

Namdeb empowers girls on leadership for International Women's Day



Some of the students from the schools that were visited by Oxygen Communication and Namdeb

On Monday, 08 March 2021 the entire world came together and celebrated International Women's Day under the global theme **"Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world"** and **#ChooseToChallenge**.

To commemorate the achievements of women and in support of the HeForShe movement, Oxygen Communications, supported by Namdeb and the Ministry of Education took the initiative to host four sessions with small groups of female prefects (LRC's) from eight schools in four towns (four schools from Windhoek, one school from Rehoboth and two schools from Ondangwa).

The sessions which will be held for two hours per visit commenced on 8 March until 20 March 2021.

The purpose of the sessions is to educate and engage the girls on the importance of leadership roles and discuss the challenges that they face in leadership and how they can overcome them.

"Namdeb continues to be a place that celebrates diversity and inclusion and we recognize that by valuing diversity of thought, skills and experience, we can be a higher performing business and nation at large. COVID-19 has had a negative impact on everything we know, creating further barriers socially. Our commitment towards accelerating equal opportunities is built on the need to accelerate

economic inclusion and support diverse voices to help shape the future of our business, communities and society" said Riaan Burger, the CEO of Namdeb.

The sessions also aim to tackle the issue of gender parity and encourage girls to equally contribute to leadership activities like their counterparts; the target is to counteract gender inequality by empowering girls to more involve in decision making roles.

"In a world where women's roles are not recognized, it is rare for leading women in Namibia to provide leadership to young women and girls, so I wanted to take this initiative and found that this is the best time to do so" said Hilda Basson Namundjebo – the Managing Director of Oxygen Communications.

The decision to speak to the target audience was intentional to engage girls who have exhibited leadership qualities to a point that they were elected as LRC's at their schools and future leaders.



One of the students taking her oath for #ChooseToChallenge