

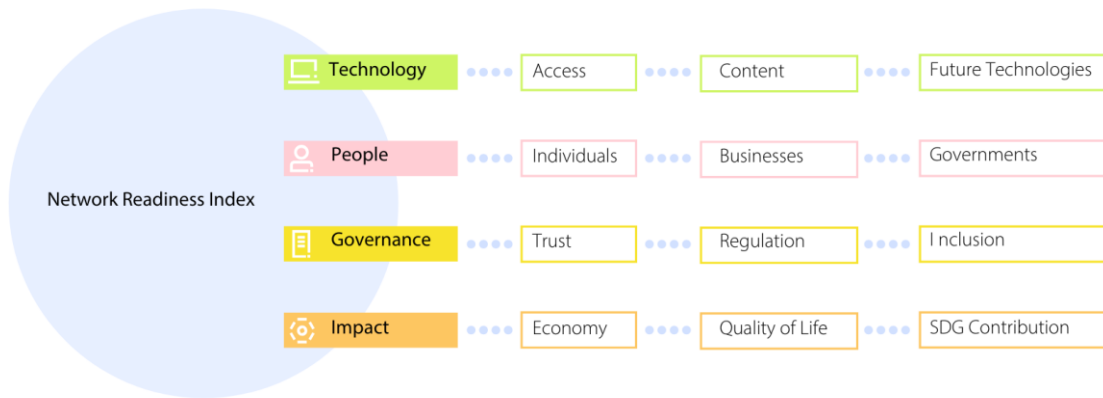
Network Readiness Index 2024



Namibia

The Network Readiness Index (NRI) is one of the leading global indices on the application and impact of information and communication technology (ICT) in economies around the world. In its latest version of 2024 the NRI Report maps the network-based readiness landscape of 133 economies based on their performances in four different pillars: Technology, People, Governance, and Impact. Each of these pillars is itself comprised of three sub-pillars (see Figure 1) that have been populated by a total of 54 variables.

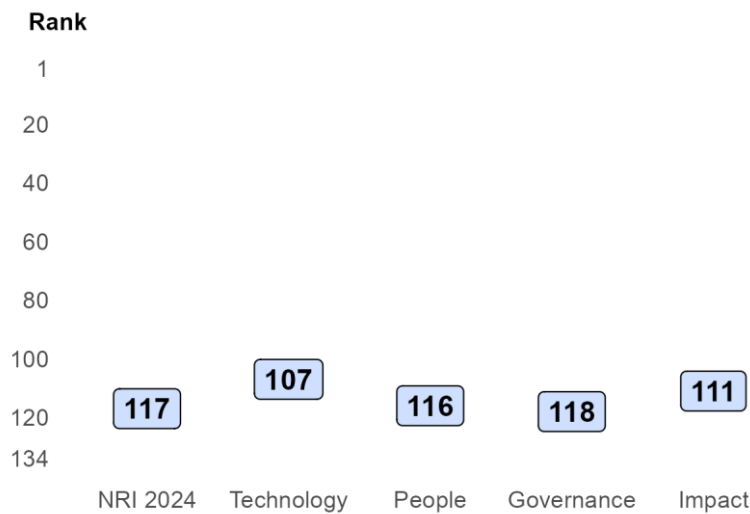
Figure 1: The NRI 2024 model



Global NRI position of Namibia

Namibia ranks 117th out of the 133 economies included in the NRI 2024 (Figure 2). Its main strength relates to Technology. The greatest scope for improvement, meanwhile, concerns Governance.

Figure 2: Namibia global ranking, overall and by pillar



Network Readiness Index 2024



Performance at sub-pillar level

When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of Namibia relate to SDG Contribution, Content and Economy, among others (Table 1). More could be done, though, to improve the economy's performances in the Businesses, Regulation and Quality of Life sub-pillars.

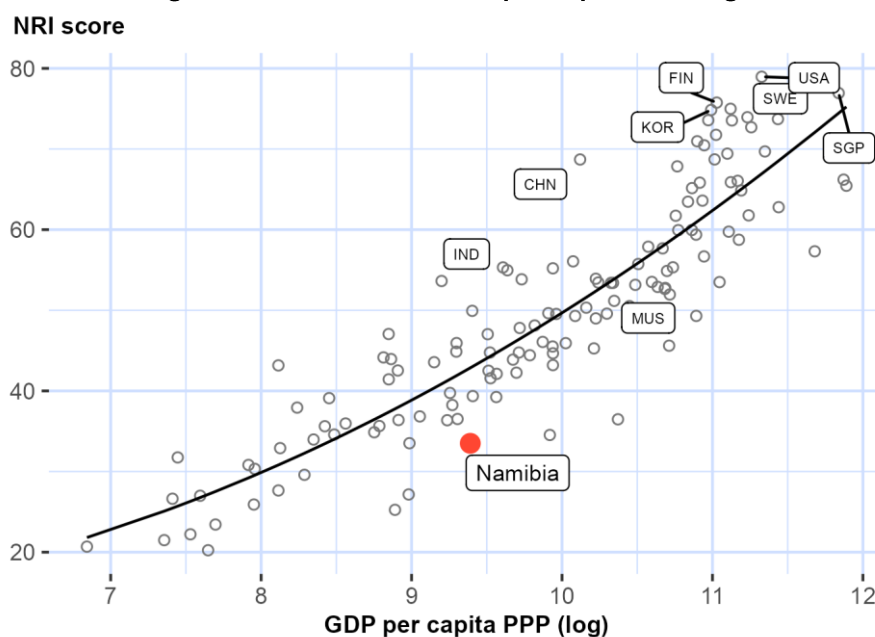
Table 1: Namibia rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
SDG Contribution	62	Inclusion	111
Content	67	Access	112
Economy	102	Governments	119
Individuals	106	Businesses	120
Trust	107	Regulation	122
Future Technologies	109	Quality of Life	124

NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of Namibia in terms of both NRI score and GDP per capita (PPP). The trend line shows the expected NRI score given an economy's income level. As can be seen, Namibia is well below the trend line, which suggests that it is underachieving and that one would expect it could raise its network readiness in view of its income level.

Figure 3: NRI score and GDP per capita PPP (log)



Note: USA = United States (rank: 1), SGP = Singapore (rank: 2), FIN = Finland (3), SWE = Sweden (4), KOR = Republic of Korea (5), CHN = China (17), and IND = India (49). Namibia belongs to the group of upper-middle-income countries, where the best performer is China (CHN). The top performer of its region-Africa-is Mauritius (MUS).

Network Readiness Index 2024



Performance against its income group and region

Upper-middle-income countries

Namibia is ranked 36th in the group of upper-middle-income countries (Figure 4, left panel). In terms of pillar performance, it has a score below the income group average in each of the four pillars. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms upper-middle-income countries in two of the twelve sub-pillars: Content and SDG Contribution.

Africa

Namibia is ranked 16th within Africa (Figure 4, right panel). It has a score above the regional average in two of the four pillars: Technology and Impact. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in Africa in four of the twelve sub-pillars: Content, Individuals, Inclusion and SDG Contribution.

Figure 4: Performance of Namibia against its income group and region, overall and by pillar

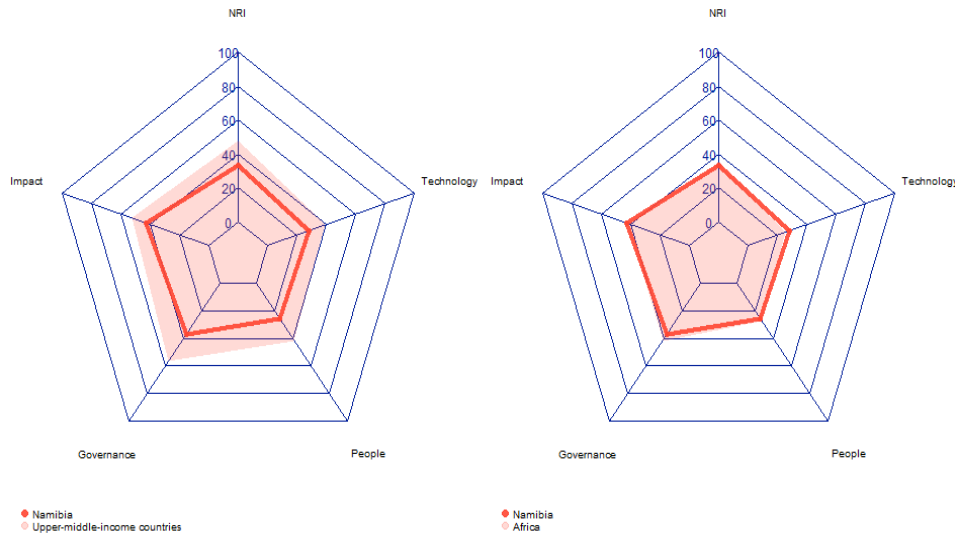


Table 2: Namibia scores vs. averages of its income group and region, overall and by pillar

Dimension	Namibia	Upper-middle-income countries	Africa
NRI	33.50	47.52	34.11
Technology	28.24	39.51	25.27
People	25.86	41.65	27.46
Governance	37.22	56.74	41.69
Impact	42.69	52.19	42.01

Network

Readiness Index

2024



Strongest and weakest indicators

The indicators where Namibia performs particularly well include 1.2.3 Mobile apps development, 4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, and 2.1.4 Adult literacy rate (Table 3). By contrast, the economy's weakest indicators include 3.2.4 E-commerce legislation, 1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth, and 4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth.

Table 3: Highlight of Strengths and Opportunities for Namibia

Strongest indicators	Rank	Weakest indicators	Rank
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	52	2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	108
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	56	2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	116
2.1.4 Adult literacy rate	59	2.2.3 Annual investment in telecommunication services	116
3.1.3 Online access to financial account	59	4.2.3 Income inequality	117
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	64	2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale	119
4.1.3 Prevalence of gig economy	70	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	125
2.3.4 R&D expenditure by governments and higher education	72	4.1.2 Domestic market scale	126
3.2.1 Regulatory quality	72	4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	127
3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	75	1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	131
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	81	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	132

Note: For the full list of strengths and weaknesses, see At-A-Glance table.

Network

Readiness Index

2024



NRI 2024 At-A-Glance: Namibia

Network Readiness Index

Rank: 117 (out of 133)

Score: 33.50

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	107	28.24	C. Governance pillar	118	37.22
1st sub-pillar: Access	112	37.74	1st sub-pillar: Trust	107	27.65
2nd sub-pillar: Content	67	24.98	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	122	41.21
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	109	21.99	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	111	42.78
B. People pillar	116	25.86	D. Impact pillar	111	42.69
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	106	35.80	1st sub-pillar: Economy	102	24.18
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	120	22.79	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	124	36.87
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	119	18.98	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	62	67.01

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	107	28.24	C. Governance pillar	118	37.22
<i>1st sub-pillar: Access</i>	112	37.74	<i>1st sub-pillar: Trust</i>	107	27.65
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	98	46.47	3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	90	42.98
1.1.2 Handset prices	92	45.56	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	125	11.50 ○
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	113	9.19	3.1.3 Online access to financial account	59	43.66 ●
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	113	25.54	3.1.4 Internet shopping	86	12.48
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	131	47.17 ○	<i>2nd sub-pillar: Regulation</i>	122	41.21
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	62	52.52	3.2.1 Regulatory quality	72	47.67 ●
<i>2nd sub-pillar: Content</i>	67	24.98	3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	89	72.26
1.2.1 GitHub commits	98	2.33	3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	85	37.15
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	64	3.98 ●	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	132	0.00 ○
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	52	68.64 ●	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	103	48.98
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	NA	NA	<i>3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion</i>	111	42.78
<i>3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies</i>	109	21.99	3.3.1 E-Participation	113	23.26
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	NA	NA	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	99	53.45
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	81	34.75 ●	3.3.3 Availability of local online content	102	37.74
1.3.3 Robot density	NA	NA	3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	NA	NA

Network

Readiness Index

2024



Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score
1.3.4 Computer software spending	93	9.24	3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	75	56.68 ●
B. People pillar	116	25.86	D. Impact pillar	111	42.69
<i>1st sub-pillar: Individuals</i>	106	35.80	<i>1st sub-pillar: Economy</i>	102	24.18
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	116	1.84 ○	4.1.1 ICT patent applications	NA	NA
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	108	31.42 ○	4.1.2 Domestic market scale	126	31.86 ○
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	105	20.22	4.1.3 Prevalence of gig economy	70	37.50 ●
2.1.4 Adult literacy rate	59	89.71 ●	4.1.4 ICT services exports	108	3.18
2.1.5 AI talent concentration	NA	NA	<i>2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life</i>	124	36.87
<i>2nd sub-pillar: Businesses</i>	120	22.79	4.2.1 Happiness	96	41.42
2.2.1 Firms with website	100	28.79	4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	116	50.72
2.2.2 Number of venture capital deals invested in AI	NA	NA	4.2.3 Income inequality	117	10.03 ○
2.2.3 Annual investment in telecommunication services	116	37.35 ○	4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	127	26.93 ○
2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale	119	2.22 ○	<i>3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution</i>	62	67.01
<i>3rd sub-pillar: Governments</i>	119	18.98	4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	95	54.84
2.3.1 Government online services	110	37.18	4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	NA	NA
2.3.2 Data Capabilities	83	12.59	4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	86	72.65
2.3.3 Government promotion of investment in emerging technologies	95	20.03	4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	56	82.75 ●
2.3.4 R&D expenditure by governments and higher education	72	6.12 ●	4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	116	36.42

NOTE: ● a strength and ○ a weakness.

Network

Readiness Index

2024



Sources

Dutta, S., & Lanvin, B. (eds.) (2024). *The Network Readiness Index 2024*. Oxford, UK; Washington DC, USA.

Dutta, S., & Lanvin, B. (eds.) (2023). *The Network Readiness Index 2023: Trust in Network Society: A Crisis of the Digital Age*. Oxford, UK; Washington DC, USA.

Dutta, S., & Lanvin, B. (eds.) (2022). *The Network Readiness Index 2022: Benchmarking the Future of the Network Economy*. Washington DC: Portulans Institute.

Berry, B. (2019). *berryFunctions: Function Collection Related to Plotting and Hydrology*. R package version 1.18.2. URL: <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=berryFunctions>

Dutta, S., & Lanvin, B. (eds.) (2019). *The Network Readiness Index 2019: Towards a Future-Ready Society*. Washington DC: Portulans Institute.

Dutta, S., & Lanvin, B. (eds.) (2020). *The Network Readiness Index 2020: Fostering Digital Transformation in a post-COVID Global Economy*. Washington DC: Portulans Institute.

Dutta, S., & Lanvin, B. (eds.) (2021). *The Network Readiness Index 2021: Shaping the Global Recovery. How digital technologies can make the post-COVID world more equal*. Washington DC: Portulans Institute.

Gohel, D. (2019). *officer: Manipulation of Microsoft Word and PowerPoint Documents*. R package version 0.3.6. URL: <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=officer>

Gohel, D. (2019). *flextable: Functions for Tabular Reporting*. R package version 0.5.6. URL: <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=flextable>

Milton Bache, S. & Wickham, H. (2014). *magrittr: A Forward-Pipe Operator for R*. R package version 1.5. URL: <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=magrittr>

Nakazawa, M. (2019). *fmsb: Functions for Medical Statistics Book with some Demographic Data*. R package version 0.7.0. URL: <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=fmsb>

R Core Team (2018). *R: A language and environment for statistical computing*. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. URL: <https://www.R-project.org/>.

Slowikowski, K. (2019). *ggrepel: Automatically Position Non-Overlapping Text Labels with 'ggplot2'*. R package version 0.8.1. URL: <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=ggrepel>

Wickham, H. (2007). Reshaping Data with the reshape Package. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 21(12), 1-20. URL: <http://www.jstatsoft.org/v21/i12/>.

Wickham, H. (2016). *ggplot2: Elegant Graphics for Data Analysis*. Springer-Verlag. New York.

Wickham et al., (2019). Welcome to the tidyverse. *Journal of Open Source Software*, 4(43), 1686, URL: <https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.01686>