



NAMIBIA UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Directorate of Research, Innovation and
Partnerships



GREEM aims to advance Namibia's rare earth value chain through research, innovation and capacity development, while promoting green, technologies, local beneficiation and sustainable industrial growth.

Together, we can position Namibia as a competitive player in the global green economy.

GREEM is pleased to host the first Public Lecture on
“Unlocking Namibia’s Critical Minerals Potential:
Green Technologies, Value Addition and the Future
of Rare Earth Elements”

*Theme: Positioning Namibia in the Global Rare Earth Elements
Processing Landscape*



Monday, 13 July 2026



17:00 - 20:30



Auditorium 1, NUST Lower Campus



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
Progress by innovation



UK Government



Director of Ceremonies: Prof Habauka Kwaambwa , Associate Dean: School of Natural and Applied Sciences		
Time	Activities/Topics	Presenter
17:00	Registration and arrival of invited attendees	
17:35	Welcome Remarks	Prof Colin Stanley <i>Deputy Vice- Chancellor: Research, Innovation and Partnerships</i>
17:40	GREEM Project Introduction	Vetumbuavi Mungunda <i>Chief Executive Officer and Founder of Ombu Capital</i>
17:50	Positioning Namibia in the Global Rare Earth Elements Processing Landscape Namibia's Position and Opportunity: Rare earth mineral potential, Namibia's green industrialization agenda, Practical pathways for value addition and capability-building for sustainable green industrialization	Ambassador Dr Kaire Mbuende <i>Director General of the National Planning Commission (NPC)</i>
18:00	Introduction to REE and Potential for Namibia	Mr Rainer Ellmies <i>Kunene Resources Geologist</i>
18:40	Presentaion: Hydrometallurgical processing of rare earth ores and concentrates - brief overview of flowsheets & processing challenges Opening Context: Why Rare Earth Elements Matter, REEs in clean energy, digital technologies and industrial competitiveness, why processing is the strategic bottleneck. Global REE Processing Landscape: Different types of rare earth ores & concentrates, Key hydromet leach flowsheets (Desorption, acid bake, caustic crack), REE recovery flowsheets (MREC vs Oxalate vs Bulk SX), Industry track record in ramping up processing plants.	Mr Niels Verbaan <i>Keynote Speaker</i>

19:10	Panel Discussion : What role can Namibia realistically play in REE processing? The role of the GREEM project in not only demonstrating REE processing in Namibia, but also scaling green technologies in industrialization, Macro-economic impact of a scaled REE processing industry in Namibia and Africa	All
19:40	Question and Answer Session	
20:00	Closing remarks and Vote of thanks	Mike Gibson <i>GREEM Project Director</i>
20:30	Refreshments and Networking	





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