016/17

Targeting: The purpose of the Funeral Grant is to ensure that a deceased veteran of the liberation struggle of Namibia is buried in a respectable and dignified manner.

Effectiveness: Veterans Affairs exceeded its set target of 851 by assisting towards the burial of 1,250 veterans.

Efficiency: It would not have been possible to reach the output without additional funding.

Impacts: Veterans of the liberation struggle of Namibia were buried in a respectable and dignified manner.

Target 8: 1,088 Educational grants provided to veterans and dependants of veterans by 2016/17

Targeting: This activity is aimed at empowering interested veterans and dependants of veterans with the necessary knowledge and skills to compete for jobs in the labour market.

Effectiveness: Veterans Affairs has exceeded the target with 24%.

Efficiency: It is not possible to achieve the set target with less inputs because of the varying cost of tuition fees and other related expenses.

Impacts: Educational grant given to veterans have empowered them with the necessary skills and knowledge and many have secured employment in the public and private sectors. Also, the skills gained by veteran's through training enabled many veterans to manage their individual projects and engage in economic activities for self- sustainability which in the long improve their living conditions.

Target 9: 12 Farms bought to resettle veterans by 2016/17

Targeting: Veterans Affairs continues to procure resettlement farms and consider applications from landless veterans for resettlement purposes.

Effectiveness: Due to the limited funds allocated to this activity, only two (2) resettlement farms were purchased.

Efficiency: It would not have been possible to reach the output with less input because of the high and fluctuating market price of commercial farms.

Impacts: Most resettled veterans have started engaging in agricultural activities thus generating income for self-sustainability as well as to contribute to the economy of the country.

Target 10: 495 Veterans counselled by 2016/17

Targeting: This target has two components; the first component is assistance towards medical treatment and provision of prosthetics and mobility aids to veterans with different health related problems.

The second component is the provision of counseling to veterans traumatized by the war or by effects of the war of the liberation struggle.

Effectiveness: Veterans Affairs provided medical assistance to 21 veterans and counselling to 125 veterans whilst 37 others were referred to psychologist for further therapeutic interventions. This is a need based service and its achievement is determined by requests received from veterans for such services.

Efficiency: With regards to medical assistance, less funds could be used to assist veterans provided regulations on free treatment at State Health Facilities were strictly enforced. However, this may not have been applicable to counselling due to limited human capacity.

Impacts: Disabled veterans are able to move independently. Whilst conditions of those who have received medical treatment have improved. As a result of the past experience during the liberation struggle, counseled veterans are able to cope with the current situation.

Program-activities description

*P-Code	Programme Name	*A-Code	Activity Name	*MD in Charge	2014/15		
					Estimate	Actual	Execution rate(%)
01	Veterans Welfare Development	01	Support Package	03	270,000,000	270,000,000	100.00
		02	Education and Training Grant	03	5,000,000	5,000,000	100.00
		03	Funeral Grants for Veterans	03	3,000,000	3,000,000	100.00
		04	Payment of Lump-sum	03	474,400,000	474,400,000	100.00
		05	Veterans Association	03	1,000,000	1,000,000	100.00
		06	Identification and Registration of Veterans	03	581,000	581,000	100.00
		07	Veterans Housing	04	15,000,000	15,000,000	100.00
		08	Veterans Resettlement Programme	04	15,000,000	15,000,000	100.00
		09	Veterans Projects	04	621,000,000	621,000,000	100.00
		10	Development Planning/ Projects Management Programme	04	23,600,000	22,909,824	97.08
		11	Medical Assistance & Counselling	03	-	-	-
		12	Appeal Board	03	-	-	-
		13	Conferment of National Status and Awards	03	-	-	-
		14	Star Protection	03	-	-	-
				15	Improvement of Welfare for Ex-Plan Combatants	03	50,000,000
Sub-Total					1,478,581,000	1,477,890,824	99.95
02	Liberation Struggle Heritage	01	Identify sites, Heritage Preservation	03	6,509,000	3,118,517	47.91
		02	Research, Erection of monuments and the marking of heritage sites	03	1,000,000	0	0.00
		03	Acquire materials and maintenance of Archive System	03	400,000	0	0.00
		04	Development Project for Heritage	03	800,000	800,000	100.00
Sub-Total					8,709,000	3,918,517	44.99
03	Coordination and Support Services	01	Capacity Building	02	1,045,000	908,700	86.96
		02	Monitoring & Evaluation	02	300,000	300,000	100.00
		03	Veterans Sensitization	02	300,000	300,000	100.00
		04	General Administrative Services	02	27,361,076	21,927,861	80.14
		05	Personnel Expenditure	02	41,946,924	34,593,440	82.47
Sub-Total					70,953,000	58,030,001	81.79
Sub-Total					0	0	0.00
Vote-Total					1,558,243,000	1,539,839,342	98.82

*P-code: Programme Code
A-code: Activity Code
MD: Main Division

Programme Description

Programme 1: Veterans Welfare Development

Programme objective

To coordinate the designing, monitoring and evaluation of activities that are aimed at improving the welfare of veterans of the national liberation struggle.

Main Activities

1. Support Package

The purpose of this main activity is to assist veterans and dependents of deceased veterans through funding, administering and managing welfare of veterans and dependents of veterans. The sub-activities of this project include Payment of the monthly subvention to eligible veterans. The impact of the main activity once implemented would help veterans improve their quality of life.

2. Education and Training Grant

The purpose of the Educational and Training Grant is aimed at providing financial support to veterans and dependants of veterans (deceased veterans) who wish to further their studies or obtain vocational skills at institutions of higher learning to enable them to compete in the labour market and secure employment. This will ultimately result in the improvement of their living conditions

3. Funeral Grant for Veterans

The purpose of the Funeral Grant is to ensure that veterans of the liberation struggle passing on are buried in a respectable and dignified manner. N\$26,000 is budgeted for each veteran of which N\$10,000 is earmarked for burial and the remaining N\$16,000 is for the erection of the tombstones.

4. Payment of Once off Gratuity (Lump Sum)

A lump sum or gratuity is a once-off payment to veterans as a token of appreciation for their contribution to the liberation struggle of the country. Once off payment is based on the year a veteran started his or her liberation activities. Veterans whose activities started in 1959 and 1987 receive 50,000 while those whose activities started in 1988 receive N\$20,000.

5. Veterans Association

Section 44 of the Veterans Act No. 2 of 2008 provides for an annual financial grant to the Namibia National Liberation Veterans Association to enable them to carry out their administrative activities.

6. Identification and Registration of Veterans

This activity aims at registering all veterans and dependents of veterans in order to produce a national veterans' register. Registration of veterans will help Veterans Affairs to know the demographic characteristics so that appropriate interventions are devised, to address their plight.

Sub activities under this project include; production of veterans' cards, formulation and analysis of legal frameworks that enable Veterans Affairs to ensure that all those who contributed to the liberation struggle are covered.

Whereas the veterans legal frameworks make provisions to register living veterans, efforts are being made to register those who died during the liberation struggle; consequently a Committee to register these fallen freedom fighters has been established. Freedom fighters that died prior to the establishment of Veterans Affairs will also be registered once the legal frameworks have been finalised.

7. Construction of Veterans Houses

This activity is to provide appropriate housing to eligible veterans to ensure they have decent shelter by identifying beneficiaries, assessing their living conditions, and constructing the houses.

8. Veterans Resettlement Programme

The main aim of this activity is to procure and resettle landless veterans on farming units to engage in agricultural activities thus generating income for self-sustainability as well as to contribute to the economy of the country. Veterans Affairs provides support for de-bushing, rehabilitation of water and fencing infrastructures.

9. Individual Veterans Projects (IVPs)

The main objective is to fund Individual Veterans' Projects of not more than N\$200,000 per project per veteran. It is also the responsibility of Veterans Affairs to provide technical assistance to veterans to enable them to come up with viable and sustainable business activities of their choice in various sectors of the economy to be fully integrated into the socio-economic mainstream of the country.

10. Development Planning/ Projects Management Programme

The purpose of this main activity is achieved through the implementation of the following sub-activities:

10.1 Acquisition and Construction of Offices for MoVA:

Veterans Affairs has acquired land in various regions to construct office accommodation for proper service delivery to veterans. These activities were carried out in consultation with stakeholders (Ministry of Works and Transport and Regional/Local Authorities).

10.2 Agricultural Support programme

This activity is need driven, aimed at assisting veterans who have been resettled, with farming implements and any other assistance that might improve the overall performance of their farming activities.

10.3 Veterans Recreational Facilities

The purpose of these recreational facilities is to establish wellness centres with health facilities to provide medical treatment, counselling and physiotherapy to veterans of the National Liberation Struggle. Parts of the facilities are also used to generate income for the Veteran Fund.

11. Medical Assistance and Counselling

This main activity is for the purpose of assisting veterans who are physically mentally and psychologically affected by the war of liberation struggle. The activity is divided into two sub activities, namely;

- (a) *Medical assistance*** provided to veterans who are suffering from different ailments mainly as a result of the war. Veterans with physical disability are provided for (as per the recommendation of doctors) with prosthetics and mobility aids. Veterans with war related injuries are assisted to cover medical treatment at Government health institutions and facilities.

- (b) *Counseling*** to veterans who are traumatized by the effects of the war of liberation struggle to be able to cope with the current situation.

12. Improvement of Ex-PLAN Combatant Veterans

Veterans Affairs pays additional amounts to the monthly financial assistance to veterans who have been militarily trained and deployed to different areas in furthering the liberation struggle. The money paid to different groups of ex-PLAN combatants is based on the years of their participation in the liberation struggle. The purpose of paying additional money to these groups of veterans is to enable them to deal with economic and social challenges.

Programme 2. Liberation Struggle Heritage

Programme objective

This programme is aimed at ensuring that the history of the liberation struggle is preserved and kept alive. This is done through research and documentation, collection and preservation of materials or any artefacts, including the building of outdoor museums in all the regions, erection of monuments, the identification of sites where acts of the liberation struggle took place and the marking them accordingly.

Main activities

1. Identification of sites/ places where the activities of the war of liberation struggle took place in order to erect monument such as outdoor museum or mark of any kind. Another sub activity of this main activity is to identify graves where freedom fighters have fallen so that tombstones can be erected or where necessary, exhumation is made and the remains are interred at any place so agreed by Veterans Affairs. Under the same activity, Veterans Affairs repatriates remains of selected Namibian freedom fighters who died in exile during the liberation struggle.
2. Acquiring historic material of the liberation struggle. Materials can be acquired from different institutions or individuals both inside and outside Namibia through negotiation and/or through payment of those materials. Acquired materials are stored, protected and preserved in specific environment, both electronically and manually.
3. Research and documenting the history of Namibia's liberation struggle so that history is kept alive. Research institutions are contracted to assist Veterans Affairs in carrying out this activities.

Programme 3. Coordination and Support Services

Programme objective

The purpose of this programme is to provide administrative support to the Ministerial programmes, such as improve service delivery to veterans, ensure incorporation of wellness programme into MoVA activities, enhance competencies of Ministerial staff for service delivery, and ensure effective management and control of financial resources and deployment of resources.

Main activities

- 3.1 *Capacity Building*: This activity focuses on non-qualifying and qualifying training to the staff members to enable them to provide quality service to veterans. Capacity building covers policy formulation and analysis, research, heritage management, project planning and management. In the same vein, induction is provided to new officials to ensure that officials understand the administration of the public service.
- 3.2 *Monitoring & Evaluation*: The purpose of this activity is to monitor progress and evaluate impact of programs and projects in order to devise strategies to improve the implementation thereof.
- 3.3 *Veterans Sensitization*: The purpose of this activity is to sensitize and provide relevant information to veterans with regard to the benefits of veterans and programs of the Veterans Affairs.

3.4 General Administrative Services: This activity focuses on the general provision of administrative support services to the Veterans Affairs.

3.5 Personnel Expenditure: The purpose of this activity is to manage and monitor remuneration expenditure, benefits and other personnel expenditure of the staff members.

EXPENDITURE FROM CONTINGENCY - 2014/15

None.

EXPENDITURE BY STANDARD ITEMS

Breakdown \ Year	2014/15	
	Estimate	Actual
Personnel Expenditure	41,946,924	34,593,440
Goods and Other Services	35,695,076	26,809,771
Subsidies and Other Current Transfers	1,454,981,000	1,454,981,000
Acquisition of Capital Assets(Operational)	1,020,000	545,307
Capital Transfers (Operational)		
Operational Budget	1,533,643,000	1,516,929,518
Operational Capital	600,000	119,195
Acquisition of Capital Assets (Development)	24,000,000	22,790,629
Capital Transfers (Development)		
Development Budget	24,600,000	22,909,824
Total State Revenue Fund Appropriation	1,558,243,000	1,539,839,342
Development Partners		
Grand Total	1,558,243,000	1,539,839,342

Explanations on variances

The allocated budget was utilised with a variance of 1.18%.

NON-TAX REVENUE

Revenue Source	Year	2014/15	
	Estimate	Actual	Variance %
Private Telephone Call	2 200	0	0
Unclaimed cheques	15 000	0	0
Miscellaneous	50 000	43 692	13
Parking Fees	1 080	1 020	6
Total	68 280	44 712	35

Explanations on variances

Private Telephone: During the year under review, no mechanism was in place to monitor private calls.

Unclaimed cheque: The Ministry did not have any unclaimed cheques for the financial year 2014/2015

Miscellaneous: An amount of N\$50,000 was estimated for this revenue source but only N\$43,692 was recovered through payroll deduction in respect of outstanding balances of daily subsistence allowances for 2013/2014 financial year.

Parking Fees: Only an amount of N\$1,020 was collected for this type of revenue due to labour turnover during the year under review.

HUMAN RESOURCES CAPACITY

No of Staff	2014/15
Approved	149
Funded	149

Expenditure from Contingency

None.

SUMMARY OF MOVABLE ASSETS

Furniture and equipment

Worn and damages

worn and damages					
Description	Quantity	Average estimated market unit value (N\$)	Toal Value (N\$) BiXCi	Quantity available to date (31 March 2015)	% of items not taken to auction(current stock level of individual items)
A	B	C	D	E	
Printer HP Office Jet Pro8500A	3	850	2,550	4	0.2
Printer Lexmark E25dn	1	400	400	21	5.3
Printer HP Laserjet P2015	2	400	800	15	1.9
Printer HP Laserjet P2035	1	450	450	7	1.6
Printer HPcolor laserjet 1600	1	600	600	4	0.7
Printer color laserjet cp 2025	1	650	650	1	0.2
Printer Sumsung sf5100	1	650	650	0	0.0
Pringer HP laserjet 1018	1	400	400	17	4.3
Printer office jet 4500	1	400	400	4	1.0

Printers were not repairable and no cartridges for some of them were available in the local market.

Obsolete and redundant

Obsolete and redudant					
Description	Quantity	Average estimated market unit value (N\$)	Toal Value (N\$) BiXCi	Quantity available to date	% of items not take for to auction(current stock level of individual items)
A	B	C	D	E	
None	0	0	0	0	0.0

During stock taking for 2014/15 financial year no items were identified as obsolete and redundant.

Vehicles

Obsolete and redundant

Obsolete and redudant						
	Description	Quantity	Average estimated market unit value (N\$)	Toal Value (N\$) BiXCi	Quantity available to date	% of items not take for to auction(current stock level of individual items)
	A	B	C	D	E	
1	Nil	0	0	0	0	0.0

The Ministry of Veterans does not own vote fleet, hence no vehicles were obsolete or redundant.