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# Exciting new invention showcased at the Expo

Visitors to the Namibia Tourism Expo that takes place from 10 to 13 June, can look forward to being introduced to a transport solution with a difference.

Worldwide, urban areas are facing increasing environmental, social and economic challenges caused by inefficient transport systems, and Windhoek is no exception. As a city where 87% of the population cannot afford their own car and 52% can hardly afford public transport, Windhoek can only benefit from an affordable and environmentally friendly mobility alternative that caters for everybody.

Marita van Rooyen and Bernhard Walther designed a local transport solution that fits in with a global demand for renewable energy and sustainable mobility: the SunCycle – a solar-powered electric bicycle (known as an e-bike).

Designed and built in Namibia, for Namibians and Namibian travel conditions, SunCycles Namibia is the country's first electric mobility service provider.

E-mobility is booming across the globe, marking the start of a movement that points to a future in green

transport systems.

Combining the bicycle – the most efficient, healthy and affordable way of moving people and goods – with an electric engine, the SunCycle allows for a clean and sustainable way of moving, making Namibian roads free from carbon emissions, noise and traffic congestion. What's more, it is a fast, silent, healthy and cost effective transport alternative – ideal for commuters in both urban and rural areas.

By using the SunCycle, customers can save up to 90% on their current mobility expenses. In combination with solar recharge stations, the product is completely CO<sup>2</sup> neutral and independent from the national electricity grid. Further benefits of this combination include the possibility of electrification in off-grid areas, as modern battery technology provides options to recharge and power USB applications, LED-lights and small electric gadgets.

With a focus on economic empowerment, the e-bike is created locally at the SunWorskhop, where tools, working space and the sharing of know-how are provided.

With e-technology that is easy



to understand, the manufacturers connect the customer to the product and support a self-sustainable mentality, ensuring that clients can maintain and service the bike themselves. The system further offers the user the opportunity to expand with private services connected to e-bikes, such as deliveries and public transport.

As founders of SunCycles Namibia, Marita and Bernhard are driven by the will to create a future worth living. This needs a change in mindset and the current economic system, where social disparity and exploitation of natural resources is rife.

"We work closely with partners in the private, public, not-for-profit and educational sectors to improve cycling conditions in the city, and to implement a sustainable and affordable transport system," they say.

For more information, visit [www.suncycles-namibia.org](http://www.suncycles-namibia.org), or follow them on Facebook at SunCycles Namibia.



WHATSON

MONDAY TO FRIDAY UNTIL MAY

Karel Prinsloo - "Homeward Bound" (photographic exhibit at the Goethe Centre)

MONDAY TO SATURDAY UNTIL 5 JUNE

"Lost and Found Sect" – an exhibition by Evert Joone, Bonne Table of the Franco Namibian Cultural Centre

28-30 MAY

The Real Wine Extravaganza at Windhoek Country Club

28 MAY

17:00-01:00 The Artisan at Events Bar

28 MAY

18:00 "Let's take it back" (four year dance examination open to public) at the UNAM Space Theatre

28 MAY

18:00 Socratic Forum: The Middle Ages and the Faith-Reason debate at NICE

28 MAY

19:00 Theatre Sports: "Stereos Detox" at the Franco Namibian Cultural Centre

28 MAY

19:00 Presentation: Introducing SunCycles – Namibia's first solar powered electric bicycle at the Scientific Society

28 MAY

21:00 Grappi Live at the Boiler

