

Media release

Rössing Uranium continues reaching out to communities

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Living Sustainably: Grade 10 learners from Kahenge Combined School in Kavango West region attended a week-long excursion funded by Rössing Uranium at the Namib Desert Environmental Trust (NaDEET) in the south of Namibia, the learners were educated in climate change and adaptability in resource use.



With the take-over of Rössing Uranium by its new majority shareholder, China National Uranium Cooperation (CNUC) in July 2019, the company has strengthened its community projects in the Erongo region and beyond.

Rössing Uranium and its social investment arm, the Rössing Foundation, are firm believers in empowering communities within which the mine operates and beyond, through agricultural, environmental and educational initiatives. This belief is supported by a community development approach known as the Asset Based Community Development (ABCD).

Together with the Rössing Foundation the company recently extended its corporate social investment to the Kahenge combined school in the Kavango West region, by introducing 20 top-performing learners from the school to awareness on sustainable living practices.

During a recent week-long excursion at the Namib Desert Environmental Trust (NaDEET) in the south of Namibia, the learners were educated in climate change and adaptability in resource use, whilst learners were also advised on how to incorporate their knowledge gained during the excursion into their daily lives.

Rössing Uranium has also extended assistance to other projects, such as to the Swakopmund municipality's annual Project Shine. Project Shine is an initiative focused on clean-up campaigns, awareness creation and educational campaigns.

The mine provided an off-road vehicle and a staff member from its Environment Section to assist with the project's monthly evaluations of identified areas along the road between Swakopmund and Arandis, beach areas between Swakopmund and Henties Bay, as well as areas between the Swakop River mouth and identified sections of the Namib Desert to the east of Swakopmund where the wind carries waste, mainly discarded plastic bags into the desert, thus impacting the area.

Meanwhile, Rössing and the Rössing Foundation also carried out a feasibility study at the Dreamland Garden project in Arandis.

The project produces fresh, high quality vegetables and endeavours to contribute towards ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture.

Rössing Uranium further supported learners from two Swakopmund based schools' environmental clubs:

- At the Westside High School the support included the donation of safety visibility vests and the installation of shade netting for their vegetable garden to grow vegetables for own use.
- To the Namib Primary School a separation-at-source bin system was donated.

Rössing Uranium's managing director Johan Coetzee said: "As a company, we hope to work closely with our communities, especially in the communities we operate."

"We have embarked on several projects since the take-over by CNUC and we hope to extend our involvement in the communities beyond the Erongo region," he said.

Rössing's new shareholder, CNUC chairperson Li Youliang confirmed that "As the new majority shareholder, we believe in empowering communities and making a positive difference in the communities around us."

About Rössing Uranium

Uranium was discovered in the Namib Desert in 1928, but it was not until intensive exploration in the late 1950s that much interest was shown in the area. After discovering numerous uranium occurrences, Rio Tinto secured the rights to the low-grade Rössing deposit in 1966. Ten years later, in 1976, Rössing Uranium, Namibia's first commercial uranium mine, began operating and celebrated its 40th year of production in 2016.

About CNUC

CNUC is a subsidiary of state-owned China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC), the main force in China's nuclear market with significant involvement in the nuclear fuel cycle supply chain in that country.

With more than 60 years' experience in mine construction and operation, CNUC focuses on managing its parent company's domestic and overseas uranium businesses, which range from uranium exploration, mining and milling to conversion and other related fields.

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