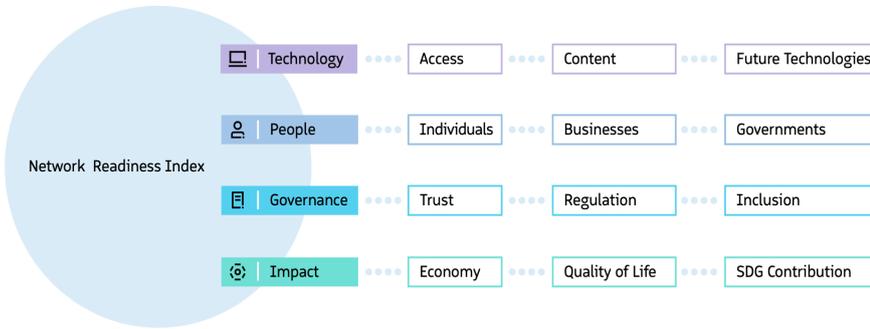# Namibia

*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 2025 the NRI Report maps the network-based readiness landscape of 127 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 53 variables.*
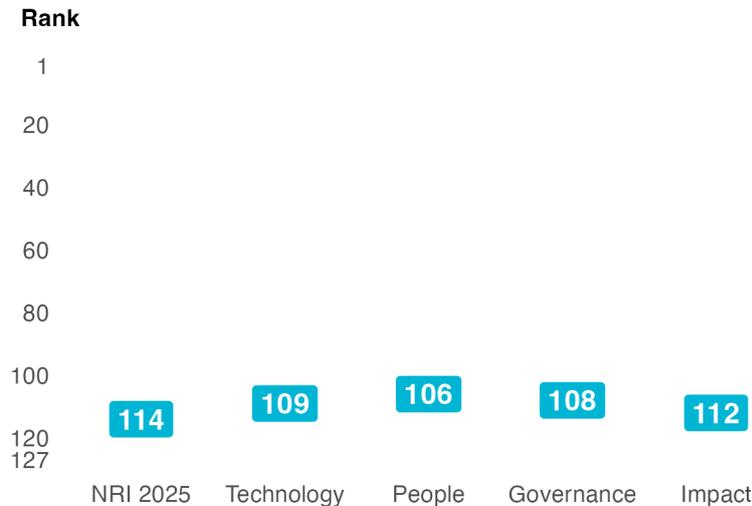
**Figure 1: The NRI 2025 model**



**Global NRI position of Namibia**

Namibia ranks 114 out of the 127 economies included in the NRI 2025 (Figure 2). Its main strength relates to People. The greatest scope for improvement, meanwhile, concerns Impact.

**Figure 2: Namibia global ranking, overall and by pillar**

**Performance at sub-pillar level**

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

**Table 1: Namibia rankings by sub-pillar**

| Sub-pillar | Rank | Sub-pillar | Rank |
|---|---|---|---|
| Businesses | 62 | Individuals | 109 |
| SDG Contribution | 63 | Access | 110 |
| Content | 86 | Economy | 112 |
| Inclusion | 92 | Governments | 113 |
| Future Technologies | 105 | Quality of Life | 121 |
| Trust | 106 | Regulation | 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)**
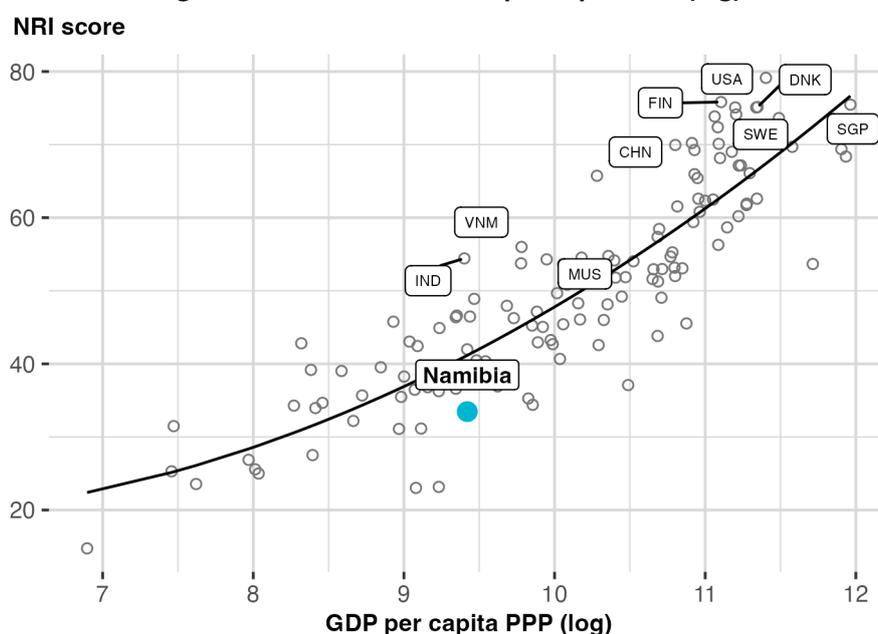


Note: USA = United States of America (rank: 1), FIN =Finland (rank: 2), SGP = Singapore (3), DNK =Denmark (4), SWE = Sweden (5), CHN =China (24), and IND = India (45).

**Performance against its income group and region**

*Lower-middle-income countries*
Namibia is ranked 26th in the group of lower-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 lower-middle-income countries in three of the twelve sub-pillars: Businesses, Inclusion and SDG Contribution.

*Africa*
Namibia is ranked 15th within Africa (Figure 4, right panel). It has a score above the regional average in two of the four pillars: Technology and People. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in Africa in six of the twelve sub-pillars: Access, Content, Individuals, Businesses, Inclusion and SDG Contribution.

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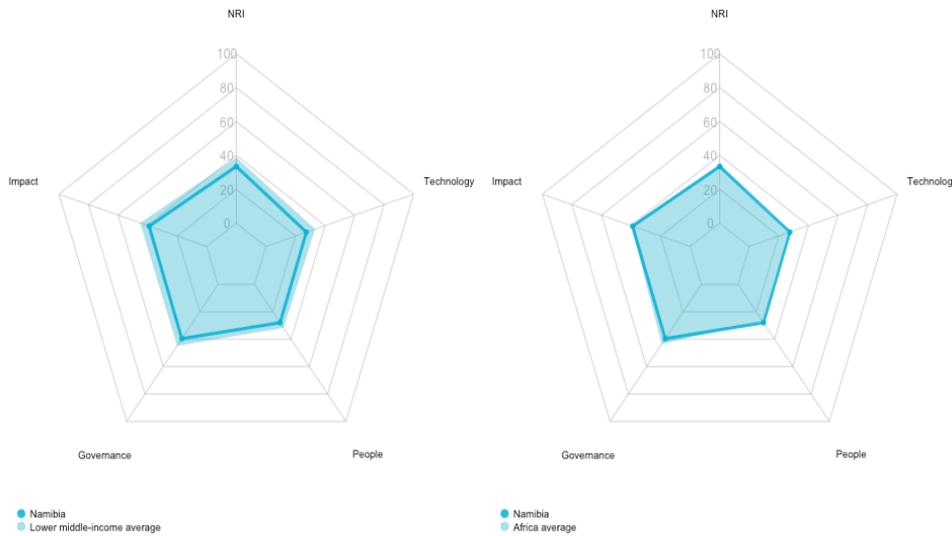


**Table 2: Namibia scores vs. averages of its income group and region, overall and by pillar**

| Dimension | Namibia | Lower-middle-income countries | Africa |
|---|---|---|---|
| NRI | 33.47 | 38.70 | 34.00 |
| Technology | 27.42 | 33.29 | 25.85 |
| People | 27.93 | 31.73 | 26.78 |
| Governance | 39.61 | 44.79 | 43.45 |
| Impact | 38.92 | 45.00 | 39.92 |

# NRI 2025 At-A-Glance: Namibia

## Network Readiness Index    Rank: 114 (out of 127)    Score: 33.47

| Pillar/sub-pillar | Rank | Score | Pillar/sub-pillar | Rank | Score |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A. Technology pillar | 109 | 27.42 | C. Governance pillar | 108 | 39.61 |
| 1st sub-pillar: Access | 110 | 41.62 | 1st sub-pillar: Trust | 106 | 36.96 |
| 2nd sub-pillar: Content | 86 | 18.52 | 2nd sub-pillar: Regulation | 124 | 30.81 |
| 3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies | 105 | 22.11 | 3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion | 92 | 51.05 |
| B. People pillar | 106 | 27.93 | D. Impact pillar | 112 | 38.92 |
| 1st sub-pillar: Individuals | 109 | 32.39 | 1st sub-pillar: Economy | 112 | 19.50 |
| 2nd sub-pillar: Businesses | 62 | 30.76 | 2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life | 121 | 32.55 |
| 3rd sub-pillar: Governments | 113 | 20.63 | 3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution | 63 | 64.71 |

### The Network Readiness Index in detail

| Indicator | Rank | Score | | Indicator | Rank | Score | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A. Technology pillar | 109 | 27.42 | | C. Governance pillar | 108 | 39.61 | |
| 1st sub-pillar: Access | 110 | 41.62 | | 1st sub-pillar: Trust | 106 | 36.96 | |
| 1.1.1  Mobile tariffs | 105 | 45.26 | | 3.1.1  Secure Internet servers | 90 | 48.61 | |
| 1.1.2  Handset prices | 89 | 45.45 | | 3.1.2  Cybersecurity | 118 | 24.22 | |
| 1.1.3  FTTH/building Internet subscriptions | 110 | 11.56 | | 3.1.3  Online access to financial account | 13 | 63.02 | ● |
| 1.1.4  Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network | 114 | 42.11 | | 3.1.4  Internet shopping | 88 | 11.99 | |
| 1.1.5  International Internet bandwidth | 104 | 63.72 | | 2nd sub-pillar: Regulation | 124 | 30.81 | |
| 1.1.6  Internet access in schools | n/a | n/a | | 3.2.1  Regulatory quality | 72 | 40.67 | ● |
| 2nd sub-pillar: Content | 86 | 18.52 | | 3.2.2  ICT regulatory environment | 110 | 41.25 | |
| 1.2.1  GitHub commits | 105 | 1.80 | | 3.2.3  Regulation of emerging technologies | 85 | 31.92 | |
| 1.2.2  Internet domain registrations | 63 | 4.16 | ● | 3.2.4  E-commerce legislation | 125 | 0.00 | ○ |
| 1.2.3  Mobile apps development | 54 | 67.16 | ● | 3.2.5  Privacy protection by law content | 100 | 40.23 | |
| 1.2.4  AI scientific publications | 98 | 0.97 | | 3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion | 92 | 51.05 | |
| 3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies | 105 | 22.11 | | 3.3.1  E-Participation | 112 | 23.19 | |
| 1.3.1  Adoption of emerging technologies | n/a | n/a | | 3.3.2  Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments | 81 | 59.04 | ● |
| 1.3.2  Investment in emerging technologies | 80 | 34.75 | ● | 3.3.3  Gender gap in Internet use | n/a | n/a | |
| 1.3.3  Robot density | n/a | n/a | | 3.3.4  Rural gap in use of digital payments | 28 | 70.91 | ● |
| 1.3.4  Computer software spending | 83 | 9.46 | | D. Impact pillar | 112 | 38.92 | |
| B. People pillar | 106 | 27.93 | | 1st sub-pillar: Economy | 112 | 19.50 | |
| 1st sub-pillar: Individuals | 109 | 32.39 | | 4.1.1  ICT patent applications | n/a | n/a | |
| 2.1.1  Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country | 113 | 2.14 | | 4.1.2  Domestic market scale | 121 | 32.41 | ○ |
| 2.1.2  ICT skills in the education system | 106 | 24.84 | ○ | 4.1.3  Technology-Enabled Work Flexibility | 87 | 23.87 | |
| 2.1.3  Use of virtual social networks | 105 | 21.06 | | 4.1.4  ICT services exports | 111 | 2.22 | |
| 2.1.4  Adult literacy rate | 63 | 81.54 | | 2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life | 121 | 32.55 | |
| 2.1.5  AI talent concentration | n/a | n/a | | 4.2.1  Happiness | 94 | 36.89 | |
| 2nd sub-pillar: Businesses | 62 | 30.76 | | 4.2.2  Freedom to make life choices | 113 | 41.67 | |

| Indicator | Rank | Score | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2.2.1 Firms with website | 50 | 61.61 | ● |
| 2.2.2 Number of venture capital deals invested in AI | n/a | n/a | |
| 2.2.3 Annual investment in telecommunication services | 107 | 30.38 | |
| 2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale | 114 | 0.28 | |
| 3rd sub-pillar: Governments | 113 | 20.63 | |
| 2.3.1 Government online services | 103 | 39.80 | |
| 2.3.2 Data Capabilities | 83 | 12.59 | |
| 2.3.3 Government promotion of emerging technologies | 94 | 20.03 | |
| 2.3.4 Gross expenditure on R&D | 54 | 10.11 | ● |

| Indicator | Rank | Score | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4.2.3 Income inequality | 112 | 9.95 | ○ |
| 4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth | 122 | 28.22 | ○ |
| 3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution | 63 | 64.71 | |
| 4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being | 94 | 62.22 | |
| 4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education | n/a | n/a | |
| 4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity | 84 | 70.91 | |
| 4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy | 55 | 78.15 | ● |
| 4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities | 113 | 27.94 | |

NOTE: ● indicates a strength and ○ indicates a weakness.

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