## **Craton Foundation Activities**

The Craton Foundation, established and supported by IBML, supports educational initiatives in Namibia. One of those initiatives is the construction of school classrooms. On 17 July, two classrooms, donated by the Craton Foundation and partner Simonis Storm Securities, were inaugurated at the Tobias Hainyeko Primary School in Windhoek. The event was attended by the Director of Education and several Education Councillors.

Mr Laban Shidute the principal of the school, gave the following address:

"On behalf of the Tobias Hainyeko Primary School Board, management and staff, it's a great pleasure to welcome you here on the occasion of the inauguration of the two newly constructed classrooms by the Craton Foundation and Simonis Storm.

"Thank you for joining us at this juncture, your presence here is not only a joyous celebration of the occasion, it is the expression of your interest in the education of the Namibian Child.

"We live in the world of vast opportunities, stark contradictions and grave challenges. In this light, passivism and apathy are not options or choices we can afford or condone nor can the world community respond appropriately if it does not empower itself with inclusive multidisciplinary thinking, tolerance for others and a global outlook for advance technology, because education is not static but dynamic, hence the need for strategic partners in education.

"Regarding the Craton Foundation, Tobias Hainyeko Primary School would always have a glowing story to tell about them. Not so long ago, Craton Foundation under the visionary leadership of Mr Kobus van Graan, and in collaboration with Tobich Optics and the Lions Club offered to test the eyesight of 1642, ±35 learners were diagnosed with eyesight problems. Upon which they were provided with eyeglasses for free. Today these learners are able to read unimpeded and to identify objects from a long distance. This was all made possible by the far-sighted leadership of Craton Foundation, with the ability to look beyond the scope of their responsibilities.

"Ladies and gentleman: I will fail in my duty if I do not mention the name of Mrs Ziggy Hartmann and Mrs Marina Bezuidenhout, whom I communicated with on a daily basis to make this venture possible. Thank you very much indeed. Namspace, the contractors who did a wonderful job. They successfully managed to erect the classrooms without any incident, obviously not without the challenges from the busy bodies of Tobias Hainyeko Primary School learners who wanted to explore the new developments. There is also a good story to tell about them, they went down with their prices to make it affordable for the donors Craton Foundation and Simonis Storm.

"The construction of the new classrooms, which we are about to inaugurate, is an exceptional shining example of strategic partnership between Craton Foundation, Simonis Storm and Tobias Hainyeko Primary School, which we as Tobias Hainyeko Primary School community benefited from and which we treasure very much. Your gift makes it possible for us to maintain the highest level and quality of service.

"Director of ceremonies: Education attainment needs good teachers and good teachers are fundamental to education at any level. However, we need to create a conducive environment, where teaching and learning can take place unimpeded. At the moment half of the population of learners are attending school in the afternoon. This is one of the steps being taken to have all learners attending school in during the morning session. However, Government cannot accomplish this alone, concerted efforts need to be effected by strategic partners like Craton Foundation and Simonis Storm to enhance teaching and learning.

"Craton Foundation and Simonis Storm: Thank you very much for the kind donation, your generosity will make an immediate difference in the lives of our learners.

"Thanks again for your kindness.

"In conclusion, I thank you all, for being here and a special word of thanks to our distinguished guests, whom have taken valuable time out of their very intensive schedules to witness the inauguration in a highly significant in insightful fashion."



