



TRANS-KALAHARI RAILWAY PROJECT

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Trans-Kalahari Railway (TKR) Line Project was initiated by the Republic of Botswana and the Republic of Namibia with the aim of enhancing economic growth, foster industrial collaboration, and promote trade, particularly focusing on the development of rail transport infrastructure in both nations and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region.

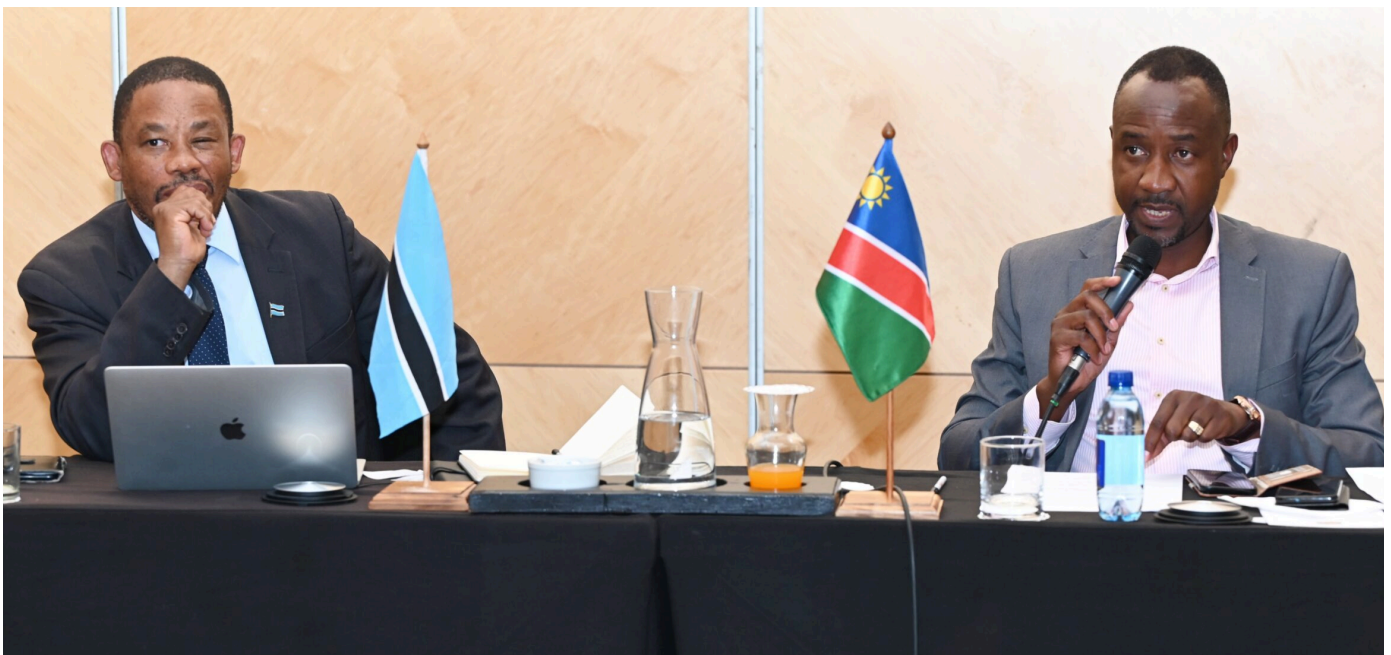
In 2010, the governments of Namibia, represented by the Ministry of Works and Transport, and Botswana, through the Ministry of Transport and Public Works, entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to advance the TKR Line Link project. Subsequently, in 2014, both governments formalized a Bilateral Agreement to construct a railway line, envisioned to be approximately 1500 km along the Trans-Kalahari Corridor (TKC), stretching from Mmamambula in Botswana to Walvis Bay in Namibia. This agreement also encompassed the establishment of coal storage, transportation, loading facilities, and other related infrastructure, aimed at unlocking additional economic opportunities along the route and at the terminals.

The agreement also includes the construction of a coal export terminal at the Botswana Dry Port located in Walvis Bay, Namibia, along with the development of ancillary railway facilities at designated points along the railway line. This project intends to integrate the Botswana railway system with the Namibian railway network, facilitating efficient and cost-effective access to the Botswana Dry Port in Walvis Bay.

BENEFITS/OPPORTUNITIES

The objective of the TKR project is to enhance developmental and economic prospects arising from the transportation of coal and other minerals mined in Botswana through Namibian seaports to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and worldwide.

Additionally, the project seeks to bolster regional trade by establishing a more efficient and cost-effective transportation route, thereby increasing freight capacity on the heavily congested Trans-Kalahari Corridor and other transport routes within the SADC, ultimately facilitating improved access to international markets.



PROJECT ROUTE

In Namibia, the railway will extend alongside the Trans-Kalahari Corridor (TKC) highway, traversing from Gobabis to Omitara, then heading to Okahandja, and ultimately reaching Walvis Bay.

In Botswana, the railway will begin from the Mmamabula coal fields, linking to the current railway network at Rasesa. It will proceed to Molepolole and Letlhakeng, before connecting with the Molepolole-Kang Road and continuing to the Mamuno border post.

