

Concept Note

**Research
Symposium**

**7 September
2022**

**Biomass
Industry
Conference**

**8 September
2022**

Standard Bank BIOMASS FAIR 2022

7-8 September 2022 | Safari Hotel and
Conference Centre, Windhoek - Namibia



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Implementing Partners



About the Biomass Fair

Implemented by partners, the Namibia Biomass Industry Group (N-BiG), the Charcoal Association of Namibia (CAoN) formerly known as Namibia Charcoal Association (NCA), and the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST), the Biomass Fair is an event tailored toward the blossoming bush biomass sector in Namibia and the region at large. By bringing together stakeholders of the growing biomass sector, the sector is strengthened, and new opportunities can be explored. The annual fair provides an excellent opportunity for networking and exchanging of best practices and knowledge on bush control and biomass utilisation. The Biomass Fair takes place over three days, including a Research Symposium, a Biomass Industry Conference, and a Biomass Expo showcasing technology and field demonstrations. Each specific event is targeted and has a specific purpose, with the overall aim of formalising and promoting the budding biomass industry in Namibia.

With approximately 300 visitors and 30 local exhibitors, the Biomass Technology Demonstration Day at Cheetah Conservation Fund in 2018 was a successful pilot event that paved the way for the foundation of this annual biomass event. In 2019, the Biomass Technology Expo drew over 1500 international, regional, and local visitors, as well as 120 exhibitors to Otjiwa Lodge in the Otjozondjupa region, the central hub of bush biomass in Namibia. To supplement the financial efforts of the implementing partners, an annual call for sponsorships is advertised for interested companies.

About the Standard Bank Biomass Fair 2022

Date: 7 - 8 September 2022

Venue: Safari Court Hotel & Conference Centre, Windhoek

Theme: Discovering a New Decade for Biomass in Namibia

Following the Covid-19 pandemic, which halted the event and made large-scale activities worldwide difficult, the Namibia Biomass Industry Group (N-BiG), the Namibia Charcoal Association (NCA), and the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST), will host a two-day Biomass Fair comprising of a Research Symposium and Industry Conference from 7 to 8 September 2022 at the Safari Court Hotel and Conference Centre in Windhoek. The event is organised in collaboration with the World Bioenergy Association, Bundesverband Bioenergie e.V. (BBE) and Bush Control and Biomass Utilisation Project implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. **The Biomass Fair 2022 received diamond sponsorship from Standard Bank Namibia, thus accorded the name Standard Bank Biomass Fair 2022, themed "Discovering a New Decade for Biomass".**

Format and Expectations

To accommodate the large audience and interest from international, regional, and local stakeholders, the two-day event comprising of a **Research Symposium** and a **Biomass Industry Conference** will be held in a hybrid format, with video-streamed presentations and interactive panel discussions following each session.

- **Research Symposium, 07 September** – the first day will kick off with a symposium bringing together the biomass academic and research communities to discuss the scientific advances, innovations, and solutions in biomass utilisation and bush control with the aim of advancing research and market uptake. It is an opportunity for scientists, university students, and entrepreneurs to keep up to date with the latest scientific research and developments. This symposium is coordinated by the Namibian University of Science and Technology.
- **Biomass Industry Conference, 08 September** – the second day will focus on the industry developments related to environmental issues, legal and regulatory frameworks, biomass value chains, market and finance access, technology transfer, and certification services. In partnership with the World Bioenergy Association, the Bundesverband Bioenergie e.V., the conference will feature over 15 high-level local and international speakers to engage the audience on trends, opportunities, and other biomass-related topics. With the support of the Bush Control and Biomass Utilisation Project implemented by GIZ, the Honorable Minister of Environment, Forestry, and Tourism is expected to launch the National Strategy for the Sustainable Management of Bush Resources in Namibia (2022 – 2027) at this conference.

The attendance registration, the complete list of conference topics as well as the official events programmes can be found at: <https://app.glueup.com/event/standard-bank-biomass-fair-2022-59710/>

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Biomass Fair Plans for 2023

Planned month: August 2023

Venue: Otjiwa Safari Lodge, South of Otjiwarongo

A three-day Biomass Fair comprising of a Research Symposium, a Biomass Industry Conference and a Biomass Expo will be held in August 2023 to accommodate physical attendance of international exhibitors and participants, as well as to allow for better logistical arrangements (Covid-19 developments will be considered). The Biomass Expo is a showcasing event for biomass harvesting and processing technology, bush-based products, and research exhibition. It is a platform where service providers, farmers, and researchers, can connect to the public, and showcase their solutions, ranging from harvesting, processing, handling, transportation, marketing, and more. This event will see crowds of people attending from far and beyond, accompanied by wide media coverage. **The call for sponsorship and exact dates for the Biomass Fair will be announced before the end of 2022.**

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Additional information will be available at www.biomassfair.com.na

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