

# Daily News

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# Masisi promotes AI



President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi (left), Minister of Entrepreneurship, Mr Karabo Gare (second left) and farmers during Saturday's Southern District Beef Farmers Association field day at Naledi Farms near Jwaneng. President Masisi extolled the advantages of artificial insemination (AI) over mating and encouraged farmers to take advantage of AI facilities to improve the quality of their breed and consequently that of the national herd. The event was held under the theme: Increasing The National Herd, Unpacking The Beef Value Chain. Photo: Yobe Shonga

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# Gambia draws lessons from Botswana

By Lindi Morwaeng

GABORONE - Government is ready to assign a team of public service officials to Gambia to assist in the implementation of public policy framework, says the Minister for State President, Mr Kabo Morwaeng.

Mr Morwaeng said this in Gaborone Friday when bidding farewell to Gambian delegation that was on a week-long visit in the country to learn on the public service operations.

The delegation learnt how Botswana was conducting issues of integrated personnel and information systems, citizen-state engagement processes and performance management systems, among other things.

"I have learnt that the study tour has been characterised by cheerful and fruitful engagements, which I believe were beneficial to both the Gambian and Botswana delegations," said Mr Morwaeng.

In addition he said the study visit offered both countries an opportunity to strengthen bilateral ties.

"I hope these relations will spur other sectors of cooperation between our two countries," he emphasized.

For his part, Gambian Minister of Public Service, Mr Baboucarr Bouy, thanked Botswana government and the host department, the Department of Public Service Management (DPSM) for the warm hospitality.

He, however, mentioned that the study tour had provided the delegation with an opportunity to learn Botswana's management as well as coordination arrangements and approach to reform.

"The lesson learnt will greatly help us in adopting international best practices in our drive to modernise our public service," he said.

Mr Bouy highlighted that some of the take away from the visit was that they learnt that Permanent Secretary in the Office of the President was the head of the public service as well as the cabinet secretary.

He also said they learnt that there were common offices across ministries such as transformation office which facilitated the implementation of reforms. Interestingly, he said, 30 per cent of the public service leadership were women and that positions of deputy director's level and above were employed on contractual basis.

He nevertheless expressed gratitude saying he looked forward to a stronger partnership between the two countries.

For her part, DPSM director, Ms Gaone Macholo, said the delegation was also made to appreciate the kgotla system as well as how the government of Botswana had implemented public services reforms.

She said they hoped the Gambian government would

explore possibilities of exchanging these practices in particular the formation of the ministry of state president.

Furthermore, she said the delegation was made to appreciate the performance management system in public service, the importance of employee relations especially that Botswana had nine unions to work with.

Although challenging, Ms Macholo said the unions were a wonderful partner to work with to drive performance strategies. **BOPA**



Mr Morwaeng (right) presenting gifts to Mr Bouy at a farewell dinner in Gaborone on Friday. Mr Morwaeng said Botswana public service was educated and dedicated hence exportable to work anywhere in the world such as in Gambia. Photo: Ogopoleng Kgomoethata

## Government eases medicine collection

By Aubrey Maswabi

GABORONE - Government has, through the Ministry of Health and in partnership with BotswanaPost, introduced an easy, safe and more convenient option for patients to collect their medication across the country.

That followed introduction of the Decentralised Drug Distribution (DDD) e-lockers facility as alternative pick up points for medicine for many Batswana with chronic medical conditions.

That means patients would no longer have multiple visits to health facilities to collect their medication.

They will also be able to access facilities 24 hours in a day, hence the flexibility of choosing a time most convenient for them to collect medication.

"Through this development, we are taking a step further to expand access to medicines by overcoming time constraints experienced at public health facilities and private pharmacies which have operating hours," said Minister of Health, Dr Edwin Dikoloti when he launched the DDD e-lockers facility housed by BotswanaPost in Gaborone recently.

Dr Dikoloti said not so long ago, the ministry extended its chronic medications dispensing programme to all district health management teams (DHMTs) across the country and as a result many Batswana were now able to access essential medicines from private pharmacies.

He said the ministry launched its digitalisation project which would go a long way in, not only improving the quality of health

services, but would also see more people having access to multiple 21st century health services that they never had in the past.

"These e-lockers will help improve the lives of many Batswana who will no longer have to endure unnecessary queues at health facilities and the facilities will become less congested which will give fresh air and space to the health system which currently has to contend with persistent disease outbreaks and other emerging public health threats," he added.

Dr Dikoloti said the introduction of the modern age solution in the technology driven world was in line with President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi's reset agenda which had digitalisation as its third priority area.

"This will indeed make the lives of many of the patients

easier and more flexible, and this rare development is indeed in line with the spirit and ideals of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal number three, which encourages UN member states to come up with initiatives that will improve their people access to health services," he said.

For her part, US embassy deputy chief of mission, Ms Amanda Jacobsen, said the lockers demonstrated the possibilities that came from partnering with the private or parastatal sector.

"This project was made possible through a partnership between the US government, through USAID and PEPFAR, Botswana government, through the Ministry of Health and Botswana Post," Ms Jacobsen said.

She said the ministry and BotswanaPost were available all over the country, making it an ideal partner in delivering health services innovatively.

The collaboration, she said, was part of PEPFAR's strategy to support creation of transformative partnerships among government, civil society, private sector and other stakeholders in the healthcare space.

However, she said due to the progress Botswana had made towards containing the HIV epidemic, such innovation can now have an expanded focus on integrated health services for clients living with chronic illnesses who needed other medications.

Minister of Communications, Knowledge and Technology, Mr Thulagano Segokgo commended BotswanaPost for partnering with the Ministry of Health, saying the partnership would ensure that health services were delivered to patients at their doorsteps. **BOPA**

## President to officially open Machana Primary School

By Keith Ketji

MACHANA - President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi will tomorrow officially open Machana Primary School. The school scored a 78 per cent pass rate in the 2022 Primary School Leaving Examinations (PLSE).

The southern region's education director, Mr Accronews Maseko said they were proud of the school's performance despite challenges it went through.

He added that they were humbled by the President's decision to officially open the school, noting that the President's schedule was tight but that he found it fit to share the joy with the people of Machana.

Mr Maseko said the primary school was the first to have a satellite status in the region followed by Bikwe Satellite Primary School. Mr Maseko noted that the school grew by a class every year since 2018 until it was a fully-fledged school in

2022.

He noted that Machana was now a recognised settlement and attributed the status to President Masisi when he was Vice President. He added that the new status brought numerous developments into the area, noting that some people built houses to lease to teachers while some were selling their agricultural produce to the school.

He added that they were expecting attendance of the patron of the school, First Lady Neo Masisi, cabinet ministers, the district leadership, sponsors of the school and residents.

Machana Primary School head, Ms Mary Mbikiwa said a classroom block and porta cabins were made available by various sponsors.

Ms Mbikiwa noted that pupils used to travel long distances to access education in Pitseng and that it impacted negatively on their performance.

She noted that the school

started with a staff complement of seven teachers and 118 pupils and now boasts of 12 teachers and 234 learners.

Mr Thero Gare, a resident of Machana who runs a tuck said the school brought business opportunities and other developments in the area such as roads. He said their children now go to school without travelling long distances.

Ms Boitshepo Tlotlagano, also a resident of Machana, said teachers rented houses and villagers had a source of income. **BOPA**

## Matter of fact

The Botswana DailyNews of Friday 31st March 2023 contains an error on the front page in which we erroneously wrote March 24<sup>th</sup> 2023 as well as in the special pullout edition where we wrote 2019-2023 instead of 2018-2023 as the date of accession to Presidency for His Excellency The President Dr Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi. The error is deeply regretted.

# Over 100 services ready for online delivery

By Bonang Masolotatse

GABORONE - At least 127 services are ready to be provided online, Minister of Communication, Knowledge and Technology, Mr Thulagano Segokgo has revealed.

He revealed this Friday when addressing a digital transformation workshop held in partnership with the African Union-European Union Digital for Development Hub, where Estonia, one of the leading countries in online service provision, shared notes with Botswana.

Mr Segokgo said services ready to be provided online included marriage, driver and vehicle registration, labour complaints and case registration, import and exports permits and tertiary students' financing.

"This is a continuous effort expected to cover two financial years," he said adding that government planned to avail over 400 services online.

Mr Segokgo said government would provide multiple online access channels such as mobile application, point of sale service for centralised government payments as well as government to government and government to employee interactions.

The minister also disclosed that government was working on several legislations such as an electronic government bill.

The legislation, he said, was

expected to facilitate access to electronic government services, improve service delivery, administrative functions and productivity as well as enhance access to information.

Minister Segokgo explained that all the efforts were aimed at optimising public service delivery.

Estonia undersecretary for economic and development affairs, Ms Mariin Ratnik said her country was one of the world's leading digitally transformed nations.

She said the feat was achieved through a political leadership which advocated for digitalisation making Estonia one of the most successful economies in Europe.

The country was using less paper every year, boasted smooth operations and efficient services, she said.

Ms Ratnik commended Botswana for being on its way to tapping into the benefits of digitalisation.

EU ambassador to Botswana and SADC, Ms Petra Pereyra said given Botswana's ambition of transforming into a knowledge-based economy, Estonia was a good example to emulate.

She said the EU was prepared to help Botswana attain its digital transformation ambitions.

Ms Pereyra pointed out that the COVID-19 pandemic had shown that digitalisation was essential for provision of services. **BOPA**



Mr Segokgo (left) and Ms Ratnik at Friday's digital transformation workshop organised by his ministry in partnership with African Union-European Union Digital for Development Hub in Gaborone. Estonia, one of the world's leading countries in online service provision, shared knowledge and best practices on e-governance with the Botswana digital ecosystem. Photo: Ogopoleng Kgomoethata

## Masisi promotes artificial insemination at farmers' event

By Keith Ketji

NALEDI - Artificial insemination (AI) presents opportunities for increased bull usage efficiency and potential for genetic selection as well as cost-effectiveness.

This was said by President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi at Saturday's Southern District Beef Farmers' Association field day at Naledi Farms.

He explained that in the event of a bull dying, its semen would have been preserved.

Once preserved, semen could be distributed to all geographical locations and cows inseminated simultaneously, said Dr Masisi.

He pointed out that under the natural mating system, a bull was limited to a particular geographical area.

The President therefore implored both communal and commercial farmers to take advantage of AI facilities to improve the quality of their breed and consequently that of

the national herd. He pledged his support to pastoral farmers by way of easing the way of doing agri-businesses in order to maximise output and profits.

The President commended Mr Morris Setlhaolo of Lerolwane ranches for his attractive and appealing bulls and encouraged the beef production farmer to continue with the good work.

Farmers were also encouraged to take advantage of the African Continental Free Trade Area agreement which Dr Masisi said promised broader and deeper economic integration.

The agreement would also attract investment, boost trade and increase shared prosperity in Africa, he said.

In an interview, Minister of Entrepreneurship, Mr Karabo Gare stressed the need to embrace technology in order to increase cattle population and enhance breed quality.

He challenged Botswana to explore the cattle value chain by participating in all stages of the

production cycle starting with conception.

Mr Mothapi Masire, a renowned master farmer, told **BOPA** in another interview that his parents' investment in semen from the United States was paying off.

He said it was gratifying that government was taking the same direction to increase the quantity and improve the quality of the national herd.

Mr Masire of Bonyamabogo Farm and a Southern District Beef Farmers' Association member, said taking farming as core business contributed to the country's economic growth.

The farmer, who went for benchmarking in Texas, called for mindset change with regard to farming in Botswana which many considered a secondary activity.

He said while in Botswana farming was more oriented to supplementary feeding, in Texas farmers were more focused on intensive or industrial agriculture. **BOPA**

## Digital development necessary for equal society - Rakgare

By Bakang Wren

GABORONE - Digital development is a necessary investment for the youth to inherit a much more equal society where knowledge and data accessibility disparities are eradicated.

To that end, Botswana and other African countries continued to invest in digital development and Internet connectivity to empower youth and give them an opportunity to lead, Mr Tumiso

Rakgare said in Gaborone recently. The youth, gender, sport and culture minister was addressing the 5th Africa youth entrepreneurs summit held under the theme: Internet of Things, Africa's Next Growth Frontier.

He said the summit was in line with Botswana's Reset Agenda, particularly with regard to digitisation and mindset change.

"We need the Internet to make our services more accessible and we need to change our mindset to

believe in ourselves as Africans," he said.

Applauding the founder and president of AYES, Ms Lemogang Senwelo, he said her brilliant idea of bringing together entrepreneurs from across the continent was actually putting into practice the African Continental Free Trade Area agreement ideals.

For her part, Ms Senwelo said her organisation was established in 2017 after noticing the lack of platforms where young African

entrepreneurs could share ideas on building the continent.

AYES provided youth-owned infant businesses, medium enterprises and Africa's leading young entrepreneurs with a platform for connecting to create the largest and leading provider of innovation information, she said.

The organisation has been supported by among others the youth ministry, Stanbic Bank and Hollard Insurance Botswana.

Among the participants was

Botswana's Mr Mmoloki Pitse, a highly experienced drone pilot and flight operations director at Drones for Africa who presented on the evolution of drone technology in Botswana and Africa.

The summit, which attracted participants from South Africa, Malawi and Zimbabwe, saw the launching of the Alonda App, a platform that instantly connects users to rapid response services during emergencies. **BOPA**

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# Equip research laboratories - Pandor

By Moshe Galeragwe

GABORONE - Universities will not thrive without academic research.

Therefore there is a need to equip research laboratories and support innovation through appropriate research funding.

South Africa Minister of International Relations and Cooperation also alumni of the then University of Botswana and Swaziland, Dr Naledi Pandor said this during the UB alumni reunion in Gaborone, Friday.

She expressed concern that despite a number of credible universities in Africa, the continent was not leading in terms of research and global innovation.

The continent is lacking transformative universities. African universities are failing to move the standards to substantiate their presence, she said.

Dr Pandor credited UB for playing a special place in the development of her modest academic credibility. She said UB and Gaborone Senior Secondary School contributed to what she was today. Dr Pandor said back then, the university was committed to transforming learners into quality graduates.

She said the fact that the people of Botswana personally contributed to the building of the institution resulted in a strong attachment between the society and UB.

"The community was founded on three objectives of teaching, research and community service," she said, adding that the university must, therefore, entrench and convey key principles of value to the students so that when they graduate they would put into practice those values. She urged African universities to be truly transformative and urged the current crop to truly live and support the positive legacy that was established by the alumni.

UB chancellor, Dr Tebelelo Seretse said the alumni community must be part of the institution, and contribute towards its growth hence calling for the establishment of an alumni database. She said the alumni community had the potential to contribute effectively

to current students and graduates through career guidance, internship programmes and employment.

"We want a proactive community of professionals taking pride in the institution," she said and encouraged them to establish networks, and develop ideas that could help alumni growth.

Dr Seretse said most of the alumni were sponsored by government and therefore it was their time to act responsibly and guide the future generation.

UB vice chancellor, Professor David Norris said to date, UB had produced more than 80 000 graduates who continued to render service in different spheres of the economy.

In terms of physical infrastructure, Prof. Norris said UB ranked among the best in the world. Since its establishment in 1982, Prof. Norris said UB had made tremendous achievements and was undergoing transformation to align with the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution and transition into a research-based university.

Therefore, Prof. Norris said the process called on the alumni to pull together and come up with ways of adding value to the envisioned transformation.

Prof. Norris also emphasised the importance of research and innovation as critical drivers of socio-economic and environmental development.

"Developing countries that prioritise research and innovation are likely to experience faster growth and increased competitiveness in the global market," he said.

For his part, the Minister of Education and Skills Development Dr Douglas Letsholathebe said with the support of the alumni the country would achieve its dream of a knowledge-based economy.

He said the UB strategic plan was, among others, to transform the university into a research intense institution of higher learning and provide a base where Botswana could transform into a knowledge-based economy. He said it was through research that UB would lead the process of generating new technology and innovation to tackle the ever emanating changes. **BOPA**



Lt Col Simon Hatton (left), Mr Mmusi (second left), permanent secretary in the Ministry of Justice and Security, Ms Botlhale Makgekgenene (second right) and Lt Gen. Segokgo touring facilities during the handover of residential units at Sarona City in Gaborone on Friday. Mr Mmusi said the 113 units would help address 16 per cent of the BDF housing shortfall and further stated that there would be more procurement of multi-residential facilities from private entities. Photo: Gothusang Lesego.

## Mmusi hands over 113 housing units to BDF

By Naomi Leepile

GABORONE - Shortage of accommodation in the Botswana Defense Force (BDF) has been a persistent challenge for several years and this has not only impacted the morale of the staff, but also posed challenges on operational efficiency.

Minister of Defence and Security, Mr Kagiso Mmusi said this when handing over the 113 housing units constructed at approximately P123 million to the BDF recently.

Minister Mmusi said providing decent housing to the BDF staff was therefore aimed at boosting their morale and offering them integrated living as well as the much needed contemporary housing options.

"The housing units purchased from RIC Development are a welcome development that will go a long way in providing BDF officers with dignity and purpose, therefore enabling them to perform their duties efficiently," he said.

He also indicated that adequate resourcing of BDF was one of the ministry's key priorities, adding, 'the project comes at a time when I have made it one of my priorities to adequately resource the BDF to improve staff accommodation'.

He added that completion of the project at Sarona City had addressed 16 per cent of BDF housing shortfall.

Again, he said government had procured nine one-bedroom units, 84 two-bedroom units, 17 three-bedroom units and three four-bedroom units.

"These will undoubtedly go a long way in alleviating the accommodation shortage as well as boosting the morale of men and women in uniform," he said.

Therefore, the minister urged all those who would be allocated accommodation at Sarona City to take care of the units and ensure that maintenance was periodically undertaken.

He added that concerted efforts in maintenance and upkeep would result in sustainable housing for

BDF members for many years to come. Receiving the housing units, BDF commander, Lieutenant General Placid Segokgo thanked the minister for the support.

"These housing units we receive are a manifestation of your role as a political head to set our defence policy, seek requisite funding through cabinet and Parliament, hence we thank you for working tirelessly in ensuring provision of critical capabilities to the BDF," Lt Gen. Segokgo said.

He also emphasised that providing accommodation to men and women in uniform would improve morale and enhance force readiness for emergency operations and tasks.

He assured the minister that those who would have the opportunity to reside in the facility would do their utmost to take care of it.

He added that the ripple effect of taking care of the units would reduce BDF maintenance budget as well as prolong the life of the facility. **BOPA**

## Closing value chain gaps creates employment - Gare

By Kehumile Moekejo

JWANENG - Exploiting value chain opportunities in the agricultural sector has a potential to diversify the economy and create employment, Minister of Entrepreneurship, Mr Karabo Gare has said.

Speaking at the Southern District Beef Farmers Association Field Day at Naledi farms on Friday, Mr Gare underscored the need to unpack the beef value chains to contribute towards moving the national economy from mineral-based, thereby creating job opportunities for Batswana.

The event was held under the theme: Increasing the National Herd, Unpacking the Beef Value Chain.

"We have realised that there is a gap in the market. In Agriculture we have a lot of products that we sell as raw materials instead of processing them from farm to fork. We could create value chains if we could start processing our products," he said.

The minister said there was need to build strong food systems to satisfy the agri-business market both locally and internationally.

He noted that such systems should be profitable and sustainable to transform the country from a government-led economy and sustain people beyond the diamond mining era.

Subsequently, he implored the Southern District Beef Farmers Association to strive for growth both in increasing cattle herd and enhancing quality production. He

appreciated the contribution by the President's bull donation initiative towards improving the quality of cattle across the country.

"Cattle herd in the country is slowly declining, hence we should find means of increasing it. We should also commend His Excellency the President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi as he continues to donate bulls nationally," he said.

Minister Gare said farmers should be equipped with relevant knowledge intended to transform farming into a commercial business. He also emphasised the importance of unity in farming, as described by the Setswana saying 'moroto wa o esi ga o ele'.

For his part, Jwaneng mine assistant general manager, Mr Goitseone Gadifele implored

farmers to combine indigenous knowledge with new technology for enhanced production. He said adopting modern technologies could also increase opportunities created by the value chain in the agricultural sector.

"Be receptive of new reproductive technologies, particularly the artificial and embryo insemination types. The technology revolution is upon us, strategically combined with our indigenous knowledge, we are sure set for benchmark performance," he said.

Additionally, Mr Gadifele called on farmers to upgrade their farm infrastructure to match the international markets standards.

He said this would go a long way in establishing them as a reference point to others in the

region, while at the same time creating a conducive environment for possible partnerships with other stakeholders in the sector.

CEDA CEO, Mr Thabo Thamane stressed the need for mindset change in order to increase the national head, which he observed was declining.

He said poor farm management was one of the factors that contributed to the decline in the national head.

"Let's make farming fashionable by changing our mindsets and also developing good business ideas and plans to access funding," he said.

He urged farmers to adopt best record keeping practices not only to track their transactions, but also to make it easier for financiers to appreciate them. **BOPA**

# Councillors want Bont Tick declared outbreak

By Kedirebofe Pelontle

GUMARE - Okavango District Councillors want *Abylyomma variegatum* Fabricius (Bont Tick) to be declared a disaster.

The councillors made the plea during a full council meeting recently, further requesting the

## Sefalana Banner group donates

By Taboka Ngwako

GABORONE - Sefalana Banner Group of Companies has donated 10 wheelchairs worth P25 000 to the National Disability Coordinating office.

Speaking during the handover ceremony in Gaborone Thursday, permanent secretary in the Ministry for State President, Ms Goitsemore Morekisi said the donation was a generous gesture which was critically needed by people with disabilities (PWDs).

"I therefore applaud the Sefalana Banner Group of Companies for heeding governments call for increased participation of Public Private Partnerships, especially for PWDs," she said.

Moreover, Ms Morekisi said since the country had acceded to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) two years ago, it was compelled to adhere to the set guidelines.

"We are committed as government to promote a dignified life to PWDs," she stated.

Meanwhile, National Disability Coordination office director, Ms Peggy Garebaitse said providing PLWDs with assistive devices improved their quality of lives.

"We often take mobility for granted, and we may not be aware that over a million people worldwide lack mobility and without devices their options were limited in ways beyond our comprehension," she said.

Ms Garebaitse said the devices would ensure enjoyment of a basic right that many had never experienced.

"As an office mandated to monitor implementation of the CRPD, this gesture by your company is a positive indicator of a committed sector taking responsibility in achieving implementation of the CRPD Article 19 that speaks to liberty of movement and living independently by PWDs," she said.

For her part, Sefalana Banner Group of Companies deputy chairperson, Ms Naledi Tsimanyane said as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and to cultivate and nurture the spirit of selflessness, they were more than happy to donate to such a deserving cause.

Ms Tsimanyane said Banner Group of companies was made up of five local shops, which had joined forces with Sefalana to assist those in need around the country. **BOPA**

Minister of Agriculture to address the council on the tick, which was adversely affecting farmers in the area.

Councillor Boipuso Mangurunga of Seronga/Gunotsoga said government should declare Bont Tick a pandemic, as it was not only highly contagious, but continued to spread in the Okavango area.

Mr Mangurunga wondered why there were no livestock movement restrictions to guard against the tick spreading to not yet affected areas.

Councillor for Kauxwi/ Xhakao Mr Television France lamented the inaction, though the tick had long been identified in their region.

Gumare/Tubu South councillor, Mr Keobinetse Matenanga appreciated the efforts by the Department of Veterinary Services in the management of the problem, which dates back to 2015, but joined the voices seeking audience with the minister.

In response, North West District agricultural coordinator, Mr Onkemetse Mathemabe said government had decided to sensitise farmers on the Bont Tick and stressed the need for regular dipping with proper amounts of chemicals to manage it.

Meanwhile, principal veterinary officer based in Shakawe, Mr Emmanuel Ramokwena had

earlier explained that the tropical Bont tick, a three host tick that originated in Africa, was first identified in the Okavango District in the Tubu/Gumare area in 2015.

He said it then spread to the Beetsha/Etsha area, coupled with Dermatophylosis (Senkobo), a skin disease caused by bacteria.

Mr Ramokwena said from mid-January this year, the department assisted farmers by dipping livestock weekly in all affected crushes, adding that treatment of dermatophylosis was repeated every 72 hours until the animals showed signs of recovery.

He said about 426 farmers had been trained on how to manage the

Bont tick in all the affected areas in Okavango so far, adding that the department would continue to capacitate farmers through training and demonstrations at crushes on dipping.

He revealed that thus far, eight teams had been mobilised to carry out the exercise.

Mr Ramokwena said illegal movement of livestock, poor compliance to dipping and treatment protocols by farmers, shortage of resources such as transport and unfavourable weather conditions were some of the challenges they faced in controlling Bont Tick and Senkobo. **BOPA**

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Mr Tsogwane (second left), Ms Moseithanyane (left), Access Bank Botswana group managing director, Mr Roosevelt Ogonna (second right) and acting managing director, Ms Musonda Chishimba at the bank's brand entrenchment event in Gaborone on Thursday. Photo: Godfrey Mpuse

## Unnecessary referrals cripple subsidiaries

By Aubrey Maswabi

GABORONE - authorities have been challenged to make business decisions such as core-banking services, credit extension and treasury in Botswana using the country based information without undue referral to headquarters in Lagos.

Speaking during the bank's brand entrenchment in Gaborone on Thursday, Vice President Slumber Tsogwane said unnecessary referrals denied the domestic subsidiaries a chance to move timely and proactively on business decisions that could grow the bank and enable it to compete favourably in the domestic market.

He said while it was acknowledged that a parent bank had the responsibility to make major policy decisions affecting the group, it was crucial that within a hierarchical structure, day-to-day operations of a subsidiary bank be made in the host country and not routinely referred to a regional office or headquarters abroad.

"In this regard, it is the local board and management that the Botswana authorities hold accountable for the safe and sound operations of the bank.

Nonetheless, Mr Tsogwane applauded Access Bank for setting up in Botswana, saying the financial services sector played a crucial role in enabling economic development.

He said the coming of the bank had also quickly capitalised on the skills in Botswana as evidenced by the appointment of several citizens into critical regional positions.

"This is a clear signal that Botswana are indeed capable and

a positive factor that should be considered by other foreign direct investors," he said.

He encouraged the bank to invest in staff development and training given the country's small pool of bankers and said banks should not rely on mutual poaching of staff as that could not be a viable and sustainable means of acquiring skills.

In keeping with current trends, he said government had embarked on digitalisation and financial inclusion to facilitate a conducive environment for the private sector, especially the banks to participate in accelerating the achievements of these efforts.

He further said government was committed to creating an environment that allowed well-meaning financial services to entities such as Access Bank to contribute to the growth and wellbeing of the country, reasonable financial gains and job creation.

Mr Tsogwane applauded Access Bank for having increased its ATM footprint from 15 to 58 and adding six new points of presence with two more coming up soon.

This, he said, was also coupled with the bank's willingness to work with other partners by providing many visa cards that allowed many to use mobile wallets in a manner similar to bank accounts or by innovating with others like Orange Botswana to introduce the mini loan service such as N'stakolle.

For her part, Access Bank board chairperson, Ms Lorato Moseithanyane said the bank's growth was proof of what happens when strategy meets execution.

**BOPA**

## ABSA Bank Botswana nets impressive results

By Tebagano Ntshole

GABORONE - The ABSA Botswana Board of Directors have declared a dividend of 40 thebe per share after the bank posted an impressive profit before tax of P880 million for the financial year ending December 2022.

Speaking at the launch of the financial results on Thursday, the bank's financial director, Ms Cynthia Morapedi said their profits increased by 33 per cent despite the challenging environment.

The total amount to be paid through dividends is P445 million.

The profit has been brought by an 87 per cent reduction in credit losses to P10 million, a 13 per cent increase in trading income and a four per cent increase in net fee and commission income.

Operating expenses have been maintained through the bank's cost containment strategy with results moving from P910 million to P968 million.

For the managing director, Ms Keabetswe Pheko-Moshagane, the results show that they have exceeded pre-COVID-19 levels for most of their key indicators.

"Most importantly, our performance is due to strong pre-provision profit growth, which is driven by solid revenue growth and unwavering focus on efficiency. This demonstrates that indeed our strategy is well executed and we are on the right track to meet our stakeholders' expectations," she said.

She further said the cost to income ratio improved to 52 per cent from 55 in the previous year.

The ABSA Botswana balance sheet registered growth of six per cent driven by an increase in advances. "It gives me great

pleasure and confidence to affirm to all our key stakeholders that we have the right leaders and team in place to deliver our strategy as evidenced by our impressive financial performance," she said.

She said in line with their pillar of being the primary partner for their clients, ABSA introduced a number of products during the year.

ABSA launched multi-residential property financing for retail customers, hence making it easy for them to venture into property investment.

Ms Pheko-Moshagane also said they partnered with SCI Wealth Botswana to help their clients to access wealth creation and protection advisory services.

The bank also partnered with iBranch Youth Hub and they engaged the youth through multiple university activities.

"As a result, we have seen growth in our customer numbers," she said.

She said in 2022 they continued to support Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) through their Enterprise Support Chain and Development Programme.

"The programme allows ABSA to support customers to access finance and markets, as well as capacity building," she said.

She said the programme had forged strategic partnerships with large corporates and close to 4 000 individuals were trained in business skills and also helped to create over 1000 jobs.

"I am pleased to advise that ABSA Botswana also introduced Unsecured Bid Bonds to align to the ever-changing corporate landscape in Botswana and ensure we remain a preferred banking partner," she said. **BOPA**

## Jwaneng readies for mutton production post diamonds

By Kehumile Moekejo

JWANENG - In an endeavour to ensure sustainable economic activity post diamond production, Jwaneng Mine has embarked on facilitating mutton production for international markets, both existing and emerging.

Speaking during a mine tour by Southern District Councillors on Thursday, Jwaneng Mine general manager, Mr Koolatse Koolatse said their plan was to transform Jwaneng to a food security hub through small stock production, mainly sheep.

He noted that following expert advice, plans were underway to prepare the area for mass production of mutton to meet the

markets in Norway and possibly Saudi Arabia.

Mr Koolatse said even though mutton production was intended to replace diamonds, there was need to start production before mine closure.

He was optimistic that the objective was attainable since Botswana were known for livestock rearing.

"The easiest way to maintain Botswana beyond diamonds is to take them back to agriculture," he said.

Additionally, Mr Koolatse noted that Jwaneng mine was upgrading their airport in preparation for an envisaged international show intended to provide an opportunity for industry

players to showcase and interact.

He also said they were creating a digital ecosystem to enhance various stakeholder interaction and efficient service provision.

He said the intention was to exploit all value chain opportunities, while at the same time creating a database for various sub-sectors.

Consequently, the general manager implored councillors to encourage farmers in their communities to venture into sheep production to ensure food security for economic diversification.

For his part, SDC chairperson, Mr Sonny Phiri applauded Jwaneng mine for its contribution to the economy of the country and devising strategies for sustainable

economic projects beyond diamond mining.

"Economic diversification is important because diamonds are not forever, and we are therefore impressed that Debswana is working on other projects that could sustain the country when diamonds are no more," he said.

He said as community leaders, they had to mobilise people around the area to venture into sheep farming to ensure mass production for export.

He noted that the initiative would also go a long way in eradicating poverty within communities.

In addition, Mr Phiri underscored the need for Botswana to consider game farming as another way of diversifying the economy. **BOPA**

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## Parliament 2023

# Ministry allocates P450 per learner for stationery

GABORONE - Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development allocates P450 per learner for stationery to councils for all 765 government registered primary schools in Botswana.

Answering a parliamentary question recently, Assistant Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, Mr Sethabelo Modukanele said all councils were expected to adhere to the standard. He however acknowledged that due to budgetary constraints, his

ministry at times had not been able to meet the P450 per child standard.

Mr Modukanele said the challenges to the supply of stationery in primary schools were not only caused by budgetary constraints, but other issues such as litigations, late delivery and sometimes non adherence to specifications by suppliers.

The 2022/23 budget for stationery, he said was fairly distributed across all councils including that of Palapye Administrative Authority.

He highlighted that the reason for differences in allocation of budget across councils was school enrolment.

Mr Modukanele explained that some districts had bigger pupils' enrolments than others, hence the difference in budget for stationery.

The assistant minister stated that the P450 per child was meant to achieve fair resource allocation to all councils across the country.

He said he was not aware that councils south of Dibeete were getting a higher budget than those in the north as the budget was based on school enrolment.

However, he said budgetary allocation across government were done on the basis of need and not along territorial inclinations.

Mr Modukanele said to insinuate that resource allocation was done along regional lines was not only misleading, but also malicious and did not augur well for nation building.

"As part of parental involvement in the welfare and education of children and out of their own will, some parents at times buy stationery for their children," he said.

Mr Modukanele cited a time when parents contributed by buying their children part of the stationery when Palapye Administrative Authority (PAA) awarded a tender to a company that failed to supply the items due to contract disputes.

Palapye MP, Mr Onneetse Ramogapi had asked the minister to explain how much budget for educational stationery was allocated per learner per council.

The MP had asked why most of the councils south of Dibeete have higher budget allocation as compared to those in the north.

The legislator further wanted to understand why schools in Palapye Administrative Authority requested parents to buy exercise books, especially hard covers and why the education budget was not standardised save for transportation. **BOPA**

## Education ministry to consider aligning regions

GABORONE - The Ministry of Education Skills and Development will consider how to align regions with the newly established districts.

This was said by education and skills development minister, Dr Douglas Letsholathebe in response to a question in Parliament recently.

Dr Letsholathebe said the ministry appreciated the development of additional districts by that of local government and rural development and the need to align accordingly.

"However, the ministry is restructuring based on the new expanded mandate of education and skills development and by so doing, we will consider how to align with the establishment of new districts," he said.

He said the ministry was currently operating with just 10 regional offices in Kgatleng, Kweneng, Kgalagadi, Central, South, South East, North East North West Ghanzi and Chobe.

"It is not possible at this time, to estimate what can be achieved within the next financial year in this regard," he said.

Member of Parliament for Nkange, Dr Never Tshabang had wanted to know if there were plans to align the ministry's regions with the newly established districts and the envisaged timelines. **BOPA**

# 'Botswana among few with universal pension coverage'

GABORONE - It is critical to specifically subsidise utilities for old age pensioners when delivering the old age pension programme, says Assistant Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, Mr Sethabelo Modukanele.

Answering a question in Parliament recently, Mr Modukanele said that, however, would only be done when funds permitted. "Botswana is among a few countries in the world that have achieved universal pension coverage. The nature of a universal programme is that all pensioners are eligible for the pension, regardless of whether or not they have other sources of income," he said.

In that regard, he said the programme had successfully managed to provide income security to older people aged 65 years and above. "Even though the old age pension programme was started as a token of appreciation for all Botswana elderly persons for having contributed to the

development of their country in their different capacities, it has assisted to cushion the vulnerable and Botswana attach sentimental value and pride to the old pension allowance," he said.

Mr Modukanele said he was not aware of the subsidised payments of water and electricity for old age pensioners in Namibia.

"As a country that is committed to the welfare and protection of vulnerable populations such as old age pensioner, we have social protection programmes in place targeting elderly persons and these are old age pension and World War II veterans' allowance," he said.

Furthermore, he noted that in Botswana, water and electricity were already subsidised and such was enjoyed by everybody including old age pensioners.

"This gesture is aligned to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in meeting the needs and welfare of the old age pensioners which Botswana committed to, including the need to maintain a balance

between the adequacy and sustainability of old age pension to ensure discipline," he said.

He explained that from time to time, the ministry undertook benchmarking exercises on best practices aimed at enhancing the old age pensioners.

"Countries in the SADC region are candidates for benchmarking on old age pension including Namibia. The benchmarking exercise can also be reciprocal process as for, example, Namibia has in the past benchmarked with my ministry in areas such as local economic development and district planning system," he added.

Member of Parliament for Ghanzi South, Mr Motsamai Motsamai had said that in other countries such as Namibia, payments for water and electricity were subsidised for old age pensioners.

Mr Motsamai had wanted to know if government would realise the need to benchmark with Namibia and extend the water and electricity subsidy to old age pensioners. **BOPA**



Mr Modukanele said it was critical to subsidise utilities for old age pensioners when delivering the old age pension programme, however, it would only be done when funds permitted.

## No plans to turn Ghanzi old hospital into 24-hour clinic

GABORONE - Government, owing to other pressing requirements nationwide, does not consider to establish a 24-hour clinic at the Old Ghanzi hospital, particularly that the new one is not overwhelmed.

This was said by Assistant Minister of Health, Mr Sethomo Lelatisitswe in response to a question in Parliament recently.

"We are confident that the new hospital is currently sufficient to provide adequate service to residents of Ghanzi. To establish another 24-hour service will have to compete with other national priorities and we will also have to consider other factors like availability of staff,"

Mr Lelatisitswe said.

Instead of turning the old hospital into a 24-hour clinic, he said the ministry would use it for other health related services such as District Health Management Team (DHMT) offices, district pharmacy warehouse as well as house Emergency Medical Services base.

"This will enable us to provide emergency services for the whole area with a quick response," he said.

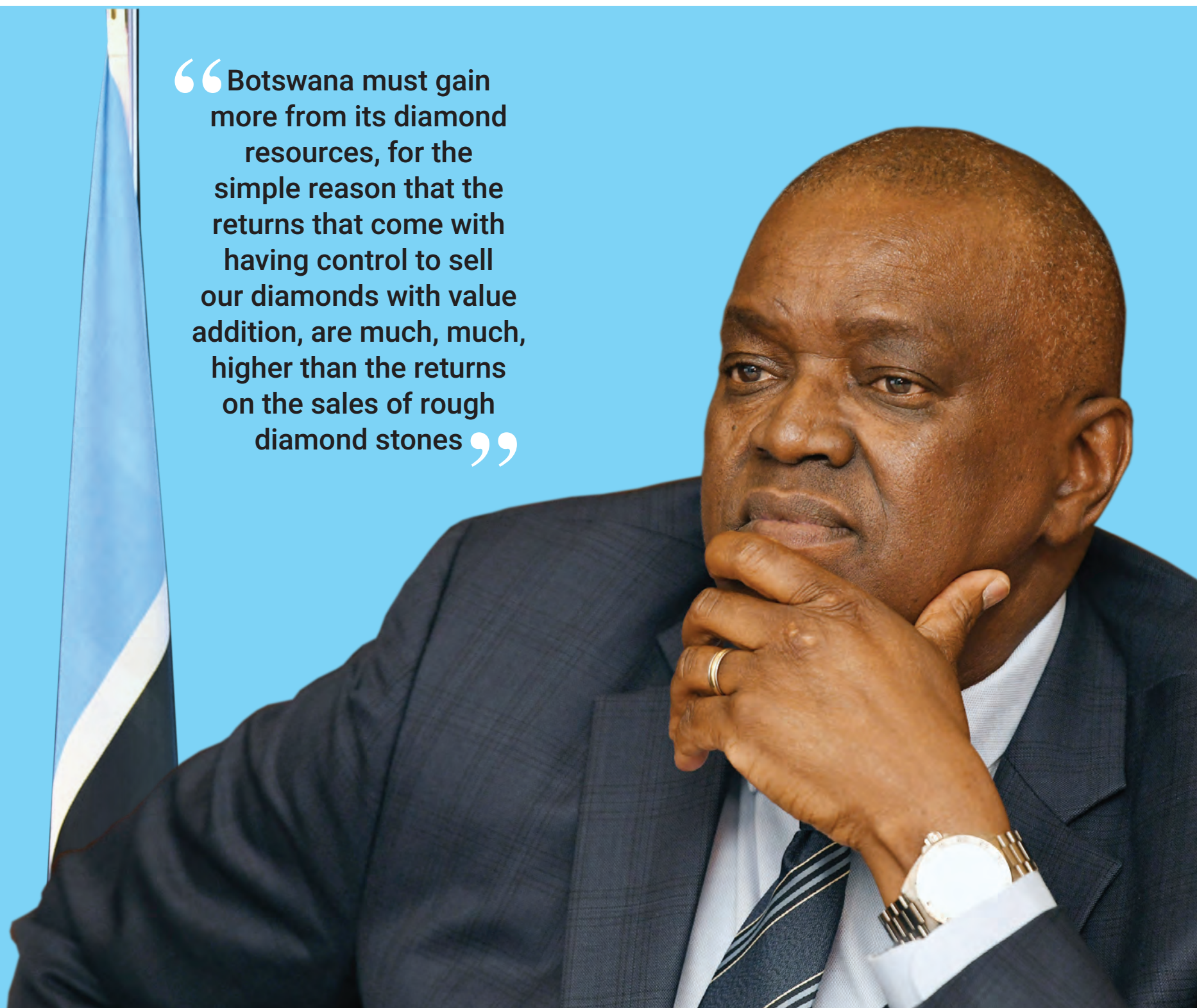
He said renovations, which were expected to be completed in December at the tune of P1 million, were being carried out through the Constituency Community Projects fund.

Member of Parliament for Ghanzi North, Mr John Thiite had asked if government would consider turning the old hospital into a 24-hour clinic to cater for residents of wards in its proximity.

Mr Thiite said residents of wards such as Meriting, Tshabantsa as well as Ghanzi Senior Secondary School and Iteng Junior Secondary School and others, were forced to access 24-hour health services far because they did not have any such facility nearer.

He therefore requested the ministry to commit to opening such a facility at the old Ghanzi hospital. **BOPA**

“Botswana must gain more from its diamond resources, for the simple reason that the returns that come with having control to sell our diamonds with value addition, are much, much, higher than the returns on the sales of rough diamond stones”



## PRESIDENT MASISI 5 years of visionary leadership

### ACHIEVEMENTS

- Towards attainment of self-reliance , food security
- Go nonotsha itsholelo ka thuo ya dihutshane
- Creating enabling environment for youth empowerment

# Towards attainment of self reliance, food security

By Lindi Morwaeng

The imposition of a **long-term ban on some agricultural products** from other countries in December 2021 will probably go down as one of the most unpopular decisions of the Masisi administration.

Through the decision, one of the boldest Botswana has taken in the quest to become self-determining, as food security is at the heart of self-reliance, the nation will surely realise the truest meaning of the idiom; *montsamaisa bosigo ke mo leboga bosele*.

The ban was imposed to drive local production; reduce reliance on other countries for food and to claw away at the staggering P7 billion food import bill.

It was also a deliberate move by the government to make remarkable strides in transforming the agricultural sector, whose mandate is to improve food security; champion agricultural development through local production; diversify the sector's value chains; create employment and promote consumption of local foodstuffs.

President Masisi's administration promised that the ban, which started with 16 vegetables, would be reviewed every year - not in any way to relax it, but to add more products to the list.

The development has also seen government, through the Ministry of Agriculture's Integrated Support Programme for Arable Agriculture Development (ISPAAD) introduce the **Horticulture Impact Accelerator Subsidy (IAS)** fund to assist farmers increase production levels of horticultural products. The subsidy is also geared towards provision of production structures, inputs and promotion of protected cultivation as well as use of green technology in farms, in addition to employment creation.



**PASSION AND DETERMINATION...** President Masisi riding a bicycle during his visit to BlydeVallei farms in South Africa.

*The ban was imposed to drive local production; reduce reliance on other countries for food and to claw away at the staggering P7 billion food import bill.*

Further, government allocated the National Development Bank (NDB) P600 million under the **Industry Support Fund (ISF)**, to stabilise businesses that faced the COVID-19 pandemic effects, by lending out to sectors such as agriculture, tourism and general industry.

According to NDB's Relationship manager and team leader - ISF, about P20 million had



**Potato farming in Ghanzi.**

been disbursed to 239 farmers from these funds as at October 2022.

Ms Thato Mokgadi, a horticultural farmer, who specialises in hydroponics farming with a focus on growing tomatoes, is excited about the

prospects for the horticultural sub-sector. She is grateful for the import ban, saying it had really helped a lot of local farmers.

"The only way we can manage to produce and feed the market satisfactorily is when there can be more and more of us. The more we are, the more control we have over the market," she said.

Though acknowledging the challenges in the horticultural sub-sector, such as high input costs and access to the market, Ms Mokgadi believes adoption of technologies could go a long way in improving agribusiness in the country.

"We should be moving towards protected farming and the use of artificial intelligence," she said.

One of the recent developments is platforms that farmers have created to share knowledge and explore opportunities in their sector. Recently, a movement made up of a diverse group of farmers, through their company Farmer 2 Farmer, gathered at Mmanoko in the Kweneng District to discuss food security in the country. They organised a 'farmers brunch' where they presented farmers with opportunities for collaboration.

There were horticulturalists, research professionals, industry value chain players and the farming community. There were also networking opportunities to help spark a horticultural revolution in the country through capacity-building. All these were means and ways to heed the President Masisi's call for the country to be self-reliant in food production.

Another one of President Masisi's administration's initiative is the **Selebi Phikwe Citrus project**.

The project is seen as one of the efforts to diversify the country's agro industry, with spin off effects that would generate value chain business opportunities such as fruit drying, trucking and fresh produce. The project is also expected to invigorate the citrus production landscape of the country and contribute to economic growth. The first harvest from the project that started in November 2021 in a 1 500-hectare farm, is expected in 2024. Over 600 000 tree seedlings of citrus fruits were planted at different intervals. They include grapefruits, lemons, Valencia oranges as well as few cultivars and mandarins.



**The Selebi Phikwe Citrus Project initiative is seen as one of the efforts to diversify the country's agro industry and generate value chain business opportunities.**

# ... of self reliance, food security

## ISPAAD tweaking and Review

Six clusters; Matopi, Malwelwe, Kgoro, Mookane, Masunga and Leshibitse have been electrified, while local investors have leased a combined 450ha of land in Leshibitse and Malwelwe clusters to promote investment under this initiative. A total of 30 farmers in these clusters benefited from BITRI grant to practice Climate Smart Agriculture, while about 634 ha of land has been debushed in Masunga and Leshibitse clusters. As a result, the area cultivated in Leshibitse increased from 329ha in 2020/21 to 400ha in 2021/22.

Other positive developments in the agricultural sector include Botswana's appointment to host the SADC Regional Animal Resources Conservation Gene Bank to support diversification in agricultural production, marketing and management.

There is also the Small holder Horticulture Empowerment Programme in collaboration with Japanese International Cooperation Agency, intended to promote the concept of 'grow to sell' as opposed to 'grow and sell'. The programme is currently being piloted in North East and Kgatleng districts and is expected to be rolled out to other enterprises such as cereals and legumes, dairy, poultry, piggery and small stock.

Meanwhile, **BOPA's Calviniah Kgautlhe** narrates President Masisi efforts in resurrecting **Lobu farm and the small stock initiative** geared towards improving the national herd and the quality of small stock in the country.

The President spearheaded the **small stock initiative** in an effort ensure that Botswana had a constant supply of quality small stock to markets. Finalised in December 2021, the initiative disbursed 114 bucks and rams worth about P570 000 in 57 constituencies across the country. Income expected to be generated from this initiative by the end of July is estimated to be over P45 million while P69 million expected by 2024.

Established in 1978 by government and the European Commission to facilitate the rearing of quality small stock in the Kgalagadi region, Lobu Small Stock Farm, situated south west of Tsabong, was never really known by the ordinary Motswana outside the region before President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi ascended to power in 2018 and embarked on a programme to upgrade the country's small stock industry from subsistence to commercial.

In fact, he showed interest in the small stock sector while still Vice President and made it one of his to do projects in the highest office in the land.

He started by refurbishing



**Bull donation in Sekhuthlane.**

the 10 300-hectare farm and its facilities as well as restoring its mandate of upskilling Batswana on small stock farming.

President Masisi also embarked on a programme to donate quality rams and bucks to deserving subsistence farmers in order to improve the quality and quantity of the country's small stock as well as help farmers to upgrade to commercial status.

Lobu has now been transformed into a smart farm

with the potential to uplift rural households and the country's economy if well exploited.

Ms Ikgopoleng Shabane, Kgalagadi District agricultural coordinator, said the results of President Masisi's initiative were gradually unfolding as more and more farmers were buying stock from Lobu to improve their flocks.

She said the farm was being transformed into a centre of excellence, noting that they procured animals of superior genetics in 2018 after President Masisi was sworn in. By then the farm had 437 sheep and 199 goats, to date there are 3 000 sheep and goats in the farm. The farm also has 63 white Brahman cattle and 31 horses. Lobu small stock farm manager, Mr Geoffrey Balogi said a lot of progress had been made in turning the farm into a smart facility with the installation of a fibre optic cable to connect the farm to the outside world. The farm infrastructure, he noted, could now also be used for training. He noted the 100 solar hydro atmospheric panels, which were sourced by President Dr Masisi from a donor. He said they harvested distilled water from the atmosphere to use in the farm as the borehole water was saline.

"In 2019 I bought a Boer goat

buck and a Dorper ram and they have improved my sheep and goats tremendously," said Draaihoek subsistent farmer, Mr Lebogang Bogopa.

He expressed satisfaction at the quality of animals in his farm as both the ram and buck had reproduced a good number of quality kids and lambs over the years.

A Tsabong commercial farmer, Mr Mock Ntau also expressed satisfaction at the quality of animals he bought from Lobu. He, however, said more needed to be done to maintain the quality of the animals. He also said he had been buying stock from Lobu since auction sales started in 2018.

He said it was critical to employ even more efficient farming practices at Lobu to avoid cross breeding. "Each breed must be kraaled and must graze with its kind to produce high grade offspring," he said.

Another farmer, Mr Mosimanegape Rabokhokho said the Dorper ram and Boer goat buck ewe ram he bought from Lobu during an auction sale in 2022 helped him to improve his flock. "They are doing very well. I am getting ready to supply the upcoming Tsabong multispecies abattoir," he said.

## Tsabong Multispecies Abattoir nears completion

Almost two years after occupying the highest office in the land - December 2020 to be exact - President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi performed the groundbreaking rituals for the Tsabong multispecies abattoir.

The abattoir is meant to ensure that small stock farmers have a modern facility where they can slaughter their animals for export to the lucrative markets.

He said the P161 million state of the art abattoir signified government's commitment to distributing to development projects throughout the country.

The facility complimented President Masisi's vision of transforming the country's small stock sector from subsistence to commercial.

He said the abattoir would also help in the production and marketing of small stock as well as game products, and that it would facilitate the marketing of Botswana's chevon, mutton, beef, lamb and game meat internationally.

Ms Shabane said the project was on course despite various challenges, and that it was 80 per cent complete. She added that the project, which was however behind schedule due to various challenges, would be handed over this week.

In his State-of-the-Nation Address in November 2022, President Masisi said the Tsabong abattoir would be commissioned this month.

He emphasised that the abattoir would give small stock farmers an opportunity to slaughter their animals for the local and international markets.

He added that a meat industry regulatory authority would be established to enhance competition and promote the marketing of small stock byproducts.

President Masisi has already secured a market for small stock meat in Saudi Arabia. Botswana also recently passed the animal health audit, which was required to penetrate the huge Chinese market. **BOPA**

*Botswana has been selected to host the SADC Regional Animal Resources Conservation Gene bank to support diversification in agricultural production, marketing and management.*



**Clearing machinery in Leshibitse clusters. The area cultivated in Leshibitse increased from 329 ha in 2020/21 to 400 ha in 2021/22.**



**Construction of the Tsabong multispecies abattoir. The project is expected to be handed this month. Photo: Calviniah Kgautlhe**

# Youth empowerment

*has potential to generate revenue, brand and market Botswana*

By Kamogelo Matlala

**GABORONE** - Since entering the highest office in the country, President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi has been adamant about empowering the creative industry, which he strongly believes has the potential to generate revenue, brand and market Botswana.

One of President's top priorities over the past five years was to address the problem of unemployment currently bedeviling young people through the transformation of the creative sector, which was evident through the establishment of the National Arts Council, now actively facilitating cultural exchanges with other countries, as well as encouraging the commercialisation of arts and cultural activities.

President Masisi believes that the creative industry holds great potential to improving Botswana's economic diversification, employment and earn foreign exchange.

In this regard, government has also offered support to creative by commercialising the sector to include those in the wildlife tourism filming and photography industry.

The President has also pushed for the transitioning from analogue to digital terrestrial TV transmission, which resulted in the establishment of three Btv channels, with an 80:20 policy, where 80 per cent of channel outputs is strictly local.

Furthermore, funding was provided to capacitate Batswana for television and content production, especially the youth.

In 2020, Botswana Fibre Network (BoFiNet) established an Internet TV content aggregation and distribution platform called UPIC. This initiative facilitated broadcasting of local television content over the Internet.

This, without a doubt, was a landmark achievement for the country in facilitating the growth and economic benefits of the creative industry.

Since its launch in October 2020, the initiative has resulted



Hosting of Forbes Under 30 summit this month puts Botswana at the centre of entrepreneurship. The summit plays a pivotal role in incubating startups in the country.

## KEY FACTS

**4 000 jobs across the creative sector and projected to grow with additional 5 558 jobs.**

**80:20 policy on channel outputs in favour of local content.**

in a total of 90 local titles and 4 000 jobs created across the creative sector and projected to grow with an additional 5 558 job opportunities.

Under President Masisi's leadership, government has implemented the Cross Country Recordings Extravaganza 2021 programme covering both visual and performing arts.

Artists were reached out to across the country and remunerated for their performances and products. A total of 1 844 artistes benefitted from performance fees of close to P5 million.

Also, as a way of revitalising the creative sector post COVID-19, government has introduced a youth initiative dubbed Department of Broadcasting Services (DBS) National Roadshow to empower the creative, transport, hospitality and tourism sectors.



DBS National Roadshow was introduced as a vehicle to inject life back into the creative industry as well as give grassroots creatives an opportunity to shine.

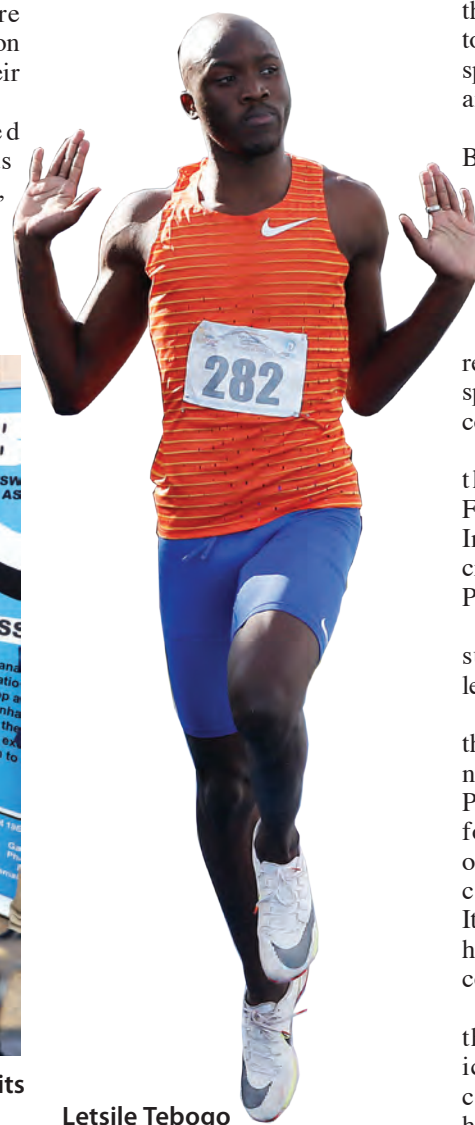
Government has leveraged on RB2's 30th anniversary and used it as a vehicle to inject life back into the industry as well as give grassroots creatives an opportunity to shine.

In this initiative, DBS engaged a renowned Motswana radio personality, Mr Thato Sikwane, popularly known as DJ FRESH to spearhead the two-month tour project.

Having been in the creative industry for over two decades, he jumped on board to share expertise with local creatives on how best they can improve their talent as well as monetise it.

The roadshow engaged over 750 people from various fields such as performers, graphic designers, public relations specialists, printers, merchandisers, photographers and cinematographers.

at the end, the project managed to directly employ 19 full-time staff and over 50 contacted staff from citizen suppliers and service providers.



Letsile Tebogo

In yet another government's effort to improve local content, a contractor has been engaged to refurbish Btv Auditorium and works are currently in progress.

The consultancy part of the project will be carried out by the Steve Harvey Group, who are expected to provide the technical expertise in high-level content production across various genres such as reality shows, sitcoms, talk shows and game shows.

These are aimed at empowering Batswana producers with skills to produce at highest magnitudes that can attract international audiences' appeal.

This month, Botswana will yet again be a host to Forbes Under 30 Summit following a successful first-ever edition last year at the initiative of President Masisi.

The move recognised Botswana as an emerging centre for entrepreneurship poised for global growth and innovation.

The 2022 summit brought together young entrepreneurs from Africa, Asia, Europe and the United States for mentorship and networking.

Forbes Under30 puts Botswana at the centre of entrepreneurship and plays a pivotal role in incubating start-ups in the country.

In addition to alleviating the impact of COVID-19, government also offered a financial relief programme for artists as well as athletes and over P19 million was spent in the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sport and Culture Development to help them cope with the effects of COVID-19.

Another accomplishment under the current government was launching the University of Botswana High Performance Centre, the first of its kind in the country, which is dedicated to developing and enhancing the sporting talent for both emerging and professional athletes.

In 2021, members of the Botswana men's 4x400m Olympic relay team were awarded housing units as rewards for the team's bronze medals won at the Tokyo Olympics.

Francistown underwent a makeover following the renaming of the city's airport, sports complex and interchange commonly known as a Spaghetti.

President Masisi announced the decision to name the Francistown Airport PG Matante International Airport after former city businessman and politician Phillip Matante.

Other major facilities followed suite in honour of the living legends.

Thapama interchange is now the Kenneth Nkhwa Interchange, named after veteran Botswana People's Party politician and former North East Member of Parliament while the sport complex is currently called Itani Obed Chilume Stadium in honour of former MP for Nkange constituency.

According to President Masisi, the decision to honour these icons was inspired by their contributions to the country's history and development. **BOPA**



In 2021, members of the Botswana men's 4x400m Olympic relay team were awarded housing units as reward for the team's bronze medal at the Tokyo Olympics.



# Happy Anniversary

It is with great pleasure that KBL offers its congratulations to His Excellency, Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi, as he celebrates five years as President of the Republic of Botswana.

As Botswana's legacy of peaceful, democratic governance continues to flourish under His Excellency's leadership, we wish him good health and happiness.

Furthermore, we would like to affirm our commitment to support the Botswana Government in developing sustainable value chains and establishing a gender-equitable economy that is led by young Batswana.

We look forward to dreaming big together to create a future with more cheers.

Pula!



**HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS to  
His Excellency Dr. Mokweetsi E.K Masisi  
on his 5<sup>th</sup> Presidential Anniversary!**



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# Govt delivers on driving citizen participation in tourism

By Portia Ikgopoleng

**MAUN** -Upon assuming office in 2018, President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi promised Batswana that government will put in place measures to increase citizen participation in the tourism sector.

One such measure was to make ensure adherence to tourism regulations. This was to be done in order to accommodate reservation of some license categories for Batswana to increase citizen participation in the tourism sector.

Years later, President Masisi's promise is being realised through diversification of tourism products that are driving citizen participation in the tourism industry.

The number of citizen-owned enterprises has been steadily rising owing to increased outreach programmes aimed at sensitising people on tourism opportunities.

As at February, there were 3 014 licensed tourist enterprises, out of which 2 438 were citizen-owned, 294 non-citizen and 282 being joint ventures.

Other key initiatives include development of Mohembo (Shakawe), Kasane-Kazungula redevelopment plan to transform these areas into viable, vibrant tourism destinations.

In Kasane, the relocation of property to release the tourism sites is 82 per cent complete, while in Mohembo potential tourism sites have just been identified.

Minister of Environment and Tourism, Ms Phildah Kereng, highlighted that Botswana aspired to be a Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE) hub as reflected in the revised Tourism Policy of 2021.

She highlighted that ministries, private sector and other stakeholders had hosted several conferences in the past few years which placed Botswana on a reputable position as a MICE hub.

She said her ministry successfully hosted a number of events such as the 7th National Adaptation Plans Global Expo in Gaborone in August last year, the Africa Tourism Leadership Forum (ATLF) in Gaborone in October last year and Botswana Travel and Tourism Expo 2022 in Kasane last November.

"These events attracted more than 1 300 participants from around the world and our commitment is to work with the hospitality industry to train and assist in giving guidance for improvement of facilities," she said.

Furthermore, Ms Kereng said in a quest to promote investment in the tourism sector, the ministry would host the Tourism Investment Summit in September.

The summit will provide a platform where potential investors in the tourism sector will engage to showcase available investment opportunities in the sector and provide possible partnership opportunities between citizens and international investors and development agencies.

Meanwhile, Botswana successfully hosted the Forbes 30 Under 30 Summit last year and will once again host it in April 23-26. The summit nurtures and harnesses the spirit of entrepreneurship in young people and also presents vast opportunities for attendees to explore.

Other events that underscore Citizen Economic Empowerment are Makgadikgadi Epic, Khawa Dune Challenge and Cultural



Minister of Transport and Public Works, Mr Eric Molale attending cabinet meeting at one of the farms. Government encourages Batswana to utilise their farms for agro tourism.

Festival, Nama stap and Dithubaruba Cultural Festivals, Kazungula Marathon, Selebi Phikwe Orange Marathon, Tour De Tuli Mountain Bike Adventure, Inter Village Cultural Games at Jamataka, Makubo and Natale, Brush Night with Wilson Ngoni, Desert Bush Walk, Annual Ghanzi Show, Maun Carnival as well as horse race derby in Maun and Dinokeng Fish Festival in Kgatleng.

During the 2022/2023 financial year, the Ministry of Environment and Tourism initiated the development of the Khuis Tourism Park; resuscitation of the Phuduhudu Cultural Village, development of an entrance gate to the Central Kalahari Game Reserve through Tsetseng, community camp site in Khawa, development of an entrance gate to the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park (KTP) approximately 30km from Khawa, refurbishment of five camping grounds in the

Kgalagadi North region (Masetlheng, Zutshwa, Ngwatle, Ncaang and Ukhwi). Furthermore, the ministry rehabilitated the 40km Tuli backline fence in Bobirwa, implemented in collaboration with the private sector, as a mitigation strategy against human-wildlife conflict completed in December last year.

Rehabilitation of Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park and Khutse Game Reserve Predator Proof Fences are ongoing and expected to be completed by August this year.

The economic empowerment drive continued through the implementation of dams tourism, where re-tendering process commenced for the remaining vacant sites at Shashe, Letsibogo and Thune Dams.

President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi's initiative of keeping game animals at the fields, commonly known as masimo continues to bear fruits as

261 Batswana have been issued with permits to uptake the programme.

This is one of the President's initiatives, which aims to drive economic diversification and citizen economic empowerment through natural resources management.

Through this initiative, Batswana are encouraged to utilise their fields and partake in agro-tourism activities in order to derive benefits from the tourism sector.

Director of the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP) Dr Kabelo Senyatso revealed that to date, a total of 289 applications had been received, of which 261 had been approved, with 377 game animals allocated to 67 farmers. He said his department continued to intensify public awareness to enhance the uptake of the programme.

"Our department has embarked on efforts to ensure the districts that have not benefited from the scheme do so. One such was the hosting of the World Wildlife Day 2023 in Ghanzi, where the department exhibited live animals. This was in an effort to enable Ghanzi residents to interact with these animals and hopefully be more interested in partaking in the scheme." He said.

Furthermore, Dr Senyatso indicated that the majority of the 67 beneficiaries who had received game animals had operational game viewing.

The Director stated that they started inspections in masimo that had been issued with permits where they had observed many positives accrued from this initiative. He said there was increased tourist traffic to the farms as owners had enhanced the tourism products on offer.

"A successful breeding, notably for Impala has been realized in some of the farms, which improves chances of success, and the farmers feel empowered as they now see themselves as part of the wildlife economy, unlike previously when this opportunity was largely for those with game ranches." He added. **BOPA**

## Masisi creates mining opportunities for Batswana

By Tebagano Ntshole

**MOLEPOLOLE**- As President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi marks five years of his presidency on April 1 this year, his tenacity to see the country benefiting from its natural resources is beyond measure.

We have seen him travelling the world in pursuit of potential investors to set up business in the country.

Recently HB Antwerp officially opened a diamond manufacturing plant in Gaborone, Botswana has made a deal with the Belgian company in which it will buy 24 per cent stake in the company.

"Botswana must gain more from its diamond resources, for the simple reason that the returns that come with having control to sell our diamonds with value addition, are much, much, higher than the returns on the sales of rough diamond stones," says President Masisi at the official opening of the plant.

This is without doubt, a feather in the cap, of a man who relentlessly pursued potential investors to set up businesses and attain economic

“*Botswana must gain more from its diamond resources, for the simple reason that the returns that come with having control to sell our diamonds with value addition, are much, much, higher than the returns on the sales of rough diamond stones*”

growth and employment creation.

Another point the president has made is that he wants Botswana to have more shares in the De Beers deal, which has been the envy of many countries, with analysts saying the country has avoided the resource curse, as money accrued from diamonds has been used for



A 1 098.30 carat diamond found at Jwaneng diamond mine.

developments. Mining accounts for 30 per cent of Botswana's GDP.

Through the De Beers partnership, where Botswana has 15 per cent shares in De Beers (Anglo American has 85 per cent), and further, has a 50-50 venture with De Beers in Debswana, the government received \$2 billion in revenue during the 2021/22 financial year.

President Masisi says Botswana could benefit more through Okavango Diamond Company (ODC), which currently receives 15 per cent of rough diamonds from Debswana production of rare and exceptional high value single stones through to lower quality industrial stones.,

The negotiations for a new partnership deal are still on, scheduled to be completed by end of June this year.

President Masisi said it was high time the economy was in the hands of citizens, adding that he wanted more citizens to participate in the mining industry hence the new Botswana Minerals Policy of 2023.

The aims of the new policy include achieving increased opportunities for citizens to directly participate in mining, whether as contributors of capital, labour, goods or services, and to strengthen local capacity for participation in mineral development.

During the last five years, the country saw the opening of new mines, one being Khoemacau and Motheo Project Open Cast mine in Palapye at the Morupule Coal Mine. Another notable achievement under President Masisi is winning the bid to host the Kimberly Process permanent secretariat. **BOPA**



Khoemacau copper mine in Maun.

# Batswana epicenter of development agenda

By Baleseng Batlotleng

**RAMOTSWA** - When President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi took oath of office on the 1st of April 2018, he emphasised that Batswana should be at the epicentre of the country's development agenda.

He clearly determined to devote his time and energies to improve the lives of citizens to see a socially and economically transformed nation.

Among many of these efforts to see an improved Motswana emerging from the pangs of poverty, President Masisi's government recently intensified efforts to promote rural industries through the Rural Development Council (RDC).

It has taken a deliberate decision to support rural community based projects through funding for RDC projects.

At least P6.3million has been approved through the Transitional National Development Plan for these community based projects.

Some targeted projects are the Zutshwa Salt mine expansion in Kgalagadi North, as well as the two Morula processing plants in the Kweneng and North East districts.

This is a deliberate effort to promote rural industries and catalyze rural developments by tapping into the huge potential presented by natural resources in these rural communities.

It would also create employment and boost local economic activity, especially in projects such as Zutshwa and the BORAVAST sexanana tree harvesting and fodder production.

Some products may be used for cosmetics and pharmaceutical industries with prospect for export, which is in line with President Masisi's Reset and Reclaim priority on value chain development as well as government's local economy development strategy on building resilience within communities.

The intent is to ensure that rural communities are not left behind in provision of timely and improved services.

Government has also undertaken the upgrade of 22 subordinate authorities in line with Decentralisation Policy and Strategy to fully fledged district councils.

Decentralisation is the devolution of political and administrative powers to local authorities which would enable them to make decisions, mobilise own resources, promote local economic developments and partner with other development actors such as the private sector, in delivering quality service to the communities.

The strategy is to gradually transform the present local government system into a citizen centred local government system that is responsive, responsible and accountable.

The implementation of this initiative is being done in two phases with phase 1 involving



Government intends to review the primary school feeding programme to improve child nutrition. It would thus purchase local and indigenous food.

*The strategy is to gradually transform the present local government system into a citizen centred local government system that is responsive, responsible and accountable.*

the upgrading of Goodhope, Molepolole, Mogoditshane/Thamaga, Letlhakeng, Mahalapye, Tutume, Boteti, Maun, Okavango, Tsabong and Hukuntsi sub-districts into fully-fledged, operational district councils.

The second phase will cover Tonota, Palapye, Serowe, Bobirwa, Tlokwen, Ghanzi, Charleshill, Kanye, Mabutsane, Moshupa and South East South sub districts



The BORAVAST Sexanana tree harvesting and fodder project in Bokspits would create employment and boost local economic activity.

and will be implemented this financial year. Government has also recently introduced the new Ipelegeng Skills Development Component which aims to equip beneficiaries with occupational, entrepreneurial and life skills.

The implementation of the transformed programme is said to be going very well. Pilot exercise was successfully carried out in the South East District with graduates

in various artisan skills.

The new programme would allow them to go into better employment opportunities, create jobs, employ others and graduate from poverty, while upscaling implementation of the skills development component to other sectors such as agriculture, environment and natural resource management will commence in the next financial year. **BOPA**

## Tautona o nonotsha thuo ya dihutshane

Ka Calviniah Kgautlhe

**DRAAIHOEK** - Mo maitekong a go tlhabolola mhama wa temothuo ka go ntsihatsa dipalo le boleng jwa dikgomo, Tautona Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi o setse a abile dipoo di feta masome mabedi le boraro lefatshe ka bophara.

Diphoko le diphelehu tsone ga go buiwe, barui ba dihutshane ba le bantsi ba setse ba a ja mohuhutso wa phatla morago ga gore Tautona a ba abele tse di tlaa ba bekarelang matsomane.

Mongwe wa barui ba ba abetsweng phoko ke Tautona Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi mo maitekong

a go oketsa palo le boleng jwa leruo mo lefatsheng leno, Rre Elieas Hambira o galaleditse lenaneo leo, a re fa barui ba ka le atla, lefatshe leno le ka ijesa la ba la rekisa kwa ntle.

Morui yo wa kwa Draaihoek, yo o abetsweng phoko ya Boer goat ka 2020, a re phoko e a e abetsweng ke Tautona e tokafaditse boleng jwa leruo la gagwe mme e bile e mo tsaletse dipotsanyane di ka feta masome a mabedi go fitlha mo nakong eno.

A re phoko eo e matlhagatlhaga thata mme e bile e setse e ntshitse diphokwana tsa yone o ikaelela go di abela barui ba bangwe go

tsweledisa maitlamo a ga Tautona.

Rre Hambira a re e re ka Tautona a tshubile lebone, barui ba tswelile ka go le tukisa ka go abela barui ba bangwe gore maitlamo a go tokafatsa boleng jwa dihutshane le go oketsa matsomane le matlhape a atlege ka go dira jalo go ka direla Batswana khumo le go tlhama mebereko.

"Fa ke abetswe phoko jaana, e ntiretse mo lesakeng la me ke ithutile gore ke seka ka nna fela ka yone le nna ke abe bana ba yone.

Ke mo lenaneong la go aba le nna.

Fa dipotsane di ntse di oketsega jaana le nna ke tlaa ntsha phokwana

ke e abela morui yo mongwe gore re tswelile ka go direla lefatshe la Botswana," a thalosa.

A re barui ba le tswelidise ka gore go sego letsogo le le abang go na le le le amogelang, mme e bile go dira jalo ke go diragatsa maitlamo a ponelopele ya lefatshe leno ya Tebelopele ya 2036 go nna tshaba e e lorato le kutlwelobothoko.

"Fa tautona a dira jaana o re bontsha gore go tshwanetse go dirwa jang, a le rona re itose ka go atolosa lenaneo le re thusanye re le Batswana," a thalosa.

Rre Hambira a re matlhabelo a Tsabong a tloga a bulwa mme e bile ba beile dihutshane dingwenyana gore e re fa go bulwa ba kgone go rekisa. A re go dira jalo go tlaa thusa balemi go rekisa nama kwa mafatsheng a sele ka lemmonyana le le botokanyana.

A re ntswa go ntse jalo, ba lebanwe ke dikgwetho e le barui mo kgaolong eo ka gore kgaolo eo e tshabelelwa ke leuba le lenyora mme e bile gape ba tshwengwa ke dibatana tse di ba jelang leruo.

Ka go twe ka e tlhoka ka tlhoka boroko, ka e rua ka nna ka bo tlhoka, ka go utlwa selelo sa barui sa letlhoko la mmara, o ne a rwala ditlhako go batla kwa Batswana ba ka rekisang nama ya bone teng.

Tse dingwe tse Tautona Masisi a di kgonneng ke go bona mmara kwa dihutshane kwa Saudi Arabia.

O ne gape a kgona go batlela barua-kgomo ba kgaolo ya Ngami, e e tshabelelwang ke bolwetse jwa tlhako le molomo, mmara kwa Gabon.

Barui ba ne gape ba nona pelo ka mathe morago ga gore tshakatshakeko ya botsogo jwa leruo la Botswana e atlege kwa mmarakeng wa China. **BOPA**



Maduo a phoko ya Boer Goat e Tautona Masisi a e abetseng Rre Hambira ka 2020 kwa Draaihoek. A re o ikaelela go abela barui ba bangwe nngwe ya diphokwana tsa phoko eo ka maikemisetso a go nosetsa peo e tautona a e jwetseng gore le bone ba atolose leruo la bone. Senephe: Calviniah Kgautlhe

# Ministry resuscitates tourism development plan

GABORONE - Resuscitation of the National Tourism Development Master Plan and Strategy (NTDMP) has identified several focus areas to aid the recovery of the tourism sector.

Answering a parliamentary question on behalf the Minister of Environment and Tourism, Assistant Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, Mr Mabuse Pule said the processes for preparation of the master plan and strategy were started in 2019 and were disrupted by COVID-19, but were later kindled in 2022.

He said focus areas identified to aid recovery of tourism included tourism product development and diversification in the form of business tourism such as meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions, and resuscitation

of sports and adventure tourism, mining, game ranching historical and cultural tourism.

Mr Pule also cited the citizen inclusion in the tourism sector to make the sector more accessible to locals through value chain development as well as reserving certain investment opportunities for Batswana.

"The tourism industry was one of the hard hit sectors in the country and globally due to impacts of COVID-19 pandemic," said Mr Pule.

Furthermore, he noted that the Tourism Arrival Statistics Report of 2020 showed that Botswana had recorded over 81 per cent decline in the visitor arrival during COVID-19, from 1 911 308 in 2019 to 358 225 during the peak of COVID-19 in 2020.

"A survey by Botswana Tourism

Organisation (BTO) estimated that 8.1 per cent of staff employed in the tourism facilities were laid-off in April 2020. Retained staff were on varying conditions of employment from paid and unpaid leave as well as reduced wages," he said.

Still on employment in the tourism sector, he said, COVID-19 impact monitoring survey was undertaken by BTO in December 2021, which showed that on average, each tourism facility was operating with 44.6 per cent of the pre-COVID-19 staff during the period of survey.

"The survey results show that an estimated total of 13 085 people were employed at the sampled facilities, 279 were laid-off, which translates to 2.1 per cent employment loss.

This is comparable to 1.6 per cent (433) employment loss among the

accommodation and food sector registered by Statistics Botswana between quarter four of 2020 and quarter four of 2021. This was an improvement from the 8.1 per cent recorded during the first survey," he said.

Mr Pule shared that the latest results of the Quarterly Multi-Topic Survey (QMTS) conducted by statistics Botswana showed that employment in the accommodation and food services sector increased from 26 086 in the quarter four of 2021 to 30 955 in quarter four of 2022 depicting an increase of 18.6 per cent in employment.

"This shows that the sector has surpassed the pre-COVID-19 employment level of 22 071 in quarter four of 2019," he added.

Several initiatives, he said, were put in place to preserve jobs in the sector such as the national economic response plan that offered wage subsidies to businesses in the most affected sector such as the tourism sector which ensured that majority of employees were kept in their jobs.

As part of the recovery strategy, Mr Pule explained that the ministry continued to facilitate the tourism industry in participating at the different travel fairs, where travel packages were sold, adding that such platforms allowed the industry to rekindle with Pre-COVID business partners in order to re-confirm that they were still in operation, as well as to establish new business partners.

"My ministry has also embarked on specific targeted marketing campaigns to enhance the destination presence in the markets, to regain and exceed pre-pandemic performance, thus showing the world that Botswana is open for business," he said.

Mr Pule noted that the promotion of domestic tourism was one of the key interventions that the Ministry of Environment and Tourism had identified to facilitate resilience and sustainability against future threats and disruptions such as that caused by COVID-19.

"The aim is to sustain and aid recovery of the sector through domestic patronage when global travel restrictions are imposed. To this end, the ministry has partnered with the local industry to develop packages that are suitable and affordable to the domestic market, intensified the domestic travel campaign," he said.

The ministry, he said, continued to hold and support several events aimed at stimulating domestic tourism growth through notable events such as Kazungula Bridge Marathon, Khawa Dune Challenge and Makgadikgadi Epic.

"It is expected that these efforts will stimulate growth and recovery of the sector and ultimately resuscitate the closed businesses and create more employment opportunities," he said, noting that the events would cause movement across the country, thus spreading economic activity through the different sectors including tourism, retail and the informal sector.

Notable initiatives aimed at economically empowering Batswana, Mr Pule stated, included opening of new sites to locals for tourism development through concessions and dams tourism.

He said in order to influence destination competitiveness, mentoring was done with operators

towards the improvement of services in the sector so that the industry could assure the markets of the destinations readiness to host guest post COVID-19.

Lobatse legislator, Dr Thapelo Matsheka had asked the Minister of Environment and Tourism to apprise Parliament on whether there was a re-visit of the National Tourism Development Plan post COVID-19.

He also asked the minister to provide an overview on the impact of COVID-19 on tourism in terms of the numbers of business and employment versus pre-COVID-19 Botswana Tourism statistics, and also wanted to understand the plans in place for resuscitating businesses especially Small Medium Enterprises and bringing back the lost jobs. **BOPA**

## Moshana water supply adequate

GABORONE - Water supply in Moshana is currently adequate and therefore there is no need to supply the village from Dilokwana/Gasegogwane wellfields.

This was said by Assistant Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, Mr Mabuse Pule in response to a question in Parliament recently.

Mr Pule, who was responding on behalf of Minister of Lands and Water Affairs, said Moshana was supplied with adequate water from borehole BH7934.

Mr Pule said water supply reached all reticulated areas in the village, adding however that there were new layouts with no water reticulations. "Water in this new layout is accessed through standpipes," he said.

He indicated that water demand for the village was 1.7 mega litres per month against the average supply of 4.4 mega litres per month.

Mr Pule further said boreholes near Moshana supplied Kanye/Moshupa and Pitseng villages and the five boreholes situated at Dilokwana/Gasegogwane wellfields supplied Kanye and Polokwane villages while Moshupa was also supplied from the same boreholes when supply from the North-South Carrier scheme was interrupted.

"BH8251 borehole is also available and is currently supplying Pitseng with Ralekgetho planned for connection upon completion of the Pitseng-Ralekgetho water supply scheme during the 2022/2023 financial year," he added.

He explained that the borehole next to Modisi Primary School was not in use because it was polluted.

Member of Parliament for Kanye North, Mr Thapelo Letsholo had indicated that there was intermittent supply of water in Moshana.

Mr Letsholo also asked the minister to inform Parliament of boreholes around the village and if it would be prioritised for supply from those boreholes. **BOPA**



Mr Mmusi said statistics showed that the most prevalent illegal drugs in the country were cannabis and methcathione, commonly known as CAT.

## Illegal drugs national security threat

By Olekantse Sennamose

GABORONE - The use and trade in illegal drugs poses a security risk to Botswana hence the move by government to be a party to international and regional conventions and protocols aimed at promoting cooperation in the fight against such.

Minister of Defence and Security, Mr Kagiso Mmusi explained in Parliament recently that such conventions and protocols were helpful to the country because they enabled sharing of information on intelligence, strengthened capabilities, harmonised investigations and smoothed repatriation of exhibits and suspects.

Mr Mmusi also said international organised crime and criminal markets had undoubtedly grown in the country as it had globally.

"Some of the indicators of the existence of such markets and dealers are the arrest of drug dealer

and abusers by the Botswana police. The rising trend in illicit production of drugs and their demand not only pose a security threat to the country, but it also threatens the health and socio-economic welfare on our citizens," he said.

Mr Mmusi said as a response measure, government took a decision to enhance the local crime prevention institute framework by establishing a Drugs Enforcement Agency, which he said was charged with enforcing laws combating illegal traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

He said statistics showed that most prevalent illegal drugs in the country included cannabis and methcathione, commonly known as CAT. "For the past five years, the police recorded 7 004 and 385 cases respectively concerning these two drugs," he added.

However, he said there were few cases concerning the use of other drugs such as cocaine and heroin and the cases of cultivation of drugs

locally were also recorded.

Kanye North MP, Mr Thapelo Letsholo had asked the minister to give an update on illicit drugs supply and demand in the country over the last five years.

Mr Letsholo also asked the minister to indicate who was accountable of getting rid of illegal drugs in the country, as well as any specialised attention that was being implemented considering the adverse societal implications to family lives in the county.

He was also concerned that illicit drugs were easily and freely accessible in the country, even in kiosks that were accessed by learners in front of school premises, to the chagrin of society.

"They are rightly concerned that such drugs destroy lives, especially emotionally and mentally and crimes associated with drugs continue to rise on a daily basis. So Batswana want to know government plans," he said.

**BOPA**



## Regent Hill e abela sekole sa Mothamo

### Ka Portia Rapitsenyane

MOIYABANA - Ba Regent Hill International School Specialty Lions Club ba tshwaragane le Old Mutual le Mercantile Insurance Brokers ba abetse sekole se segolwane sa Mothamo kwa Moiyabana mephuthelwana ya mesangwana ya basetsanyana e le 600.

Fa a rola dimpho kwa sekoleng sa Mothamo ka Matlhatso, mogolwane wa mokgatlo, Mme Anastasia Chikaonda o supile fa mopalamente wa kgaolo ya Serowe Borwa, Rre Leepetswe Lesedi a ne a itshwaraganya le mokgatlo.

A re mokgatlo o na le tsetlana e e itebagantseng le tlhokomelo ya ngwana wa mosetsana ebile ba mo mmeile kwa pele ka a tshwanetse

a itse gore o ithokomela jang gore botsogo jwa gagwe bo itumedise. A re o na le tsholofelo e ntsi gore ba tlaa tswelela ba dira mmogo le Rre Lesedi go tlhokomela ngwana wa mosetsana.

Mme Chikaonda a re matlho le tlhokomelo ya o ne ke nngwe ya dipilara tsa ba Lions Club ka jalo, moithuti ga a tshwanela go tlhoka go bona se se kwadiiweng ebile motho ga a tshwanela go tsamaelwa ke pono go na le gore o ka thusiwa jang. A re Lions Club e ne ya tlhatlhoba baithuti matlho, madi a matona le sukiri.

Fa a amogela mesangwana, mothusa mogokgo wa Mothamo, Rre Thatayaone Basiamise o supile fa sekole se na le dipalo tse dintsi tsa baithuti ebile se feta dikole tse dikgolo tse nne e leng tsa

Moeng College go bapa le motse wa Ratholo, Macha College kwa Kang, Ghanzi le Tsabong Unified ka dipalo.

O supile fa matlwana a borutelo kwa sekoleng seo, a sa lekane baithuti ka dipalo tsa bone di tsamaya kwa go 1 300. Rre Basiamise a re go molemo go bona botsadi bo ba gopola ka itsholelo ya bontsi jwa baithuti ba sekole e le kwa tlase.

O supile fa seemo se ngwana a sa iponatseng kwa sekoleng ntateng ya gore o mo malatsing se sa batlege. Rre Basiamise a re ngwana o tshwanetse a tsena sekole, a tsatsa ka gore dimpho tse di tshwanang le mesangwana, di ka ba kgontsha tiro.

O gakolotse baithuti go sa itlhuboge mo botshelong, a re fa

dithuso di tla, di tshwanetse di ba rotloetse mme ba bone gore go na le mongwe kwa ntle ga sekole yo o akanyang ka bone.

Rre Basiamise o gwetlhile baithuti go dira ka natla gore ba nne le thulaganyo ya botshelo jwa bone gore ba sologele setshaba molemo, le bone ba tle ba kgone go thusa Batswana ba bangwe.

Rre Lesedi ene o kaile fa Mothamo e le sengwe sa dikole tse di sa mo robatseng ka a itse dikgwetlho tsa sone.

A re dipalo tsa baithuti di kwa godimo ebile boroko jwa barutabana le matlwana a borutelo di a tlaela mme a solofetsa go tswelela a kopa tse di tlhokegang

gore barutabana ba dire tiro ya bone ka manontlhotlho.

Rre Lesedi a re o aga a tshwenyegile ka baithuti ba Mothamo, bangwe ba bone e le ba ba nngang mo sekoleng fa bangwe ba tswa kwa diemong tse di thata.

O supile fa go sa nyadiwe sepe mme go lemogiwa maiteko a batsadi gore fa dikole di bulwa, ba leka ka bojotlhe go rekela baithuti mo go lekaneng.

A re o ne a buelelela dikole tsa kgaolo ya gagwe tse di fang bana boroko mme Lions Club ya atla kopo ya gagwe. Rre Lesedi a re baeteledipele ba tlamega go thusa fa ba bonang go tlhokega teng. **BOPA**



Modulasetilo wa khansela potlana ya Palapye Rre Jordan Makhura (fa gare) a amogela dikolotsana tse tlhano le cheke ya P20 000 go tswa mo go Rre Abdullah Mia (mojeng) wa MIAS Hardware e le mpho ya sepatela sa Palapye bosheng. Senepa: Kefilwe Latiwa

## Seabe sa kereke mo ditlhabololong se botlhokwa

### Ka Onkarabile Moeng

SHOSHONG - Kereke e tshwanetse go nna le seabe mo ditlhabololong tsa motse ka go thusa setshaba.

Kgosi Mosinyi Mosinyi wa Shoshong o buile se ka Labone fa a akgola lekgotla la baruti la motse wa gagwe jaaka le ne le abela bana ba le supa ba ba tshelang ka bogole jwa Cerebral Palsy di dirisiwa tse ba di tlhokang jaaka melora le metseto.

Kgosi Mosinyi a re go abela bana ba, ke go supa lorato le go kgothatsa ba ba tlhokomelang bana ba ba tshelang ka makoa a a farologaneng.

A re baruti ke bone ba e reng fa go nna le bothata ba bo ba tlisa kgomotso mo malwapeng, ka jalo

go itumedisa thata go bona ba supa kgatlhego mo matshelong a botlho.

O ne a rotloetsa batlhokomedi ba bana ba ba tshelang ka Cerebral Palsy go sa itsapa go fa bana tlhokomelo le lorato, le ntswa go se bonolo go ba tlhokomela.

Fa a rola moonoo wa letsatsi mokwaledi wa lekgotla la baruti Rre Tladi Lekwapa o tshalositse fa maikaelelo a modimo e le go tlhokomela semoya sa motho, mme are se, se ne sa ba gwetlha thata go dira maiteko a go alafa semoya sa ba ba tshelang le bone. A re maikaelelo ke go tsosolosa semoya, a tshalosa fa ngwana a ka se tshelentele ka go bona motlhokomedi yo sefathlego le maikutlo a gagwe a nngang a sa itumela a tsetse kutlobotlhoko. Rre Lekwapa o rotloeditse setshaba go nna le seabe

ka go kgothatsa batlhokomedi are go le gantsi seemo sa bana ga se letle gore ba ka sala ba le nosi mme se, se babalele motlhokomedi kana motsadi wa ngwana.

A re dithuso go tswa kwa pusong ga di lekane ka jalo setshaba le sone se tshwanetse sa nna le seabe.

Mme Tirelo Mogorosi wa kereke ya Jerusalem 12 Apostolic Church in Zion kwa Shoshong o ne a tshalosa fa didirisiwa tsa bana ba Cerebral Palsy jaaka dikolotsana le dijo tse di haphegileng di tura.

Ka jalo, a re batsadi ba bana ba lebagane le kgwetlho mme ba tlhoka thotloetso ya botlho.

Mo boemong jwa batsadi Mme Bothepa Disele o ne a lebegela dimpho tse bana ba di abetsweng, a supa fa di tla a ba thusa go fenyaa maikutlo a boitlhobogo. **BOPA**

## Kgosi o rotloetsa dikgosana go tsweledisa mowa wa neelano

### Ka Patricia Speakson

THABALA - Motshwarelela bogosi jwa ga Mmangwato, Kgosi Serogola Seretse o rotloeditse dikgosana go tswelela ka mowa wa neelano o ba santseng ba o tshageditse mo nakong eno.

Kgosi Serogola o ne rotloetsa dikgosana kwa bokopanong jwa lekgotla la dikgosana la Ngwato kwa Thabala bosheng.

Are go bo dikgosi di santse di tshageditse mowa wa neelano ke selo se se itumedisang ka jaana ba e le basireletsi le baletlanyi ebile di thusa go aga puso ya batho ka batho le ya morero mo lefatsheng.

O ne a akgola ba lekgotla la dikgosana go bo ba bone go tshwanela go kopana go buisana le go bona tse ba di kgonneng le tse ba tshwanetseng go tswelela ba di dira mo go tshwaraganeng le puso go aga setshaba.

O ne a tswelela ka go ba rotloetsa go tshwara dithuto-se-ka dipuisano mo isagong go ithuta ka molao le ka ditsamaiso tsa maphata a puso ka go farologana gore le bone ba seka ba salela kwa morago.

Le fa go ntse jalo, Kgosi Serogola o ne a kgala a sa kgwe mathe bao ba a reng ba batla go kgotlela seriti sa bogosi ka dipolotiki, selo se a boletseng e le go tloa molao ebile se ka kgobera kagiso e e renang mo Botswana.

“Polotiki le bogosi ga gona fa di kopanang teng,” a gatelela jalo.

One gape a supa fa a tshwennngwa ke dikgosi tse di iphitlhelang di amega mo bogodung jwa diphologolo tsa naga ka jalo a ba rotloetsa go iphapha ka seo le sone ke ka nyeletsa seriti sa bogosi.

Mo go la gagwe, modulasetilo wa kgaolo ya Ngwato, Kgosi

Monyepele Monyepel o tshalositse fa lekgotla le tshamile la bo la kwadisiwa ka fa molaong ka ngwaga wa 2012 ka thotloetso ya ga Kgosi Kgolo ya Bakwena Kgosi Kgari Sechele III.

Kgosi Monyepel o boletse fa lekgotla leo le nonofile ebile le tlaa tswelela le thusa go aga lefatsho a re “re tsile go tshaba lebone, e le lebone la kgalagano.”

O tshalositse fa maikaelelo a bokopano jwa bone e ne e le go supa tse ba di kgonneng e le dikgosi tsa tetlanyo.

“Re na le boikarabelo jwa go sireletsa serodumo sa bogosi le go ruta ba ba tswang kwa tlase gore Kgosi ga e tsene ka fa tlase ga lerole,” a supa jalo.

Are dikgosi tsa tetlanyo di tshwanetse go theogela letsatsi le letsatsi ka gona le dikgang tse dintsi tse di ba tlhokang.

Are jaaka ba tshwaragane le lephata la dikgolegelo mo go ageng magolegwa sesha, ba tlamega gore ba bo ba le teng ka nako tsothle go amogela badira melato ba ba weditseng dikatlhoho tsa bone.

Motse dingwe, Kgosi Monyepel o ne a itela mo go Kgosi Serogola ka tse di ba paletisang go dira tiro ya bone.

“Re itemogela tshaelo ya dikoloi, mo go ka tlisetsa motho botshwakwa mo go ka felelang go babalela lekgotla,” a bua jalo.

Bokopano joo, bo ne bo tswene ke dikgosi go tswa kwa dikgaolong tsa Serowe, Palapye, Mahalapye, Mmadinare, Bobirwa le Boteti.

Morago ga bokopano, dikgosi tse di simolotseng mokgatlo di ne tsa abelwa ditlankana go ba lemoga le go ba lebegela tiro e ba ntseng ba tswelentele ka go e dira go thusana le dikgosi tse dingwe le setshaba. **BOPA**



REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

# ORAL POLIO Vaccination

## MOP UP CAMPAIGN

**Date:** 31st March – 1st April 2023

**Venue:** All Health Facilities

Ensure that your child gets vaccinated  
against Polio.



# ClassifiedAds

## BUSINESS SERVICES

**BOREHOLE DRILLING AT** low rates. 76274598/ 76834659

## FARM WORKERS

**COMPLETE COMPANY @ P3500** Shelf @ P8500 74489943/ 73272574

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Mhaka Cattle post Moabi Nkaeleng Box 97 Tonota 73471819

**FARM WORKER WANTED AT** Zwenshambe village contact Lazurus Rauwe Box 327 Masunga or 71621232 2 years experience losing date 20/04/2023

**FARM WORKERS WANTED,** Apply to Phenyio Maoto, P O Box 2104 Jwaneng. Farm located in Matlakeng.

**5X FARM WORKERS** wanted, farm situated at Ramokobetwana Village. Apply to: Rosie Maria Denton Jurgens. P O Box 47560 Phakalane

**FARM WORKER WANTED.**Please apply to Keduetswe Montshiwa P O Box 1401 Molepolole.

**FARM WORKER WANTED** in Nokaneng. Apply to P O BOX 745 Maun or call 72714176

**LOOKING FOR 3** Farm workers at Dikgonnye village Kgatleng district. Apply to P O BOX 47 Gaborone.

**FARM WORKERS WANTED** for horticulture in Ramaphatle. Apply to Ramaphatle Greens Box 58 Gaborone. Closing date 26 April 2023. Cell 71763755/3162895

## NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

**MESHACK METSWI OF** plot no 5786 in Mochudi, Boseja ward intends to change use of land from residential to commercial. Anyone who has objections may contact Kgatleng District Council Physical Planning Office at 5777411

**OWNER OF PLOT** 4252 Jwaneng, would like to inform owners of plot 4253 and 4251 about the construction of a boundary wall. For objections (+267) 5880303

## PROPERTIES

**13 HECTARE TSHIMO** for sale Ramokgonami 77430889

**FARM FOR RENT,** Bonokatshaa-Dikabeya Palapye 2500 per month per hacter. Hacters available 72584541

**RE PLOT 80195** Gaborone North/ Plot 80193. The owner of Plot 80194 Gaborone North would like to notify owner of Plot 80195 Gaborone North about intent to erect a boundary wall. For objects contact Gaborone City Council Physical Planning at 3657400.

## VACANCIES

**OTIS LIFTS: NEEDS** installation technician with ten years experience in lifts. Must have certificate or diploma in electrical or equivalent. Appply Box 147 Gaborone. Call 3900212

**EXPERIENCED CARWASH WORKERS** needed with drivers license, Gaborone whatsapp 77029887

**MAGDALENE CREATIONS IS** looking for 2 fashion designers, males specialising in mens and ladies wear. 3 years experience. Aged 30-45. Call 74608076. Closing 27/05/2023.

**PRE-SCHOOL TEACHERS** with at least diploma in early childhood and 7 years experience of an english medium pre school. Leco Mothering Centre P O Box 30479 Tlokweng

### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master's Reference: ESHGB 000034-21

**IN THE ESTATE** of the late PHILIPPUS de WET who died at Rasesa Ward, Rasesa, Kgatleng District, Republic of Botswana on the 13th day of November 2020.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that Debtors and Creditors in the above Estate are hereby required to pay their debts and file their claims of whatever nature with the undersigned within thirty (30) days after the publication hereof.

**DATED AT GABORONE** this 23 day of March 2023.

**The Executor**  
Philippus Rudolph de Wet  
P O Box 3 GABORONE  
Tel: 5729000

**APPLICATION FOR LOST TITLE DEED**  
**NOTICE** is hereby given that the undersigned intends to apply for a certified copy of Notarial Deed of Cession and Delegation No. **MA 901/2019** dated **22<sup>nd</sup>** day of **October 2019** made in favour of **TREND ARC (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED** in respect of the following:-

**CERTAIN:** piece of land being Tribal Lot 11870 Mogoditshane;  
**SITUATE:** at Mogoditshane in the Bakwena Tribal Territory;  
**MEASURING:** 1161m<sup>2</sup> (One Thousand One Hundred and Sixty One Square Metres);

All persons having objection to the issuance of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same, in writing with the Registrar of Deeds, Private Bag 0020, Gaborone within 3 weeks of the publication of this notice hereof.

**DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 16<sup>th</sup> OF MARCH 2023**

**Dow & Associates**  
P. O. 45992, Riverwalk  
GABORONE  
c/o TEL: 350 0108 / 71 650 326

**APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFIED COPY OF LOST DEED OF FIXED PERIOD STATE GRANT**  
**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** THAT the undersigned intends to apply for a certified copy of Deed of Fixed Period State Grant No. 2176/2022 dated **20th October 2022** made in favour of **JOINT ESTATE OF THE LATE NAMEISO MORGAN TSHIAMO AND SURVIVING SPOUSE BOITUMELO TSHIAMO** in respect of:

**CERTAIN** piece of land being Lot 36897, Gaborone  
**SITUATE** in Gaborone Administrative District  
**MEASURING** 404m<sup>2</sup> (Four Hundred And Four Square Metres)  
**HELD UNDER** Deed of Fixed Period State Grant No. 2176/2 022 dated 20th October 2022

All persons having objection to the issue of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds, Private Bag 0020 Gaborone, within three (3) weeks of the last publication of this notice hereof.

**DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 22nd DAY OF MARCH 2023**



**MISSED ANY OF THESE COPIES?**  
**No need to worry!**

Contact 3653500 | 3653587 | 3653620/3653591  
3653593 | 3653599 | 3653555



# CPDC CENTRE FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & CONSULTANCY

## SHORT LEARNING PROGRAMMES

### Training of Trainers

- Learning Outcomes**  
Upon successful completion of this programme, participants will demonstrate competency in:
- Identifying training needs at various levels
  - Designing training with appropriate methods and resources
  - Preparing and facilitating training sessions in a given contexts
  - Planning and producing assessment instruments
  - Assessing candidates against standards under outcome-based education training

DURATION 5 DAYS | MODE OF DELIVERY FACE TO FACE | DATES 24 - 28 APRIL 2023

### Forti-Gate Security 6.4

- Learning Outcomes**  
Upon successful completion of this programme, participants will demonstrate competency in:
- Deploy the appropriate operation mode for your network
  - Use the GUI and CLI for administration | Identify the characteristics of the Fortinet Security Fabric
  - Control network access to configured networks using firewall policies
  - Apply port forwarding, source NAT, and destination NAT
  - Authenticate users using firewall policies
  - Understand encryption functions and certificates
  - Inspect SSL/TLS-secured traffic to prevent encryption used to bypass security policies

DURATION 6 MONTHS | MODE OF DELIVERY FACE TO FACE | DATES REGISTRATION IS OPEN UNTIL 30 APRIL 2023

### CompTIA A+

- Learning Outcomes**  
Upon successful completion of this programme, participants will demonstrate competency in:
- Support operating systems.
  - Install and configure PC system unit components and peripheral devices.
  - Install, configure, and troubleshoot display and multimedia devices.
  - Install, configure, and troubleshoot storage devices.
  - Install, configure, and troubleshoot internal system components.
  - Install, configure, and maintain operating systems.
  - Maintain and troubleshoot Microsoft Windows.
  - Explain network infrastructure concepts.
  - Configure and troubleshoot network connections.
  - Manage users, workstations, and shared resources.
  - Implement client virtualization and cloud computing.
  - Implement physical security.
  - Secure workstations and data.

DURATION 6 DAYS | MODE OF DELIVERY FACE TO FACE | DATES REGISTRATION IS OPEN UNTIL 30 APRIL 2023

### CCNA Cyber Security Operations

- Learning Outcomes**  
Upon successful completion of this programme, participants will demonstrate competency in:
- Explain the role of a Security Operations Center (SOC) in the combating of Cyber-crime.
  - Monitor a network using windows and Linux operating systems.
  - Define network protocols and services
  - Describe network infrastructure in relation with security
  - Define principles of network security
  - Explain in details cyber-attacks which are threatening networks today
  - Implement Cryptography and public key infrastructure
  - Optimize appropriate security tools to monitor the network security.
  - Conduct intrusion data analysis
  - Implementing incident response and handling models and procedures

DURATION 6 MONTHS | MODE OF DELIVERY FACE TO FACE | DATES REGISTRATION IS OPEN UNTIL 30 APRIL 2023

### Taxation

- Learning Outcomes**  
Upon successful completion of this programme, participants will demonstrate competency in:
- Compute tax payable by a sole trader business.
  - Determine tax payable by a partnership business.
  - Calculate tax payable by a corporation.
  - Compute capital gains tax.

DURATION 3 DAYS | MODE OF DELIVERY FACE TO FACE | DATES 29 - 31 MARCH 2023

### Public Sector Financial Management

- Learning Outcomes**  
Upon successful completion of this programme, participants will demonstrate competency in:
- Understand the scope of public financial management and be familiar with the basic concept of public sector accounting
  - Evaluate the process of public sector budgeting and its purposes and management
  - Understand the process of taxation and other sources of income for the public sector.
  - Coming up with the strategies to control income and expenditure
  - Evaluate and be able to identify the costing elements for project appraisal purposes
  - Understand the formulation and dealings with partnership and contracts.
  - Craft tools used for measuring performance and values for money.
  - Ensure accounting and financial reporting with PBE is transparent and meeting
  - Analyze and appreciate the value of both internal and external audit.

DURATION 5 DAYS | MODE OF DELIVERY FACE TO FACE | DATES 08 - 12 MAY 2023

### Incident Investigation and Reporting Training - Incident Cause Analysis - ICAM



- Learning Outcomes**  
Upon successful completion of this programme, participants will demonstrate competency in:
- Interpret the fundamentals of incidents, accidents and near misses
  - Prepare internal and external Incident Reports
  - Understand types, methodology and details of investigations
  - Comprehend the guidelines, skills and precautions for the execution of the investigation
  - Learn and use Root Cause Analysis (RCA) to arrive at root and generic causes of incidents
  - Understand and practice skills to draft and generate Investigation Report
  - Comprehend the importance of Incident Close-out

DURATION 5 DAYS | MODE OF DELIVERY FACE TO FACE | DATES 17 - 21 APRIL 2023

### Hazardous Material Management



- Learning Outcomes**  
Upon successful completion of this programme, participants will demonstrate competency in:
- Classifying hazardous substances
  - Relating to the uncontrolled release of hazardous substances
  - Technical vocabulary and documentation used for hazardous substances
  - Understanding the adverse effects of hazardous substances on the body and environment, types of exposure monitoring, and treatment options
  - Precautions to take relating to the storage and handling of hazardous substances in the workplace
  - Responsibilities relating to the safe storage, handling, and disposal controls compliant to the legislation and workplace requirements

DURATION 5 DAYS | MODE OF DELIVERY FACE TO FACE | DATES 24 - 28 APRIL 2023



REGISTER NOW!

**GABORONE CAMPUS**  
TEL: (+267) 395 7744  
CEL: (+267) 75569805  
EMAIL: cpdc@baisago.ac.bw

**FRANCISTOWN CAMPUS**  
TEL: (+267) 241 8780  
CEL: (+267) 76564222  
EMAIL: cpdc@baisago.ac.bw

**MAUN CAMPUS**  
TEL: (+267) 686 7021  
CEL: (+267) 75740717  
EMAIL: cpdc@baisago.ac.bw



www.baisago.ac.bw





## 'Normalise trauma-free upbringing'

By Portia Ikgopoleng

MAUN - Childhood trauma is more common than one may think and it is said that children who grow up with family distress may normalise inappropriate relations and may not recognise destructive patterns as grown-ups.

Also, research had shown that when not given the proper tools to help them process the abuse they experienced, their trauma can manifest into post-traumatic stress disorder in later life, a condition that develops after one had been subjected to a hurtful event.

It was on such backdrop that Miss Botswana, Lesego Chombo used the fundraising dinner organised by Khoemacau Copper Mining in Maun recently for her 'Beauty with a Purpose' project to convey the message on positive upbringing of children and called on families and communities to normalise positive and trauma-free upbringing of children.

Chombo said she had observed how some societies seemed to have normalised painful and traumatic upbringing, something she said, was even worse than when one

shared that they were raised in a conducive environment, the society considered it unconventional.

Chombo explained that she grew in a loving home where her parents embraced and allowed her to pursue her dreams.

Her project dubbed, Genesis, she said was born from her passion to unearth and nurture talent in children so that they unlocked their full potential.

"All children need love and support from their families not money like most people think and this is what Genesis is about, allowing children to pursue their dreams of wanting to be a singer, guitarists, actor or doctor," she said.

The country's beauty queen said she was working with economically disadvantaged children in rural settlements to cultivate hope and aspirations in them.

She added that she would also extend her developmental programme to parents because they needed it to understand the importance of raising children well.

Chombo said time had come for mindset change to normalise

a culture where people did not depend on their trauma for change.

For his part, Khoemacau Copper Mining acting general manager, Mr Mompoti Babusi thanked all who had bought tickets for the Miss Botswana fundraising dinner, saying that would go a long way in ensuring that Chombo

achieved her 'Beauty with a Purpose' objectives.

Mr Babusi said it was fitting for Khoemacau to support the project as the mine worked closely with disadvantaged communities around the mine to leave a footprint and build a legacy.

Chombo's father, Mr

Motswanageng Chombo thanked Batswana for supporting his daughter in her endeavours.

Mr Chombo said his family was honoured to witness Batswana rally behind their child, whom he said was well-mannered having been raised in church settings.

**BOPA**



Chombo during one of her engagements with parents to impart knowledge on positive parenting in Somelo recently. Photo: Esther Mmolai

TELEPHONE: + (267) 390 33 88  
FACSIMILE: + (267) 390 47 11  
GABORONE  
BOTSWANA



LAND TRIBUNAL  
PRIVATE BAG 00211

### LAND TRIBUNAL

#### EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT VACANCY CIRCULAR NO. 01 OF 2023

Applications are invited for the position of Driver II tenable at the Department of Land Tribunal – Palapye, Francistown and Maun Divisions.

#### DRIVER II – 3 posts

**SALARY SCALE:** B4 (P52, 008 – P59, 328) per annum.

**LEAVE RATE:** 20 working days per annum.

#### OTHER BENEFITS:

\* Optional contributory Medical aid scheme (Government pays 80% and employee pays 20%)

\* Contributory Pension Scheme (Government pays 15% and employee pays 5%)

**QUALIFICATIONS:** A minimum of Primary School Leaving Examinations plus Botswana Driver's License Class B, C and D (for trucks and buses respectively) with a minimum of two year proven driving experience.

**EXPERIENCE:** At least 2 years satisfactory service at Driver III, salary scale B5 or equivalent level.

#### DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. To operate light motor vehicles up to 3 500kg maximum weight including trailer (750kg) and any other permitted by the license.
2. To perform daily service checks for oil, water, battery acid level, fuel brake fluid and tyre pressure before commencing the journey or trip. Refills or replaces where appropriate and report major defects to supervisor.
3. Washes and cleans the vehicle on daily basis.
4. Records speedometer, readings, date and destination and obtains signature of authorizing officer at the commencement of the trip.
5. Ensure that the vehicle is equipped with all necessary tool and equipment and being responsible for safe custody of all such item.
6. Reports accident to nearest police station and to the supervisor and give an accurate written report outlining the circumstances leading to the accident.
7. Drives vehicle, taking particular care to adhere to national road safety code and apply common sense judgment to ensure safety to passengers or luggage being conveyed and continued serviceability.
8. Cleans vehicle-parking areas.
9. Ensures proper loading of authorized loads, the security and safety of loads being carried and the safe unloading of their vehicle at destinations.

10. Informs the Transport Officer when the vehicle is due for service and makes arrangement for the vehicle to be serviced.
11. Drives heavy duty vehicles exceeding 3500kg maximum weight (for non-articulated vehicles) up to 16000kg maximum weight including trailer.
12. Drives all non-articulated buses above 3500kg.
13. Supervises one or more vehicle attendants.
14. Acts as driver in-charge when more than one vehicle, but less than five are assigned to a specific duty.
15. Undertakes any other related duties as assigned by management.

#### APPLICATIONS SHOULD QUOTE THE VACANCY NUMBER AND GIVE THE FOLLOWING DETAILS

- a) Full name and address, contact numbers and date of birth.
- b) Enclosed certified copies of certificates, valid Omang and at least (two) 2 recent work related references.
- c) Summary of career with duties (Curriculum Vitae)
- d) Date of first appointment current post, date of appointment to the current post and salary scale

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE:

All applications from officers who are currently serving in the Civil Service must be routed through their Heads of Departments. Applications not so routed will not be considered.

#### Applicants should be addressed to;

Chief Land Tribunal President  
Department of Land Tribunal  
**Private Bag 00211**  
**GABORONE**  
OR  
Hand delivered to:  
Land Tribunal, Records Management Unit  
Second Floor, South Wing, office No. D2 - 21  
Plot 21, at the Corner of Khama Crescent and Queens Road  
GABORONE

**Closing Date: Friday 14TH APRIL 2023**

RESPONSE WILL BE ACCORDED TO SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES ONLY

For further information, please contact the HR office at 390 33 88 (Switchboard) OR 369 76 31, and 369 76 13.3

# Re Ba Bona Ha Bowling Centre launches in Jwaneng

By Kehumile Moekejo

JWANENG - Jwaneng Mine has been commended for its commitment in nurturing sport development.

The mine received praises following its sponsorship of equipment worth over P100 000 towards the Re Ba Bona Ha Bowling Centre launched in Jwaneng, Saturday.

Speaking at the event, Botswana National Sports Council (BNSC) chairperson, Marumo Morule, emphasised the importance of nurturing sports talent from a young age saying it would not only develop elite athletes, but create employment.

He also hailed the Re Ba Bona Ha programme for its impact on sport development.

He urged Botswana Bowling Association (BBA) and the Jwaneng leadership to ensure that the programme reached other communities in the peripheries.

"Let us take bowling to other areas around Jwaneng, let it not be a sport for Jwaneng only," Morule said.

However, Morule said even though he appreciated the commitment by the bowling community to grow the sport, shortage of facilities was still a challenge across the country.

This, he said, resulted in the sport being confined to a few towns only.

As a result, he appealed to the political leadership and other stakeholders to advocate for the construction of sporting facilities in various areas across the country.

He urged children to balance sport and education since they both contributed towards building a bright future.

Morule also thanked parents for allowing their children to explore their talent with the possibility of developing careers in sports.

For his part, Jwaneng mine

senior mining manager-technical, Segolame Ntwayagae, said Debswana was committed to unearthing talent with the Re Ba Bona Ha programme having impacted over 17 000 athletes since its inception.

He revealed that consultations with BNSC were ongoing in an endeavour to improve the programme for an even more long-lasting impact on the athletes. He noted that grassroots development in sports created an alternative career pathway, while at the same time keeping children away from delinquency and social ills.

"The investment in sport is not in vain, as sport plays a crucial role in shaping the youth, not only does it provide a career pathway, but also keeps them away from delinquency and engaging in other social ills," Ntwayagae said.

He urged the Jwaneng community to support initiatives intended to develop the sport in their town, through participation and any other supporting gestures.

For his part, BBA president, Kitso Robert, said plans were underway to establish Bowling facilities in Maun and Serowe, with the objective to take the sport to other areas.

He said since it started in Botswana, bowling had grown over the years and impacted positively on athletes.

He said they had various programmes intended to develop athletes at different stages and categories.

Jwaneng mayor, Olga Ditsie, said the launch resonated with Jwaneng's vision of becoming a sport hub.

She commended Debswana and BBA for giving children an opportunity to nurture their talents and possibly develop them into careers.

"Starting from grassroots development guarantees continuity," she said. **BOPA**



Pupils during a bowling demonstration exercise following launch of the Re Ba Bona Ha Bowling Centre in Jwaneng on Saturday. Photo: Kehumile Moekejo

## Tlokweng United, Centre Chiefs in exciting stalemate

By Baleseng Batlotleng

TLOKWENG - Mochudi Centre Chiefs and Tlokweng United (TU) served up an exciting encounter that ended in a two-all draw.

The pulsating Debswana First Division South League encounter was played before a sizeable crowd at the Tlokweng VDC Ground Saturday. However, TU remained perched on the eighth spot with 18 points, just two points away from the relegation catfight.

Chiefs and TU provided plenty of entertainment with neat ball passing and attacking intensity from the first whistle until the end of regulation time.

It was TU's tricky midfielder, Thuto Mooketsane, who shone brightest scoring two beautiful goals, one in each half to bag a

well-deserved brace.

With five minutes remaining on the clock to the halftime break, Mooketsane tapped in a nice team build-up to silence hundreds of Magosi fans who were now in good spirits.

The silky youngster nearly doubled the home side's lead after escaping a couple of Chiefs defenders, but shot wide.

At the other end, Chiefs nearly restored parity but their skipper Khumoetsile Kufigwa's snapshot hit the upright and was waved offside by the second assistant referee.

Chiefs knitted a couple of good passes in the middle of the park but failed to find the target.

During the run of play, newly introduced Goitseone Bokhutlo pulled one back for his side.

But Mooketsane extended the lead with a stern finish outside

the box.

TU celebrations lasted only a few seconds as another second-half substitute, Nonofu Dikutu, looped a long ball past the goalkeeper who had completely switched off and stepped far of his line.

In other league games played the same afternoon Matebele maintained their five-point lead at the top after edging 2-1 past Matebejana at Holy Ghost park.

Notwane registered their second consecutive defeat falling 0-1 to the red-hot Young Stars FC.

VTM inched into the third spot after beating the beleaguered URI Black Forest 1-0 in Mmankodi.

Uniao Flamingo Santos beat relegation-bound Black Rangers 3-2 to move into mid-table.

**BOPA**

## Cycling can help motivate people with disabilities



Inclusive Cycling International, together with Lobatse Cycling Club and Botswana Council of the Disabled, in an awareness campaign in Lobatse recently. Louis called on stakeholders to include disabled cyclists in activities. Photo: Aobakwe Molefhi

By Aobakwe Molefhi

LOBATSE - An international club together with Lobatse Cycling Club and Botswana Council for the Disabled recently held an awareness campaign for the disabled.

Speaking at the event, Botswana Council for the Disabled executive director, Moffat Louis, called on all stakeholders, especially the town leadership and Lobatse Cycling Club, to make sure that going forward, cyclists with disabilities were part of the activities.

He said the campaign was to encourage people with disabilities to take part in sport and in leadership positions.

Louis said Botswana Council for the Disabled, together with Inclusive Cycling International,

worked on a joint proposal and American Embassy sponsored the project.

He said the project would afford people with disabilities to compete and play with athletes from other countries because they would now have special bicycles.

Greg Milano of the club from the United States said it was up to the leaders to ensure they increased the number of bicycles to cater for most of the people living with disabilities.

He pointed out that when they started the club, they used old bicycles and people volunteered to help grow the club which now had footprints around the world.

He called on sponsors to come on board and help athletes living with disabilities realise their dreams. **BOPA**

## GU women too hot for Prisons

By Anastacia Sibanda

GABORONE - Gaborone United (GU) hammered Prisons 3-0 in the DTCB Women Football League Division One match at Lekidi East on Saturday.

Though GU missed instrumental players in Kelebogile Magaga and Annah Sechane due to injuries, the team's resolve from the start of the game showed that it wanted an early goal to unsettle opponents.

However, their efforts were frustrated by Prisons' solid defense.

Equally, Prisons also launched some good attacks but GU's goalkeeper, Tlamelo Pheresi became their worst enemy, disallowing them any chance to score.

Conversely, after numerous attempts at goal, the 38th minute saw GU make an attack that drove the last ball to the 'educated feet' of Keitumetse 'Ben-Ten' Dithebe, who did not waste time but put it past Prisons' keeper.

A goal was what GU wanted to unsettle Prisons camp, but the latter were unmoved and continued surging forward looking for an equaliser, but lack of composure in the box cost them.

The game went for recess with GU leading one-nil.

After the break, both teams continued to attack and it was GU's Dithebe who managed to visit the opponents' net and scored her side's second goal in the 56th minute.

It was from GU's second goal that Prisons felt they had had enough and resorted to the defensive mode at least to keep the score margin minimal, but that did not work for them as Masego Koboto frustrated such efforts and scored the third for GU in the 89th minute.

Frustration was written all over Prisons' coach, Quelch Moroke as he admitted in a post-match interview that they made a lot of mistakes, which GU capitalised on.

"We played well in the first half and managed to contain GU as we frequented their box, but we missed a lot of scoring opportunities," Moroke said.

For GU's coach, Innocent Morapedi, the game was not a walk in the park, but he remained resolute that his team would win despite all odds.

"People believed we are a wounded buffalo after our loss against Double Action. Usually given a chance, a wounded buffalo will fight until the bitter end, that is exactly what we did," Morapedi said.

He also saluted players who replaced those nursing injuries for playing their hearts out.

Meanwhile, in other games played on Saturday, Double Action continued their winning streak as they beat UB Kicks 2-0 courtesy of Balotlhanyi Johanes' brace, Township Rollers beat Wonder Girls 2-1 while FC Ambassadors lost 0-1 to Security Systems.

**BOPA**



Prisons' Nancy Baeletsi (centre) vying for the ball with Gaborone United players during DTCB women's division one league in Gaborone on Saturday. GU won 3-0. Photo: Godfrey Mpuse

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