

Electricity and Energy

- Namibia generates electricity using thermal and hydropower.
- Namibia imports electricity from the SADC region.
- Namibia is expected to become an exporter of electricity.

Namibia's power utility company, NamPower, generates electricity using three thermal power stations and a hydroelectric power station. Two thermal power stations with a capacity of 44.5 MW are located at Walvis Bay, and one power station with a capacity of 120 MW is located outside Windhoek. The hydroelectric power station at Ruacana, on Namibia's northern border has a capacity of 332 MW.

Additional hydroelectric power generation has not been realized due to traditional sensitivities at sites where additional capacity has been proposed.

Namibia imports electricity from South Africa, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe, as well as from the SADC Power Pool.

In order to address the gap in local power production, and enable Namibia to become a net exporter, two key mechanisms are being developed.

The discovery of gas in the Kudu Gas Field is expected to materialize in an 800 MW gas-fired facility, with two 400 MW units, at Oranjemund, on Namibia's south-western coast.

NamPower is also in the process of developing renewable sources of power.

An estimated 27 independent solar power producers are being granted independent power producer status and will sell electricity to NamPower. This is expected to feed 70 MW into the grid.

An additional 35 MW of solar capacity, owned by NamPower, is expected to be constructed near Mariental.

Wind power generation of 44 MW is expected to be installed at Lüderitz. The potential for using biomass from invader bush or farmlands to generate thermal energy is also being investigated.