



NUST Makes Debut on Times Higher Education IMPACT Rankings

The Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) has officially been ranked on the Times Higher Education (THE) platform for the very first time.

NUST has earned a place in the prestigious 2025 Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings, which measure the contributions of universities worldwide to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

With this achievement, NUST becomes the only university in Namibia currently ranked for SDG impact on the global stage.

NUST has proudly showcased its excellence in sustainability and global impact, achieving an impressive ranking of around 400th globally in SDG 1: No Poverty. Even more inspiring, the university also secured strong positions in SDG 4: Quality Education and SDG 15: Life on Land, placing around 600th worldwide in both.

"These results are a powerful testament to NUST's rising influence, unwavering commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and its growing stature as a leading institution in driving positive change on the international stage" said Prof Eroid Naomab, Vice-Chancellor of NUST.

NUST's submission focused on four SDGs: No Poverty (SDG 1), Quality Education (SDG 4), Life on Land (SDG 15), and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17), areas closely aligned with its mission to deliver inclusive and sustainable development through innovation and education.

In parallel with its recognition in the rankings, the Directorate of Research, Innovation and Partnerships (DRIP) Research Intelligence and Ethics Division, is launching the ImpactTrack: Measuring Change, One Story at a Time.

This initiative aims to create a central hub for sharing SDG-focused research and success stories, reinforcing NUST's dedication to societal impact and knowledge sharing.

As NUST continues its transformation into a research-led, entrepreneurial university, this international recognition reflects both its ambition and its tangible contributions to sustainable development in Namibia and beyond.



NUST Delegates: Prof Peter Katjavivi: Chancellor (seated, centre); Prof Eroid Naomab (seated, right); Prof Colin Stanley (standing, centre); Mr Klemens /Awarab (standing, right), and THE representatives Ms Mosebjadi Petje and Mr Tristan Horlick.

Cultivating Innovation for Societal Impact

...ImpactLab Hackathon Ignites Student Innovation



The winning team, TechTonics, who impressed the judges with their originality and vision.

In a spirited display of creativity and collaboration, the ImpactLab Hackathon brought together some of NUST's most promising student innovators in a dynamic, solution-driven environment from 24-28 March 2025. This pioneering initiative was made possible through a strategic collaboration between Schoemans, NUST and MTC and was hosted at the High-Tech Transfer Plaza select at NUST's lower campus.

Aimed at addressing socio-economic challenges through practical, tech-based solutions, the hackathon created a vibrant platform for critical thinking, interdisciplinary collaboration, and real-world problem-solving.

Five student teams enthusiastically jumped into the ideation process, with the first day marked by purpose and creativity. "Students were actively engaged, exploring innovative solutions for societal issues around Namibia," noted Dr Gereon Kapuire, an academic in the Faculty of Computing and Informatics (FCI).

Over the course of several days, participants tackled issues such as digital inclusion, food security, and sustainable service delivery. With guidance from mentors and support from technical experts, teams demonstrated initiative and adaptability in responding to real development needs.

The culmination of the event was a pitch of high-impact prototypes. The final presentations revealed not only technological creativity but also deep sensitivity to local challenges.

Leading with Vision: Towards Innovation and Eminence

Since his appointment as the NUST Vice-Chancellor in 2021, Prof Eroid Naomab has strengthened the University's academic excellence, financial sustainability, and global engagement.

He also serves as the Chairperson of the Board of the Association of African Universities for Southern Africa, and is determined to ensure that NUST remains a leading institution in science, technology, and innovation. Over the past five years, several innovative programmes have been introduced, while industry partnerships have been strengthened.

Read the full article recently published in The Brief's 2025 Business Handbook.

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FEATURING

Dr Jennilee Kohima

Topic: Shaping Sustainable Settlements

Winning team TechTonics impressed the judges with their originality and vision, while runner-up Feed Forward Namibia presented a concept with strong practical potential. "Being part of this hackathon taught us how to work under pressure and think beyond the classroom. We feel more confident knowing our ideas can make a real difference," shared a student from the TechTonics group.

"NUST extends its sincere appreciation

to Schoemans and MTC for their vital support. The University also commends all participants for their creativity, discipline, and collaborative spirit—hallmarks of the innovation emerging from Namibia's next generation," expressed Dr Kapuire.

More than just a competition, the ImpactLab Hackathon united future innovators in shaping solutions with the potential to create a more connected and equitable future.