

To be the leading trade route in Southern Africa.

Walvis Bay Corridor Group

The Walvis Bay Corridor Group (WBCG) was created in 2000 as a service and facilitation center to promote imports and exports via the Port of Walvis Bay for the SADC region.

The Group's main competitive strength is its Public Private Partnership (PPP) setup of transport and logistics stakeholders from both the public and private sectors. This allows for the pooling of resources, expertise and authorities from both the regulators and the operators.

WBCG members

Namibian Association of Freight Forwarders (NAFF), Namibian Road Carriers Association (NAMROAD), Namibian Ports Authority (NAMPORT), Walvis Bay Port Users Association (WBPUA), TransNamib Holdings, Walvis Bay Municipality, Namibia Chamber of Commerce & Industry (NCCI), Ministry of Finance: Department of Customs, Ministry of Trade and Industry: Investment Centre and Ministry of Works, Transport and Communication: Department of Transport, Roads Authority, Ministry of Home Affairs: Immigration WBCG welcomes Associated Members.

Advantages of a Public Private Partnership

(PPP) Due to WBCG's constitution as a PPP, it is able to lean on the public sector for advice and action on issues such as customs, transport regulation and infrastructure development, while the private sector can focus on business development such as marketing and making practical operational proposals and logistics solutions. Both arms give input into the training of personnel, institutional development and infrastructure development.

Advantages for the Regional Economy

The Walvis Bay Corridor is a network of transport routes. The key elements are the Trans Kalahari Corridor, the Trans Caprivi Corridor, the Trans Cunene Corridor and the Port of Walvis Bay, as well as the Port of Lüderitz. The deep-sea port of Walvis Bay on the coast allows for direct access to principal

shipping routes. The port offers shippers a time saving of up to five days between the region and Europe and the Americas. Walvis Bay is a congestion-free port with competitive turnaround times, complemented by first class infrastructure and equipment-ensuring, safe and reliable cargo handling with zero pilferage. Fast, efficient and safe road transport along the Walvis Bay Corridors further reduces transport costs and makes the regional economy more attractive to global players as envisaged under the NEPAD initiatives.

Regional stakeholders and partnerships

Regional support to ensure harmonisation of standards, allowing for the smooth flow of trade between borders is ensured through the establishment of regional committees and partnerships with regional bodies under which the Trans Kalahari Corridor Management Committee initiated by the Namibian Ministry of Works, Transport and Communication and the Walvis Bay Corridor Group, which is made up of Namibian, Botswana and South African government and private sector representatives. The Trans Caprivi Corridor Management Committee (also known as the Walvis Bay –Ndola- Lubumbashi Corridor Management Committee) was also established to oversee the utilisation of the Trans Caprivi Corridor.

Support Services

Following the WBCG Strategic Plan (2005-2010), the Group will focus on increasing volumes for the Port and Corridors and on enhancing the competitiveness of the route. In support of this, WBCG established a porfolio for Projects and Funding to identify, formulate and manage Corridor projects, and to mobilise international support and funding.

The WBCG HIV/AIDS Help Desk restarted operations in October 2005 and will continue to expand the scope of its activities.

A joint initiative programme, namely, the Safe Trade and Transport Corridor Programme, between the Walvis Bay Corridor Group and the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida), has been established and is hosted by the Walvis Bay Corridor Group. This programme is aimed at improving road safety and transport along the Trans Kalahari and Trans Caprivi Corridors, and will support the regional authorities in the respective countries through which these corridors traverse, in developing safe, sustainable and secure corridors.

Walvis Bay Corridor Group

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Walvis Bay Corridors

Trans Caprivi Corridor

The Trans Caprivi Corridor, operated by the Walvis Bay Corridor Group (WBCG), provides the shortest route between the Namibian west coast ports of Lüderitz and Walvis Bay and the vital transport hubs of Livingstone, Lusaka and Ndola in Zambia and Lubumbashi (in the southern DRC), as well as Zimbabwe.

The Trans Caprivi Corridor is perfectly positioned to service the two-way trade between the SADC region and Europe, North and South America and the emerging Far East markets. The infrastructure supporting the Trans Caprivi Corridor has been steadily developed and boasts the most efficient intermodal blueprint for the region, incorporating the ports, air, tarred roads and rail networks, as well as automated border post customs procedures. The TCC allows 5-7 days in transit to and from Lusaka, Harare and Lubumbashi.

The Katima Mulilo Bridge, which extends across the Zambezi River, connects to the Livingstone-Sesheke Road, facilitating an increase in commercial and general traffic on the TCC and stimulating economic activity along the corridor. As a result of the rapid increase of the commercial activity, WBCG officially opened its first regional branch office in Lusaka Zambia on April 3, 2006, to further promote the usage of the Trans Caprivi Corridor.

A Trans Caprivi Corridor facilitation programme between Namibia and Zambia was set up in 2005, aimed at creating private and public capacities to further develop and promote this route.

Trans Kalahari Corridor

The Trans Kalahari Corridor operated by the Walvis Bay Corridor Group (WBCG), links the Port of Walvis Bay to Botswana's capital, Gaborone, and the heartland of South Africa's industrial capital, Gauteng. The Trans Kalahari Corridor is perfectly positioned to service the two-way trade between South Africa, Botswana, Europe, the Americas and the Far East.

The infrastructure supporting the Trans Kalahari Corridor has been steadily developed and boasts the most efficient intermodal blueprint for the region, incorporating the ports, air, tarred road and rail networks, as well as automated border post customs procedures. This corridor allows for 48 hours transit to and from Gauteng.

Trans Cunene Corridor

The Trans Cunene Corridor operated by the Walvis Bay Corridor Group (WBCG), links the Port of Walvis Bay to the southern region of Angola via Tsumeb and Ondangwa to Oshikango (in Namibia) and the Santa Clara border post in Angola. The Trans Cunene Corridor is perfectly positioned to service the two-way trade between Angola, Namibia, South Africa, Europe, the Americas and the Far East.

Trans Oranje Corridor

This corridor links up with the southern Port of Lüderitz (in Namibia) and its entire length of tarred road network is supported by rail. Its road and rail network is perfectly positioned to service the two-way trade between Angola, Namibia, South Africa, Europe, the Americas and the Far East.

