



# TwiniT 2

## Namibia-RKI Twinning Project: the next phase in the establishment of the Namibia Institute of Public Health

### Context

Namibia faces a number of public health challenges that threaten the health security of the country. Public health systems need to be able to respond to various, often simultaneously occurring health threats and emergencies. To function well, a single focal point that coordinates the public health activities of various public and private sector entities is highly beneficial. Coordination and leadership via one focal institution can prevent slow response times, duplication of effort and waste of resources. TwiniT 2.0 is a continuation of TwiniT with the long-term aim of enhancing the functioning of the Namibian public health system by establishing one main coordinating body, the Namibia Institute of Public Health (NIPH). This is a complex endeavour that requires the expertise and support of many technical areas. TwiniT 2.0 therefore brings together various projects under one umbrella, with interdisciplinary technical support in the following areas: (1) Epidemic preparedness and response, (2) Surveillance and health information systems, (3) Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and mental health (MH), (4) Public Health laboratory support, and (5) Antimicrobial resistance and infection prevention and control. Establishing a well-functioning NIPH would help to consolidate public health functions at the national and subnational levels and, through the pooling of data and expertise, would facilitate coordination of public health efforts across sectors.

### Objective

Supporting the establishment of the Namibia Institute of Public Health (NIPH).

### Key facts

**Duration**

1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025

**Budget**

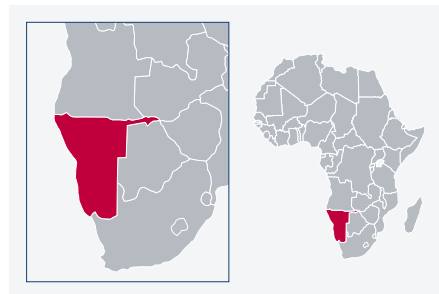
~ EUR 2.3 million

**Partner countries**

Namibia

**Region**

Southern Africa

**Implemented by**

Robert Koch Institute (RKI)

**Commissioning party**

German Federal Ministry of Health (BMG)

### Thematic focus

Strengthening of public health systems

Outbreak management

Surveillance and reporting

Infection prevention and control

Laboratory diagnostics

One Health

Digital solution

Marketing authorisation and safety of medicinal products

Resolutions and international agreements

## Activities



### TRAINING AND COMPETENCE DEVELOPMENT

Training laboratory staff in sequencing techniques; training public health staff in emergency management and outbreak investigations



### CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Developing an institutional and legal framework to establish the Namibia Institute of Public Health; strengthening epidemic preparedness and response through the development and implementation of a handbook and standard operating procedures (SOPs) for the Public Health Emergency Operation Centre; supporting the health information system (HIS) in Namibia



### RESEARCH AND PROVISION OF EVIDENCE

Supporting qualitative data collection on non-communicable diseases and mental health; monitoring and evaluation of data on antibiotic resistance, antibiotic consumption and hospital-associated infections in Namibia; supporting individual public health research projects



### NETWORKING AND COOPERATION

Cooperation with many different partners to advance establishment of the NIPH; promoting virtual and in-person exchanges between Namibian and German stakeholders using the One Health approach; advising the MoHSS on establishing a One Health antimicrobial resistance (AMR) multisectoral working group

## In cooperation with

- Ministry of Health & Social Services (MoHSS), Namibia
- University of Namibia (UNAM), Namibia
- Namibia Institute of Pathology (NIP), Namibia
- Friedrich-Loeffler-Institute (FLI), Germany
- Research Center Borstel - Leibniz Lung Center (FZB), Germany

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**GHPP, the Global Health Protection Programme** of the German Federal Ministry of Health, promotes networking, exchange and cooperation between specialized German and international public health actors. By reducing health risks and strengthening health systems at the national, regional and international level, in particular relating to pandemic and epidemic preparedness and response, the GHPP fosters public health protection – worldwide.

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